

Lincoln County Health Department



Annual Report 2008

Mission: To promote and protect the health of our community by preventing disease and injury through assessment and program implementation in cooperation with our community partners.

Health Officer

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Administrator

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Community Partners

Lincoln Hospital

Odessa Memorial Healthcare Center

Lincoln County Sheriff Office

Lincoln County School Districts

Lincoln County Drug & Alcohol Center

WSU Extension Office

Lincoln County Public Works

Family Resource Center

Programs

Maternal Child Health (MCH)

Children with Special Health Care Needs

(CSHCN)

Child Death Review

Infant Toddler Initiative

Maternal Support Services (First Steps)

Oral Health

Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program

(ITEIP)

Interagency Coordinating Counsel (ICC)

Women, Infant and Children (WIC)

School Health

Immunizations

Tuberculosis

Regional Aidsnet

Communicable Disease

Tobacco Prevention and Control

Non Communicable Disease

Drinking Water

Group A Water Systems

Group B Water Systems

Solid Waste

Onsite Sewage

Vector

Food

Living Environment

Environmental Health

Vital Records

Water Laboratory

Assessment

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Response (PHEPR)

Hospital Emergency Planning

Regional Hospital Planning



Lincoln County Health Department
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The Lincoln County Health Department is excited to bring you our 2008 Annual Report. This report is a reflection of our work as we strive to improve the health status of Lincoln County through implementation of programs ranging from communicable and chronic disease prevention to water testing and restaurant inspections. The programs and successes identified in this report all share our mission: To promote and protect the health status of Lincoln County by preventing disease and injury through assessment and program implementation in cooperation with community partners.

As we work with our partners and assess the health of Lincoln County, we find that our health status is comparable in many areas with other counties and Washington State. But, that isn't good enough. We know that chronic disease rates continue to be an issue. Obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease are all on the rise, even in our children. Although improvements to the healthcare system provide better patient outcomes, prevention of disease and illness leads to healthier more productive lives with a much lower burden on society and our pocketbooks.

As we continue to streamline our healthcare system and attempt to assure healthcare for everyone, it is more important than ever to be more proactive in preventing disease and illness in our communities. This will require a commitment from each of us to change our habits to include healthier lifestyles, a commitment from business owners to promote healthier work environments, and a commitment from government to promote healthier communities.

The Lincoln County Health Department will continue to work with our community health partners in support of these ongoing efforts. This report will identify many of the strategies that we have put in place with the assistance of our partners. The involvement of our community is critical to the success these efforts. I encourage you to provide feedback on this report or our programs and be involved as we strive for a healthier Lincoln County.

Sincerely,

Ed Dzedzy, R.S.
Administrator

Understanding Health Issues

Lincoln County

The more we understand the health issues facing our residents the better we can tailor our services to address their needs.

Distributed a monthly publication, “epi-TRENDS,” from the Washington State Department of Health to all local healthcare providers. This publication allows our providers to track certain diseases affecting Lincoln County.

Created “The Health of Lincoln County, a community health indicator report” this report will allow the health department to track health and disease trends and implement programs and partnerships to target trends as prioritized.

Participated in the Community Health Assessment Mentorship Program (CHAMP). This Department of Health program is a mentorship program designed to increase the mentee’s knowledge of data; how to interpret it, produce useful information and report it to a variety of audiences.

Monitored, investigated and assessed all Notifiable Conditions that were reported to us in 2008.

Assessed the data from the height and weight measurements taken in 2007 at 7 participating Lincoln County school districts. This assessment is conducted to evaluate at risk and overweight rates of our children in Lincoln County. Reports were produced and distributed to all participating school districts and posted to our website.

Filed 130 death records for Lincoln County. Death records allow the health department to track cause of death and life expectancy.

Utilized birth certificate data to assess the health of newborns in Lincoln County. 105 births were recorded in 2008.

Promoting Health

Lincoln County

Promoting healthy lifestyle activities allows our residents to be proactive about their health choices.

Provided education to the public regarding the importance of STD prevention. Also provided education, follow-up, and ensuring partner treatment to prevent further infections.

Sent 60 Health Alerts to our Healthcare Provider Network. The Alerts included a variety of topics such as updates on influenza, salmonella, West Nile Virus, immunizations and new treatment guidelines.

Created and posted the “Food Rules” newsletter on a quarterly basis via the health department’s website for efficient distribution.

Provided 40 nurse consultations to childcare centers with a focus on their infant toddler population. 12 licensed family home childcares were provided information and education on various topics including communicable disease prevention, immunizations, health policies, and childhood development by our childcare nurse. The education was done onsite or over the phone if needed.

Partnered with the school nurse for Creston, Wilbur and Almira schools to educate approximately 140 elementary students from grades K– 4 on oral health care.

Referred Women, Infant, Children (WIC) nutrition program clients to oral health care resources in Lincoln and Spokane Counties.

Provided oral health education and care kits for children in the WIC program. The kits contain a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss and educational materials.

Provided 34 individuals with tobacco quit kits through the Maternal Child Health program to assist them in quitting tobacco. 10 of these individuals were pregnant at the time they received their kits.

Continued to offer and teach the tobacco diversion and cessation classes to 9 youth referred by Lincoln County Juvenile Services and Lincoln County school districts as an alternative to ticketed fines and school suspensions.

Published and distributed a report detailing the at risk and overweight status of our youth in a “ready to use” publication to all participating school districts. The publication was also posted to the health department’s website for future use and access.

Presented at an educational evening for Growing Gorillas preschool with 20 parents in attendance on immunizations, flu, and communicable diseases prevention.

Sponsored the seventh annual Mid-Summer Night's Dream. A night devoted to women's health, with over 230 women in attendance. The evening's topic was "Maintain Your Brain," by Joel Loiacano of the Alzhiemers Association.

Authored 5 health corner articles for publication in the local newspapers. The article topics including receiving a flu shot, school immunizations, West Nile Virus, and staying out of the extreme heat.

Updated the health department's website with current information.

Participated in the 7th annual Odessa Women's Night hosted by Odessa Memorial Healthcare Center with over 100 women in attendance.

Linked clients with Department of Social and Health Services, Medicaid, Department of Children and Family Services, oral health and health care providers, Family Resource Center, Planned Parenthood, breast health services, prescription help, Care & Share, transportation, and various other services.

Education to the public and local healthcare providers on notifiable conditions including how to contact the health department 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Provided 1,365 nutrition education sessions to WIC clients.

Served 389 women, infants and children with the WIC program.

Offered breastfeeding education and support to pregnant and postpartum women.

Performed pregnancy tests. Referred clients to prenatal care, First Steps, Medicaid, and Planned Parenthood or other birth control resources.

Screened 15 children 0-6 years of age for developmental delays, with 1 child being identified as needing further follow-up or evaluation. Linked them with services and provided case management through our Family Resource Coordinator.

Served 54 children with special health care needs in Lincoln County through assurance of services, case management, and home visits.

Completed 6 home visits that focused on education for parenting skills, baby & child development, parent & child bonding and evaluation of emotional and developmental health.

Provided Maternal Support Services (MSS or First Steps) to 11 pregnant women.

Created, printed, and distributed 1000 community calendars. The calendars focused on the health indicators from our community health indicator report, with a focus on local people who have made successful healthy lifestyle changes.

Program Partners

Washington State Department of Health	www.doh.wa.gov
American Lung Association of Washington	www.alaw.org
Susan G. Komen for the Cure	www.komen.org
Community Health Education & Resources	www.cherspokane.org
Spokane Regional Health District	www.srhd.org
Educational Service District 101	www.esd101.net
American Cancer Society	www.cancer.org
Area Health Education Centers of Eastern WA	www.ahec.spokane.wsu.edu
Alzheimer's Association	www.alz.org

Protecting Health

Lincoln County

With a goal of protecting the health of our community we can help prevent the spread of disease and increase the quality of life of the residents in Lincoln County.

Sent 1 animal to the Public Health Lab for rabies testing and the result was negative.

Completed 16 animal bite investigations to assure the prevention of rabies.

Monitored flu in Lincoln County through lab reports and school absences.

Identified the need for flu clinics through coordination with local providers. Well attended flu clinics were sponsored by the Health Department in Sprague and Seven Bays to assure access to the flu vaccine in communities with no providers and an older population.

Organized a functional mass vaccination clinic as part of a regional emergency preparedness exercise. 154 individuals received vaccinations in 3.5 hours. This exercise included 29 staff volunteers from 10 community partner volunteers including Hospitals, EMS, Law Enforcement, County and private businesses.

Performed 12 HIV tests and provided risk reduction counseling to all tested.

Administered 56 TB tests with 1 identified as positive, but not contagious. This individual received and completed 9 months of treatment monitored by health department staff even though the condition was not communicable.

Investigated and followed up on reported cases of Chlamydia. Other disease investigation and follow up included Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C.

Updated the Health Department's emergency response plans to assure our preparedness to respond to local and regional events. This involved working with local partners such as the hospitals, EMS, law enforcement, etc. This effort is coordinated with regional partners to assure a cohesive regional response system.

Gave a total of 670 immunizations to children and adults.

Provided technical assistance and vaccine oversight to all 4 healthcare clinics in Lincoln County and completed site visits to 2 of 4 healthcare clinics receiving Vaccines for Children.

Received an award from the Washington State Department of Health for the handling of vaccine and immunizations in 2007.

Tested 7 water samples for nitrates and 1 water sample for fluoride.

Performed 14 sanitary surveys of water systems to ensure safe drinking water.

Tested 927 water samples for bacteria. 23 systems tested positive for coliform bacteria (this includes both private and public water systems). No system tested positive for E-coli. The water lab serves public and private water systems for Lincoln, Grant, Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties.

Issued 66 onsite installation permits to verify compliance with onsite code for the protection of ground and surface water. Down from 103 issued in 2007.

Inspected 6 public swimming pools to assure safe and sanitary water recreation facilities. 1 temporary pool closure resulted from inadequate chlorine levels.

Conducted 78 retail food establishment inspections to ensure safe food handling and prevent illness at 65 food establishments.

Received 37 calls at the Washington State Quit Line from Lincoln County residents wanting to quit using tobacco. The Quit Line offers free counseling and pharmacotherapy options when appropriate to callers.

Conducted tobacco compliance checks on 16 tobacco retailers with 2 sales of tobacco to a minor. Giving Lincoln County a 13% non-compliance rate compared to the state's non-compliance rate of 15%.

Quality & Efficient Operations

Lincoln County

Quality and efficient operations at the health department assures the programs and projects are conducted at the highest standards for public health.

Participated in regional Pandemic Flu and Emergency Preparedness planning and response activities.

Established program goals for WIC, Maternal/Child Health, First Steps, Tobacco Prevention, and Emergency Response in our continued effort to achieve the Standards for Public Health established by the Washington State Public Health System.

Trained all staff on notifiable conditions, HIPAA/confidentiality, communicable disease and emergency response.

Underwent the third Public Health Standards assessment in April 2008. The Health Department significantly improved its performance from the past assessment in 2005.

Provided staff training for appropriate personnel on shipping and handling of bio-hazardous materials, immunizations, new vaccines, epidemiology of vaccine preventable diseases, professional updates in program areas for job improvement.

Participated in the Public Health Improvement Partnership for Washington State through the following workgroups and committees: performance standards revision, performance management, public health funding and public health information technology.

Partnered with ESD 101 School Nurse Corps and Student Assistant Specialists.

Collaborated with Lincoln County Drug and Alcohol Center, local hospitals and clinics, Juvenile Court Services and Lincoln County Sheriff's Department.

Participated in a FEMA training on Integrated Emergency Management with the Lincoln County Sheriff's office.

Partnered with Lincoln Hospital, Odessa Memorial Healthcare Center, NW Med Star and Sacred Heart Medical Center to develop a protocol for system response to stroke to reduce the time it takes for patients in rural areas to be transported and treated at Sacred Heart. This protocol has now been adopted by rural hospitals throughout Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.

Completed the Community Health Assessment Mentorship Program (CHAMP). The program is designed to increase the knowledge of community health assessment staff in local health jurisdictions across Washington State.

2008 Health Department Funding by source	FTE	Program Cost	State Funds	Federal Funds	Contract Funds	Medicare Medicaid	LCDF DOH	LGFA Funds	5930 Funds	Local Funds	Fees
Administration/Policy Development											
Administration	0.36	\$38,091	163							37,928	
Family & Individual Health											
Maternal/Infant/Child/Adolescent Health	0.97	\$66,158	13,389	32,183	18,242					1,924	420
Oral Health Services	0.09	\$6,614	5,394							1,220	
<i>Children w/ Special Health Care Needs</i>	0.52	\$28,454		8,731				14,852		4,871	
WIC	0.85	\$45,031		27,033	372					17,626	
Other Family & Individual Health	0.20	\$14,864			8,220					6,644	
Communicable Disease											
Immunization (includes Perinatal Hep B)	1.04	\$65,978		8,773		12,115			35,306		9,784
Tuberculosis	0.04	\$3,130							1,943		1,187
HIV/AIDS	0.13	\$8,776	6,685							2,091	
Other Communicable Disease	0.30	\$27,190							27,190		
Non-Communicable Disease											
Cardiovascular Risk Reduction	0.09	\$8,630		996			3,140		4,104		390
Cancer Prevention and Control	0.10	\$7,139					3,140		3,999		
Tobacco Prevention and Control	0.58	\$39,244	35,188	2,480						1,576	
Other Non-Communicable Disease	0.17	\$11,824							11,824		
Environmental Health											
Drinking Water Quality	0.22	\$12,273	5,110	1,500	250					3,788	1,625
Solid & Hazardous Waste	0.12	\$10,254	7,754							2,350	150
OSS & Land Development	0.84	\$50,328								20,118	30,210
Vector	0.03	\$2,261								2,261	
Food	0.63	\$34,664					11,735			9,017	13,912
Living Environment	0.04	\$2,476								1,376	1,100
Other Environmental Health	0.01	\$912								912	
Other Public Health											
Vital Records	0.17	\$8,189						789		3,471	3,929
Laboratory	0.35	\$19,016									19,451
Assessment											
Assessment	0.41	\$31,228					6,305	14,064	10,859		
Public Health Planning and Response	0.31	\$30,352		23,212						7,139	
TOTALS	8.57	\$573,075	73,683	104,908	27,084	12,115	24,320	29,705	95,225	124,312	82,158

** Local Funds= \$87,471 general tax support, \$34,976 Fund Reserves, \$1,865 investment income



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PUBLIC HEALTH
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON