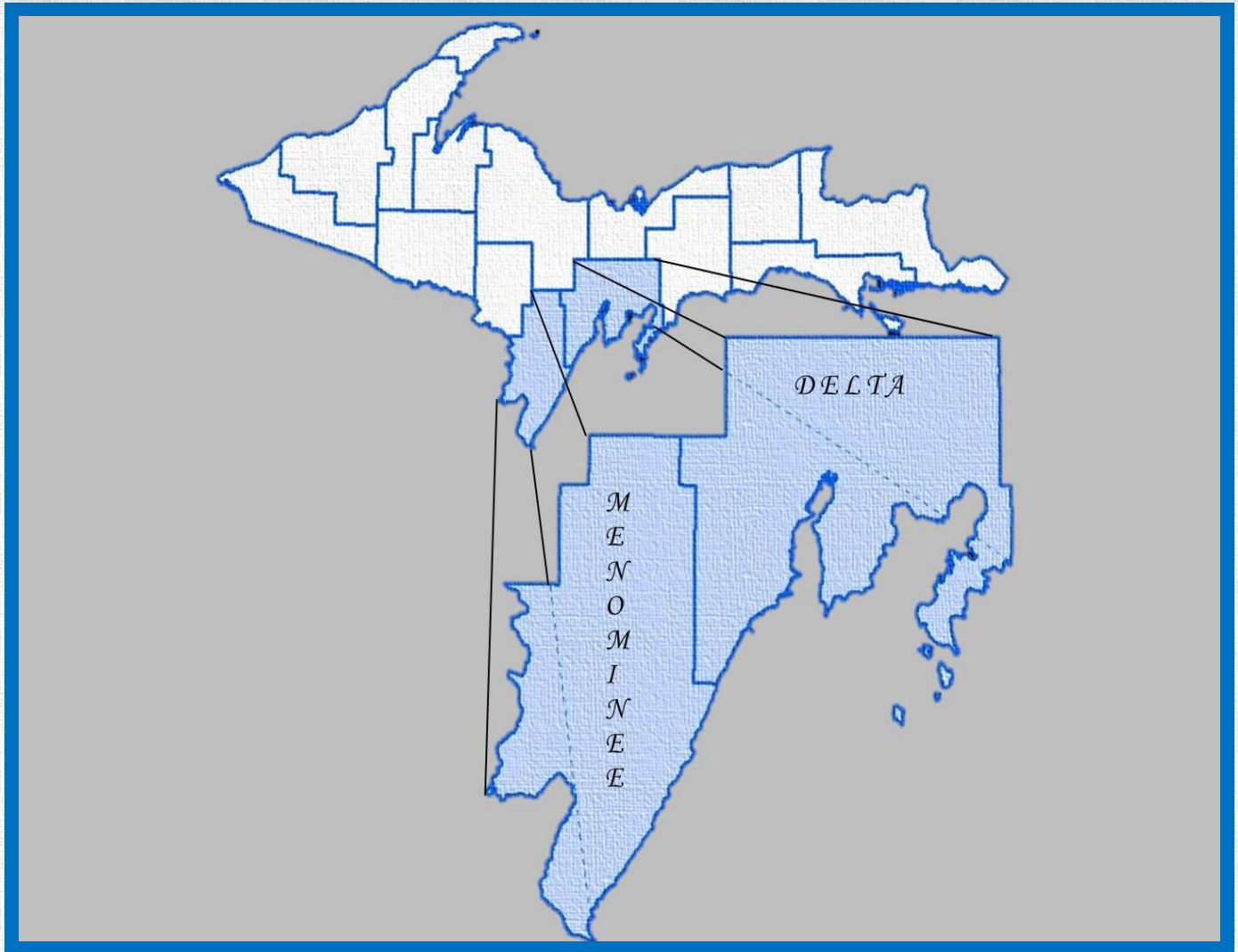


2017 Annual Report



Public Health, Delta & Menominee Counties



Public Health...
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or on Facebook at:
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A Message from the Health Officer, Michael Snyder

On behalf of the Board of Health and the employees of Public Health Delta & Menominee Counties (PHDM), it is my pleasure to present Public Health, Delta & Menominee Counties' 2017 Annual Report.

This report summarizes the activities, services, and programs which PHDM provided in 2017. PHDM continues to strive to meet the public health needs of the residents and visitors of Delta and Menominee Counties. These needs could not be met without the highly skilled, industrious and passionate workforce at PHDM. Likewise, our success would not be possible without the support of our Board of Health, County Commissioners, community partners, state agencies, and loyal customers.

The following are just a few examples of how PHDM is working to protect the residents and visitors of our two counties:

- Pediatric obesity has been recognized as a public health concern for more than twenty years in the United States. Nationally, nearly 1 in 3 children is overweight or obese. Local data suggests that U.P. children are much the same but with some counties in recent years seeing up to 40% of their children overweight or obese. In 2017, PHDM was awarded a U.P. wide grant from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund in an effort to decrease childhood obesity through a collaborative effort. PHDM has partnered with local health departments across the U.P., Michigan State University Extension offices, University of Michigan, and area schools to take a multi-faceted approach to this public health issue. Please read more about this collaboration on page 11 of this report.
- PHDM has partnered with the other five Upper Peninsula health departments and healthcare agencies throughout the U.P. in an effort to complete the first ever U.P. wide Community Health Needs Assessment. In August 2017, nearly 24,000 surveys were mailed to U.P. residents. The returned surveys have all been entered into a database and the results are being tabulated. This Assessment will give us our first U.P. wide look at the public health needs across the region. The final document is scheduled to be released in the early summer of 2018.
- Since August 2016, Michigan has been investigating an outbreak of the hepatitis A virus. An outbreak that originally began in Southeast Michigan has spread across the Lower Peninsula and has reached the U.P. In 2018, PHDM will continue to reach out to those individuals at highest risk of contracting the hepatitis A virus in an attempt to immunize those individuals.

The PHDM Board of Health and staff remain committed to enhancing the quality of life for the community by preventing disease, encouraging healthy lifestyles and protecting the environment. I encourage you to read this report carefully. Should you want to learn more about our programs and services do not hesitate to contact us or visit us on the web at www.phdm.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/4phdm.

A Message from Dr. Teresa Frankovich, Medical Director

Public Health In Action: Michigan's Hepatitis A Outbreak

The conventional wisdom about local public health is that when things are going well, nobody notices the health department...even though every day, lots of work goes into ensuring that outbreaks are contained through surveillance and immunization; restaurant food is safe; drinking water uncontaminated; and that people have access to family planning and nutrition services as well as a whole range of support services to get or stay healthy.

But when big things happen...like Ebola or an oil spill...public health suddenly leaps onto everyone's radar!

Unfortunately, in Michigan, a hepatitis A outbreak that began in 2016, has once more brought public health to the public's attention.

Hepatitis A is a very contagious liver infection caused by hepatitis A virus (HAV). The current outbreak began in Michigan's southeast counties, but has now spread widely throughout the state. It began in August of 2016, and since that time, over 770 outbreak-related cases have been identified with more than 620 hospitalizations and 25 deaths. Late in 2017, the outbreak hit close to home when the first outbreak-related case in the U.P. emerged in Schoolcraft County. The high hospitalization and death rate in this outbreak is unusual. Unlike hepatitis B and C, which are typically spread through blood exposure, hepatitis A is found in the stool of people with the infection and is spread when people encounter the virus through contaminated food and water or by living with or having sex with an infected person. Outbreaks are difficult to control because people are infectious before they develop symptoms and many people, especially children, can have few or no symptoms and yet be capable of spreading the infection. Symptoms of HAV include nausea and vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, decreased appetite, yellowing of skin and the whites of the eyes, dark urine and pale stools.

In recent years, outbreaks have often been due to infections transmitted by ill restaurant workers and contaminated commercial food products. In the current outbreak, no common source has been identified but those with a history of injection and non-injection drug use, homelessness or transient housing, and incarceration are thought to be at greater risk, as well as men who have sex with men (MSM). However, once an outbreak occurs, anyone may be affected.

The most effective prevention for HAV is vaccination! Children may become infected and spread infection without ever having symptoms. It is important that *all* children be routinely vaccinated between 12 and 23 months of age. Older kids, who have not been vaccinated, should be. Adults who have not been vaccinated and want to be protected can also get the vaccine.

Local public health departments in outbreak jurisdictions have been working tirelessly on containing the spread within their communities. Every identified case is contacted by local public health and educated about their illness and how to contain spread. An extensive history is done to identify all individuals who may have been exposed to this person so that they can be contacted and offered vaccination to prevent infection. The task of accessing these individuals quickly, and interrupting the onset of new cases, can require hundreds of hours of staff time.

In early 2018, the supply of vaccine became less restricted and health departments like PHDM, located in non-outbreak areas, are now able to focus on preventing the spread of cases across the U.P.; with education and by offering off-site vaccination clinics to reach high risk groups. To stop transmission, some individuals are strongly recommended to get the vaccine, including: those traveling to countries where hepatitis A is common; men who have sex with men; the recently incarcerated; those using illegal drugs; people with chronic liver disease such as hepatitis B or C; clotting-factor concentrate recipients; those working with hepatitis A-infected animals or in a hepatitis A research laboratory and people who will have close contact with an international adoptee from a country where HAV is common.

How can the public assist in stopping the hepatitis A outbreak... protecting themselves and their community?

- Get vaccinated against hepatitis A by contacting your healthcare provider or local public health department
- Wash hands after using the restroom and before eating or preparing meals for yourself or others
- Use your own towel, toothbrush, and silverware. Do not share food, drinks, drugs, or smokes with other people.
- Do not have sex with someone who has HAV infection
- If you have hepatitis A, please cooperate with your local public health to help protect others

Board of Health and Administration

Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of life for the community by preventing disease, encouraging healthy lifestyles, and protecting the environment.

Vision Statement

To be a community leader in promoting, protecting, and providing for the public's health.



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2017 Delta-Menominee District Board of Health

Chairperson: Tom Trudgeon, Delta County
Member-at-Large

Vice-Chair – Jan Hafeman, Menominee County

Patrick Johnson – Delta County

Gerard Tatrow – Delta County

Larry Schei, Menominee County

Amanda Hess, Menominee County Member-at-Large

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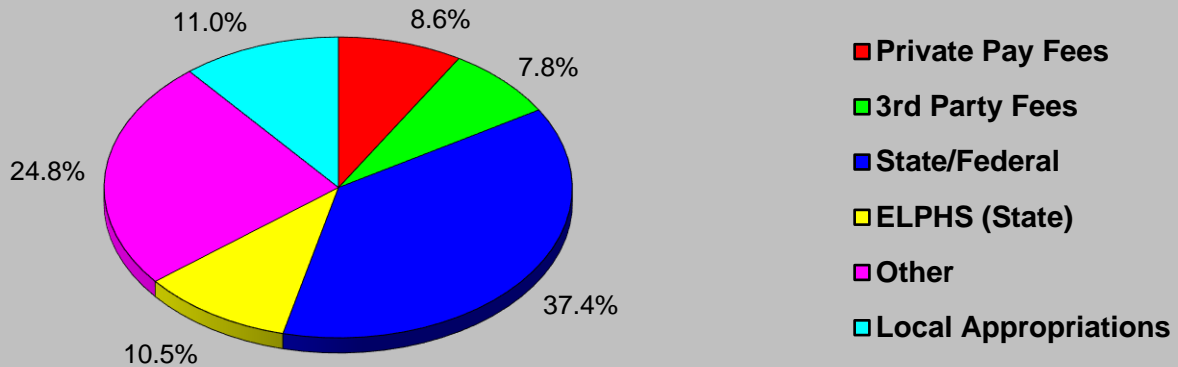
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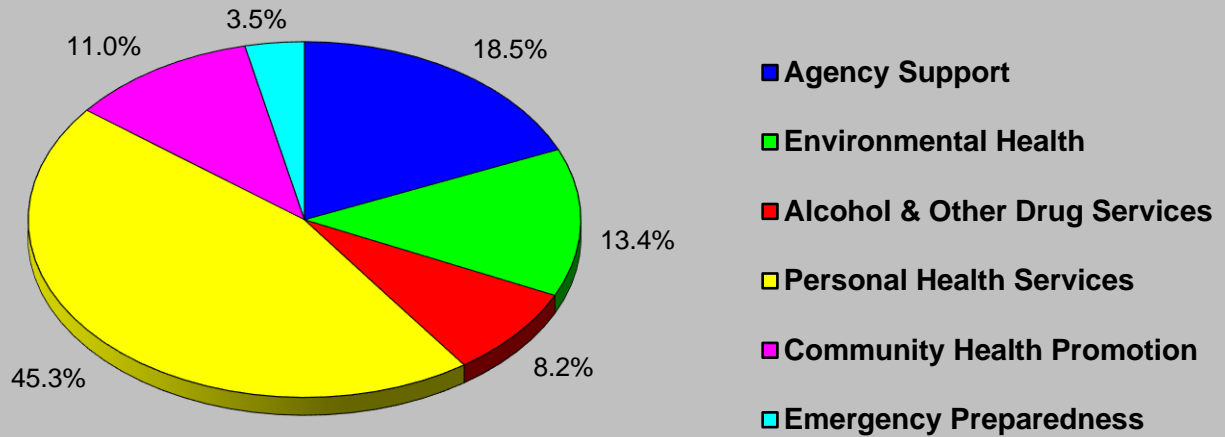
Financial Data for Fiscal Year 2017

Revenue Sources



Private Pay Fees	\$282,178	Other (Sub Abuse, Early On, Misc Grants)	\$813,342
3rd Party Fees	\$255,650	Local Appropriations	\$360,404
State/Federal	\$1,229,212		
ELPHS (State)	\$343,327	Total	\$3,284,113

Expenses



Agency Support	\$609,060	Community Health Promotion	\$360,870
Environmental Health	\$440,974	Emergency Preparedness	\$114,019
Alcohol & Other Drug Services	\$270,343		
Personal Health Services	\$1,488,847	Total	\$3,284,113

FY08 Expenses - Actual	\$3,698,480	FY14 Expenses - Actual*	\$2,757,313
FY09 Expenses - Actual	\$3,397,486	FY15 Expenses - Actual*	\$3,002,406
FY10 Expenses - Actual	\$3,349,920	FY16 Expenses - Actual*	\$2,947,648
FY11 Expenses - Actual	\$3,096,858	FY17 Expenses - Actual*	\$3,010,296
FY12 Expenses - Actual	\$2,968,708		
FY13 Expenses - Actual	\$3,034,716	*Space costs not included	

PHDM employed an average of 48 staff in FY17: 29 Full-time and 19 Part-time

Personal Health Programs

Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Navigation Program

(BCCCNP) provides free annual exams for eligible women aged 40-64. In FY17, 62 women participated in BCCCNP and 30 women received patient navigation services. Caseload services include uninsured or underinsured women needing breast/cervical cancer screenings and/or assistance related to breast or cervical abnormalities and Family Planning clients referred with cervical or breast abnormalities. Navigation only services include navigation assistance to insured women overdue for breast or cervical cancer screenings. Women who are diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer may be enrolled in the Medicaid Treatment Act to cover cancer treatment and other medical expenses.

Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) offers health care coverage for children up to 21 years of age and some adults with certain qualifying medical conditions/diagnosis. PHDM offers families support such as: coordinating specialized services, assisting with mileage reimbursement, lodging, billing issues, nursing care plans, and needed services. In 2017, PHDM assisted 203 CSHCS families.

Early On of Delta County offers free early intervention for children less than 36 months that have developmental delays or an established condition. Of the 144 referrals in FY17, over ¾ received services, and 35% of the children were drug exposed.

Family Planning provides general reproductive health assessments; contraceptive services; STI services; health education, counseling and referrals as needed. In FY17, 687 clients received services.

Hearing & Vision Screening offers services for school-aged children. A total of 1,947 children were screened for hearing and 2,971 for vision in FY17.

Communicable Disease

In FY17, PHDM staff worked with local healthcare providers and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to document, investigate, and limit the spread of communicable disease infections. The table below shows the number of cases reported for FY17 compared to FY16.

	FY16	FY17
Flu-like illnesses	541	1440
Blastomycosis	2	3
Histoplasmosis	2	0
Legionellosis	0	2
Ehrlichiosis	0	0
Sexually Transmitted Infection	173	144
Chicken Pox	1	2
Lyme Disease	24	27
Hepatitis B	27	5
Hepatitis C	82	96
Meningitis	1	3
Invasive Streptococcus Pneumonia	8	10
Pertussis	1	0

Personal Health Programs



Highlights:

- Successful completion of the Healthy Families Upper Peninsula self-study and successful accreditation site visit with Healthy Family American peer reviewers in August.
- Steady enrollment growth to 80 families (89% full)

FY 2017 At-A-Glance

	All 6 sites	PHDM
Referrals/Screens	191	17
Positive Screens	189	17
Assessments Completed	67	6
Positive Assessments	67	6
Father Present at Assessment	20	2
Enrollments	59	10
Home Visits Completed	1,367	189
Home Visits Attempted	99	19

Family Challenges

	FY16	FY17
<21 years old	55%	34%
Single Parent	46%	47%
Late or no prenatal care	33%	6%
Inadequate Income	46%	76%
The Big 3		
Mental Health Issues	52%	84%
Domestic Violence	14%	30%
Substance Abuse	8%	38%
More than 1 of The Big 3	34%	30%

Immunizations were provided at PHDM to infants, children and adults on-site and at many off-site clinics such as local schools, businesses, senior centers and housing facilities. PHDM oversees vaccine distribution to area providers who participate in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. The VFC Program continues to provide free, state-funded vaccine to eligible children 18 years of age and younger. PHDM provided 4,221 immunizations to clients in FY17.

Lead Prevention offers blood lead testing for children one to three years old. In FY17, 493 children were screened for lead, nine of which had elevated lead levels. Referrals, follow-ups, education, and home visits were offered/provided for families that have children with elevated lead levels.

Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) is an evidence based home visiting program that continues to offer services to Delta & Menominee residents. Pregnant women and infants with Medicaid may receive visits from either a Registered Nurse or Social Worker and may see a Registered Dietitian as needed. In FY17, 205 women and children were referred and 422 visits were made through MIHP.

Medicaid Outreach- PHDM staff provide application and enrollment information to clients in need of insurance. These insurance programs include Medicaid (MA), MICHild, MOMs and the Healthy Michigan Plan. Reporting guidelines for FY17 changed, and PHDM now has to count the number of MA appointments scheduled for MA eligible programs available at PHDM, which was more than 2,180.

As of October 2017, a total of 10,347 Delta & Menominee County residents were enrolled in MA, and an additional 3,782 in the Healthy Michigan Plan.

Personal Health Programs

MCIR, Michigan’s immunization registry, was created to collect reliable and up-to-date immunization information from a variety of health care organizations for all Michigan residents. Utilizing MCIR helps reduce vaccine preventable diseases and over- and under-vaccination. The types of organizations with access to MCIR include hospitals, private provider offices, long term care facilities, and pharmacies. PHDM employs the Region 6 MCIR staff, who covers the 15 counties in the Upper Peninsula. Regional 6 staff merges duplicate sets of records, creates new records for adoptions, processes changes to records initiated by the provider offices, sets up new users for many provider sites, and trains new users on the various modules in MCIR, as well as responding to helpdesk calls from across the U.P.

There are currently 86 sites in Region 6 using HL7, the electronic method of entry into MCIR.

STI/HIV- PHDM staff assess risk for HIV and/or STI’s. Testing is done on-site (treatment and referral services are in place for those with a positive test). Testing and education services are offered to the county court systems for offenders charged with criminal sexual conduct, and PHDM participates in victim notification and education when needed. In FY17, 83 clients were tested for HIV, four of these were court-ordered. Chlamydia is the most frequently reported bacterial sexually transmitted infection in the U.S. In FY17, PHDM had 135 reported cases of chlamydia in Delta and Menominee counties. Under-reporting is substantial because most are unaware of their infections and may not seek testing. PHDM also reported 9 new gonorrhea cases and 96 cases Hepatitis C.

Number of Clients Enrolled/Screened

	FY16	FY17
WIC	1,586	1,497
MIHP	96	102
Early On	141	144
CSHCS	174	203
Hearing	1,921	1,947
Vision	2,353	2,971
Lead	497	493
Seasonal Flu Vaccines	1,374	1,387
Other Vaccines	3,268	2,834
Family Planning	726	687
HIV/AIDS	38	83
Individuals Tested for STI’s	352	381
BCCNP	66	62
BCCNP Navigation only	10	30
Women’s Health Clinic	64	51
WISEWOMAN	71	74

Personal Health Programs

Assisting the Community



Hearing and Vision Screening at PHDM



PHDM clients got a visit from the tooth fairy to discuss the importance of dental health!



PHDM's CSHCS staff working with local provider, Dr. R. Kasetty and his staff.

Fluoride Varnish was offered to WIC clients with infants from six months of age to children up to three years of age. Fluoride varnish is a protective coating that is painted on teeth to help prevent new cavities and helps stop those that have already started. PHDM was able to provide this beneficial service to 42 Menominee County children and 114 Delta County children.

Well-Integrated Screening & Evaluation for Women Across the Nation (WISEWOMAN) provides annual screenings of cholesterol, glucose, and blood pressure for women that participated in the BCCCNP. Participants who are ready to make behavior change receive health coaching in efforts to reduce chronic disease risk factors. A total of 74 women were served by this program. Eight women participated in the Entrepreneurial Gardening Program, and one gardener sold produce at the first WISEWOMAN Farmer's Market. PHDM also received a WISEWOMAN grant in FY17 for a Menominee County PhotoVoice Project.

Women, Infants & Children (WIC) provides free nutrition education, health referrals, breastfeeding support and supplemental food for eligible clients. In FY17, Delta and Menominee counties had 1,497 clients enrolled, which provided a total of \$879,925.51 reimbursement to local participating grocers. In the summer, WIC once again provided \$20 Project Fresh coupon booklets to eligible families that enabled them to purchase fruits and vegetables at local Farmer's Markets.

Women's Health Clinic (WHC) is similar to the BCCCNP, providing annual exams to insured women. PHDM bills the client's insurance and makes referrals for further follow-up if an abnormality is found. If a cancer diagnosis is given, the woman can be enrolled in the Medicaid Treatment Act, if financially eligible, to pay for cancer treatment and other medical bills. WHC screened 51 women in FY17.

Substance Abuse and Prevention Services

Botvin Life Skills training is comprehensive, dynamic, and developmentally designed to promote positive youth development. This year the program worked with a total of 266 students at six different area schools.

Confidential Substance Abuse Evaluations –PHDM provided 60 evaluations based on referrals from various agencies, employers, and the courts.

Driver License Appeal Division Assessments – PHDM provided a total of 60 Secretary of State evaluations for license reinstatement.

Drug Awareness Conference was held once again at the Island Resort and Casino for the 6th consecutive year. Approximately 306 people from all different professions were in attendance to learn about heroin and its affects on the community. The program was presented by Phil Pavona, whose son died due to drug addiction.

Every 15 Minutes is a two-day program delivered to high school students challenging them to think about drinking, driving, personal safety, and making mature decisions. This truly is a collaborative effort as community involvement is necessary and has been spreading into additional schools based on its success.

Prime For Life educated 69 clients on the dangers of alcohol/drug use while driving. This course provides information to prevent additional alcohol or other drug-related legal offenses.

Sticker Shock continued into FY17, promoting awareness of the consequences of providing alcohol to minors, in both Delta & Menominee Counties. This event is scheduled during high risk alcohol consumption times, such as hunting season or spring/summer (prom and graduation).



Communities That Care (CTC) is a new program implemented in Delta County in FY17. This coalition model helps decrease the effects of depression, anxiety, school dropout rates, suicide, teen pregnancy, and substance abuse. This system uses prevention-science research and a positive public health approach to help create healthy behaviors community-wide. Risk factors for youth (individual and peer), community, and family are evaluated to implement protective factors to buffer the reasons for these risks. The mission of the CTC is to increase awareness of the substance abuse issues facing the youth and adults in our county. Find out more at <https://www.facebook.com/DeltaCTC/>

Strengthening Families is a research-informed approach to increase family strengths, enhance child development, and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect. It is based on engaging families, programs and communities in building five protective factors:

- Parental resilience
- Social connections
- Knowledge of parenting and child development
- Concrete support in times of need
- Social and emotional competence of children

This year in Menominee County, seven families completed this program.

Community Health Promotion

Healthy Kids U.P.



With grant funding from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, PHDM was able to launch a new Upper Peninsula-wide program aimed at reducing and reversing the epidemic of childhood obesity. Healthy Kids U.P. is a partnership between local health departments, Michigan State University Extension, University of Michigan's Project Healthy Schools, and six schools located across the Upper Peninsula. Participating schools implement the Project Healthy Schools curriculum (www.projecthealthyschools.org) to all 6th grade students, and school Wellness Committees work with Health Educators from their local health department and Michigan State University to improve school wellness policies, assess and improve the lunchroom/food service, and implement wellness initiatives aimed at promoting physical education and nutrition. The overall goal of Healthy Kids U.P. is to foster and/or strengthen a culture of wellness within participating schools which will benefit all students, faculty, staff, parents, and the community at large for years to come. PHDM is working with Bark River Harris Schools and staff has been impressed with their existing efforts and their desire to continue to improve school health and wellness!

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention – PHDM staff continued to work on education in the Upper Peninsula about the risks and warning signs of childhood lead poisoning. PHDM staff continued to work on education in the U.P. about the risks and warning signs of childhood lead poisoning. In FY17, special focus was placed on educating staff at local health departments across the U.P. about sources of lead, at-risk populations, and testing guidelines (particularly in children). Community outreach at health fairs and posts on social media raised public awareness of sources of lead and who should have their blood lead levels tested.

National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP) is a yearlong evidence-based lifestyle change program endorsed by the CDC for people with prediabetes or at risk for developing type 2 diabetes. PHDM has two NDPP Lifestyle Coaches trained to provide the classes. One new lifestyle change group was started by PHDM in FY17. In FY17, PHDM earned CDC Full Recognition for its diabetes prevention program.

Snow Trek – PHDM launched the 5th season of Snow Trek in FY17. Community members rented snowshoes for free from PHDM, the Escanaba Civic Center, Moraska Saw & Supply, and the Greater Marinette-Menominee YMCA.

Tobacco Prevention efforts continued around promotion of the Michigan Tobacco Quit Line at 1-800-QUIT-NOW and www.michigan.gov/tobacco. Program staff trained area healthcare providers on how to assess a patient's tobacco use, willingness to quit, and to refer to the Michigan Tobacco QuitLine, to make a quit attempt. The focus of the training encourages providers to assess tobacco use at every visit and make appropriate referrals for cessation services. PHDM's Freedom From Smoking classes are offered yearly in Menominee County and three times a year in Delta County.

Environmental Health

Environmental Health works to control physical conditions which could endanger the public's health by enforcing state laws and codes as well as local ordinances and by monitoring, inspection, consultation and educational outreach. Environmental Health programs consist of Food Service Sanitation, On-site Sewage Treatment and Disposal, Water Well Construction, Campground inspection, Swimming Pool inspection, Septage Hauling and Disposal, Bathing Beach Monitoring, Non-Community Water Supply, Body Art Facility inspection, Radon, and Licensed Daycare and Foster Home inspection.

Environmental Health Program Numbers	FY16	FY17
Non-community Water Supplies	90	92
On-site Wastewater Permits	152	179
Well Construction Permits	113	122
Temporary Food Permits	145	180
Annual Food Service License	289	276
Inspections of Food Service Establishments	364	358
Radon Kits Sold	109	89
Body Art Fixed Facility Inspections	8	7
Septage Inspections	24	32



On-site sewage treatment/disposal system installation



Public Swimming Pool Program

Waterborne illnesses are contracted by swallowing, breathing or contacting contaminated water. Preventing people from getting sick or injured when using a public pool is the primary reason for requiring compliance with health and safety standards related to pools.

PHDM conducts inspections of public swimming pools at least once annually. The inspection is performed to determine the pools compliance with the Michigan Public Swimming Pool Rules. Follow-up inspections are conducted to verify correction of high-risk items observed during an annual inspection. Inspections may also be conducted prior to a new pool opening; to investigate a general pool complaint or a waterborne illness; and to verify a corrective action before a pool can reopen after being required to close. A site visit may also be made if a pool operator requests consultation regarding a pool issue.

During 2017 PHDM conducted twenty-two annual pool inspections. Four pools were required to close as a result of conditions observed during the annual inspections. Fourteen follow-up inspections were conducted and one complaint was investigated in 2017.

Emergency Preparedness



In 2017, PHDM launched a new Family Preparedness campaign titled, “906 Prepare.” The campaign aims to encourage residents of the Upper Peninsula (area code 906) to prepare themselves and their families for the hazards/emergency events most likely to impact the region. A number of educational outreach presentations have been completed throughout the community and are available upon request. The backbone of 906 Prepare is the companion website, www.906prepare.com. This website contains information, education, tips, tools, and links to supporting documents to help people prepare for emergencies in a way that fits their lives, schedules, budgets, and needs. This “one stop shop” for family preparedness is easy to navigate and understand and allows users to focus on the issues that matter to them most.



During FY 2017, Emergency Preparedness:

- Maintained National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance for staff
- Conducted an all staff tabletop exercise on response to foodborne illness within the jurisdiction, focusing on what role each staff person might play in a large response
- Participated in a national Hazard Vulnerability Assessment pilot project
- Launched a Family Preparedness campaign and educational outreach presentations

A pathogen of note in 2017 was hepatitis A virus. Since 2016, Michigan has seen an increase in the number of hepatitis A infections throughout the state. During 2017, the outbreak that originally focused primarily in Southeast Michigan began to spread into other areas. This outbreak has had a high hospitalization rate. PHDM has been participating in regular conference calls about the outbreak and, although not included in the outbreak area at this time, is working to help prevent the spread of hepatitis A within Delta and Menominee Counties. Key public health response activities have included: increased healthcare awareness efforts; public information and education; and outreach to high-risk populations, encouraging vaccination. High-risk populations include those with history of injection and non-injection drug use, homelessness or transient housing, and recently incarcerated. PHDM’s hepatitis A prevention and response activities are ongoing. To find out more information, you can go to:

www.michigan.gov/hepatitisaoutbreak

Public Health Highlights

Dental Clinic Partnership

My Community Dental Center (MCDC) in Spalding, appreciated the opportunity to partner with PHDM to expand access to care for residents in the district. The partnership allowed MCDC to provide \$22,440 in charity dental care to people without dental insurance.

FY17 MCDC Numbers	
Patients served	1,573
Number of office visits	4,059
Patients aged 0-14 years	176
Patients aged 15-20 years	84
Patients aged 21 years and over	1,313

2017 PHDM Staff



PHDM's 5th Annual All-Staff meeting was another huge success. Not only does the meeting bring both Delta & Menominee office staff together, but also gives them the opportunity to learn and educate each other on various topics. In FY17, staff became more knowledgeable on Cultural Competency, with a unique presentation by Early Meshigaud from the Hannahville Indian Community. They also learned more about the Back 40 Mine Project in Menominee County, hoarding, Human Trafficking, and Bed Bug remediation. A table-top exercise was also conducted to train the staff on food-borne illness investigations.



KARS is a car seat education program for families in the U.P. who have children on WIC, or are extended family members of a WIC client (ie. Aunt, uncle, grandparent, etc.). Once WIC is verified, the client can receive the type of car seat needed at a reduced cost. A certified Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) will install the car seat, which is required by law, into the client's vehicle and will also provide an approximate 30 minute education on how to install the car seat. In additions, the CPST will also educate on the car seat needed as the child grows, and can check cars seats for proper installation that were not received through the KARS program. PHDM is proud to partner with KARS twice a month in the Delta County office and will start in the Menominee County office in 2018. A total of 128 car seats were given to WIC clients in the Delta County office, and another 18 given to extended family members. Menominee County received 42 vouchers, with an additional 9 provided to extended family members.