

# Bi-monthly Report on the Ten Essential Services of Public Health

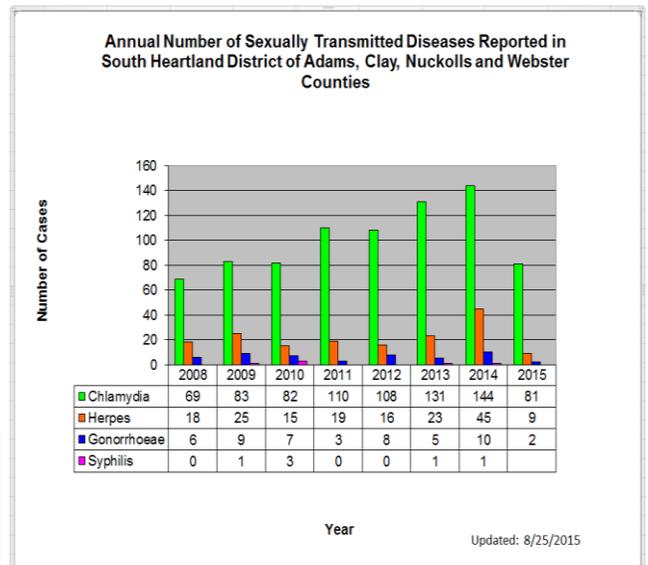
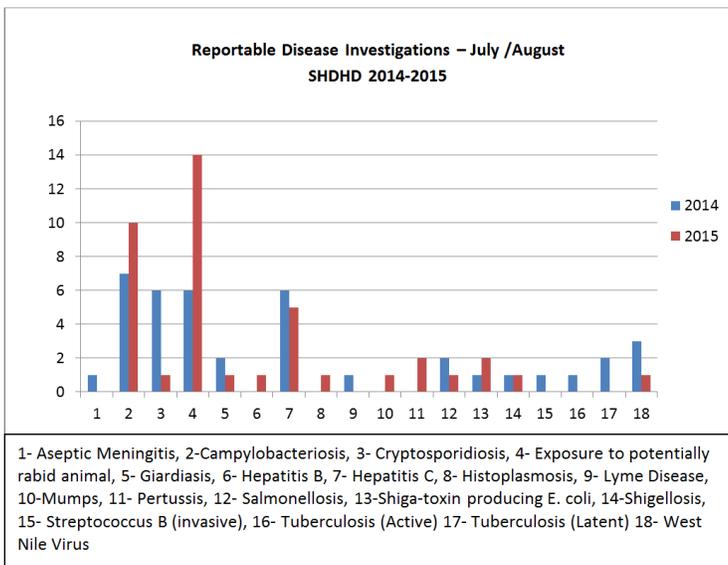
## 1. Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community.

*(What's going on in our district? Do we know how healthy we are?)*

- How do we make data available to our partners and our community?
- What major problems or trends have we identified in the past 2 months?

### Local

- Surveillance data, water violations, and other health information is made available on our website, through links on our website, on SHDHD's Network of Care website, through news releases and interviews to various forms of media, and upon request from partners or others.
- SHDHD began trapping mosquitoes and collecting birds in Webster County again this year for West Nile virus surveillance. Six traps were set in the Red Cloud area. The first traps were set June 1<sup>st</sup> and SHDHD starting receiving information about what mosquito species were trapped the following week. First report of positive mosquitoes for the state came from a collection in Webster County on June 16. A second positive pool from Webster Co. was reported on 7/28/15. DHHS reports 14 clinical positives and 10 positive blood donors for the 2015 season. One probable case has been investigated in our district.
- Prevention Connection – nutrition assessments raw data of grocery and convenience stores has been completed by Bureau of Social Research (new name Social Behavioral Science Research Center). One preliminary result-of the 61 retails visited/surveyed, we have 7 venues in the district with optimal healthy food choice availability (all grocers)-4 with no healthy choices whatsoever (all convenience).
- Disease Investigations:



**Nebraska /Regional** – An ongoing multi-state outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has infected five poultry facilities in Nebraska. On May 13<sup>th</sup>, Governor Pete Ricketts signed an emergency declaration in order to ensure the availability of resources for the state agencies who are working in Northeast Nebraska. Six poultry facilities in Dixon County and one in Knox County have been depopulated as of 7/21/15. All poultry shows at county fairs across NE and at the State Fair were cancelled on 6/4/15, in an effort to prevent further spread of HPAI. A multi-state outbreak of *Salmonella* Enteritidis infections, including cases MN, WI, IL and OK and three cases in NE, has been linked to raw, frozen, stuffed chicken entrees. Barber Foods issued an expanded recall of approximately 1.7 million pounds of frozen, raw stuffed chicken products (under multiple brand names) that may be contaminated with *Salmonella* Enteritidis on July 12, expanding the initial recall of chicken Kiev on July 2, 2015.

**International** – Between August 13-17, 2015, the National IHR Focal Point for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia notified WHO of 19 additional cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infection, including 1 death. Fifteen (15) of these reported cases are associated with a MERS-CoV outbreak currently occurring in a hospital in Riyadh. Travel advisories from the CDC have been issued for Korea, the Arabian Peninsula and Umrah in Saudi Arabia. MERS affects the respiratory system lungs and breathing tubes. Most MERS patients developed severe acute respiratory illness with symptoms of fever, cough and shortness of breath. About 3-4 out of every 10 patients reported with MERS have died.

## 2. Protect people from health problems and health hazards.

*(Are we ready to respond to health problems or threats? How quickly do we find out about problems? How effective is our response?)*

- *What key activities did we complete in the past year to prevent, minimize, and contain adverse health events and conditions resulting from communicable diseases; food-, water-, and vector-borne outbreaks; chronic diseases; environmental hazards; injuries; and health disparities*
  - *What activities did we complete for emergency preparedness (e.g., planning, exercises, and response activities) in the past 2 months?*
- Maintained telehealth emergency communications technology: Held six (6) video conferences. Hosted a total of twenty two (22) persons for Patient Consults, TRIMRS Steering Committee, Cancer Coalition, TRIMRS, Budget Committee, Vet Set Work-Plan, and Nutrition Advisory Group.
  - J Morgan continues to meet with J.E.O., the four SHDHD counties, and individual communities in developing their Hazard Mitigation Plans. SHDHD will now become a participant rather than observer in Hazard Mitigation. We will develop our own plan and, by being a participant, become eligible to apply for grants through FEMA.
  - SHDHD is receiving several calls on bed bugs (approximately 6), mold issues (approximately 7) general environmental clean-up issues (approximately 3). Information has been sent to the people who have called and some have been given forwarding information to Mark Evans, Hastings Building Inspector.
  - SHDHD hosted the quarterly Emergency Manager meeting. Topics covered included Emergency Response, Emergency Manager's reports, Clay County COAD report, Hazard Mitigation, and exercises.
  - J Morgan attended the Adams County LEPC that he is a member of with topics being discussed to include hazardous material inventory, emergency response, and LEPC involvement in outreach programs.
  - J Morgan attended National Night Out, but because of severe weather, was only able to talk to about 10 people before the storm hit.
  - SHDHD continues to trap mosquitoes every other Monday. For the second time this year, the West Nile Virus was found in a mosquito trapped in the Red Cloud area traps. Trapping generally continues through the end of September.

## 3. Give people information they need to make healthy choices.

*(How well do we keep all people and segments of our district informed about health issues?)*

- *Provide examples of key information related to physical, behavioral, environmental, social, economic, and other issues affecting health that we provided to the public.*
  - *Provide examples of health promotion programs that we implemented to address identified health problems.*
  - *Provide examples of activities we completed to provide targeted, culturally appropriate information to help individuals understand what decisions they can make to be healthy.*
- Staff covered monthly satellite office hours in Superior and Red Cloud and provided information on WNV, vaccinations, men's health issues, general information on Ebola, MERS, Bird Flu issues. Approximately 50 people were present during these presentations. Reminder that new monthly Satellite office hours in Clay County: third Thursday of each month at the Clay Co. Courthouse.
  - Utilized community sign boards (located in Edgar, Lawrence, Red Cloud, Bladen, Roseland, and Kenesaw) to get information out about WNV, Sun Safety, Vaccinations.
  - News releases, public health columns, ads and interviews on Sun Safety, West Nile Virus, Immunizations.
  - J Warner presented to approximately 25 participants at a congregate meal on Sun Safety and West Nile Virus.
  - J Morgan gave a presentation approximately 20 residents at Good Samaritan Village with topics to include WNV, Vaccination, and general information on outbreaks in the world such as Ebola and Avian flu.
  - SHDHD has teamed up with five local businesses, three in Adams County and two in Nuckolls County to determine walking routes, develop and install walking route signs and promote walking route use by employees.. All five Businesses have their signs up.
  - Pool Cool Sun Sun Safety Kick Off events were a held at seven local pools including: Edgar, Harvard, Blue Hill, Red Cloud, Clay Center, Hastings Aquacourt and Kenesaw. Each kick off promoted the Slip! Slop! Slap! Wrap! Stay! – tips for protecting the skin you're in from sun damage. All pools also received shade structures, signage, and sun screen, and adopted Sun Safety policies to promote sun safe practices by their pool staff and patrons.
  - S Ferrone, A Market and L Vazquez connected with individuals at Project Homeless Connect sharing immunization and EWM information. 13 uninsured adults were vaccinated with Tdap or Td.
  - D Hultman and L Vazquez shared information about the SHDHD Immunization Clinic with 50+ families at the Salvation Army Backpack Program. General immunization education materials were displayed. Information was

shared regarding the Every Woman Matters Program and the Encounter Registry with 15 women taking EWM enrollment forms.

- A press release written by D Hultman for Men's Health Week was sent to media.
- Article "Protecting Your Student at Every Age" regarding back to school immunizations was written by D Hultman and published in the Hastings Tribune Back to School section along with an ad for SHDHD Immunization Clinic.
- National Immunization Awareness Month article written by D Hultman was published in the Hastings Tribune. Sunrise 60 interview was held on the topic of immunizations.
- Prevention Connection-2 SHDHD and 2 Mary Lanning staff joined Susan Ferrone in obtaining training as Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) coaches. We have applied for and achieved pending recognition status as a CDC Recognized Diabetes Prevention Program. We have set 9/29 as date for 1<sup>st</sup> class in the district. A lot of decisions have been made. Our to-do list is long! Mary Lanning is a strong partner.

#### **4. Engage the community to identify and solve health problems.**

##### ***(How well do we really get people and organizations engaged in health issues?)***

- *Describe the process for developing SHDHDs community health improvement plan (CHIP) and/or implementing your work plan.*
- *During implementation of our work plan or other community-driven plans:  
What were the evidence-based strategies that were implemented?  
What were the key communication activities that were implemented?  
Who were some of the key partners that were involved in the implementation of the work plan? What were some of their key contributions?  
What is the impact on the health of community members?*

##### Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Implementation

- Access to Health Care:
  - SHDHD's Certified Application Counselors assisted one (1) individuals regarding questions about health care coverage on the marketplace insurance website
  - Community Themes and Strengths Assessment survey was made available through Facebook and our SHDHD website. We have had 112 participants as of 8/28/15. Goal is 300 minimum.
- Obesity:
  - Coordinated School Health Teams have submitted their priorities from the School Health Index they completed and are in the process of applying to SHDHD for funding to support implementation of their goals. Funding will support policy implementation on obesity, including physical activity, nutrition goals.
  - Worksite Wellness- Implementing walking routes at local businesses for employees and community members to utilize during their breaks or for a short walk before or after work.
  - Prevention Connection – Nutrition Advisory board (NAB) - Meets monthly to discuss topics concerning the nutrition component of Prevention Connection. In the month on August they made the collective discussion to make Mary Lanning their pilot site for vending machine initiative. In the month of September they will be hosting a local focus group for their committee and other community members to help Emspace, a marketing company, understand the committee's and community's needs around vending marketing.
- Cancer:
  - Cancer Coalition: South Heartland Cancer Coalition meets monthly to share information regarding cancer awareness activities going on throughout our district. As we work toward the common goal of raising awareness of the need for cancer screening, education to inform of symptoms and advantages of early detection and promoting evidence based screenings, the group collaborates to share time and resources. Upcoming events are planned at Old Trusty Days with skin scope evaluations, skin cancer education and prostate screening education.
  - Lung Cancer: Midwest Lung Cancer Screening Program is offered through Mary Lanning Healthcare, a member of our South Heartland Cancer Coalition. SHDHD is applying for a 2015-2016 radon minigrant through DHHS's Radon Program for submission August 31.
  - Colon Cancer: 793 FOBT kits were distributed in 2015. After reminder postcards were sent in April, staff made reminder calls for non-returned FOBT kits were completed in June. Our rate of return is 42%. Staff completed case management with 3 individuals who had positive results.
  - Cervical Cancer: Staff continue to share HPV vaccine related educational materials at monthly VFC clinics.

- Breast Cancer: Continuing to work with Morrison Cancer Center to discuss breast cancer screening and awareness opportunities that could be incorporated into worksite health fairs or focused in community settings for Hispanic women. Have invited partners (Mary Lanning's Community Health Center, Central Health Center (GI), and Heartland Health Center (GI) to join Morrison Cancer Center and SHDHD in offering a mini-health fair in October with information and services to reduce barriers to Breast Cancer screening.
- Prostate Cancer: "Should I be tested" booklets from the ACS have been promoted at all health fairs.
- Skin Cancer: Seven local pools implemented a sun safety policy, with pool staff receiving training from SHDHD on sun safe practices, and hosted a kickoff event that helped patrons understand the importance of sun safety. Pools staffs were also encouraged to promote sun safety by wearing sun glasses, t-shirts, and sunscreen and by staying in the shade which were all provided to the participating pools by SHDHD's Pool Cool grant project. Businesses have also promoted sun safety by posting fliers and educational material in bathrooms and sending them to employees via email blast.
- Cancer and Worksite Wellness: Local businesses are trying to improve employees' cancer awareness. Five Points continues to post fliers for skin cancer and hosted a skin scope screening day. They had 20 employees participate in the skin scope activity. Brodstone Hospital, Nuckolls County employees, and Adams County employees are working on an organized monthly focus list for cancer awareness promotion in the upcoming year.
- Substance Abuse:
  - The Pure Performance Work Group hosted a post-travel student/coach meeting for the 16 participants who attended John Underwood's Life of an Athlete / Pure Performance training at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, NY (supported by SHDHD's Maternal & Child Health grant funding). Participants shared what they brought away from the training and began planning how they would begin implementing some of the Life of an Athlete / Pure Performance concepts at their school or college.
  - The task force (Pure Performance Work Group) is planning for a local fall event (Sept 13-15) to promote Life of an Athlete/Pure Performance approach to maximizing performance in sports and all endeavors, to provide training for coaches and students and to give administrators information how to incorporate and sustain Life of an Athlete program. SHDHD has arranged to bring in two Navy SEALs who work with John Underwood. They will give 2 Coaches' Clinics, a Student Workshop, 2 Student Assemblies, a Community Presentation, a 'Boot Camp' Workout with a Follow Up Q&A about Physical Training, and 2 Administrator Briefings.
  - With Hastings College, implemented the 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium Screening and Brief Intervention (eSBI) tool for alcohol risk assessments. HC required all incoming students to complete the assessment before they arrived on campus and again 30 days later (project supported by SHDHD's Maternal & Child Health grant funding). The results will be used for social norms messaging. Early reports from HC staff are that scores on the pre/post surveys show an increase in score and feedback/comments from 17 students so far is mostly positive.
- Mental Health:
  - NALHD applied for a planning grant opportunity offered by the Movember Foundation and the Prevention Institute that would help Local Health Departments develop community capacity to address mental health issues in men and boys, particularly focused on veterans and their families. We were invited to submit a full proposal and then made it to the next step, which was an interview with two representatives of the Prevention Institute. Grant awards should be announced by mid-September.

#### Other Collaborations

- J Morgan participates on the Midland Area Agency on Agency Advisory Board. There are approximately 15 people on the board. Discussion surrounded Home Health Care, meals for elderly in congregate form and delivered to their houses, and legal assistance available for elderly who may need it through the Ombudsmen's Office. Financial and legislative reports were also given by the Agency Director.
- J Morgan will be attending a regional Emergency Manager's meeting to develop a Hazardous Analysis and include a Tabletop Exercise. SHDHD has been working hard on persuading Emergency Managers to include the SHDHD in their analysis for hazards so this is a big advancement for us. The Emergency Managers have been great to work with, but this is an area that needs to be continuously addressed.

#### Environmental:

## ➤ **5. Develop public health policies and plans.**

***(What policies promote health in our district? How effective are we in planning and in setting health policies?)***

- *What policies have we proposed and implemented that improve population health and/or reduce disparities?*
  - *Describe how our department engaged in agency-specific strategic planning to develop a vision, mission, and guiding principles that reflect the community's public health needs, and to prioritize services and programs.*
  - *Describe your efforts to develop and implement a quality improvement plan for your department.*
- Grant Proposals/Awards/New Funding:
    - Signed the Every Woman Matters Health Hub contract amendment for a no-cost extension of current contract.
    - Submitted an application for the 2014-2015 Radon mini-grant from NeDHHS.
    - Signed the 2015-2016 Preparedness and Response to Bioterrorism Subaward with NeDHHS for \$82,345.
  - M Bever (and 3 other NALHD members/staff) provided education to 3 members of Senator Ben Sasse's staff on the VetSET project which has a goal to ensure veterans returning to their homes in rural Nebraska communities receive support and linkage to resources so they may successfully reintegrate into their families, communities, and support systems. We requested assistance in identifying sustainability options for the project.
  - M Bever met with new DHHS CEO Courtney Phillips
  - Worksite Wellness Policies - Have partnered with five businesses in the district and working on implementing at least one wellness policy change. Brodstone Hospital is working on adopting committee goals and objectives for the following year, because their committee is new to the hospital and they have just adopted a new wellness insurance plan.
  - SHDHD is receiving a sub-award of \$8,000.00 dollars for Ebola planning, training, and exercising through June 30, 2016. This is through Nebraska DHHS and will be used to meet with, train, and exercise with the hospitals, health clinics, and EMS in the SHDHD district. We are planning on three tabletop exercises. The culmination of the work plan is to have an Ebola Plan for SHDHD and one that will incorporate SHDHD responsibilities with partner agencies as well as transportation of possible Ebola specimens to the Nebraska State Lab in Omaha.
  - SHDHD is developing a plan for follow up of elevated blood lead level test results to ensure clients/parents are receiving appropriate education and that there is coordinated response between SHDHD, area health care providers and the State.
  - Elizabeth Hardy was oriented as a new member of the governor's Woman's Health Initiative Advisory Council.

## **6. Enforce public health laws and regulations.**

***(When we enforce health regulations are we up-to-date, technically competent, fair and effective?)***

- *Describe our efforts to educate members of our community on public health laws, policies, regulations, and ordinances and how to comply with them.*
  - *What laws and regulations have we helped enforce to protect the public's health?*
- No smoking violations reported this period.
  - SHDHD continues to monitor public water system violations and post these results on our website.

## **7. Help people receive health services.**

***(Are people receiving the medical care they need?)***

- *Describe the gaps that our department has identified in personal health services.*
  - *Describe the strategies and services that we have supported and implemented to increase access to health care and establish systems of personal health services, including preventive and health promotion services, in partnership with the community.*
- In July/August, the Vaccine for Children clinic staff delivered 106 vaccines to 46 patients at two monthly clinics. Of those 46 patients, 31 had no insurance, 5 had Medicaid and 10 were underinsured. Total donation collected from clients for July/August = \$215.91 (avg, \$4.83 per immunization or \$11.13 per patient).
  - In August 2015, four follow ups have been made for children with elevated lead counts. One child had a level over 10 and two others were just below ten, and a fourth child had a level just above 5. As of June 1, 2015 SHDHD assumed the role of contacting the parents of children who have lead levels over 5. Michele Bever, Dorrann Hultman, Jessica Warner and Amy Market met to create a follow up protocol and to discuss who would be making contacts and at what levels of elevation.

- During July/Aug 2015 we received three (3) calls from one parent looking for dentist who will accept Medicaid to work on their adult children and two (2) seeking assistance from a Medicaid dentist who accepts adults. Both were referred to Good Neighbor Community Health Center in Columbus, Ne. for treatment. We look forward to the time when dental services are available through Heartland Health Center in Grand Island.
- Health Disparities: Held Total Package diabetic support group meetings in July 51 people attended a presentation on child obesity. In August, the topic for support group meetings was the importance of regular exercise – 44 people attended. Followed up with 79 members to check on their diet/exercise regimens.
- SHDHD WoW has walked the equivalent of 5,688 miles as of 8/28/15. Starting in Hastings, and made stops in the following cities: Los Angeles, CA, El Paso, TX, San Antonio, Tx, Memphis, TN, Washington DC, Indianapolis, IN, Omaha and we have now returned to Hastings. We are now off to the border of Mexico. The WOW tracking program through the American Heart Association started in March and will end September 30<sup>th</sup>. -We will meet in September to discuss a new tracking program and how best to move forward with worksite wellness.
- Prevention Connection-Wide River (WR) continues EHR and HIT capacity building in the 8 clinics we selected for the project. Half of the clinics have received their gap analysis and are beginning to have virtual conference calls for next steps with the WR agency.

## 8. Maintain a competent public health workforce.

**(Do we have a competent public health staff? How can we be sure that our staff stays current?)**

- *Describe our efforts to evaluate LHD staff members' public health competencies. How have we addressed these deficiencies?*
- *Describe the strategies we have used to develop, train, and retain a diverse staff.*
- *Provide examples of training experiences that were provided for staff.*
- *Describe the activities that we have completed to establish a workforce development plan.*
- Brooke Wolfe attended a Policy Workshop and the TOPs facilitation training.
- Several Prevention Connection staff attended trainings over the last two months. Elizabeth Hardy and Liz Chamberlain viewed webinars on Meaningful Use, team-based care in hypertension management and new resources to promote diabetes management. Elizabeth, Brooke Wolfe and Dorrann Hultman attended a two day group facilitation training and the aforementioned DPP coach training was attended by Elizabeth and Dorrann, as well as 3 Mary Lanning staff.
- M Bever attended the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) annual conference in Kansas **City** where she heard keynote addresses from the new Surgeon General Dr. Murthy and the Director of the CDC Tom Frieden. She also learned more about: development and use of Foundational Capabilities of Public Health to support sustainable funding initiatives for local public health, Making Public Health Core Competencies meaningful for all employees, strategies for engaging philanthropy to build capacity and resources, innovative ways to bring healthcare to the community, building interconnected data systems across public health and other sectors, legislative action at the federal level that impacts public health, and attended the meeting of State Association of County and City Health Officials.

## ➤ 9. Evaluate and improve programs and interventions.

**(Are we doing any good? Are we doing things right? Are we doing the right things?)**

- *Provide examples of our evaluation activities related to evidence-based public health programs.*
- *Provide examples of QI projects that we have completed or are in process.*
- Tai Chi Moving for Better Balance site visit was conducted by Holly Warth (independent contractor hired thru the DHHS) on Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> for Tai Chi instructors. Nine instructors representing Adams, Clay, Nuckolls & Webster Counties were in attendance for the 3.5 hours training. Holly reviewed techniques from the Refresher training held in May 2015 for instructors that were unable to attend. Liz met with all the instructors from the four counties in preparation for upcoming Tai Chi Classes starting in September to complete baseline questionnaires and pretest on all Tai Chi participants.
- In the process of gathering evaluation data for Coordinated School Health Institutes and the CSH Team activities for 2014-2015. Desiree Rinne is assisting the schools with their documents and Schmeekle Research is providing data summary and evaluation services. The evaluation report will summarize what the program accomplished, provide stories of successes and lessons-learned, and describe satisfaction of the participants with the program.

## 10. Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health.

*(Are we discovering and using new ways to get the job done?)*

- *Provide examples of evidence-based programs our department is implementing.*
- *Describe how we have collaborated with researchers to conduct any research studies (e.g., completed surveys, interviews, or focus groups).*

➤ Evidence Based:

- SHDHD is continuing to implement the first year work plan consisting of evidence-based strategies for prevention of cardiovascular disease and diabetes as part of the new 4-year Chronic Disease Prevention project (Prevention Connection) and developed and submitted the year 2 work plan and budget.
- SHDHD is wrapping up the Pool Cool Sun Safety program, an evidence-based program developed at Emory University, with 7 area pools.
- SHDHD is partnering with worksite wellness committees and using evidence-based practices for improving physical activity and cancer screening in worksites.

➤ Research:

- Four SHDHD staff participated in a research study interview with faculty and student researchers from the College of Public Health regarding our quality improvement activities, successes and barriers and our accreditation process activities, barriers and successes.