May 6 Storm Response: Top Left and Right: Damage in Roseland, NE, from May 6 storms. Bottom Right: Jim Morgan speaks at a town hall meeting in Hardy, NE. SHDHD coordinated and hosted town hall meetings in both communities to provide residents an opportunity to share their experiences and to provide resources/information on mold, generator safety, emergency preparedness and behavioral health.

Prevention Connection Nutrition Strategies: Elizabeth Hardy introduces the Prevention Connection chronic disease prevention project to the four-county Nutrition Advisory Group at their first meeting on May 6, 2015. Teresa Smith (left), from the Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition provided training on nutrition standards, model policies, best practices, and barriers and success for vending and cafeterias.
“How does a nation develop communities of care that maximize resilience and minimize the health risks that military children and their families face?...[We must] develop a public health approach that harnesses the strengths of the communities that surround them.”

--from Building Communities of Care for Military-Children and Families (Kudler and Porter, 2013)

**South Heartland Pure Performance Project:** Coaches and Students and their Parents from Adams Central, Hastings Catholic, Hastings Public, and Harvard Schools, and Hastings College; along with ASAAP director Stefanie Creech-Will, attend a pre-travel information meeting in preparation for Life of an Athlete / Pure Performance training at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, NY, July 9-12. The meeting was conducted by Michele Bever at the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce.

**Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce**

**Health Literacy**: Charlene Sanders (VP of Quality at MLH) and Susan Ferrone (SHDHD, inset) explain to the MLH Leadership Committee how health literacy initiatives align with the hospital’s patient safety goals and strategic plan.

**Brooke Wolfe** trained 100 pool staff at 7 pools on sun safety guidelines and is promoting SLIP! SLOP! SLAP! WRAP! STAY! tips with pool patrons at Pool Cool Kick Off events in June and July.

**VetSET Showcase Event** in Lincoln, June 25. Top center: Lieutenant General, Retired, Roger Lempke; Top right: Nebraska Lieutenant Governor, The Honorable Mike Foley; Center: local VetSET project coordinators; Left: NALHD President, Michele Bever (L) and VetSET state project coordinator, Teri Clark (R), provide a history and overview of VetSET project.

**Serving Veterans and their Families: A Public Health Approach**

- Assessment: Vast array of needs in rural Nebraska
- NALHD Proposal: Lessen the division between community and veteran service systems; Upgrade the local community system to better serve the veteran and his/her family.

**South Heartland Pure Performance Project**
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 1st 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 human test report was received on 6/22/14 and found to be negative for WNV.
- Prevention Connection – nutrition assessments of public institutions and hospitals is underway. 4 locations have had initial visit by Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition. They will be gathering more assessments at Mary Lanning, Brodstone Hospital and Adams County courthouse and city buildings. Unable to obtain a location in Clay or Webster counties.
- Prevention Connection – Nutritional Environment Measures Survey (NEMS) completed in all 4 counties for all grocery and convenience stores. Results being generated by Bureau of Social Research.
- Disease Investigations:

Nebraska /Regional – An ongoing multi-state outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has infected five poultry facilities in Nebraska. On May 13th, 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. Four poultry facilities in Dixon County and one in Knox County have been affected. While the HPAI outbreak poses little threat to humans, millions of birds have been affected. As part of the existing USDA avian influenza response plans, federal and state partners as well as industry are following these five basic steps: 1) Quarantine – restricting movement of poultry and poultry-moving equipment into and out of the control area; 2) Eradicate- humanely euthanizing the affected flock(s); 3) Monitor region – testing wild and domestic birds in a broad area around the quarantine area; 4) Disinfecting- kills the virus in the affected flock location; and 5) test – confirming that the poultry farm is Avian Influenza free. South Heartland Surveillance Staff participated in interviewing farm workers as part of the monitoring process to ascertain exposure and record any symptoms in order to find out if the use of antiviral medication may be appropriate. All poultry shows at county fairs across the Nebraska and the State Fair were cancelled on 6/4/15, in an effort to prevent further spread of Avian Influenza.

International - Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) has returned with an ongoing outbreak occurring in Korea and China. On May 20, 2015, the Republic of Korea (Korea) reported to WHO a case of laboratory-confirmed MERS-CoV infection, the first case in what is now the largest outbreak of MERS-CoV outside of the Arabian Peninsula. The index case is a 68 year-old male who travelled to Bahrain, United Arab...
Emirates (UAE), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), and Qatar, prior to returning to Korea on May 4. He subsequently became ill and sought medical care at several healthcare facilities before being diagnosed with MERS-CoV on May 20th, according to the CDC. A total of 175 cases and 27 deaths have been reported to the World Health Organization as of June 23, 2015. Of the 584 total persons tested in the US, two patients tested positive for MERS-CoV in May 2014 and were determined to be imported cases from KSA; the remaining 582 patients tested negative. A Level 1 Watch has been issued to travelers to this region to take usual precautions in order to prevent the spread of germs.

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 five (5) video conferences. Hosted a total of seventeen (17) persons for Patient Consults, TRIMRS Steering Committee, Cancer Coalition, Child Advocacy Interview, TRIMRS Executive Committee and Nutrition Advisory Group.

- A Market completed an update of two hundred (200) fax numbers in the Blast Fax Address Book.

- J Morgan met with the Red Cloud City Council to discuss nuisance abatement and the role SHDHD would play if asked. One person tried to get Jim to make a comment on some pictures they had in front of the Council, but he used this as a teaching opportunity and directed her to the City Council and explained why SHDHD could not make a determination. The City Council and the resident were satisfied with the SHDHD response. Jim also let the Council know that SHDHD would help do a survey to find out more information about what the residents thought of the current actions being taken and to also ask questions to see what the public thought was important for the community. It was stressed that there is more than nuisance abatement involved and that the public health of the entire community should be taken into account as well.

- J Morgan attended a Hazard Mitigation meeting being held in all four counties for Emergency management agencies. Morgan met with JEO (contracted to complete the Hazard Analysis and Mitigation Plan) and learned that SHDHD’s role would be the same in all four counties. JEO appreciated SHDHD’s participation and agreed that Public Health should be included. In August, when the results are released, SHDHD will be included in the report as a resource in mitigation.

- J Warner visited lab personnel at Webster and Brodstone hospitals to discuss lab testing and disease reporting.

- SHDHD responded to two storm events this reporting period. One was tornado in Roseland and the other the storm and flooding in the Hardy/Superior area. J Morgan responded the same night of the tornado to Roseland and arranged a meeting the next day with the Incident Commander. SHDHD held a Town Hall meeting on May 19 and 20 at Roseland and Hardy. Approximately 20 people attended the one in Roseland and 3 firemen attended the one in Hardy. Subjects discussed were Mold, Generator Safety, Emergency Preparedness and Behavioral Health. Partners also participating were Region 3 Behavioral Health, UNL Extension, and Nuckolls and Adams county EM’s. The fire chiefs in both towns were a great benefit and getting the meeting set up. The Roseland meeting especially was beneficial to the residents. An After Action Report was completed.

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 heat safety, WNV, Mental Health 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 Men’s Health, West Nile Virus, and Mental Health.
News releases, public health columns, ads and interviews on Men’s Health Month, West Nile Virus, Mental Health series w/ SHDHD, VetSET coordinator Trevor Stryker.

J Warner presented to approximately 50 participants (roughly 25 each program) at two separate congregate meals on Sun Safety and West Nile Virus.

Educational materials regarding rabies and West Nile virus were distributed to all veterinarians in our health district by the end June. These materials will assist vet clinics in decision making regarding exposures to potentially rabid animals and also promote equine vaccination for West Nile.

SHDHD has teamed up with five local businesses, three in Adams County and two in Nuckolls County to implement walking routes promoted by using walking route signs. Two of the businesses have their signs up and are utilizing them as part of their ongoing summer physical activity promotion.

Completed a CATCH kids after school program (6 wk program) in Harvard Public Schools (10 kids grades K-5) to active learning about healthy eating and being physically active.

Presentation in Clay and Adams County with Hispanic group about Food Safety (15 adults and youth), and Eating Healthy on a Budget (10 adults)

Lis Vazquez used the Encounter Registry in Adams, Clay and Webster County. Eight encounters were referred to resources in May.

Seven staff participated in Walk Out on Work event in Hastings and SHDHD hosted a booth that provided participants with sun safety information.

Pool Cool Sun Sun Safety Kick Off events held at Edgar and Harvard pools to promote Slip! Slop! Slap! Wrap! Stay! – tips for protecting the skin you’re in from sun damage. Additional pool events are scheduled for Blue Hill, Red Cloud, Clay Center, Hastings Aquacourt, and Kenesaw pools.

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 SHDHD’s 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 3 individuals in signing up for health care on the marketplace insurance website (eligible due to life altering events).
  - Health Literacy: S Ferrone conducted health literacy introductory sessions with 5 senior staff members at Webster County Community Hospital. (June 9, 2015) and Health Literacy 101 to one provider, two nurses, and one administrative staff at the Mary Lanning Clinic in Blue Hill. (June 9, 2015)
  - SHDHD discontinued oral health services at WIC clinics because the program was not sustainable on Medicaid reimbursement. We are continuing to work with WIC director to discuss other ways SHDHD may meet needs of WIC clients, including potential of offering Community Health Worker services for assessment and referral to resources.
  - Held VetSET Showcase Event. Nebraska Association of Local Health Directors hosted an event to share an overview of and progress on the VetSET project and to formally launch the Veterans Network of Care website. Dr. Bever provided a welcome, introduced invited dignitaries, provided a history of public health and explained why public health is a good fit for this project. Lieutenant General, Retired, Roger Lempke (Senator Fisher’s office) provided remarks. Teri Clark, VetSET project manager presented the VetSET progress and highlights from each area of the state. NE Lieutenant Governor Foley also provided remarks. Trilogy provided an interactive demonstration of the Veterans Network of Care website. Good coverage from Omaha World Herald. The event was also attended by Adjutant General for the State of NE, Major General Daryl Bohac, Brigadier General Rick Dahlman, and Command Chief Warrant Officer Teresa Doehmeier; State Senators Crawford and Kolterman, as well as representatives from offices of Senators Sasse, Fischer and Congressman Smith.
  - Legislative/Policy for access to care: U.S. Supreme Court ruled

- Obesity:
- Hosted the fourth Coordinated School Health (CSH) Institute for five schools who are in process to complete the School Health Index to assess school policy, systems and environments. The teams are in the process of prioritizing policy and environmental changes based on their scores from the School Health Index. Each school is applying for mini-grant funds to help support their efforts.
- **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 Group kick off in May. Received education on Introduction to Implementing Nutrition and Beverage Standards and the team began to ID their roles. Meeting 2 was a presentation on Building the Team.

### Cancer:
- **Cancer Coalition**: South Heartland Cancer Coalition met in May and June to discuss the follow up and current stats of this year’s colon cancer screening campaign, upcoming Pool Cool Kick Off events and with pool patrons at community pools in our counties. Coordinating with Mary Lanning Cancer Committee and the Morrison Cancer Center on community outreach events and discussed breast cancer awareness and screening promotion opportunities.
- **Lung Cancer**:
- **Colon Cancer**: More than 700 kits were distributed so far in 2015. After reminder postcards were sent in April, staff made reminder calls for non-returned FOBT kits were completed in June. Our current return rate is 40%. Colon cancer brochures and FOBT kits were made available to Adams County Employees at their Health Fair in June. Case management is being done with 3 individuals who had positive FOBT results.
- **Cervical Cancer**: Dorrann, Ashley and Elizabeth attended the Immunize Nebraska Conference which highlighted successes in cervical cancer prevention with the HPV vaccines.
- **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. Breast Cancer pamphlets have been available at each worksite health fair. Lis provided assistance to clients with EWM enrollment and screening for breast and cervical cancer.
- **Prostate Cancer**:
- **Skin Cancer**: Implementing Pool Cool program at 7 pools in the South Heartland area, to include pool staff training on sun safety guidelines and kick-off events for patrons to encourage sun safe behaviors. Skin cancer education materials and flyers are being made available at area worksites participating in the Healthy Worksites grant project.
- **Testicular Cancer**:
- **Cancer and Worksite Wellness**: Local businesses are trying to improve employees’ cancer awareness. The City of Hastings wellness committee is promoting cancer awareness and screening to employees by posting information about different cancers in the bathroom stalls. For the months of June and July their focus area is Skin Cancer. Five points bank is also promoting skin cancer awareness and prevention by posting American Cancer Society fliers around the bank and in employee emails.

### Substance Abuse:
- The Pure Performance Work Group hosted a pre-travel parent/student/coach meeting for the 16 selected participants for 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 include a coach and 2 students from each of the following: Adams Central, Hastings Public, Hastings Catholic, Harvard, and Hastings College) plus the director of ASAAP substance abuse coalition.
- The task force (Pure Performance Work Group) continues to meet and is beginning to plan for a local fall event to promote Life of an Athlete/Pure Performance messages and training for coaches and students. The group is looking at bringing in two Navy SEALs who work with John Underwood.
- With Hastings College, completed our customization requests for the 3rd Millennium Screening and Brief Intervention (eSBI) tool for alcohol risk assessments. HC will be requiring all incoming students to complete the assessment before they arrive 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.

### Mental Health:
- The HRSA grant for 2-year, $200,000/year to support SHDHD’s Integrated Behavioral Health/Primary Care Project was not funded.
- **VetSET** grant project continues and includes strategies improving understanding and providing for mental health needs of returning veterans and their families. NALHD hosted VetSET Showcase event in Lincoln, which included a lunch and learn demonstration of the Veterans Network of Care website for Nebraska,
which serves as a one-stop shop to connect Nebraska’s rural veterans to local resources, information, confidential on-line assessment tools, legislative advocacy assistance and more at: central.ne.networkofcare.org.

Other Collaborations

➤ 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.

➤ Coordinated School Health Institutes: Teams participating in the Coordinated School Health Institutes this year completed the School Health Index, and began identifying and prioritizing policy gaps and areas for improvement. Each team will identify at least one policy to revise/adopt.

➤ Grant Proposals/Awards/New Funding:

- Reviewed and provided feedback on Every Woman Matters Health Hub contract amendment for a no-cost extension of current contract.
- Through Friends of Public Health, worked with John Kuehn on Appropriations for public health sustainability funding. The interim study is underway.

➤ Provided education to Nebraska’s members of congress on local uses and impacts of federal Prevention and Public Health Funds.

➤ Provided education to Lieutenant Governor Foley, state senators, staff of U.S. Congress/Senate members and others on the VetSET project for 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.

➤ Worksite Wellness Policies - Have partnered with five businesses in the district and working on implementing at least one wellness policy change. At the city and county they are working to adopt a healthy vending machine policy. Five Points Bank is working on adopting a cancer coalition annual collaboration policy. Nuckolls County is working on adopting a healthy meetings policy and a 15-minute physically active day break.

➤ We have scanned the district and selected venues to partner with for promoting physical activity in each county for our target population.

- Based on forthcoming work in Superior and Hastings to promote the community design teams in those communities, we will be creating further support with possible policy (comprehensive plan), signage or community support systems
- In Harvard we will be working with the public school and creating a joint use agreement for individuals to use the school track for physical activity
- In Red Cloud we plan to support the use of the community center to get more individuals active in the building with social support and possible signage.

➤ SHDHD staff identified at least two performance measures for each of their programs following the Results-Based Accountability framework. This is a first step toward development of a performance management system and provides a basis for Quality Improvement projects.

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?

➤ Demonstrated to the Board of Health the new Public Health Law Atlas for Nebraska, an online resource to search and learn about public health laws. This was developed as a project between the State of Nebraska and Temple University. They will be adding local laws and ordinances in the future.

➤ Jessica Warner visited with laboratory staff at Brodstone Memorial and Webster County Community Hospital to review reportable diseases (Title 173, Chapter 3) and discuss health surveillance activities.
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 May/June, the Vaccine for Children clinic staff delivered 87 vaccines to 38 patients at two monthly clinics. Of those 38 patients, 25 had no insurance, 8 had Medicaid and 5 were underinsured. Total donation collected from clients for January and February = $120 (avg. $1.38 per vaccine or $3.16 per patient).

- In May/June 2015 we have been following 4 children who have elevated lead counts. Two of the children tested only slightly over 5, one testing over 10, and one child remains at 20 or 20+. Her primary care provider, along with the staff from State of Nebraska lead program, continue to work with us as we try and solve her mystery. We have continued to follow this child since Sept. 2014. Her home inspected for the 2nd time by the state lead inspector. The house was found to be relatively lead-free after thorough cleansing and painting by the family members. New carpet and linoleum had been installed. We have also consulted with Douglas County Health Dept. who see a considerably high number of elevated lead levels. Through this consultation we learned that it is possible for a child to have ingested enough lead that it can be stored in the bones. When the child goes through growth spurts the lead levels will show a significant increase. Chelation continues to be the treatment of choice in these circumstances. Due to the excessive costs of blood testing and the chelation medication itself, we have contacted various area establishments for financial assistance for this family. June 1, 2015 SHDHD assumed the role of contacting the parents of children who have lead levels over 5. Hopefully this will encourage quicker follow up and developing relationships with these families. The goal is to work with the families to find the cause, not to cause them stress.

- In May/June 2015 we received 2 calls from parents looking for a dentist who will accept Medicaid to work on their adult children and 1 parent seeking Medicaid dentist for a foster child.

- Health Disparities: Held Total Package diabetic support group meetings in May were health fair activities in Hastings and Harvard (89 people total attended). In June was an outdoor event promoting physical activity at Lake Hastings. 38 people attended the Walk/Run around Lake Hastings. Followed up oh 75 participants over the two months to check up on their diet/exercise regimens.

- SHDHD WoW has walked the equivalent of 3,219 miles as of 6/23/15. Starting in Hastings, we have walked to LA, Phoenix, San Antonio and we are currently just East of Waco Texas.

- Prevention Connection - Identifying target sites for implementing a 1st Diabetes Prevention Program in the district and identifying staff and partners to participate in training for lifestyle coaches scheduled in July.

- Dorrann and Lis are connecting with 12 EWM clients identified by the state as needing Health Coaching. Coaching is usually by phone, includes 3 contacts and is specific to each client’s needs and may include nutrition, physical exercise, medication compliance and smoking cessation. Coaching has been completed with 4 clients.

- In an effort to maximize synergism in strategies/interventions, Prevention Connection is focusing as many efforts of the grant in one community per county as possible. The Selection is based on target populations and is as follows: Adams: Medicaid and minority Hastings Clay: Minority Harvard Nuckolls: Rural/Ag employment Superior Webster: Low income and Rural/Ag employment Red Cloud

- Wide River (WR) began EHR and HIT capacity building in the 8 clinics we selected for the project. Project coordinator is accompanying WR for assessment and completing a survey on community health worker involvement, pharmacies utilized by target populations, possible referral partnering for future developed Diabetes Prevention Program. Clinics evaluated include 4 ML clinics-Hastings Family Care, Community Health Center, Edgar Clinic, Blue Hill Clinic and Hastings OB/GYN, Sutton Quality Care, Superior Family Medicine and Webster County Clinic. We are not able to work with Memorial Health Clinic at this time as their home office is based in another jurisdiction-Central District/Aurora. Clinics were selected based on perceived champion clinic, most Ready/Most support, most ready/least support and most serving our target populations.

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.

- Hired Brooke Wolfe as full time wellness coordinator. She will be working 25% on healthy worksite project, 25% on Pool Cool and 50% on Prevention Connection.
- Brooke Wolfe attended the WELLCOM ‘Pathways to Wellbeing’ Symposium to learn about current best practices in worksites to help promote wellbeing. She also attended a Collective Impact meeting to discuss latest worksite wellness trends with worksite professionals across Nebraska.
- S Ferrone conducted Health Literacy introductory sessions with 5 senior staff members at Webster County Community Hospital. (June 9, 2015)
- S Ferrone conducted Health Literacy 101 to one provider, two nurses, and one administrative staff at the Mary Lanning Clinic in Blue Hill. (June 9, 2015)
- All SHDHD staff are taking the AHA CPR course on June 29. It is being taught in-house by Liz Chamberlain.
- Desiree Rinne trained Liz Chamberlain on coordination/administration of the Tai Chi program.
- M Bever and J Warner participated in a webinar follow up to the Performance Management System training with Jim Butler and heard from a local health department in Michigan on how they implemented perf mgmt.
- Dorrann and Lis participated in Health Coaching Motivational Interview training.
- Jessica and Dorrann attended a Mini Infectious Disease Update on TB and Hepatitis.
- Dorrann, Ashley and Elizabeth attended the Annual Immunize Nebraska Conference to learn about best practices in immunization.
- Jim Morgan attended the Emergency Response Coordinator meeting with approximately 20 other ERC’s statewide, to discuss SNS, ORR for 2015-16 (Operational Readiness Review), and developing needed paperwork for SNS, and 2015-16 sub-grant.
- J Morgan participated in a tabletop exercise on animal disease at county fairs put on by FEMA SID.
- Elizabeth Hardy attended a Health IT Innovation workshop with local health department update (training provided by DHHS for the Prevention Connection project.

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.

- The VFC program’s yearly compliance visit from the state was conducted. A second visit was held in June in follow-up of a vaccine storage concern. This concern was a result of a temperature excursion which occurred following a short power outage. Internal QI ongoing for management of such situations.
- Tai Chi post assessments were administered to 11 participants in Hastings at the Golden Friendship Center. These Tai Chi assessments are used for program evaluation at the end of each contract period.
- Contributed to the development of the work plan and performance measures for the 2015-2017 Minority Health grant (awarded to Mary Lanning, with SHDHD as key partner).
- The 2015-16 BT sub-award and amount was released. Areas of focus for improvement this year are Public Preparedness, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and Emergency Communications. This will involve quite a few of our agency partners to help determine hazard mitigation, EOC operations, and Emergency Communications that also include Health Alert Notification (HAN) system, and electronic web-based notification.
- SHDHD continues to develop a dashboard for our CHIP that would allow us to report and measure our progress for CHIP measures and indicators. Results Based Accountability training is being implemented in our Strategic Plan, CHIP and for each of our programs. The dashboard for our Strategic Plan is now complete.
- QI Projects: Progress on QI project for Immunization Program includes discussions with state program coordinators on reliability and accuracy of NESIIS data in calculating SHDHD immunization rates. Our rates appear lower than they are because the State uses stats that include clients from other clinics (a fallout from entry of H1N1 vaccinations into the NESIIS system in 2009-2010). They are trying to determine a solution.
- Educated employees from 6 area public pools on the importance of sun safety (evidence-based Pool Cool program). There were 100 participants and their aggregate sun safety understanding increased following the
training, as demonstrated by a pre and post education survey, from 80% correctly answered (pre) to 95% correctly answered (post).

- Completed an After Action Report (AAR) for the May 6 storm response and identified action steps for follow up and improvement.

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:
  o Susan Ferrone delivered health literacy training 101 to staff and providers at Webster County Clinic and Blue Hill clinic; she assisted Charlene Sanders (VP of Quality at MLH) in presenting to MLH Leadership meeting how health literacy aligns with the hospital’s patient safety goals and strategic plan.
  o 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).
  o At the evidence-based Coordinated School Health Institutes, all five schools completed their School Health Index that helped identify gaps in each of the areas that represent Coordinated School Health. Four out of the five participating schools did not have a wellness policy at the building level, only one at the district level. These schools are working on putting wellness policies in place that would cover their school buildings. Harvard school is the only school that is revising their district policy. Each school team is working on revising the wellness policies this summer so when they return for the 2015-2016 year, the policies will take effect.
  o The CATCH kids after school program being implemented in Harvard, NE, is an evidence-based program that promotes nutrition and physical activity behavior change in children.
  o SHDHD is implementing the Pool Cool Sun Safety program, and evidence-based program developed at Emory University.
  o SHDHD is partnering with worksite wellness committees and using evidence-based practices for improving physical activity and cancer screening in worksites.

- Research:
  o SHDHD staff completed a Biosurveillance Needs Assessment Survey being conducted by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)