

PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

Child Care Providers Collaborate to Improve Staff Vaccination Rates

Kittitas County Public Health Department staff from two divisions worked collaboratively with local child care providers for infants and toddlers to increase staff vaccination rates for the Tdap vaccine during the fourth quarter. Tdap helps to protect against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis.

An increase in pertussis cases nationwide prompted Co-Administrator Linda Navarre to apply for 300 doses of free vaccine through the AmeriCares program. The application was successful, and the health department received the vaccine in November.

Health Educators from the Health Promotion division and Communicable Disease Nurses from the Community

Health Services division then worked together to distribute information about the Tdap vaccine, focusing on child care providers who care for infants. Infants are too young to receive the vaccinated themselves. Providing a

“cocoon” of safety around these young children is the best way to protect them from pertussis. Most infants contract the illness from a parent or other caregiver.

Health department staff offered free vaccinations to uninsured child care staff in November and December. The AmeriCares program requires that free doses of

vaccine are made available only to the uninsured.

Staff are also working with local health care providers to offer the free vaccine to new fathers who are uninsured.



Staff at Creative Kids Learning Center participated in the Tdap project.

A Note From the Department: Applying for External Funding

Kittitas County Public Health Department has been affected by budget cuts once again. At the end of December, health departments and other organizations across the state received notice that several sources of funding were either being reduced or eliminated entirely as of January 1, 2011. The governor recommended the funds to be withdrawn immediately in efforts to balance the state’s 2011 supplemental budget.

Programs that were impacted at the health department include HIV prevention, tobacco prevention, oral

health, and solid waste. Additional cuts are also expected later this year.

Specific activities that are affected by the immediate cuts include:

- ▶ HIV testing and counseling
- ▶ HIV prevention education
- ▶ Case management for people living with HIV
- ▶ Promotion for the tobacco QuitLine
- ▶ The Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU) program
- ▶ The Tobacco Free Coalition
- ▶ Secondhand smoke education
- ▶ The Oral Health Coalition
- ▶ Fluoride varnish clinics

- ▶ Oral health education and promotion
- ▶ Solid waste complaint investigations

In an effort to replace some of the funding that has been withdrawn, the department has been busy writing grant proposals in an effort to secure additional funding. Proposals have recently been submitted that would provide funding for obesity prevention work specific to Upper Kittitas County and case management for people living with HIV.

Additional opportunities to apply for

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New health department hours

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday – Friday

Closing the office to the public from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. will allow staff to more efficiently process permits and paperwork. Thank you for your understanding.



Food Access Coalition Holds Appreciation Dinner

A fall celebration dinner was held to acknowledge recent efforts to increase access to healthy foods in Kittitas County.

The event, held at the Hal Holmes Center in Ellensburg, had about 25 attendees. Representatives of various groups attended, including community gardens, food banks, nutrition educators, and Healthy Retail Project participants.

“We were pleased with the turnout,” said Robin Read, Health Promotion Manager and facilitator of the Food Access Coalition for Kittitas County. “It was a wonderful opportunity to share some of the successes that have been made this year.”

Read is currently wrapping up a community survey regarding access to healthy foods. The results are due in early 2011.

Communicable Diseases	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
CD Cases Confirmed	16	26	23	19	84	89
Other Investigations	7	29	15	10	61	17
Food Illness Complaints	2	6	1	0	9	8
Lead Poisoning Cases	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chlamydia Reported	52	26	21	31	130	111
Gonorrhea Reported	2	2	1	3	8	6
Herpes Reported	2	7	2	1	12	9
Syphilis Reported	1	0	0	0	1	1

Child Vaccine Administered	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
DTaP	1	19	6	7	33	29
DT	0	1	1	0	2	0
H1N1 (2009)	472	16	0	0	488	1544
Hep A	10	39	63	4	113	125
Hep B	1	3	2	1	7	20
HIB	4	5	1	1	11	6
HPV	5	16	61	6	88	57
Immune Globulin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza	8	4	97	347	456	503
Meningococcal	7	21	61	1	90	79
MMR	1	20	14	2	37	44
Pediarix (DTaP + Polio + Hep B)	2	3	1	0	6	13
Pentacel (DTaP + HIB + IPV)	0	4	3	0	7	2
Pneumococcal Conjugate	3	12	3	4	22	19
Pneumococcal Polysaccharide	0	0	0	0	0	1
Polio	2	19	10	1	32	34
ProQuad (MMR + Varicella)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rotavirus	3	2	0	0	5	4
Td	0	0	2	2	4	3
Tdap	8	29	73	64	174	108
Varicella	8	34	58	9	109	95

Tuberculosis Program	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
TOTAL TB Tests	42	32	45	19	138	254
TOTAL Positive TB Tests	5	2	3	2	12	4
Cases Active TB	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspect TB Investigations	0	1	0	0	1	2
New Preventive Treatment	0	0	2	0	2	1
Finished Preventive Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Adult Vaccine Administered	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
H1N1 (2009)	92	17	0	0	109	1052
Hep A	8	9	9	11	37	50
Hep B	15	22	10	9	56	51
Twinrix (Hep A + Hep B)	117	42	31	54	244	224
HPV	0	0	0	1	1	0
Immune Globulin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza	12	7	160	290	469	612
Meningococcal	3	2	4	1	10	10
MMR	5	2	4	3	14	7
Pneumococcal	2	0	6	13	21	31
Polio	5	19	4	3	31	47
ProQuad (MMR + Varicella)	0	1	0	0	1	0
Rabies	0	1	0	0	1	14
Td	8	12	4	1	25	12
Tdap	17	9	13	57	96	97
Varicella	4	1	2	2	9	16

Travel Clinic	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Travel Consultations	31	70	31	19	151	110

Adult Vaccine Administered

Japanese Encephalitis	1	2	2	0	5	9
Injectable Typhoid	11	16	13	5	45	27
Oral Typhoid	7	17	7	8	39	17
Yellow Fever	8	23	7	4	42	16

Child Vaccine Administered

Japanese Encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injectable Typhoid	1	6	1	1	9	0
Oral Typhoid	0	1	0	0	1	1
Yellow Fever	2	0	0	1	3	1

Oral Health Education	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Cle Elum-Roslyn School District	program not funded in 2010				0	195
Damman School District					0	20
Easton School District					0	22
Ellensburg School District					0	284
Kittitas School District					0	41
Thorp School District					0	65
Child Care Centers					0	0
Other					0	85

ABCD Provider Training

Dr. Bruce Wilcox of Family Dental Care provided a training for two dental providers who are interested in becoming a part of the newly funded Access to Baby and Child Dentistry (ABCD) program offered by Kittitas County Public Health Department.

The ABCD program focuses on early family oral health education and connects children under the age of six who have Medicaid to certain dental providers for preventive oral health services.

The training focused on early childhood dentistry techniques. Materials were developed by University of Washington and taught by Dr. Wilcox. The health department hosted the session.

Two families volunteered their young children to allow the providers to practice with real patients. As you can see in the picture below, one effective technique of early childhood dentistry allows the child to be seated on the parent's lap while being examined.



Community Gardens Now an Option for Developers

Work by Health Educator Sarah Bedsaul and the Community Development Services Department of Kittitas County has resulted in changes to Kittitas County Code regarding performance based cluster platting.

Bedsaul offers a public health perspective to proposed land use decisions through her work with the Shape Up program. Shape Up is funded by a Healthy Communities grant that drives sustainable change to create easy access to healthy food choices.

In the case of the performance based cluster platting code, Bedsaul recommended that the creation of community gardens be an option that would allow planners to qualify for public benefit rating system points. Accrual of these points can allow developers to increase the number of residential lots within their

proposed project area, with some limitations.

Community gardens fall under development for recreational uses and join other options that can earn points such as development of active recreational facilities (trails, ball fields, tennis courts, outdoor riding arenas), passive recreational facilities (bird watching, picnic areas), or formal recreation facilities for public use (pool, clubhouse, golf course, indoor riding areas).

“Having the option to choose a garden is the first step, but if the option isn’t in the code you can’t chose it.” said Bedsaul.

Community Development Services recommended the code changes to the Board of County Commissioners as part of the annual comprehensive plan amendment cycle. The Board approved the changes on December 7.

School-based Sealants	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Cle Elum-Roslyn School District	19	0	0	16	35	11
Damman School District	0	0	0	0	0	0
Easton School District	0	0	0	6	6	7
Ellensburg School District	0	18	0	22	40	37
Kittitas School District	20	0	0	0	20	9
Thorp School District	0	0	0	0	0	5
Child Care Centers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

Volunteer Oral Health Clinics	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Dental Patients	0	0	0	0	0	34
Senior Dental Patients	0	0	0	0	0	37

Fluoride Varnishes	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Children Receiving Varnish	0	0	0	19	19	18

Children with Special Health Care Needs	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Home Visits	20	19	15	12	66	64
Office Visits	3	4	3	3	13	17
No Shows	2	0	0	2	4	3
New referrals	15	24	11	14	64	n.a.

n.a. = not available

Living Environment	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Schools						
Plans Reviewed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building Inspections	14	3	0	0	17	18
Playground Inspections	11	1	0	0	12	11
Complaints	0	0	0	0	0	0

Public Pools and Spas						
New Permits	2	0	0	0	2	1
Renewal Permits	1	0	2	28	31	35
Routine Inspections	11	9	10	15	45	35
Re-inspections	3	2	3	2	10	5
Complaints	0	0	1	0	1	2

Camps and Parks						
New Permits	1	0	0	0	1	0
Renewal Permits	0	11	2	0	13	13
Routine Inspections	0	0	13	0	13	12
Re-inspections	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Zoonotics and Vector	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Animal Bites/Complaints	15	21	16	17	69	61
Quarantine Required	0	1	1	0	2	0
Animals Tested for Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dead Bird Phone Calls	0	1	0	0	1	6
Dead Birds Collected	0	0	0	0	0	2
Mosquito Clusters Collected	0	0	0	0	0	14

Solid Waste	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
New Permits	2	0	0	0	2	0
New Exempt Facility Permits	1	0	0	0	1	1
Permit Renewals	0	1	6	0	7	7
Permitted Facility Inspections	8	8	8	8	32	29
Exempt Facility Inspections	0	0	0	0	0	7
Complaints	37	33	31	24	125	143
Incidents	0	0	1	0	1	5

On Site Sewage	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Realtor Requests	39	42	24	13	118	109
Complaints	8	3	0	1	12	7

Permits	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
New Applications Received	23	51	44	24	142	124
New Permits Issued	22	47	43	29	141	114
Repair Applications Received	6	4	4	3	17	32
Repair Permits Issued	5	3	5	3	16	31
Renewal Applications Rec'd	8	4	3	3	18	24
Renewal Permits Issued	8	4	2	4	18	24
Site Evaluations Applications	31	42	35	21	129	109
Site Evaluations Performed	30	44	34	27	135	111
Final Inspections	13	31	33	30	107	146
Final Re-inspections	9	3	6	3	21	32
Final Permits Issued	31	32	32	48	143	174

Short and Long Plats	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Plat Applications	6	4	3	5	18	28
Soil Logs Performed	4	2	4	10	20	34

Summit Food Handler's Class Draws 82 Attendees

Health educators Kasey Knutson and Julia Karns travelled to the Summit at Snoqualmie to conduct the largest food handler's training in recent memory.

A total of 82 individuals listened to a food handler's training class, took a written exam, and received a permit allowing them to work at a food establishment.

"This was a great way for the Summit

at Snoqualmie to ensure that all of their employees had the proper permit to work with food," said Knutson. "Large group sessions are more efficient, and we were happy to do it."

Kittitas County Public Health Department offers in-person training sessions for no additional charge if there are at least 10 participants. The permits still cost \$10 each.

Breast Cancer Awareness Events Held in October

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month and a time for the health department to promote the Breast and Cervical Health Program (BCHP).

BCHP allows women who meet certain income guidelines to qualify for free mammograms and women's health exams.

Outreach Worker Julia Karns held "tabling" events at four county grocery stores to enroll

women in the program. She also presented at a Kittitas Valley Community Hospital event for the public and gave a presentation about BCHP to a breast cancer survivors' group.

"We were very successful. We enrolled several women who hadn't heard about the program before," said Karns.

For information about BCHP call (509) 962-7515.

Chew Tobacco Compliance Checks Yield Single Sale

Compliance checks for spit tobacco conducted at 21 tobacco retailers in November and December resulted in one sale.

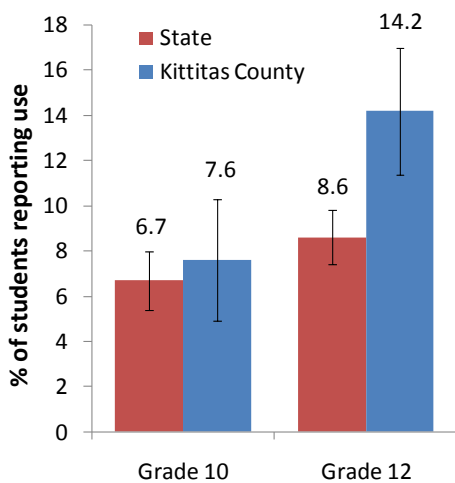
Though the checks are not required to receive funding for the tobacco prevention

program, staff were concerned about data that showed a higher use of chewing tobacco among Kittitas County high school seniors than high school seniors statewide (14.2% compared to 8.6%).

Staff *are* required to work with teens to conduct compliance checks for cigarettes in order to be eligible for program funding. The 2010 checks resulted in two cigarette sales to minors out of 19 attempts.

At each of the illegal sales (chew and cigarettes) the store clerks checked ID but tried to calculate age in their head, rather than using the birthday input feature on the sales register.

Youth smokeless tobacco use in the past 30 days



2008 Healthy Youth Survey data

Food Safety	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Permits						
New	6	15	13	13	47	30
Renewal	6	5	37	226	274	275
Temporary	9	27	50	6	92	59
Food Handlers	359	378	612	718	2067	2308
Design Plans Reviewed	8	2	2	4	16	9
Inspections Conducted						
Pre-Opening Inspections	2	0	1	8	11	34
Routine Inspections	130	103	76	79	388	404
Re-inspections	9	4	7	2	22	24
Temporary Event	3	27	53	6	89	25
Contractual Inspections Conducted						
CWU Quarterly	1	1	1	1	4	4
Jail Quarterly	1	1	1	1	4	4
School Kitchens	0	11	0	11	22	22
Enforcement Activities						
Red Item Violation >30 pts	6	3	3	1	13	13
Red Item Violation >70 pts	0	0	1	0	1	2
Operating without a Permit	0	1	0	2	3	2
Complaints	12	15	11	13	51	44
Temporary Closures	0	0	1	2	3	1
Drinking Water						
Sewage or Water Evaluations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Surveys	0	1	1	3	5	10
Group B Water Inspections	1	1	1	1	4	16
Well Site Plan Reviews	18	25	16	15	74	75
Well Site Inspections	2	4	2	2	10	9
Water Availabilities	47	70	45	32	194	96
Well Delegation Inspections	5	8	0	0	13	30
Prvt Bacteriological Sampling	1	0	0	0	1	0
Private Nitrate Sampling	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group B Paperwork Received	3	4	2	0	9	8
Group B Systems Approved	0	2	1	0	3	7
Farm Exemptions Received	0	0	0	0	0	0
Farm Exemptions Approved	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group A/B Sources GPS'd	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group A Nitrate Samples	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	0	0	0	0	0

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HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Presentations	11	6	3	5	25	43
People in Attendance	110	69	24	54	257	390
Blood Borne Pathogen Classes	0	3	2	3	8	4
# People in BBP Classes	0	26	56	21	103	31
Case Management Clients	3	5	3	6	17	14
HIV Tests Conducted	not available				67	80

Breast and Cervical Health	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
New Clients Enrolled	7	14	12	16	49	62
Total Clients Screened	28	44	26	42	140	159
BCHP Interpretation	2	0	3	4	9	10

Administrative Services	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Births	86	81	104	86	357	372
Birth Certificates Issued	275	310	278	215	1078	1137
Deaths Registered	56	60	59	75	250	214
Certified Copies of Deaths	254	256	180	205	895	875
Home Births Registered	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fetal Deaths	1	0	1	1	3	2
Child Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0

Child Care Health	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Nurse Consultant Visits	12	11	16	12	51	34
Other Consultations	25	10	12	11	58	65
Presentations	1	1	2	1	5	5
People in Attendance	12	22	50	1	85	76

Early Intervention Program	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Referrals	program not funded in 2010				0	20
Home Visits	program not funded in 2010				0	18

Tobacco Program	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	2010	2009
Compliance Checks	0	19	0	0	19	42
Compliance Rate	n/a	89%	n/a	n/a	89%	91%
Spit Tobacco Compliance Checks	0	0	0	21	21	not
Spit Tobacco Compliance Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	95%	95%	conducted

n/a = not applicable

Quality Improvement Project Wraps Up

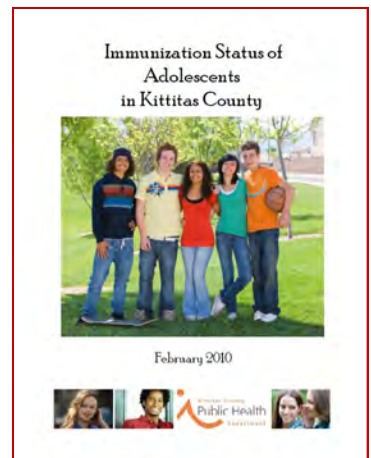
Kittitas County Public Health Department recently wrapped up a two year quality improvement project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The project focused on immunizations for adolescents aged 13-18 and involved a review of immunization records at local health care providers' offices, separate surveys of parents and health care providers, and the beginnings of an educational campaign.

The final project was presented at a Learning Congress held in Seattle on December 7 where

staff members Linda Navarre, Interim Co-Administrator and Amy Diaz, Assessment Coordinator, joined eight other local health jurisdictions from Washington State in presenting their quality improvement work.

"The end of this project won't be the end of the work that we have begun on this topic," said Navarre. "Now that we have a better understanding of how many teens are immunized in our community and the reasons some teens aren't immunized, we can continue with an educational campaign that targets certain individuals."



To view the final report visit www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health.

? **Did you know** ?

- Kittitas County residents produce an average of 8.3 pounds of garbage daily per person. This is slightly higher than the Washington State average of 7.9 pounds per day per person (Washington State Department of Ecology, 2007).
- Most Kittitas County women receive early prenatal care when they are pregnant (within the first three months of pregnancy). In 2007, 88.2% of women reported receiving early prenatal care, compared to 76.3% in Washington State overall (birth certificate data).
- According to students' responses to the Healthy Youth Survey, 13.9% of 10th grade students in Kittitas County reported that they skipped meals or ate less because their family could not afford food. This is lower than the statewide value of 20.5% (2008).



BOH Passes Revised Fee Schedule

At the November 18 meeting, Board of Health (BOH) members passed a revised fee schedule for Kittitas County Public Health Department.

Many of the changes in the fee schedule are due to a shift that moves the department away from charging hourly rates. A flat fee has been established for almost all items that were previously charged at an

hourly rate. This includes school inspection fees and all Environmental Health program re-inspection fees.

Other changes include:

- ▶ Adding a fee for an overseas travel group education session (new service),
- ▶ Increasing the fee for permitting of a privy, compost, or incineration toilet,

- ▶ Adding a fee to inspect public commissary kitchens,
- ▶ Increasing the administrative appeal fee, and
- ▶ Instituting late fees for all services without an existing late fee.

A public hearing was held during the meeting before adoption of the fee schedule; there was no public comment.

BOHAC Elects New Officers

The Board of Health Advisory Committee (BOHAC) elected new officers at the November 8 meeting.

Hartwig Vatheuer was elected president, Jan Naragon was elected vice-president, and Margaret Condit was re-elected as Treasurer.

BOHAC is a committee comprised of 15 community members that advises the health department and the Kittitas County Board of Health. Bylaws allow for nine to 20 members.

The committee meets monthly, except December, and plays an

instrumental role in selecting and prioritizing the key health indicators tracked by Kittitas County Public Health Department. These indicators are the basis of "The Health of Kittitas County" report which is updated every other year. The next update is scheduled for late 2011.

QILT Focuses on Standards Preparation

All Washington State health departments participate in a peer-review to evaluate their compliance with state standards every three years. For Kittitas County Public Health Department, that review is fast approaching.

The department elected to participate in a "brief" review,

which is allowable for smaller jurisdictions like Kittitas County.

In preparation, the department is required to compile documentation for 35 different metrics – about a third of the total standards. The full review consists of 79 standards, with 31 additional

option standards, bringing the total to 110!

The Quality Improvement Leadership Team (QILT) has been organizing the required documents for the department. Documents are due February 15, with the review scheduled to occur May 18. Results are not expected until Fall 2011.

A Note from the Department, continued

(Continued from page 1)
grant funding are expected in the first quarter of 2011, including funding to improve health messaging between public health and local health care professionals and funding that would allow the



James Rivard,
Interim
Co-Administrator



Linda Navarre,
Interim
Co-Administrator

continuation of a syringe exchange program.

The department hopes to continue to provide the same level of service to the public that is already available, but additional funding cuts may make it difficult.