



ANNUAL REPORT

2018



Photo by Madison Blackford

Protecting and promoting the health and the environment of the people of Kittitas County



Table of Contents

Letter from the Administrator	3
KCPHD Organizational Chart	4
KCPHD Governance	5
The Front Desk	6-7
Environmental Health	8-12
Water Resources	13
Community Health	14-16
Health Promotion	17-20
Assessment	21
Fiscal	22-23

Document created by: Amyta Fuller

Edited by: Kasey Knutson, Chelsey Loeffers, Tristen Lamb, Katie Odiaga, Liz Whitaker

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Letter from the KCPHD Administrator

As Public Health employees, we continually strive to protect and promote the health and environment of the people in Kittitas County. Every public health topic and task is approached with that focus and purpose in mind. Instead of profits and gains, our agency's bottom-line is the health of the communities we serve. With each service we provide and every new challenge KCPHD staff encounter, we work toward that ultimate goal of protection and prevention. That work is not always easy or comfortable, but it is always rewarding.



*KCPHD Administrator
Tristen Lamb and her family*

2018 was a year of transition for Kittitas County Public Health. We welcomed nine new staff members to our team, and we bid farewell to several team members who moved on to new professional opportunities. We added new programs, including a water metering pilot program, a behavioral health and recovery program, a youth marijuana prevention program, and more. Last but not least, our previous Administrator made the difficult decision to change career paths. In December of 2018, I left my position as the Environmental Health Program Supervisor and stepped into the role of Public Health Administrator.

Robin Read was KCPHD's Public Health Administrator for over five years. She accomplished major feats in rural public health, including improvements to food access in our county and implementing large-scale programs like water resources and syringe exchange. However, what I'll remember the most about Robin is how much I loved working for and with her. Robin inspired her staff to work hard because she worked hard; she inspired us to care because she cared. I will strive to maintain the professional, supportive, and motivating work place that Robin built here at KCPHD, and I will carry her influence for the rest of my career.

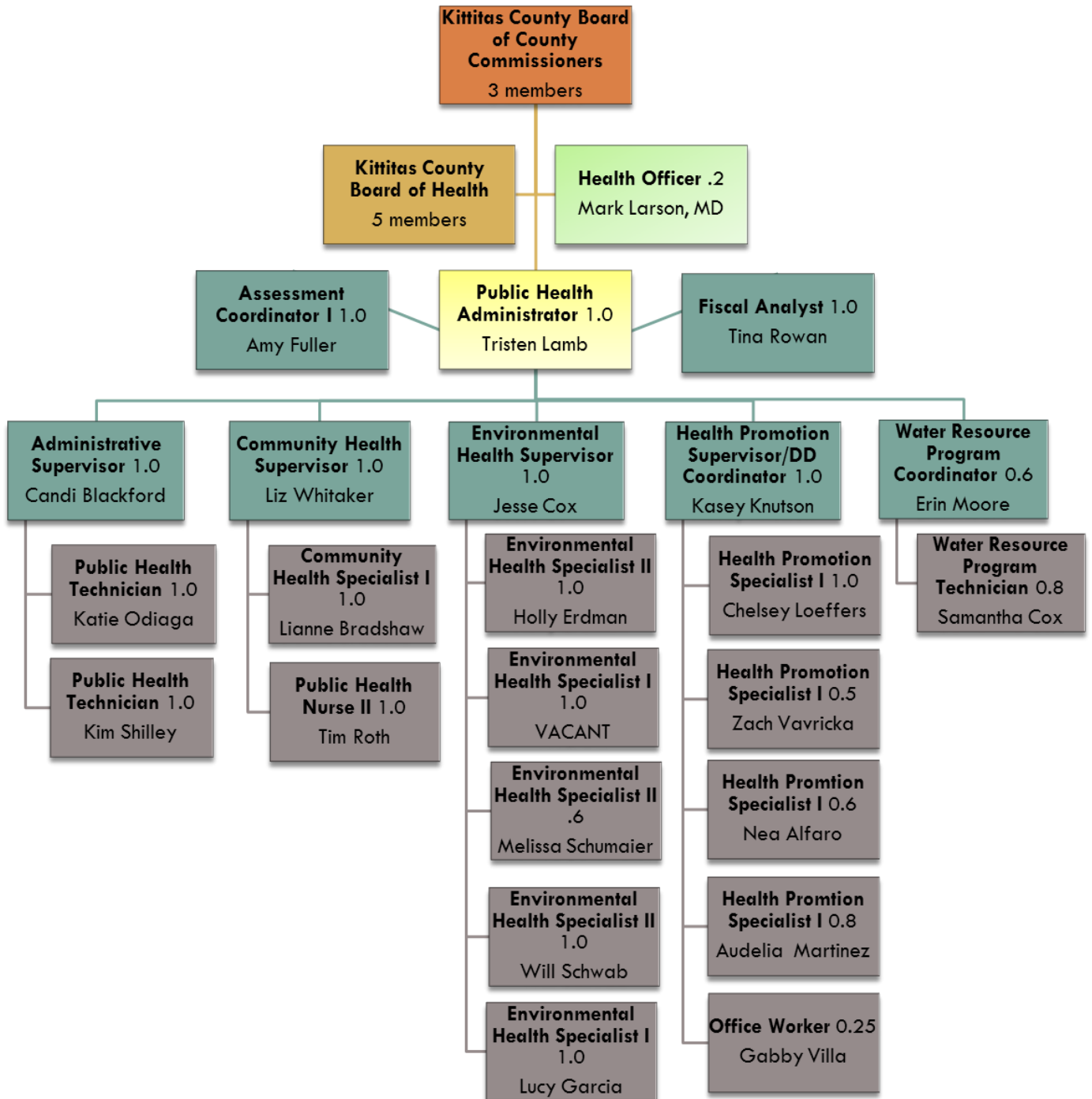
Looking forward, KCPHD staff is transitioning into 2019 with a priority focus on fiscal strategy and effective performance management. Through consistent data collection and evaluation of our services, we can ensure that the residents of Kittitas County are truly better off because of the work that we do at the Public Health department.

As a new Public Health Administrator, I am overwhelmed by a sense a pride – pride in our staff, our leadership, and our community. KCPHD will continue to capitalize on the strengths of our staff and community and improve lines of communication with the public and our stakeholders, all while maintaining the mobilization toward our agency's vision. We look forward to another year of improving and supporting the public health needs of our county.

Sincerely,

Tristen Lamb, BA BS MS
KCPHD Public Health Administrator

2018 KCPHD Organizational Chart *



*Updated December 2018

KCPHD Governance

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Kittitas County Board of Health is composed of three county commissioners and two additional appointed members from the community. The role of the board is to oversee important public health decisions including department budget, and changes to public health law, policy and procedure.



Rich Elliot
Deputy Chief
Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue



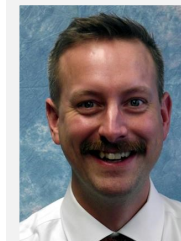
Dr. John Asriel
Community Health of
Central Washington



Commissioner - District 1
Cory Wright
Kittitas County



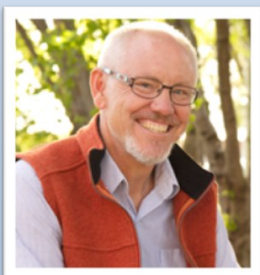
Commissioner - District 2
Laura Osiadacz
Kittitas County



Commissioner - District 3
Brett Wachsmith
Kittitas County

KCPHD HEALTH OFFICER

The Health Officer plays a very important role in preserving the health of a community. Mark Larson, MD, is Kittitas County's Health Officer, which means he is mandated by law to take any action necessary to maintain health and sanitation in our county (RCW 70.05.070). Health Officers must be licensed physicians, and appointed by the local Board of Health. When public health regulation is not enough to protect public health, the Health Officer can issue a Health Order, legally compelling individuals or parties to put an immediate end to public health hazards and emergencies. Dr. Larson is not only KCPHD's Health Officer, but an award-winning family physician at KVH Family Medicine.



Dr. Mark Larson
Kittitas County Health Officer

BOARD OF HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Board of Health Advisory Committee advocates for public health in Kittitas County and provides an important advisory role to the Board of Health and the staff of the health department. The membership represents a cross-section of private citizens and professionals who are interested in the health and quality of life in Kittitas County. Advisory committee members are elected and serve three year terms.



Top: Dr. Bob Davis, Kate Doughty, Carin Thomas, Darren Higashiyama, Elizabeth Frederick, Brian Clark **Bottom:** Nancy Pfeiffer, Hope Cusak, Andrew Lyons
Not Pictured: Brad Bastian, Dianna Haberman, Judy Hennesey, Rebecca Pearson, Hartwig Vauthour, Angela San Filippo, Heather Burfeind, Robin Read

The Front Desk

KPCHD front desk staff are typically the first interaction people have with the Kittitas County Public Health Department. The administrative and technical support staff are there to assist customers in accessing a wide range of services including (but not limited to) permit applications, vital records, water testing, food worker certification, and clinic appointments. The front desk is the central nervous system of a busy department, ensuring everybody gets the information they need when they need it, and directed to the staff members that will best meet their public health needs.

In 2018, our fantastic front desk team assisted the Kittitas County public with the following items:

Vital Records:

- **1258** Birth certificates
- **1417** Death certificates

Applications:

- **118** Water mitigation applications
- **116** Well site review applications
- **314** Adequate Water Supply determination applications
- **7** Group B paperwork packets
- **8** Solid waste renewal facility applications
- **526** On-site septic related applications
- **12** New food establishment applications
- **275** Renewal food establishment applications
- **83** Temporary food establishment applications

Permits:

- **262** On-site septic installation permits (repair, renewals, redesign)
- **301** On-site septic finalized permits
- **231** Food handler's permits (in the office)
- **2595** Food handler's permits (online)
- **47** Living environment permits (camps, parks & pools)

Clinic Appointments

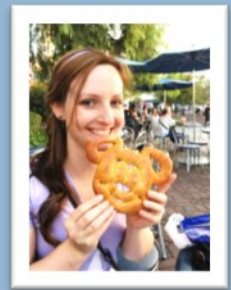
- **251** kept and billed appointments (including travel consults)

Thank you, front desk team, for keeping us connected and on top of things!

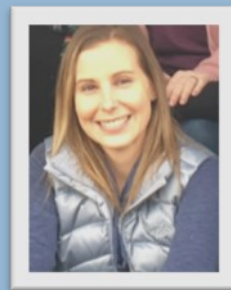
Front Desk Division



Candi Blackford
Administrative Supervisor



Katie Odiaga
Public Health Technician



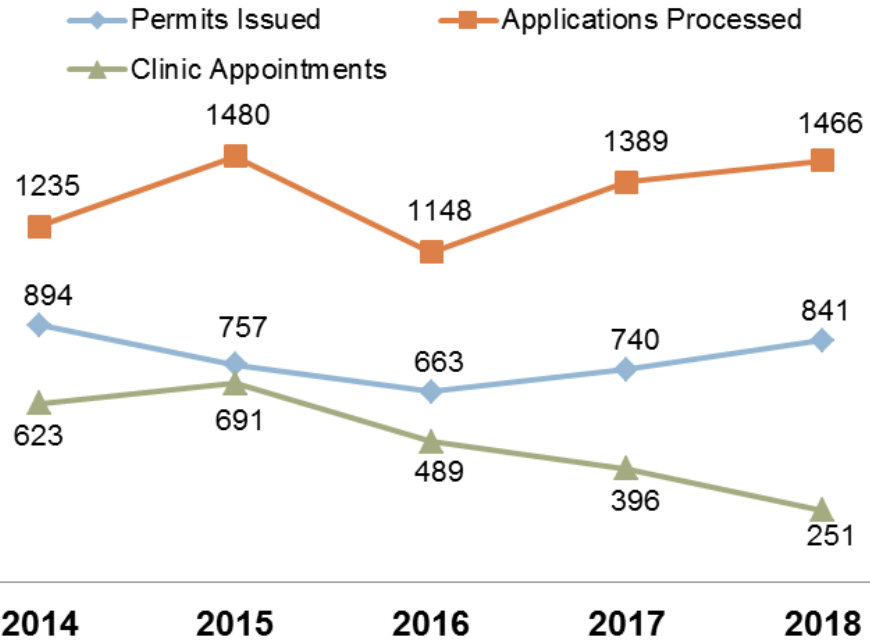
Kim Shilley
Public Health Technician



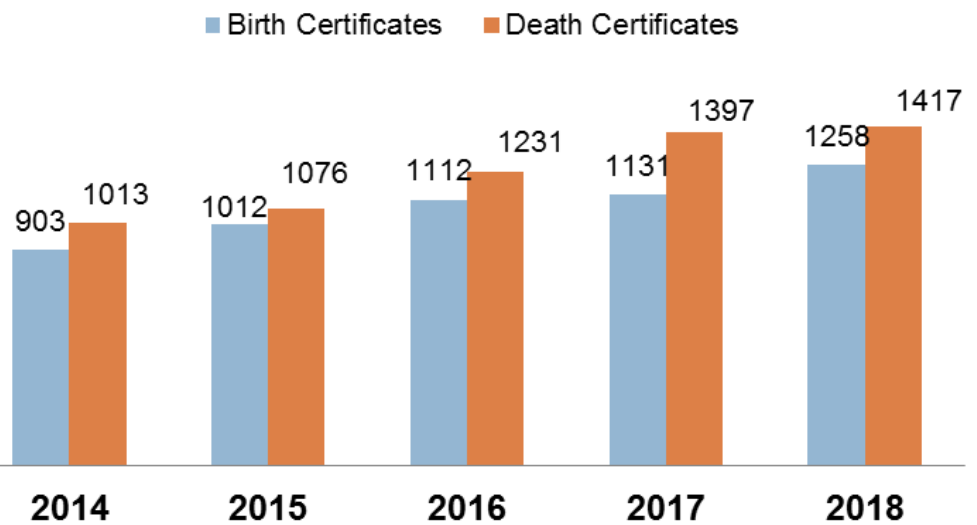
Clinic appointments went down 60% from 2014 to 2018

Death and birth certificate copies went up 40% from 2014 to 2018

KCPHD Front Desk Activity



Vital Records Activity



Environmental Health

The Environmental Health (EH) division of the Kittitas County Public Health Department provides many vital services in order to ensure the health and safety of Kittitas County residents (and visitors). KCPHD currently has five employees that oversee all EH programs including food safety, drinking water, wastewater, solid waste, vector control, and living environment safety.

FOOD SAFETY PROGRAM

If food is not prepared, cooked or stored properly it can result in the spread of dangerous disease-causing viruses or bacteria. Food borne bacteria such as *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter* and *E.coli* can lead to serious illnesses, especially in vulnerable populations such as the very young, the very old and the immuno-compromised. KCPHD provides food safety inspections to make sure local food retailers are following proper food handling, storage and preparation procedures. Inspections determine critical food safety violations that can put the public at risk if not addressed immediately. Inspectors will close a food establishment if violations are deemed too high risk. KCPHD inspectors are also responsible for reviewing design plans for new food establishments in order to identify potential safety risks. **In 2018, EH staff completed the following activities related to food safety:**

Inspections

- **587** Permanent food establishment inspections (includes pre-opening, re-inspection and complaint)
- **118** Temporary food establishment inspections (includes Farmers Market and Fair/Rodeo events)
- **34%** of permanent food establishment inspections found one or more critical violations
- **11%** of temporary food establishment inspections found one or more critical violations

Closures

- **2** temporary closures of a permanent food establishment due to critical violations

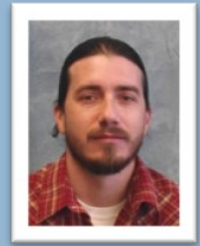
New Establishment Plan Reviews

- **28** establishments underwent a plan review process prior to opening

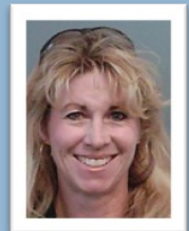
Complaints

- **50** complaints related to unsafe food establishments and/or potential food borne illness were followed up on by Food Safety and or KCPHD nursing staff.

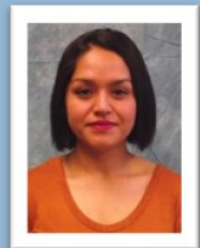
Environmental Health Division



Jesse Cox
EH Supervisor



Holly Erdman
EH Specialist



Lucy Garcia
EH Specialist



Melissa Schumaier
EH Specialist



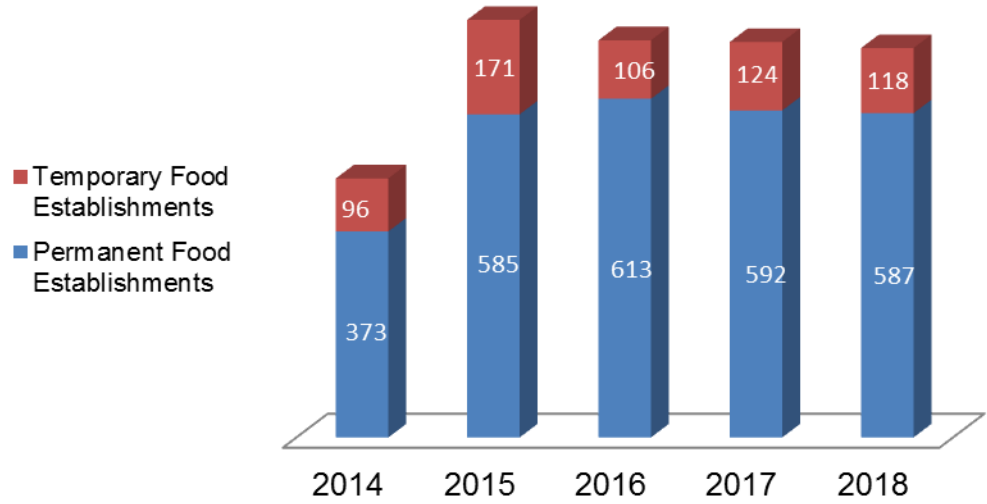
Will Schwab
EH Specialist



Total food inspections went up 50% from 2014 to 2018

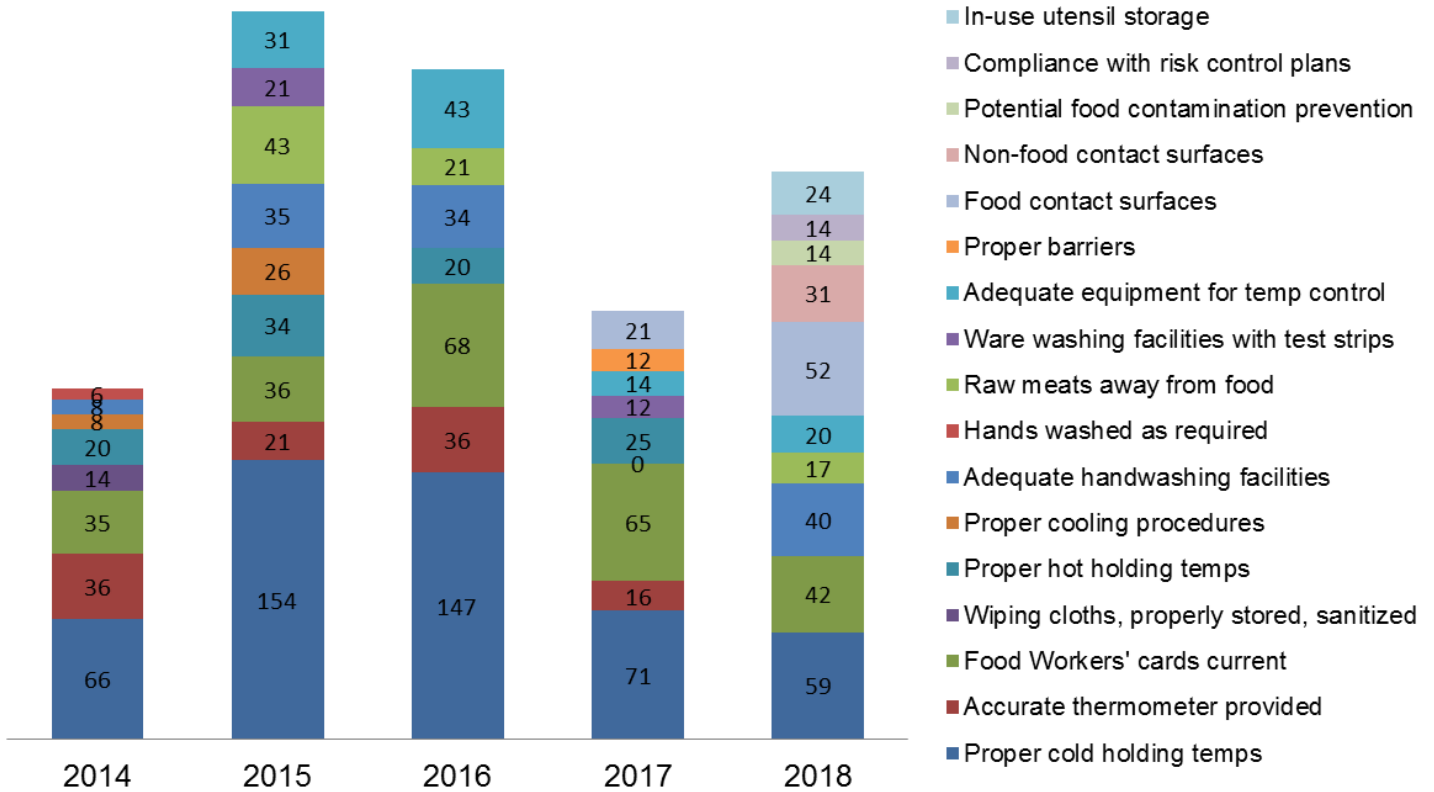


Food Safety Inspections



In 2018, the top three most frequently cited food safety violations in Kittitas County food establishments were improperly cleaned **food contact surfaces**, out-of-date or non-existent **food handler certification** cards and lack of **adequate hand-washing facilities** for food workers.

Most Frequent Food Inspection Violations



DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

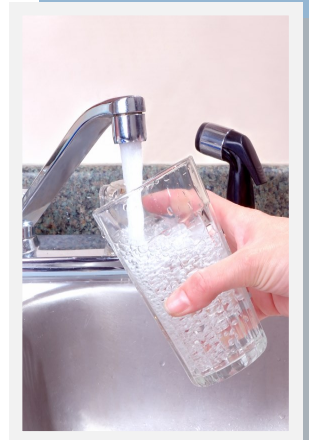
Drinking water in Kittitas County comes from three types of water systems: Group A, Group B and private wells. Group A systems serve 15 or more households and are regulated by the state department of health. Group B systems serve between 2 to 14 households and are regulated by the local public health department or the state. Private wells can serve up to two households and are maintained by the homeowner. However, the local health department partners with the Department of Ecology to ensure proper installation of the system. KCPHD also works with homeowners to conduct groundwater testing, site surveys and education regarding proper well system maintenance. **In 2018, EH staff conducted the following public health services related to drinking water:**

- 10 Group A Sanitary Systems were surveyed
- 1 Group B System was inspected for safety issues
- 5 New Group B Systems were approved
- 38 Well delegation inspections
- 14 Well site inspections

LIVING ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

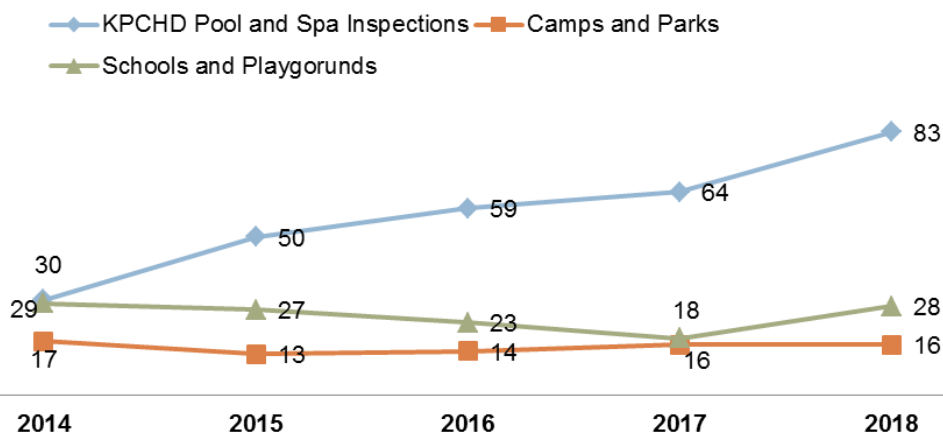
Living Environment consists of oversight of outdoor and water recreation areas, otherwise known as camps, parks and pools. This program also inspects schools and school playgrounds for safety issues. **In 2018, EH staff completed the following inspection activities related to living environment safety:**

- 16 Camps and Parks inspections
- 83 Pool and Spa inspections (including re-inspections)
- 28 School and Playground inspections



Pool inspection numbers have steadily increased over the past 5 years

KCPHD Living Environment Inspections





WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

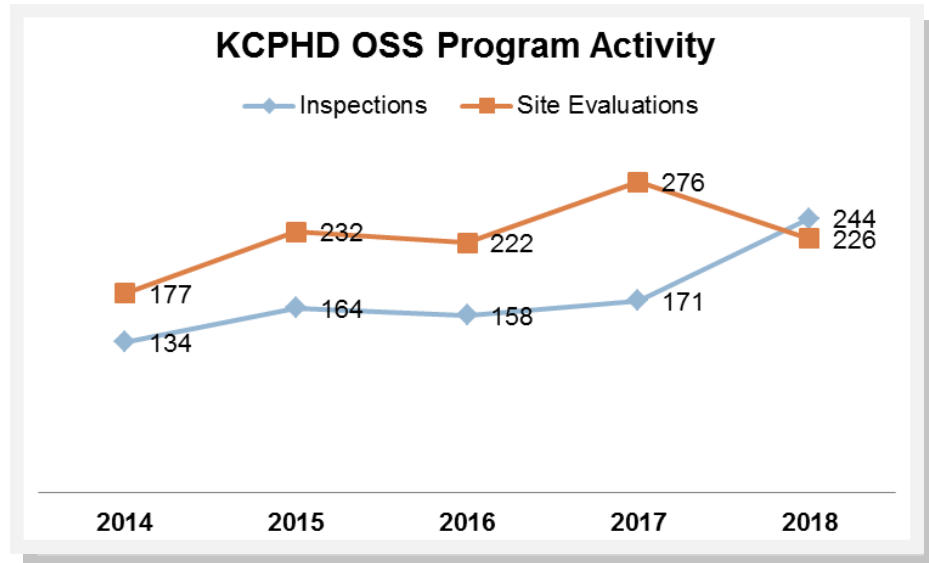
Wastewater, or sewage, is water that contains fecal matter, bacteria, viruses and assorted chemicals that can make people (and animals) very sick.

Sewage can be a potentially dangerous public health issue that is mitigated by the proper design, installation and maintenance of septic systems. The KCPHD On-Site Sewage (OSS) program is responsible for working with the public and various contractors to ensure these steps are done correctly.

KCPHD also responds to public complaints to investigate potential septic failures. When a large scale failure is identified, KCPHD works with community partners to respond quickly to incidents before they escalate into a public health emergency. **In 2018, EH staff conducted the following activities related to septic system management:**

- **184** Final inspections of installed septic systems
- **27** Re-inspections of installed septic systems
- **33** Other types of septic system inspections
- **226** Site evaluations of proposed septic sites
- **9** OSS related complaint responses

OSS inspection totals went up 82% from 2014 to 2018



SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

Solid waste, more commonly referred to as garbage or trash, can lead to public health problems if incorrectly stored or disposed of. Solid waste facilities are regulated to ensure that garbage is properly handled in order to avoid soil, water or air contamination as well infestation of insects, rodents or other vectors. KCPHD works with the Department of Ecology to oversee nine Solid Waste facilities in Kittitas County. EH staff inspects the facilities quarterly. **In 2018, EH staff conducted the following solid waste related activities:**

- **25** inspections of permitted solid waste facilities
- **6** solid waste related complaint responses

ZOONOTICS AND VECTOR CONTROL

In public health, vectors are the animals and insects that can carry disease to a human population. In Kittitas County, we are most likely to be affected by rats, mice, birds, bats, mosquitoes and ticks. During warmer weather, KCPHD collects samples of mosquito clusters from various areas in the county and accepts ticks brought in by the public. KCPHD also responds to reports of animal bites and investigates possible rabies exposure. Our EH and CH staff work together to send vector samples to state laboratories that test for a variety of diseases including Rabies, West Nile Virus, Lyme Disease and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. **In 2018, EH and CH sent the following samples to the WA State Department of Health for analysis:**



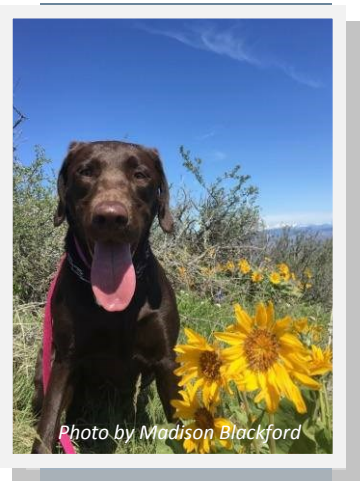
- 6 separate mosquito clusters were tested for West Nile Virus
- 16 Ticks were tested for seven different diseases including Lyme Disease
- 2 bats were tested for Rabies

AIR QUALITY

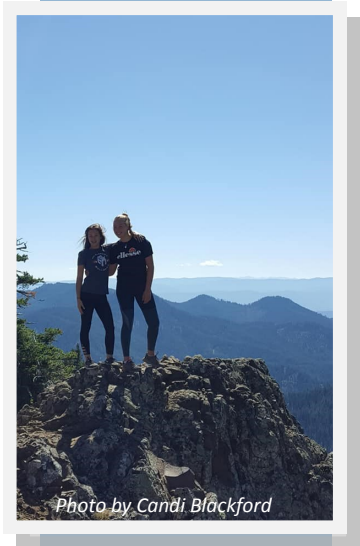
KCPHD does not have a funded program specific to air quality, however, the health department plays a key role in keeping the public safe when air quality conditions are hazardous. If outdoor air quality reaches unsafe levels, KCPHD works closely with local media partners to alert the public and encourage them to limit exposure to the outdoors. The Health Officer monitors hazard levels and will ask for closures of schools or other public venues if poor air quality poses a significant threat to the public's health. KCPHD also assists in distribution of N-95 masks to the public when outdoor air quality is deemed hazardous. In certain situations, KCPHD provides additional air quality monitoring to evaluate indoor air quality in public venues such as schools and emergency shelters. **In 2017-18, KCPHD staff worked together to complete the following activities related to air quality:**



- 25 buildings (including schools) received 63 indoor AQ readings from trained KCPHD staff (2017)
- 651 N-95 masks distributed to the public by the front desk and other KCPHD staff (2018)
- 82 media releases related to Air Quality were sent out by our Public Information Officer (2018)



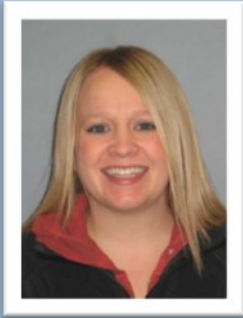
100% of samples submitted to the state were negative for disease



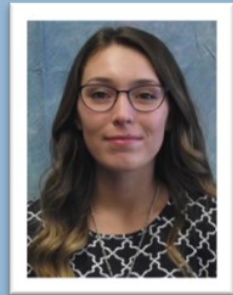
Kittitas County had over 30 days of unhealthy air in 2018

- Based on WA State Dept. of Ecology daily air monitor readings

Water Resources Division



Erin Moore
Water Resources
Program Coordinator



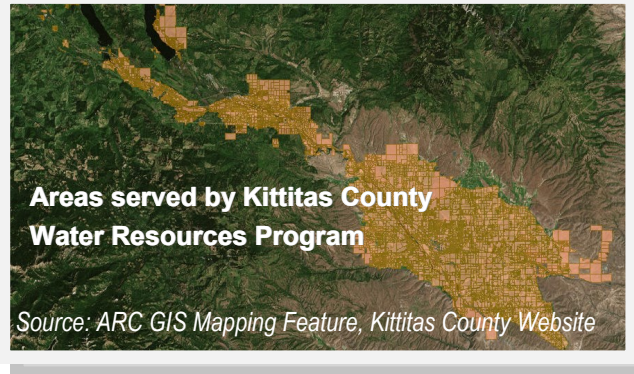
Samantha Cox
Water Resources
Program Technician

Water Resources Program

The Kittitas County Water Resources program is the first of its kind in Washington State.

This program manages and monitors the Kittitas County Water Bank as an option for the

mitigation of water usage. There are currently two staff members available to walk the public through the process of purchasing water rights and setting up a water meter to measure household water use. **In 2018, the following mitigation and metering activities were the highlights of the program:**



MITIGATION HIGHLIGHTS

- KCPHD received final approval on **large area permits for both upper and lower county**- almost all green zone areas and some yellow areas can be served over the counter.
- **115 applicants for mitigation.** The program has been able to serve 102 of them over the counter.
- **65 package A/ 49 package B certificates** have been issued (in 2017 the split was 48 package A/23 package B).
- **42% of the 2018 applicants** for water mitigation have been from the Upper County.
- **Streamflow Restoration Interim Implementation Project:** Staff applied with partner agencies for the first round of grant monies through the WA State Department of Ecology to fund county-wide projects.
- A **Memorandum of Agreement with Ecology** staff was started in 2018 to establish expectations and outline working relationships for the future.
- **The Water Bank Expansion Project** above Kittitas Reclamation District Canal was initiated in 2018 and scheduled to be completed in mid-2019.
- The County successfully acquired water rights for the back mitigation program through multiple transfers. The County has almost completed 800 acre foot back mitigation obligation as part of the Settlement Agreement.

METERING HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Water Resources program entered into a pilot project** to determine indoor water use in new homes. The findings of this project could have local and state-wide impacts on water use calculations.
- **49 meters** were deployed by end of year.
- **45 on-site meter inspections** were conducted.
- Meter inspectors use i-Phones so **inspections are 100% paperless.**



Kittitas County
Water Meter Example

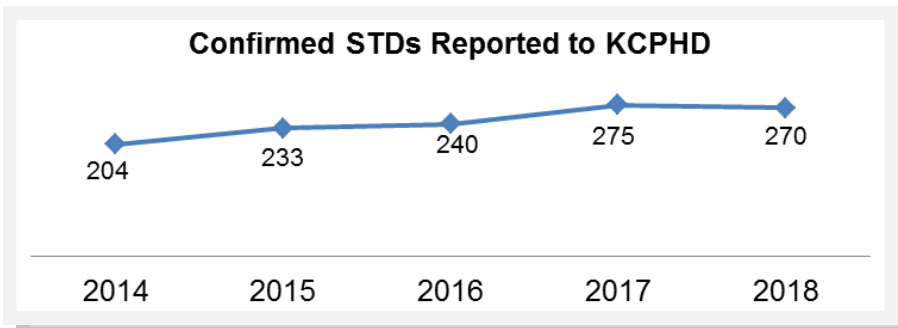
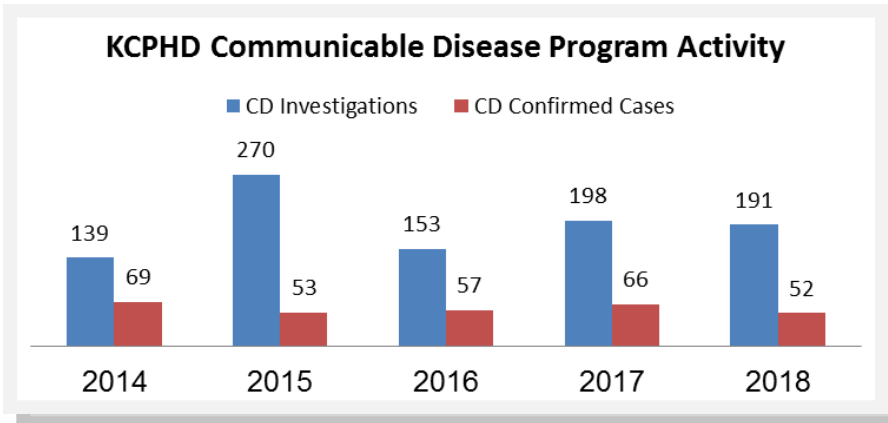
Community Health

The primary goal of the KCPHD Community Health (CH) division is to prevent and monitor communicable diseases in the Kittitas County population. This division currently has three employees, CH Supervisor, a public health nurse and a CH specialist that oversee the major programs of immunization, communicable disease testing and HIV/AIDs prevention.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Communicable diseases are caused by germs that can spread from person to person, or from insects, animals, food and water to people. Some diseases spread through the air when someone breathes in droplets from a sneeze or cough. Others may be transmitted by physical contact, including sexual activity, a bug or animal bite, swallowing contaminated food or water, and sharing injection supplies. CH staff are responsible to track and investigate reports of certain communicable diseases that may cause significant illness, disease outbreaks, and death. Timely investigation of these reports can prevent or reduce the spread of dangerous diseases by making sure people who are sick understand how to stop spreading the disease. CH staff work to identify the source of the illness to keep other people from getting sick the same way. **In 2018, CH staff conducted the following activities related to communicable disease tracking:**

- **191** Communicable disease investigations
- **52** confirmed cases of communicable diseases
- **270** Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) reported to KCPHD
- **48** Tuberculosis tests, **1 active Tuberculosis case**



Community Health Division



Liz Whitaker, RN
CH Supervisor



Tim Roth, RN
Public Health Nurse



Lianne Bradshaw
CH Specialist

Annual totals of confirmed STDs reported to KCPHD have increased 35% over the past 5 years

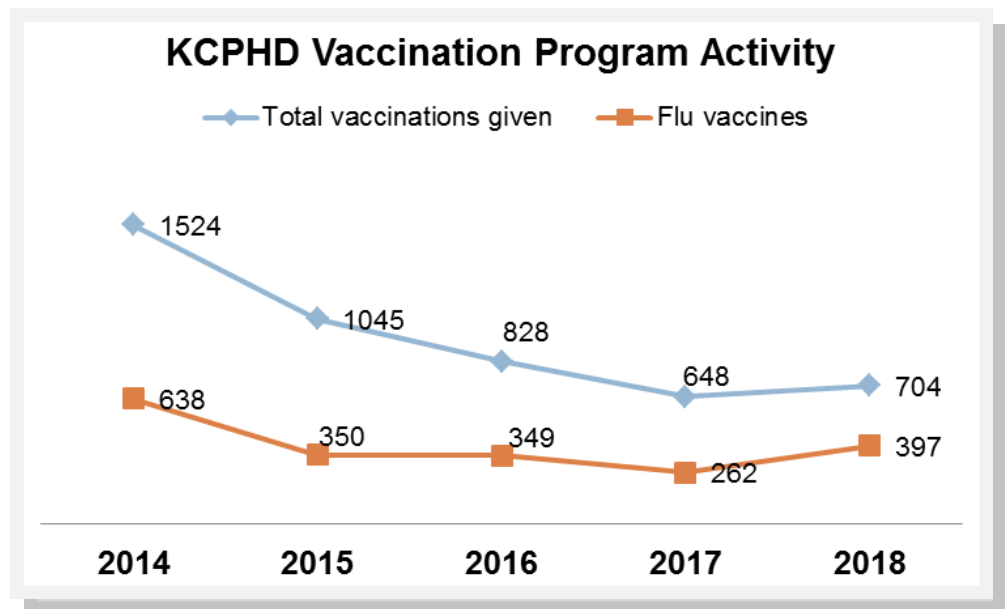


VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASE

Some communicable diseases are preventable by vaccination. Diseases such as polio, measles, mumps, rubella and diphtheria have been greatly reduced in the U.S. due to the practice of vaccination in young children. Flu vaccination for children and adults is also helpful in preventing the spread of the disease and shortening the length of illness in vulnerable populations. People from Kittitas County who are traveling abroad are required to get vaccinations for a variety of diseases that exist in other countries including yellow fever and typhoid. **In 2018, CH staff conducted the following vaccination related activities:**

- 704 total vaccinations given (adults and children)
- 397 of those vaccinations were seasonal flu only
- 33 specialty travel vaccinations
- 4 on-site school vaccination clinics for school-age children
- 1 drive through flu clinic open to the public

Since 2014, there has been a 38% decrease in KCPHD administered flu vaccine and a 53% decrease in KCPHD administered vaccinations overall.



BLOOD BORNE PATHOGENS

Blood borne pathogens (BBP) are spread when blood or body fluid from an infected person enters another person's body via needle-sticks, human bites, cuts, abrasions, or through mucous membranes. KCPHD focuses prevention and testing activities on HIV/AIDs and Hepatitis A through D. **In 2018, CH staff engaged in the following prevention and identification activities:**

- 14 people were tested for HIV and/or Hepatitis C
- 5 HIV/BBP classes were conducted with high risk populations
- 2 BBP trainings were done with county staff (KCPHD and Fair staff)



SYRINGE EXCHANGE

Harm Reduction Theory is based on the idea that if you cannot completely stop someone from engaging in a harmful activity, there may still be interventions that can reduce the harmful impacts that they have on themselves and others. In the case of intravenous (IV) drug use, a Syringe Exchange (SX) is a safe location where IV drug users can dispose of used needles and get clean needles so that they are not spreading diseases to other users and potentially the public. **In 2018, CH staff conducted the following activities related to the SX program:**

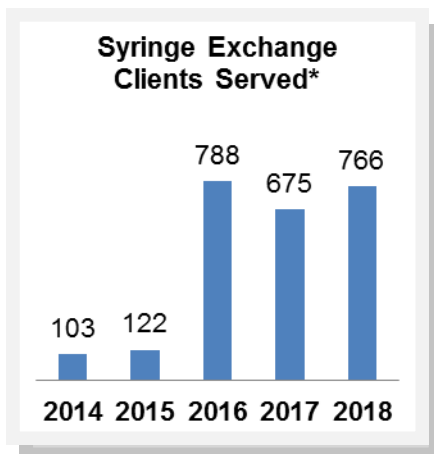
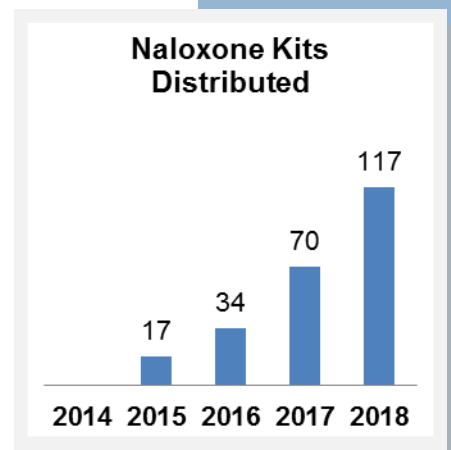
- 77 SX events were held (in Lower and Upper County)
- 30,104 needles were safely disposed of
- 43,380 clean needles were given out
- 766 SX clients were served
- 117 Naloxone Kits were distributed

The KCPHD Syringe Exchange provides Naloxone kits and education on how to respond to an opioid overdose. Naloxone or Narcan, is a non-addictive medication that reverses an opioid overdose. Naloxone can be easily administered as a shot or nasal spray. It is not a controlled substance and has no potential for abuse.

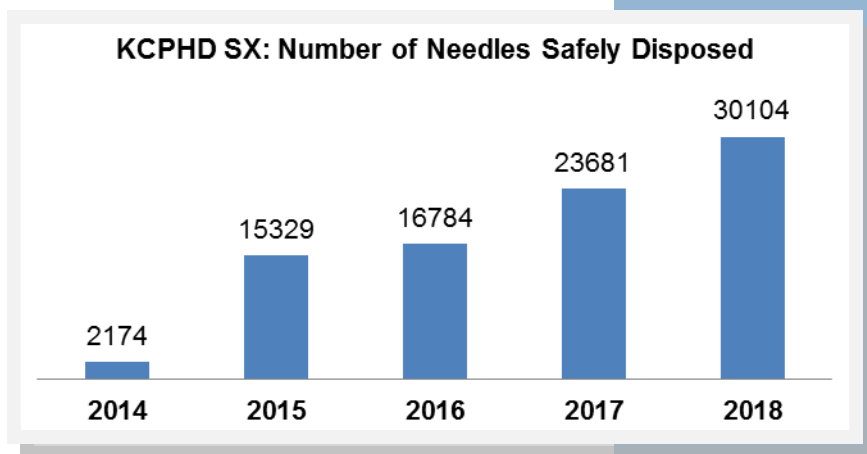
Syringe exchange has seen a significant increase in participants over the past five years. This could be attributed to several factors including population growth, increased awareness of the SX program among intravenous (IV) drug users in Kittitas County, and increased use of IV drugs. Whatever the cause, the SX program has ensured a significant number of used needles were disposed of safely by providing participants with bio-hazard disposal containers for used needles. This practice will hopefully reduce the practice of needles being left in public spaces.



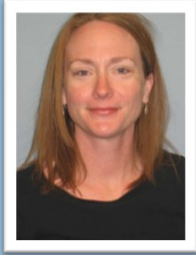
Syringe filled with unknown substance found by KCPHD staff at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds the morning of the 2018 Flu Clinic



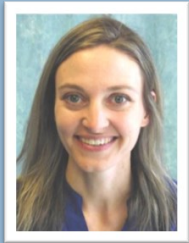
* Some clients are counted more than once



Health Promotion Division



Kasey Knutson
Health Promotion Supervisor



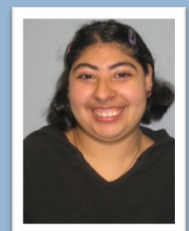
Nea Alfaro
Health Promotion Specialist



Chelsey Loeffers
Health Promotion Specialist



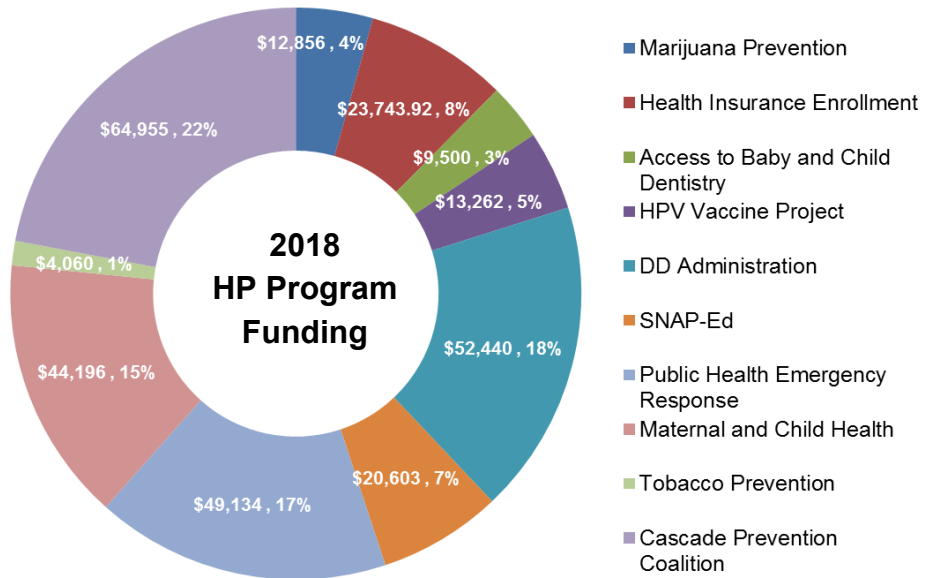
Zach Vavricka
Health Promotion Specialist



Gabi Villa
PH Office Aid

Health Promotion

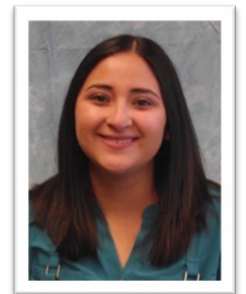
KCPHD Health Promotion (HP) works with federal, state and local partners to implement programs that address policy, program and systems change. These programs help to reduce barriers to health and increase opportunities to make healthy choices. The KCPHD HP division currently has five employees to implement HP programs including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Education (SNAP-Ed), Maternal and Child Health, Tobacco and Marijuana Prevention, Health Insurance Enrollment, and Emergency Preparedness.



HP PROGRAM CHANGES IN 2018

Funding streams for HP programs are constantly changing. As health issues emerge or grants become available, Kittitas County Public Health is asked to take on activities that are needed in the county. HP saw some significant changes in 2018 with the integration of Developmental Disabilities program into the Health Promotion program as well as the addition of Department of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) funding.

The DBHR funding is for Cascade Prevention Coalition (CPC) work done in the upper county. CPC works to prevent substance abuse, raise awareness of local substance abuse issues, and implement prevention programs in the Cle Elum/Roslyn School District. CPC was previously overseen by another county coalition that was unable to continue with the grant implementation due to staffing changes. KCPHD was able to take on the grant and hire additional HP staff to pick up where the program left off. Welcome aboard, Audi Martinez!

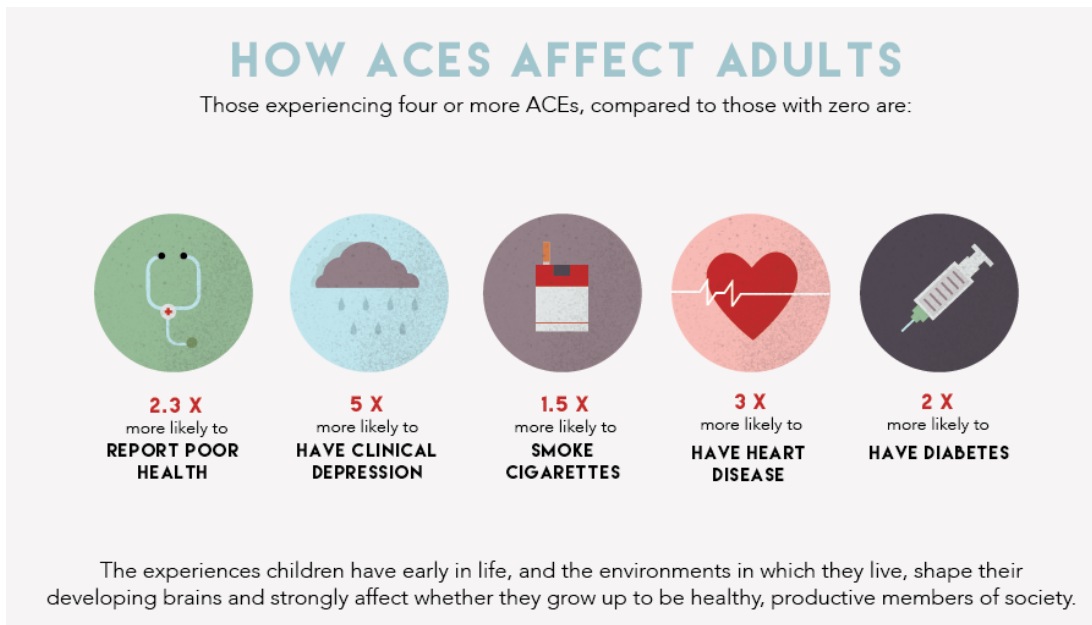


Audi Martinez
Health Promotion Specialist



ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACEs)

Through a partnership with the Kittitas County Resilience and ACEs Task Force, HP staff working with our Maternal and Child Health program received specialized training in order to facilitate community presentations on the topics of Neurobiology, Epigenetics, ACEs and Resilience (NEAR). KCPHD's goal is to provide education, and raise awareness of the long-lasting health impacts of childhood trauma. Creating a common vocabulary we can use to talk about NEAR is one of the first steps in mitigating the effects of ACEs and preventing future ACEs from occurring. HP staff were able to provide seven presentations in 2018 to community stakeholders, and plan to continue in 2019.



KITTITAS COUNTY BREASTFEEDING COALITION

Breastfeeding is promoted by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a key strategy to improve public health due to its multiple benefits for mothers and babies, including reduced risk of asthma, obesity, allergies, and Type 2 diabetes for breastfed babies, and reduced risk of heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, ovarian and breast cancers for breastfeeding mothers.

The Kittitas County Breastfeeding Coalition (KCBC) is one of the most active coalitions in Kittitas County and has been in operation since 2013. In 2018, HP staff assisted KCBC with updating their strategic plan. The 2018 strategic priorities put KCPHD in a position to receive grant funding for the next five years to continue KCBC work. These strategies include promoting a supportive breastfeeding culture in Kittitas County, collecting data on local breastfeeding rates, providing community members and healthcare providers with breastfeeding resources and information, and creating new local and regional partnerships.

“Adverse Childhood Experiences are the single greatest unaddressed public health threat facing our nation today.”

*Dr. Robert Block,
Former President of
the American
Academy of
Pediatrics*



The international symbol of breastfeeding logo used by KCBC to notify nursing moms of breastfeeding friendly spaces .

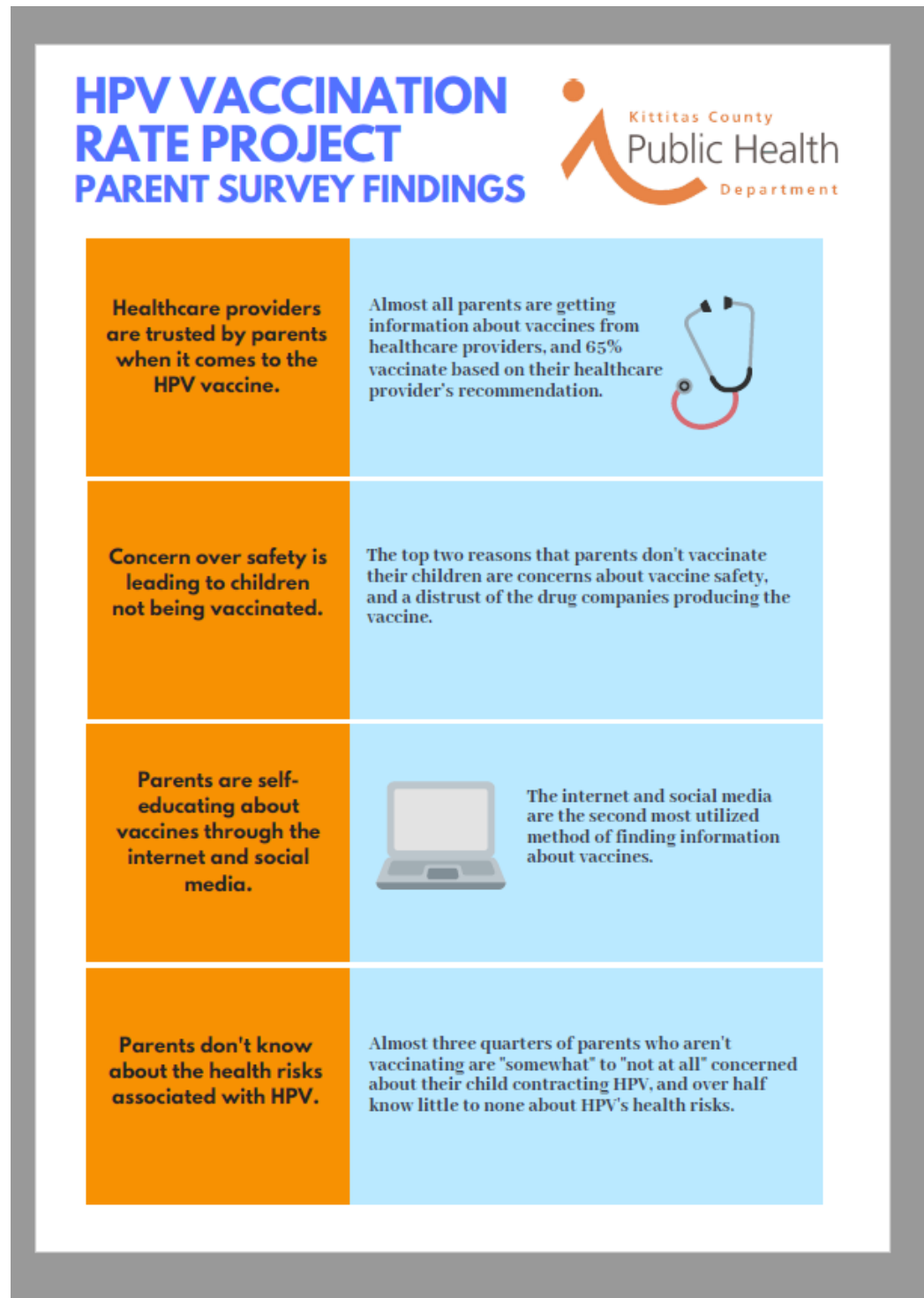


HPV VACCINATION RATE PROJECT

The Group Health Foundation (GHF) provided grant funding to increase the rates of HPV vaccinations in Kittitas County, which will hopefully contribute to decreased rates of cervical and oral cancer. GHF funded HP staff to conduct a county wide survey of knowledge, behaviors and attitudes relating to HPV vaccination of children. Findings from this survey will be used to inform an educational campaign regarding HPV vaccination and increasing HPV vaccination practices among reluctant parents.

The HPV survey was conducted over the course of four weeks in Spring of 2018. A reliable sample of the population was collected through 469 electronic and paper surveys.

The majority of respondents were females between the ages of 25-44, with 67% identifying as White and 10% as Hispanic or Latino, reflecting the composition of the Kittitas County population.



HP Partnership Highlights

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EDUCATION

In 2018, HP SNAP-Ed staff worked with the Kittitas County Farmers Market to increase the purchase of produce by people receiving supplemental food assistance (SNAP). Fresh Bucks incentive program offers SNAP users \$2 in Fresh Bucks for every \$5 in benefits spent on fruit, vegetables, mushrooms, herbs, and vegetable starts! Due in part to the assistance from KCPHD staff, the market saw a **30% increase in food assistance** numbers from last year.



Kittitas County Farmers Market, Downtown Ellensburg, Summer 2018

SAFE KIDS

Safe Kids is funded through a combination of county contribution to pay for one hour of staff time a week and grant funding from the Law and Justice Council to purchase equipment. In 2018, the Safe Kids program and HP staff provided **34 new car seats** and coordinated **39 car seat checks** by Certified Technicians.

TOBACCO PREVENTION AND CONTROL

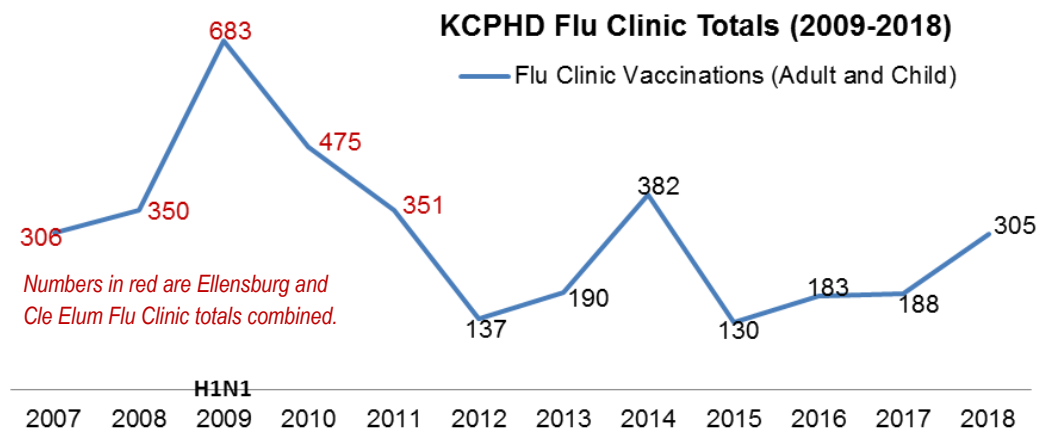
Students from Central Washington University completed a county-wide Standardized Tobacco Assessment for Retail Settings (STARS and vSTARs-vaping) evaluations in Kittitas County. Tobacco Prevention and Control at KCPHD had funding in 2017 to complete STARS assessments, but limited funding in 2018 did not include this work at the county level. Jill Hoxmeier, CWU Public Health Professor, has partnered with KCPHD to provide public health assessment experience to students while providing valuable data to KCPHD.

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response's annual emergency exercise or the "Annual Drive Thru Flu Clinic" is always the epitome of partnerships for KCPHD. The HP led exercise is held in October of each year and utilizes partnerships from Emergency Management, Search and Rescue, Medical Reserve Corps, Central Washington University, and Kittitas Valley Healthcare.



Central Washington University students from the paramedic program assist KCPHD nursing staff during 2018 Drive Thru Flu Clinic



Assessment Division



Amy Fuller
Assessment Coordinator

Public Health Assessment

The Assessment Division of KCPHD focuses on providing two of the ten essential public services: monitoring the health status of residents and evaluating and the quality and the effectiveness of public health services. The Assessment Coordinator works with all of KCPHD's divisions to evaluate programs and oversee quality improvement projects. In addition, this position provides technical oversight to employees who conduct community evaluations and surveys. The Assessment Division is also responsible for tracking community health data and reporting on that data when requested.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT PROJECTS

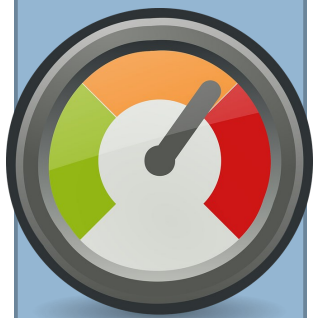
Community assessment projects are defined as surveys or studies completed using community data and with the assistance of one or more community partners. **In 2018, the major assessment projects completed by KCPHD Assessment Division are as follows:**

- **CHA-CHIP:** Completed a 6 month community health assessment (CHA) process resulting in a comprehensive 80 page report and a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).
- **2018 HYS Survey:** Assisted local schools with implementation of the 2018 Statewide Healthy Youth Survey in 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade classrooms across Kittitas County.
- **HPV Vaccination Survey:** Assisted HP staff in designing and conducting a county wide assessment of HPV vaccination practices, knowledge and attitudes.

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT PROJECTS

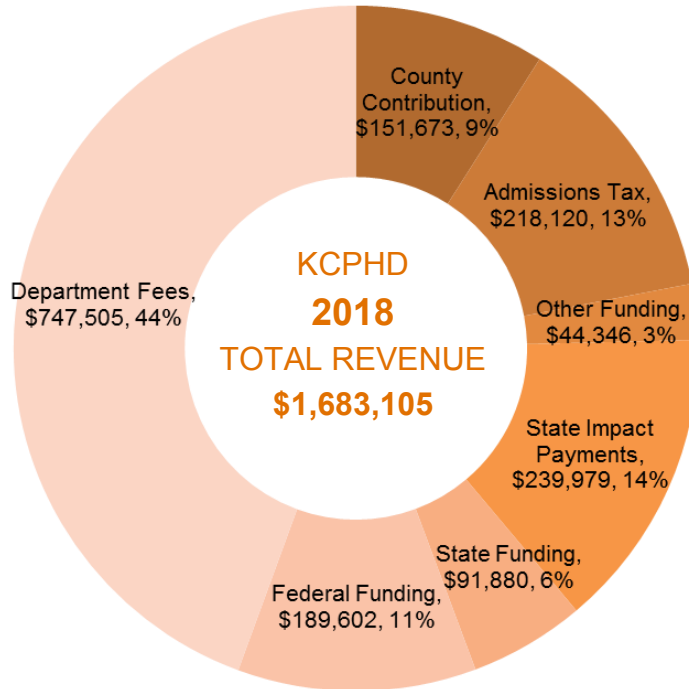
Internal assessment focuses on evaluation of KCPHD programs and services as well as oversight of quality improvement activities. **In 2018, the Assessment Division completed the following internal assessment projects:**

- **Quality Improvement Self Assessment Tool (QI-SAT)** evaluation of KCPHD was completed for 2018, to compare progress on QI plan goals from previous years.
- Completed a High Yield Core Competency Analysis of KCPHD staff on competencies in 8 domains of public health, using weighted criteria to determine which areas were most important in achieving strategic plan goals: **financial planning and policy/program development.**
- Worked with public health software company to build a **performance metrics dashboard** to monitor KCPHD's program and strategic plan outcomes.



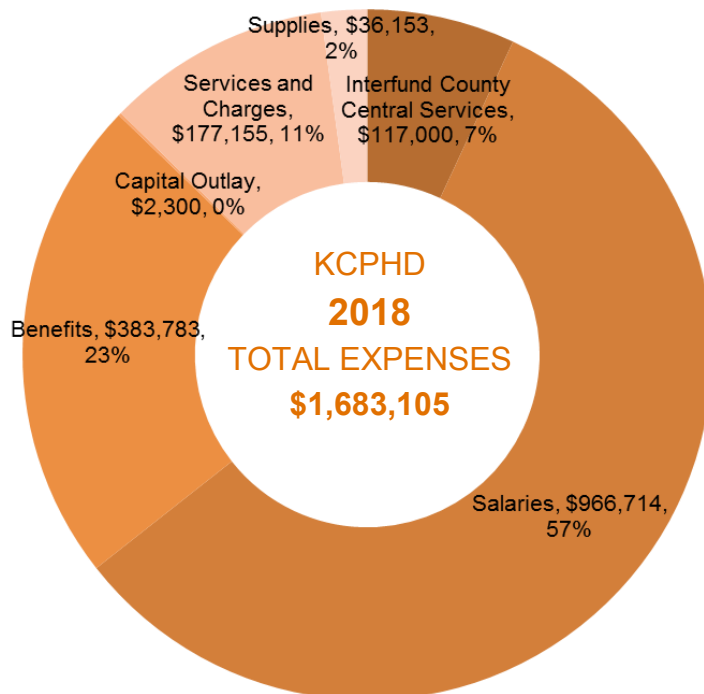
Annual Fiscal Summary

KCPHD is primarily funded by state and federal grants, state allotted public health assistance funds, environmental health service fees, clinic service fees, county admissions tax and the county general fund.



Department fees are the largest source (44%) of revenue for KCPHD

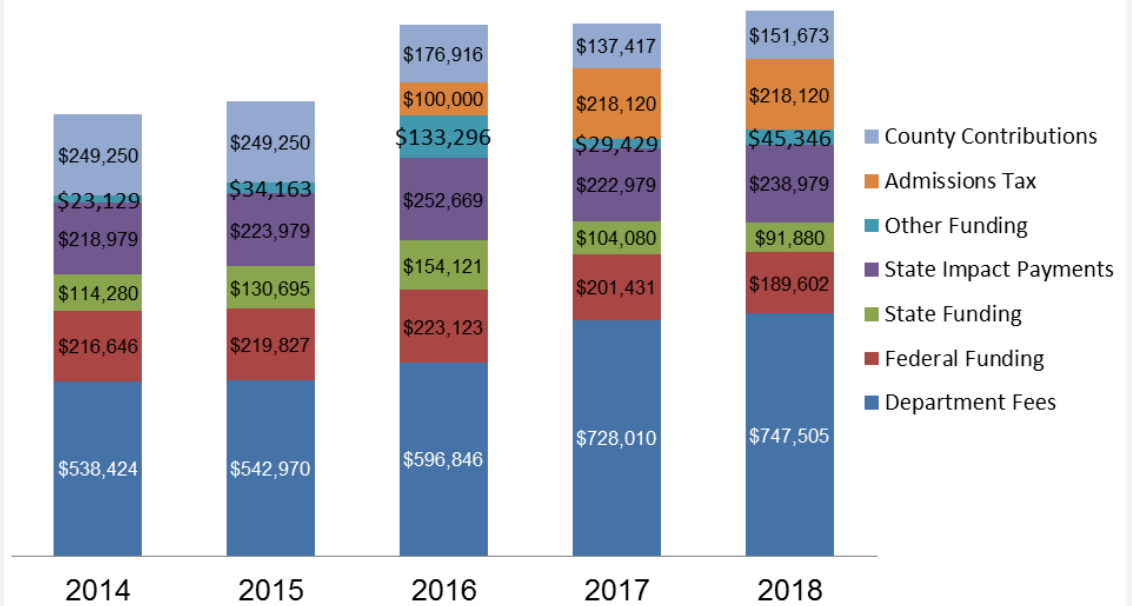
The majority of KCPHD's budgeted expenditures are for personnel costs. Much of the remaining expenditures are for basic expenses needed to run the department or for those related to grant administration.



Staff salaries and benefits make up 80% of KCPHD's total budget

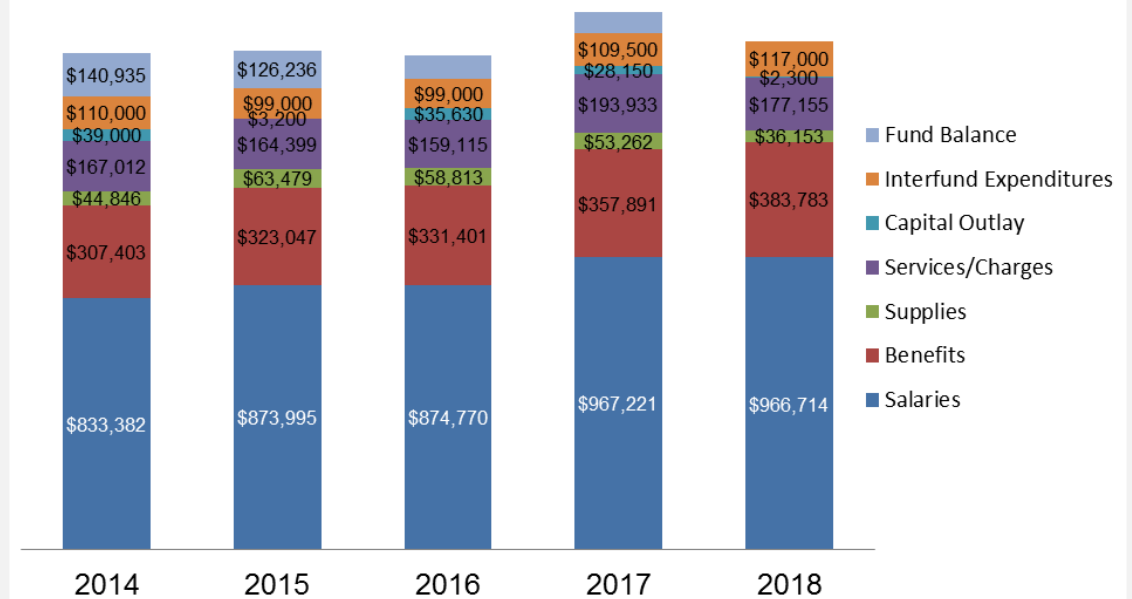
Since 2016, there has been a 40% decrease in state issued grant funds and a 15% decrease in federal funds administered to KCPHD

KCPHD Revenue



Expenses related to staffing have increased yearly as we add staff and services to meet the public health needs of a rapidly growing Kittitas County population (13% since 2010 Census)

KCPHD Expenditures



ANNUAL REPORT 2018



507 N . Nanum Street, Suite 102

Ellensburg, WA 98926

Phone: 509.962.7515

Fax: 509.962.7581

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