Eastern Highlands Health District

Programs, Services & Future Objectives

Using the 10 Essential Local Public Services Framework

Coventry Town Council
September 6, 2016
Vision
Healthy people, healthy communities...healthier future

Mission
EHHD is committed to enhancing the quality of life in its communities through the prevention of illness, promotion of wellness and protection of our human environment
Essential Service #1 - Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community

- Regular review of health district public health data provided by local, state, federal, and non-governmental agencies
- Completed 2014 community health needs assessment for Tolland County via CTG
- EHHD centric community health assessment—*Future objective*
Essential Service #2 - Protect people from health problems and health hazards

• Complaint investigation program
  – 120 – 160 complaints annually
  – Laboratory services
• Lead Agency for Local Public Health Emergency Planning and Preparedness
  – Develop plans (pandemic, Anthrax, smallpox, all Hazards), MRC, Local HAN, stockpiled supplies and equipment, staff/volunteer training
  – Provide 365/24/7 emergency response services (5 to 15 incidents annually)
#2 - Protect people from health problem and health hazards – cont.

- **Communicable Disease Surveillance and Control**
  - 900 to 1200 case reports reviewed annually for over 70 reportable diseases
  - 25 to 40 cases interviewed/investigated annually
  - 5 to 10 outbreaks investigated annually
  - Controls implemented when necessary, e.g. Ebola, goat farm Ecoli out break, restaurant closure

- **Bathing Water Quality Monitoring Program**
  - Weekly sampling from 26 locations during swimming season
  - 300 to 350 samples grabbed
  - 2-4 beach closures annually
#2 - Protect people from health problem and health hazards – cont.

- Special Environmental Monitoring Projects
  - Landfills, Road Salt, Farms, VOC’s
- Respond to school and town PH concerns, providing consultation, and subject matter expertise.
  - IAQ, radon, lead, construction projects, regional water supply planning, individual water supplies, wastewater disposal, risk communication
Essential Service #3 - Give people the information they need to make healthy choices.

• Media point of contact
  – Monthly press releases
  – Cable TV interviews
  – Local HAN
  – Social media FB

• Childhood Lead Protection Education
  – 4 to 8 cases annually
  – Provide ed. material and consultation
#3 - Give people the information they need to make healthy choices – cont.

- Ongoing Website topics, e.g. School initiatives (95210, POW) tobacco free initiatives, sun safety, tick borne diseases, Asthma, Rabies, many others!
- EHHD responds to public’s need for timely information, e.g. H1N1, Ebola, Zika, seasonal Influenza, localized responses
- Employee Wellness Program (contracted services)
- Local Public Health resource and repository for a broad scope of educational material, and links to reference material, e.g. print, & electronic
- Food safety classes – future objective
Essential Service #4 - Engage the community to identify and solve health problems

- Leader and hub of local public health system, with established relationships with multiple community partners and stakeholders
- Community Health Action Response Team (CHART)
- Substance abuse
  - Work group established (First responders, social services)
  - Planning public forum – *Future objective*
- Plan4Health initiative
  - Planning/Public Health Partnership
  - Tool kit: [www.healthyeasternct.com](http://www.healthyeasternct.com)
- Other community committees/groups
  - Early Childhood Committees
  - Health and Safety Committees
  - UConn SHS Infection prevention committee
  - ESF 8
Essential Service #5 - Develop public health policies and plans

- Review and comments on local codes, ordinances, polices, plans
  - P&Z, housing, septic pumping, facilities plan, Plan of C&D, relocation plans, public school health policies (TB, lice, ILI), tobacco free campus
- Public Health Advocacy to state, local leaders, boards, commissions, general public
  - CADH, CEHA
- Board of Directors
  - Strategic Planning
  - Annual budget
  - EHHD Sanitary Code adoption
- Emergency Public Health Preparedness Plans
- Community Health Improvement Plan – future objective
Essential Service #6 - Enforce public health laws and regulations

- Food Protection Regulations
  - 600 to 700 inspection annually
  - Licensing program for approximately 250 establishments
  - Temp event permitting
    - 200 - 250 permits issued annually
    - 120 to 150 temp vendor inspections annually

- Subsurface septic system program
  - 220 to 250 permits/plan reviews annually
  - 500 to 600 building permit reviews annually
  - 1000 to 1500 test pits/perc tests annually
#6- Enforce public health laws and regulations – cont.

- **Well drilling permits**
  - 160 to 200 permits issues annually
  - 90 to 120 site inspections annually

- **Other mandated inspections (pools, group homes, daycares, camp grounds)**
  - 25 to 40 annually

- **Lead Protection Regulations**
  - 2 to 4 inspections annually
  - 3 to 6 cases managed (approx 40 man hours/case)
#6 - Enforce public health laws and regulations – cont.

• Planning and Zoning Commission referrals
  – 50 to 70 annually

• Legal Abatement Orders Issued
  – 5 to 15 annually

• Special Projects
  – town sewer projects, FOG, town/school building projects, others
  – ViewPoint online application, tracking, payments, complaints –*future objective*
Essential Service #7 - Help people receive health services

• Coordinate and promote area flu clinics with VNA’s
• Promote other community based health services when available, e.g. health screenings, dental clinics, wellness clinics
• Established relationships and maintain listing of area healthcare providers
• Link individuals to personal healthcare services
• Tick testing program
Essential Service #8 - Maintain a competent public health workforce

- Environmental Field Staff (Sanitaritians)
  - Certified Food Inspectors (CEUs required)
  - Certified Phase I & II subsurface sewage disposal
  - Qualified Lead Inspectors (CEUs required)
- Annual performance reviews/set performance goals
- Semi-monthly staff meetings – standardization/training
- Exercises and drills
- Professional development opportunities, e.g. customer service, code updates, best practices, etc.
- Implement Workforce Development Plan – future objective
Essential Service #9 - Evaluate and improve programs and interventions

- Productivity analysis environmental program areas
- Standardization of code enforcement/policy interpretation
- Evaluation protocols integrated in grant funded programs/initiatives
- Regulated Community Customer Service Survey
- ViewPoint/Workforce development plan – future objectives
Essential Service #10 - Use and contribute to the evidence base of public health

• Support Public Health Research and development of evidence based best practices
  – PBRN/CADH
  – Plan4Health
  – CHART mission
  – others

• Report/Present on experiences and practices at professional forums/events
Questions?

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