

Lincoln County Health Department



Annual Report 2009

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

Marshall Thompson MD

Administrator

Ed Dzedzy RS

Community Health Director

Sherri Bartlett RN

Public Health Nurse

Jolene Erickson RN

Environmental Health Specialist

Kim Johnson RS

Health Educator

Danita Hammond

Women, Infant, Children Coordinator

Sudee Boyk

Office Manager

Brean Nieman

Dietitian

Becky Knapp RD

Programs

Maternal Child Health (MCH)
Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN)
Child Death Review
Childcare Nurse Consultant
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
Aids Prevention, Testing & Counseling
Communicable Disease
Tobacco Prevention and Control
Breast Cancer Prevention and Support
Non Communicable Disease
Drinking Water

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

Group A Water Systems
Group B Water Systems
Solid Waste
Onsite Sewage
Vector
Food
Living Environment
Environmental Health
Vital Records
Water Laboratory
Community Health Assessment
Public Health Emergency Preparedness Response (PHEPR)
Hospital Emergency Planning
Regional Hospital Planning



*Lincoln County Health Department
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The Health Department was met with many challenges in 2009. This year, funding reductions resulted in the loss of 1.2 FTEs causing a reorganization of duties among existing staff. At the same time, the Department had to increase our capacity to respond to the 2009 H1N1 Influenza Pandemic. Although the pandemic has receded, the lessons learned by this demanding response will change the way we do business within the department and with our partners for years to come.

As a result of funding reductions at the federal, state and local level, the health department was forced to reduce staff by 1.2 FTE. A portion of this reduction (.2 FTE) resulted in a loss of our Infant Toddler Early Intervention Coordinator serving birth to three year old children with special needs. The other reduction was a loss of a 1 FTE position in our front office staff. These reductions resulted in a reorganization of administrative duties with the creation of a new position and moving some of those duties to other staff positions. Although we continually work to become more efficient and productive to meet the needs of our community, these reductions have impacted our ability to do that.

While coping with reductions in funding and staff, the 2009 H1N1 Influenza Pandemic began in April. The pandemic began in Mexico and quickly spread around the world with the first case in Lincoln County being identified in August. Our response efforts began with the identification of the pandemic in April with enhanced surveillance and community education. As cases were identified in Lincoln County, our efforts included case identification and management, anti-viral distribution, laboratory testing and vaccine distribution. This effort became the primary function of the health department with other program areas being put on hold.

The Public Health System is not supported or staffed to mount such an extensive response to a communicable disease. Therefore, our partnerships are critical in assuring we have the resources to manage such efforts. This includes partnerships with federal, state and local partners. Our hospitals, clinics, schools, county government and community volunteers were critical in these efforts with the goal of preventing illness and reducing the impact on our communities. Our years of established relationships allowed us to work together to share resources and knowledge to meet the demands placed upon us in response to this pandemic.

The next step is to conduct an after event review of our H1N1 response to identify our strengths and weaknesses so that we can make system improvements and be better prepared to respond to our community needs, regardless of the event. We look forward to that process and welcome feedback from our community.

Sincerely,

Understanding Health Issues

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.

Monitored, investigated and assessed all Notifiable Conditions that were reported to us in 2009.

Filed approximately 80 death records for Lincoln County. Death records allow the health department to track cause of death and life expectancy of Lincoln County residents.

Utilized birth certificate data to assess the health of newborns in Lincoln County. 89 births were recorded in 2009.

Tracked the spread of the H1N1 virus throughout Lincoln County.

Participated in two day STATA training at the Department of Health. STATA is a computer assessment program used in health departments to configure data to answer specific questions about health issues based on multiple data points.

Reviewed current data for Lincoln County from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) and the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS). Both surveys aid the health department and local healthcare agencies in program planning and focus. The BRFSS and HYS are both self reported surveys and give us a good idea of the health habits of Lincoln County residents.

Provided assessment data to Hospital Districts, university students and local organizations per request.

Promoting Health

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 ensured partner treatment to prevent further infections.

Sent 81 health alerts to our Healthcare Provider Network. The alerts included a variety of topics such as updates on H1N1 influenza, seasonal influenza, salmonella, West Nile Virus, immunizations and new treatment guidelines.

Provided 48 nurse consultations to childcare centers with a focus on infants under 3 years of age. 6 licensed family home childcares were provided information and education on various topics including communicable disease prevention, immunizations, health policies, H1N1 influenza prevention and childhood development by our childcare nurse.

Partnered with the school nurse for Creston, Wilbur and Almira schools to educate approximately 130 elementary students from grades K– 4 on oral health care.

Referred 8 Women, Infant, Children (WIC) nutrition program clients to dental care resources in Lincoln and Spokane Counties. These resources include dentists who see children, bill Medicaid, or offer reduced or sliding fee payments.

Provided approximately 160 oral health education and care kits for children in the WIC program. The kits contain a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss and educational materials.

Provided 18 individuals with tobacco quit kits through the Maternal Child Health program to assist them in quitting tobacco. 6 of these individuals were pregnant at the time they received their kits.

Offered tobacco diversion and cessation classes through June of 2009 to Lincoln County Juvenile Services and Lincoln County school districts as an alternative to ticketed fines and school suspensions. Diversion classes through the health department are no longer funded under the new tobacco prevention and control contract.

Trained 6 students at the Davenport School District to be TATU (teens against tobacco use) presenters. 3 middle school students presented to the 3rd and 4th grade classes in Davenport on the harmful effects of tobacco.

Presented at an educational evening for Growing Gorillas preschool, with 20 parents in attendance, on immunizations, H1N1 influenza and seasonal influenza, and communicable diseases prevention.

Authored 5 health corner articles for publication in the local newspapers. The article topics included; receiving a H1N1 influenza shot, school immunizations, Project Pink Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, and tobacco retailer compliance rates.

Updated and rebuilt the health department's website with current information and new publications.

Participated and presented at the 8th 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, Health For All, Department of Children and Family Services, oral health and healthcare providers, Family Resource Center, Planned Parenthood, breast health services, prescription help, Care & Share, transportation, and various other services.

Educated 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 945 nutrition education sessions to WIC clients.

Served 345 women, infants and children with the WIC program.

Distributed 800 checks for the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program. 63% of the checks distributed in Lincoln County were redeemed. The farmers market checks are used to help WIC clients increase their consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Offered 79 pregnant and postpartum women breastfeeding education and support.

Performed 4 pregnancy tests. Referred clients to prenatal care, First Steps, Medicaid, and Planned Parenthood or other birth control resources.

Screened 57 children 0-6 years of age for developmental delays, with 2 children 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 approximately 15 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 9 pregnant women.

Received grant funding from Susan G. Komen for the Cure® to organize the Project Pink Walk, assist individuals in Lincoln County who were uninsured or underinsured to receive breast health screenings and treatment if needed, and promote breast health through advertising and outreach.

Mentored a Davenport High School Senior Project. The project was to organize and coordinate the Project Pink Walk in Davenport. The student was able to raise over \$1800.00 for the Lincoln Hospital Foundation.

Provided resources, referrals and education to 7 women for breast cancer screening and prevention.

Protecting Health

We can help prevent the spread of disease and increase the quality of life of the residents in Lincoln County.

Completed 27 animal bite investigations to assure the prevention of rabies.

Monitored H1N1 influenza in Lincoln County through lab reports and school absences.

Identified the need for seasonal influenza 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 8 H1N1 mass vaccination clinics to immunize our county in the most efficient manner. Multiple clinics occurred in Davenport, Reardan, Wilbur, Odessa and Sprague.

Administered 1931 H1N1 vaccinations throughout Lincoln County.

Conducted case investigation on 8 lab confirmed cases of H1N1 with 7 hospitalizations and 1 death.

Presented H1N1 education at staff meetings in 4 school districts.

Provided guidance to 9 school districts as well as educational materials and H1N1 prevention strategies.

Managed the distribution of antivirals from the strategic national stockpile for 56 children through local hospitals and pharmacies.

Performed 6 HIV tests and provided risk reduction counseling to all tested.

Administered 50 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, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C. These continue to be the most reported notifiable conditions in Lincoln County.

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 500 immunizations to children and adults.

Provided technical assistance and vaccine oversight to all 4 healthcare clinics in Lincoln County and completed a site visit to one of the healthcare clinics receiving Vaccines for Children.

Tested 13 water samples for nitrates and 1 water sample for fluoride.

Performed 12 sanitary surveys of water systems to ensure safe drinking water. No follow up was needed and any high risk violations were corrected.

Tested 1134 water samples for bacteria. 78 samples tested positive for coliform bacteria (this includes both private and public water systems). The water lab serves public and private water systems for Lincoln, Grant, Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties.

Issued 58 onsite installation permits to verify compliance with onsite code for the protection of ground and surface water.

Inspected 5 public swimming pools to assure safe and sanitary water recreation facilities. 2 facilities received follow-up inspections.

Conducted 75 retail food establishment inspections to ensure safe food handling and prevent illness at 66 food establishments.

Permitted 102 temporary food events throughout Lincoln County. 66 temporary events received onsite inspections, 2 events were exempt from permitting requirements and 7 vendors received permits but did not attend.

Issued 316 food handler permits.

Received 45 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 15 tobacco retailers with 2 sales of tobacco to a minor. This gives Lincoln County a 13% non-compliance rate compared to the state's non-compliance rate of 9 %.

Worked with the Department of Ecology and property owners to facilitate the clean-up of 5 tire pits resulting in 424 tons of tires at the cost of \$136,560.00.

Quality & Efficient Operations

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.

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 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.

Continued the notifiable conditions quality improvement evaluation.

Volunteered to be part of the CHAT (Community Health Assessment Tool) user group. CHAT is a new data base for Washington State's health information and it is replacing the current data base that the health department uses to track our county's health trends.

	FTE	Program Cost	Funding Source																	
			State Funds	Federal Funds	Contract Funds	Medicare Medicaid	LCDF DOH	LGFA Funds	5930 Funds	Local Funds	Fees									
Administration																				
Administration	0.21	\$43,215										28,534	9,669	5,012						
Family & Individual Health																				
Maternal/Infant/Child/Adolescent Health	0.67	\$59,526	569	24,610	21,849															225
Oral Health Services	0.14	\$10,783	9,452																	1,331
Children with Special Health Care Needs	0.20	\$8,607		8,607																10,787
WIC	0.69	\$40,077		29,290																385
Other Family & Individual Health	0.20	\$14,682			14,297															
Communicable Disease																				
Immunization (includes Perinatal Hep B)	0.63	\$42,834		8,745					3,717											21,732
Tuberculosis	0.05	\$3,475																		2,187
HIV/AIDS	0.10	\$5,741	4,842																	899
Other Communicable Disease	0.15	\$13,552																		13,552
Non-Communicable Disease																				
Cardiovascular Risk Reduction																				
Cancer Prevention and Control	0.38	\$21,133	2,000		12,127															7,006
Tobacco Prevention and Control	0.60	\$40,387	38,493	1,894																
Other Non-Communicable Disease	0.05	\$4,217																		4,217
Environmental Health																				
Drinking Water Quality	0.15	\$9,941	4,625	500																4,321
Solid & Hazardous Waste	0.15	\$13,553	10,230																	2,273
OSS & Land Development	0.52	\$36,884																		6,567
Vector	0.02	\$1,461																		1,461
Food	0.46	\$34,254																		17,563
Living Environment	0.05	\$3,187																		182
Other Environmental Health	0.01	\$393																		393
Other Public Health																				
Vital Records	0.11	\$5,202																		1,171
Laboratory	0.16	\$17,300																		
Assessment																				
Assessment	0.17	\$11,084																		6,713
Public Health Planning and Response	1.11	\$93,531		93,071																460
2009 TOTALS	6.98	\$535,019	\$70,211	\$166,717	\$48,273	\$3,717	\$24,276	\$29,705	\$95,225	\$13,852	\$91,671									
2008 TOTALS	8.57	\$573,075	73,683	104,908	27,084	12,115	24,320	29,705	95,225	124,312	82,158									



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PUBLIC HEALTH
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HEALTHIER WASHINGTON