

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

Occupational Health and Safety Surveillance Program (Fundamental Program)

Annual Report: July 2018-June 2019

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MAJOR OUTPUTS/ PRODUCTS

Surveillance Data

- Reported Colorado's 2016 data for 20 of 22 (2 are still pending with NIOSH) Occupational Health Indicators for NIOSH for publication by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE).
- Reported Colorado's 2018 data of adult elevated blood lead to NIOSH's Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology and Surveillance (ABLES) Program.
- Reported Colorado's 2017 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) cases to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Table 1: Publications

Date	Title
January 2019	Census of Fatal Occupational injuries in 2016 (CDPHE press release)

Presentations and Outreach Events

Continuing on the success of 2017's Worker Safety in the Marijuana Industry training, we conducted two more events. In August of 2018 we conducted a training in Pueblo, CO and we conducted a second training which was an all day training on PPE use in February of 2019. These trainings were a result of a successful partnership with our regional OSHA administration, NIOSH Western States Division, 3M, and the Center for Work, Health and Environment. Also in February of 2019, our program partnered with OSHA and NIOSH to hold a stakeholder meeting to understand the health and safety needs of those workers in the marijuana industry. The OSHA Education Center is interested in developing a 10-hour training similar to one currently being offered for the Oil and Gas industry. We had excellent feedback and feel that moving to this type of training is a more sustainable approach. In April 2019, the group reconvened to discuss the direction of a new training program.

In July of 2018, our program manager participated in a two day HHE with NIOSH in Boulder, CO. The study examined the CU police department workers reported exposures to

tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and second-hand cannabis smoke to assess impairment while on duty.

We received a pilot grant to introduce the NIOSH Safety Matters program to youth groups in Colorado. At the conclusion of the grant cycle, we conducted 10 presentations throughout the state. These talks were held at Future Business Leaders of America conferences, Boys and Girls Club, YMCA youth staff, and an Air Force Leadership group. We have conducted 2 focus groups discussing on the job safety with youth, and have trained over 30 safety professionals to deliver the Safety Matters content. We have received over 200 completed surveys from students who attended the training sessions. The Safety Matters program has been well received by teens and we hope to use data from this pilot study to increase the capacity at the state and local levels that focus on occupational health and safety programming.

Table 2: Presentations

Date	Conference/ Meeting	Title
8/28/2018	Marijuana Cultivation Worker training	Worker Health and Safety Training. Roberta Smith with additional partners
9/6/2018	AOHP Conference	Occupational Health Nursing Educational Needs. Roberta Smith
10/2018	Colorado School of Public Health	Occupational Health Nursing module for Dr. Natalie Schwatcka Roberta Smith
Fall 2018	Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Colorado School of Public Health course EHOH 6619- Environmental Exposures and Health Effects	Course Director- Mike Van Dyke
11/2018	EHOH 6619: Personal Protective Equipment Lecture/ Lab	Roberta Smith
2/2019	Marijuana Cultivation Worker Training	PPE 8 hour workshop. Partnered with 3M and the Center for Work, Health and Environment. Roberta Smith
2/2019	EPID 6635 Colorado School of Public Health	"Environmental factors, reservoirs, and modes of transmission" Roberta Smith
2/2019	Environmental and Occupational Policy Analysis and Practice Course- Colorado School of Public Health	Occupational Health Policy. Roberta Smith
2/2019	OSHA Professional Development Course	What to Expect When You are Expecting....OSHA. Roberta Smith and AIHA_RMS partners
4/4/2019	Research Day	Safety Matters Pilot Project. Roberta Smith

4/2019	Northern California AIHA section Meeting	Worker Health and Safety in the Marijuana Industry. Colorado's experience. Roberta Smith
5/23/2019	AIHce Conference, Minneapolis, MN	8 hour PDC: The Selection and Use of Environmental Surface Disinfectants in Healthcare*. Roberta Smith and other AIHA partners
6/14/2019	APIC National Conference, Philadelphia, PA	Beyond the Particle Counter. John Martinelli, Roberta Smith , Erica Stewart, Chad Gillham.

*Ranked #3 in the best-rated PDC at the AIHce Conference.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

AIHA Outstanding Project Team Award

Roberta Smith, who is the leader of the infection control subcommittee, a part of the AIHA healthcare working group, was the recipient of the Outstanding Project Team Award presented at the 2019 AIHce conference. The team also won this award in 2018.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Public Health Surveillance

OHI data: The Colorado program annually reports Colorado's state-wide Occupational Health Indicators (OHI) data for 20 of the 22 indicators. 2 indicators are still outstanding and will be completed in the Fall of 2019. Information on these measures were provided to NIOSH and CSTE. The information was subsequently updated on the Colorado Department of Public Health's website. Colorado's Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) also operates under our surveillance program.

Our program manager participated in the CSTE Occupational Health Workgroup meetings at WestON (September 2018), the NIOSH Winter Partner's meeting (December 2018), and at the CSTE Conference (June 2018).

Our program manager is involved in the Occupational Health Indicator's workgroup of CSTE and is assisting in evaluating the Occupational Health Indicators that are currently being used.

ABLES data: We continue annual reporting of adult elevated blood lead level cases to the NIOSH ABLES national dataset. 2018 data was submitted in April 2019. We continue to follow up with providers and with patients to collect information on elevated blood lead levels. We were able to reach providers and gather more information on 43 new cases during 2018. We face a challenge of patients not answering phone calls and providers not collecting all of the variables needed for the ABLES data collection. Under our Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program grant, we were able to hire a statistical analyst and we are in the beginning stages of being able to combine our adult and childhood surveillance to

hopefully track any clusters and help with education for the whole family/ household on lead if needed. The program continues to participate in the Colorado Lead Coalition meetings and strategic planning sessions to increase the awareness of the surveillance that is being done for workers in Colorado.

Fundamental Plus Activities:

In collaboration with the NIOSH Western States office, our program has initiated a working group with Wyoming and New Mexico as part of the steering committee. At the September 2017 WestON meeting, we had an initial informal working session to introduce the idea of a collaborative surveillance working group. As a result, of this meeting the group has met monthly via conference calls. In 2018, Kyla Retzer (NIOSH) and Roberta Smith (CDPHE) held a round table discussion at the 2018 June CSTE meeting to explore data collection methods further. By the Fall of 2018, the group was able to compile the data collected and this was presented at the 2018 OSHA Oil and Gas conference in December. Currently, Roberta Smith is drafting a white paper that will outline the findings of the surveillance data that was collected to provide as a product of the working groups efforts and recommendations for surveillance next steps.

Partnerships and Collaborations:

One of the specific aims of the Colorado Occupational Health Program is to establish and strengthen partnerships. The Colorado program has many strategic partnerships to help set priorities and develop targeted public health actions. Internally within the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), the program has engaged in projects with the Healthcare Acquired Infections section, Environmental Health, Immunization section, and Air Pollution and Water divisions. Additionally, data sharing projects for occupational health indicator data collection occur regularly. Partnership within CDPHE is focused on assisting with occupational health related questions, building educational presentations and outreach, and realizing where public health programs overlap with occupational health issues.

Colorado's program manager volunteers for the AIHA's local section and is the leader of the National AIHA Healthcare Working Group -Infection Control subcommittee. She was also selected to be a part of the AIHA's Leading Health Metrics working group to help develop leading health metrics that can be used as guidance across diverse industries. Through these memberships, information about Colorado's surveillance programs are being disseminated.

In August 2018 and in February 2019 our program along with the Center for Work, Health, and Environment and other key stakeholders hosted two all day trainings for workers in the Colorado marijuana industry. The training in August had over 40 attendees in person at our training location in Pueblo, CO. Our second training in February 2019 focused solely on PPE use within the marijuana industry.

Additional Funding Awards

The program applied for and was awarded funding for a pilot project for a grassroots initiative to train Colorado safety professionals on the Youth @Work/ Safety Matters NIOSH youth worker safety program. This funding cycle was from July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019.