

Shawn Davis, Chair Bebe Kleinman, Vice Chair Kristine Burrows Dr. Mark Levine Terrence Walker Michelle Weinraub Mark Mcmillan

Arapahoe County

Arapahoe County Board of Health Agenda

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Arapahoe Board Room

3:00 PM

The public is welcome to attend the Board of Health meeting in the West Hearing Room or virtually on Teams using the following meeting information:

Meeting ID: 270 688 752 384 0

Passcode: qf3ir7EE

The Board of Health agenda and materials can be viewed online at https://arapahoe.legistar.com/Calendar.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - 2.a August Meeting Minutes

August Board of Health Meeting Minutes

25-485

Attachments: August Meeting Minutes 2025

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Individuals are invited to speak to the Board of Health about any topic. To provide Public Comment, please contact the Board of Health Liaison (hbanks@arapahoegov.com) at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the respective board meeting. Speakers will be called in the order in which they signed up. Each person has a 3-minute time limit for comments, unless otherwise noted by the Chair. Individuals must state their name and address for the record prior to making remarks

- 4. BOARD OF HEALTH COMMENTS
- 5. GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS
- **6** STUDY SESSIONS
 - 6.a FY26 Budget as presented to EBC

FY26 Budget Presentation

25-481

Attachments: FY26 Budget Presentation

6.b Financial Report: FY25 Q2

FY25 Q2 Financial Report 25-482

Attachments: Q2 Financial Update - Sept 2025

6.c OWTS August Hearing Follow-up

6.d CORE Presentation

Emergency Preparedness and Response 25-517

Attachments: CORE Presentation: EPR - Sept 2025

6.e CHIP Spotlight

CHIP Spotlight: Healthy Aging 25-484

Attachments: CHIP Spotlight Healthy Aging- Sept 2025

6.f Director's Report

Directors Report 25-483

Attachments: Directors Report - Sept 2025

7 EXECUTIVE SESSION AND COUNTY ATTORNEY LEGAL MEETING

As required by law, specific agenda topics will be announced in open meeting prior to the commencement of the closed and confidential portion of this session. C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4).

8 ADJOURN

Arapahoe County is committed to making its public meetings accessible to persons with all abilities. Please contact the Board of Health Liaison (hbanks@arapahoegov.com) at least three (3) days prior to a meeting, should you require special accommodations.



Arapahoe County

5334 South Prince Street Littleton, CO 80120 303-795-4630 Relay Colorado 711

Board Summary Report

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Arapahoe County

Arapahoe County Public Health - Lima Building 6964 S. Lima St. Centennial, CO 80112



Meeting Minute Summaries

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 3:00 PM

Arapahoe Board Room Lima Plaza

Arapahoe County Board of Health

Shawn Davis, Chair Bebe Kleinman, Vice Chair Kristine Burrows Dr. Mark Levine Terrence Walker Michelle Weinraub Mark Mcmillan The public is welcome to attend the Board of Health meeting in the West Hearing Room or virtually on Teams using the following meeting information:

Meeting ID: 270 688 752 384 0 Passcode: qf3ir7EE

The Board of Health agenda and materials can be viewed online at https://arapahoe.legistar.com/Calendar.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present Bebe Kleinman, Shawn Davis, Kristine Burrows, Terrence Walker, Michelle

Weinraub, Mark Mcmillan, and Mark Levine

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.a June Meeting Minutes

Attachments: BOH Meeting Minutes 06182025

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Levine, that this Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Kleinman, Davis, Burrows, Walker, Weinraub, Mcmillan, and Levine

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

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4. **BOARD OF HEALTH COMMENTS**

5. GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

5.a On-site Wastewater Treatment System

57075 E Maplewood Pl. Strausburg, CO 80136

Attachments: 4. BOH 57075 E Maplewood Pl Presentation

5. BOH 57075 Maplewood Pl Supplemental Packet

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Levine, to approve the issuance of the following orders related to the nuisance and wastewater discharge violations at 57075 E. Maplewood Place, Strausburg CO 80136:

1. We find that there is ongoing discharge of raw sewage and wastewater onto the ground on this property, which presents a public health risk and constitutes a nuisance in violation of the Colorado Public Health Act, C.R.S. § 25 1 518; the Colorado On Site Wastewater Treatment Act, C.R.S. § 25 10 112(4) and 25 10 113; and the Arapahoe

County On Site Wastewater Treatment Regulations, Sections 3, 4, 6, and 18.

- 2. We direct for the agency to issue a Cease and Desist Order pursuant to C.R.S. § 25 10 106(1)(k) requiring that all wastewater from the RV located on the property cease immediately and that the tenants and/or property owner ensure that the sewage discharge be clean within 24 hours and remediated as directed by staff of Arapahoe County Public Health.
- 3. The property owner shall be assessed a civil penalty of \$50/day beginning August 20, 2025 and continuing until such time that the Board finds that the nuisance has been abated, the sewage discharge remediated, and the property is brought into compliance with the Colorado Public Health Act, the Colorado On Site Wastewater Treatment Act, and local regulations.
- 4. After September 3, 2025, absent voluntary compliance by the property owner and/or tenants, Arapahoe County Public Health is authorized to remove the nuisance and take all actions as permitted by C.R.S. 25 1 518, as well as pursue additional legal remedies, including filing civil claims and/or criminal charges in the Arapahoe County District Court.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Kleinman, Davis, Burrows, Walker, Weinraub, Mcmillan, and Levine

5.b Public Health FY26 Budget Pesentation

Attachments: 2. BOH 26 Budget AUG2025 Final

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Mcmillan, that the FY26 budget be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Kleinman, Davis, Burrows, Walker, Weinraub, Mcmillan, and Levine

6. STUDY SESSIONS

6.a RAFT Presentation

Attachments: 6. CORE Metrics Mini Report BOH Packet 08202025

7. RAFT Intro BOH Presentation 08202025

- 6.b Graywater Follow up
- 6.c Director's Report

Attachments: 8. BOH_Director's Report_2025

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION AND COUNTY ATTORNEY LEGAL MEETING

No Executive Session meeting was held.

8. ADJOURN

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Board Summary Report

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FY2026 Budget

Jennifer Ludwig, Public Health Director

Breanna Paderewski, Director of Finance and Administration, Public Health

Mark McMillan, Board of Health



Arapahoe County Public Health

ACPH protects and promotes equity, health, and the well-being of our community through evidence-based interventions, education, advocacy, and policy development.



2025 All Staff Meeting



Arapahoe County Public Health

Prevention

- Chronic and infectious disease
- Immunizations
- Overdose
- Sexual health

Promotion

- Food access, healthy nutrition
- Healthy aging
- Parenting/caregiver case management, education, referrals
- Health education

Protection

- Environmental Health
- Consumer protection (restaurants, childcares, pools, body art)
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Healthy homes
- Solid and hazardous waste
- Disease prevention/education

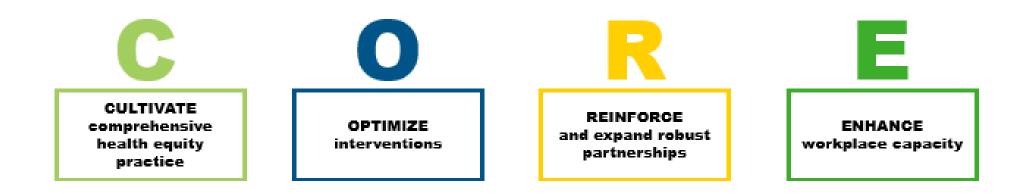


Measured Progress

CORE Performance Management & Quality Improvement System

Arapahoe County Public Health Aligning Strategic Goals

Emphasizing Accountability, Innovation, Workforce and Community





Arapahoe County Public Health Aligning Strategic Goals

Emphasizing Accountability, Innovation, Workforce and Community



CULTIVATE comprehensive health equity practice

STRATEGY

ACPH embeds health equity principles in the design, implementation, and evaluation of each of our programs and services, including data, surveillance, and intervention strategies.



OPTIMIZE interventions

STRATEGY

ACPH uses data-driven and innovative strategies that address environmental, place-based, policy, and systemic factors that impact health outcomes and address drivers of health inequities.



REINFORCE and expand robust partnerships

STRATEGY

ACPH seeks out and strengthens sustainable, multi-level, multi-sectoral, and community partnerships to advance health equity.

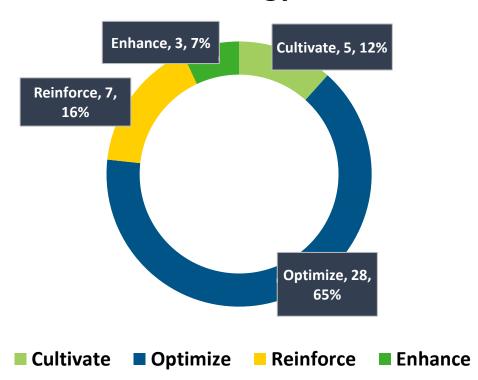


ENHANCE workplace capacity

STRATEGY

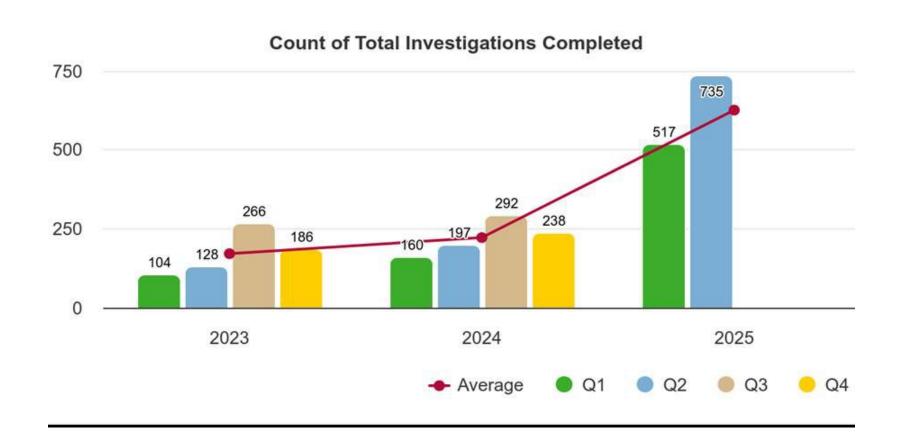
ACPH builds internal capacity across our workforce to cultivate more inclusive culture, policies, and practices for broader public health impact.

Performance Measure by CORE Strategy





Communicable Disease Metric



This chart presents quarterly communicable disease investigation data for 2023 - Q2 2025. Data includes the number of Colorado reportable conditions, outbreaks, and rabies reservoir species investigations completed by the CDE Program. Q2 2025 shows a significant increase compared to both 2023 and 2024. This dramatic increase was due to the measles outbreak response including an increased workload from confirmed and suspect cases and contract tracing efforts.



Measured Approach to Planning

- Decision making tool (resource allocation)
- Priority setting
- Communication strategy
- Budgeting tool



FY2026 Budget Request



Department Considerations

- Year over year indirect compression due to flat or reduced funding and continued increases in expenses.
- ~45 active grants, 27 annual renewal/ongoing grants.
 - 23 were flat or reduced funding.
 - Elimination of TANF, Adult Nurse Liaison Programs and Reduction of the Child Nurse Liaison Programs Resulting in a reduction of 8.5 FTE and \$1.2 Million.
 - Total lost funding to-date: \$1.8 Million.
- Ongoing and uncertain funding cuts from state and federal sources.
 - Request for one-time FY 2026 Total Compensation packages to be fully funded.
- Budget Packages were prioritized and ranked based on highest need, funding risk, and greatest impact on prevention.

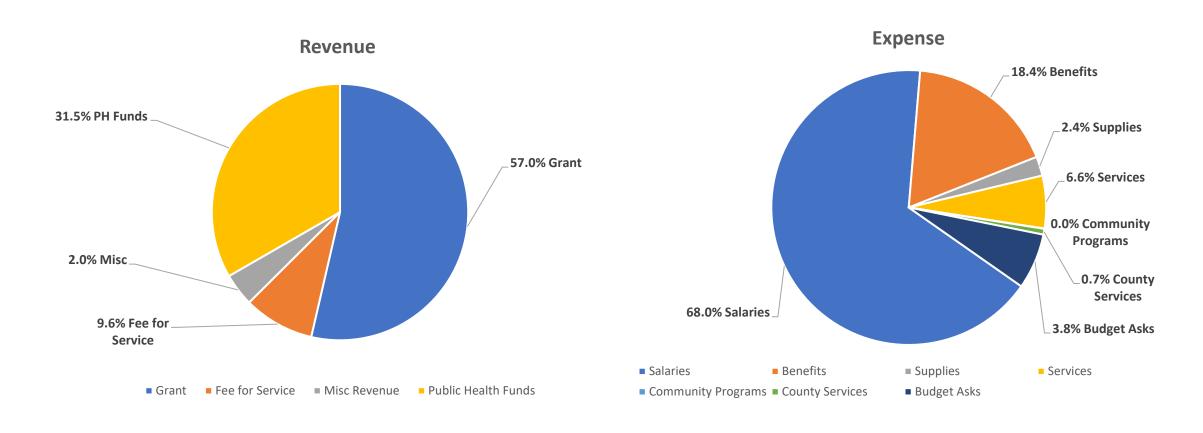


FY 2026 Budget

	FY2026 w Budget Asks &	
Revenue	Health increase	% of Total
Grant	\$ 14,622,966	57.0%
Fee for Service	\$ 2,452,990	9.6%
Misc Revenue	\$ 504,289	2.0%
Public Health Funds		
On-Going	\$ 7,096,599	27.7%
FY2026 On-going budget asks	\$ 843,660	3.3%
FY2026 One-time budget asks	\$ 143,113	
Public Health Funds Total	\$ 8,083,372	31.5%
Totals	\$ 25,663,617	100.0%
Expense		
Salaries	\$ 17,444,208	68.0%
Benefits	\$ 4,714,437	18.4%
Supplies	\$ 621,040	2.4%
Services	\$ 1,700,742	6.6%
Community Programs	\$ 9,290	0.0%
County Services	\$ 187,127	0.7%
Budget Asks	\$ 986,773	3.8%
Totals	\$ 25,663,617	100.0%



Total Estimated FY26 Budget



FY2026 Budget Package – #1, Emergency Preparedness Response (EPR) Manager

- Purpose: The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) funding was reduced by 25%, or \$169,939, at the State from the Federal Award.
- This program builds and manages the systems and support needed for Public Health staff, partners, and communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies and/or emergencies with a public health impact in Arapahoe County.
 - The impact: without consistent funding ACPH will lose capacity in the EPR Program.
- Budget request for FY2026:
 - Support existing 1.0 FTE
 - \$163,067 in salary and benefits; ongoing
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities





FY2026 Budget Package – #2, WIC Capacity

- Purpose: Reduce the caseload per WIC Educator, eliminate extended wait times, and increase staff retention.
- Increase WIC capacity by 3 FTE over the next 3 years.
- The impact, if not funded, is that clients may go to another county
 if they are not able to get an appointment, which negatively
 impacts our funding formula.
 - Clients may also simply drop out of the program and go without essential services
- Budget request for FY2026:
 - 1 FTE WIC Staff Member
 - \$124,934 in salary and benefits; ongoing
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities

FY2026 Budget Package – # 3, Sexual Health Clinic Support

- Purpose: ACPH's Sexual Health Clinic is supported by several funding streams, including Federal Title X funding. This request is intended to provide additional, nonrestrictive funding for vulnerable community members.
- This program would allow the program to purchase and provision additional various forms of birth control without restrictions from Title X, including the long term Nexplanon birth control implant that is one of the most popular and effective forms of birth control.
 - The impact without this funding: the program will experience service level reductions in line with federal funding reductions.
- Budget request for FY2026:
 - \$253,000 in operating expense; ongoing
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities





FY2026 Budget Package – # 4, Immunization Clinic Support

- Purpose: ACPH's Immunization Program primarily serves children and adults who are uninsured or receive Medicaid to ensure all individuals have access to vaccines - which protect individuals, families, and communities and are one of the best return on investments in terms of dollars spent to prevent illness and death.
- These funds would create the opportunity to purchase private stock vaccine, which have less restrictions and would provide greater community outreach
 - Without this funding, the program will experience service level reductions in line with federal funding reductions.
- Budget request for FY2026:
 - \$253,000 in operating expense; ongoing
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities

FY2026 Budget Package – #5, Healthy Building Specialist

- Purpose: Increase EH capacity to improve work distribution among Inspectors as the County grows; increase opportunities to conduct outreach and education programs; increase staff retention.
- ACPH has the FTE for Healthy Building Specialist, but not the funds. EH responds to over 700 complaints/year. This position will build much needed capacity to work with municipalities and respond to housing and building concerns.
 - If not funded, we risk employee burnout, inability to keep up with growth, and ability to provide the basic requirement for inspections.
- Budget ask for FY2026:
 - 1 FTE, Funding for Industrial Hygienist (Healthy Building Specialist)
 - \$110,709 salary and benefits; ongoing
 - Arapahoe Forward: Economic Resilience and Stability





FY2026 Budget Package — # 6, Arapahoe Food Security Coalition

- Purpose: This position will play a leadership role in the design, launch, implementation and eventual replication of an emergency food hub in partnership with the Arapahoe County Food Collaborative, enabling ACPH and community-based partners to measurably increase access to quality nutrients and help create economic opportunity by reducing food insecurity.
- ACPH applied for and was awarded the Telluray Foundation Grant, which can support half of the needed expense in 2026. The request is for the remaining half. Budget request for FY2026:
 - 1 FTE Grant Funded Position
 - \$53,170.5 in salary and benefits; one-time
 - Arapahoe Forward: Economic Resilience and Stability



FY2026 Budget Packages — #7-10 Request

- Environmental Health Specialist 1 FTE; \$92,905 Arapahoe County continues to see increases in retail food establishments, ACPH is requesting increase in staffing to alleviate backlog.
 - Arapahoe Forward: Economic Resilience and Stability
- Child Fatality Review Funding— .75 FTE; \$80,398 ACPH receives minimal grant funding for the Child Fatality Prevention program; this funding only covers approximately 0.25 FTE.
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities
- Access to Care Specialist—1 FTE; \$92,905 —With the changes at the federal level, access to affordable physical and behavioral care is needed, focusing on communities with higher needs and underserved populations.
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities, Economic Resilience and Stability
- Harm Reduction Educator— 1 FTE; \$92,905 Harm reduction is an evidence-based approach that aims to reduce health and social harms associated with substance use while also preventing opioid overdose and HIV/Hepatitis C transmission.
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities



FY2026 Budget Packages – #11-16 Request

- Land Use and Built Environmental Specialist 1 FTE; \$117,761
 - Arapahoe Forward: Economic Resilience and Stability
- International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant Position— 1 FTE; \$117,761
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities
- CHIP Priority Safety Specialist Position— 1 FTE; \$108,286
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities
- Cultural Navigation Training; \$25,000
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities, Workforce and Community Prosperity
- Community Engagement Initiative; \$30,000
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities
- School Outreach Coordinator Position— 1 FTE; \$108,286
 - Arapahoe Forward: Safe and Healthy Communities



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

PUBLIC HEALTH



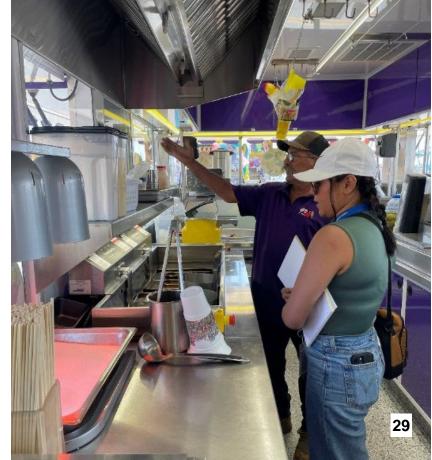














Arapahoe County Public Health

Thank you for ongoing support and your consideration of this budget package. Adequately investing in public health is one of the wisest actions a government can take to protect the health of its people and environment.

El Paso County conducted an ROI analysis on their local impact. The analysis shows a \$14.30 community benefit and economic benefit for every \$1.00 spent in El Paso County Public Health.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure

– Benjamin Franklin



Questions

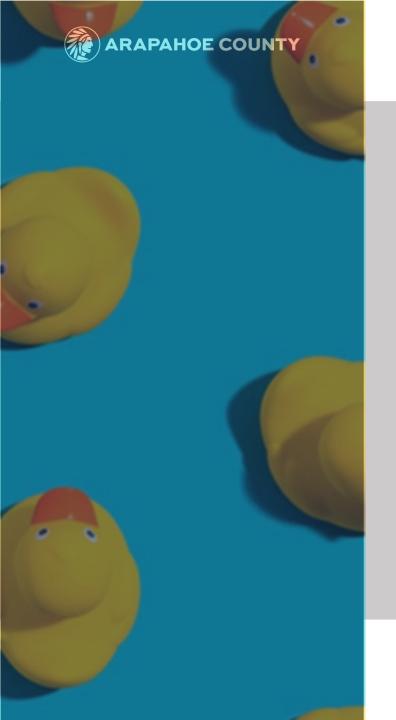


Arapahoe County

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Board Summary Report





Financial Update

Breanna Paderewski, Director of Finance and Administration



FY25 Quarterly Financials



Funding Update

- Year over year indirect compression due to flat or reduced funding and continued increases in expenses.
- ~45 active grants, 27 annual renewal/ongoing grants.
 - 23 were flat or reduced funding.
 - Elimination of TANF, Adult Nurse Liaison Programs and Reduction of the Child Nurse Liaison Programs Resulting in a reduction of 8.5 FTE and \$1.2 Million.
 - Total lost funding to-date: \$1.8 Million.
- Ongoing and uncertain funding cuts from state and federal sources.
- EBC Presentation Update



2nd Quarter High Level Summary

Revenue

- Collected 71.14% of Budget
- Total Revenue \$17.8m
- \$7.4m in County Contribution
- \$8.7m in Grant Revenue

Expense

- Expensed 49.3% of Budget
- Total Expenses \$12.3m
- Salary and Benefits Total \$10.3m, 83.1% of expenses

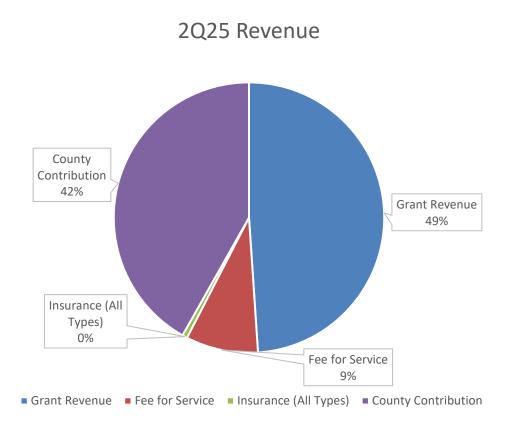


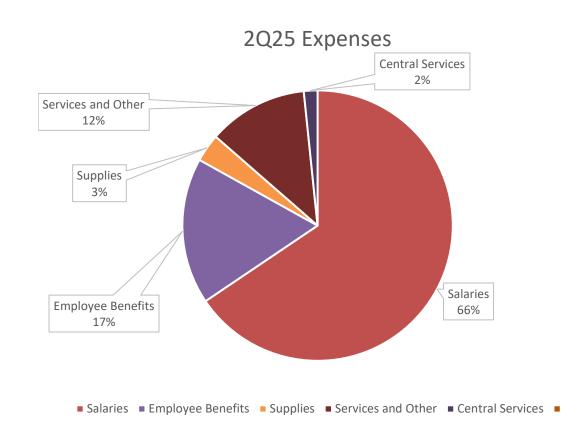
2Q25 Financial Summary

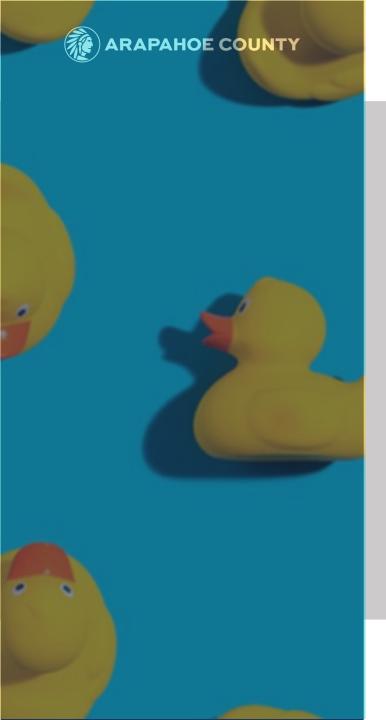
Commitment Item		FY 2025 Budget	2Q25 YTD Actuals	Budget % YTD (50% thru FY)
Revenue				
Fee for Service	\$	(1,961,040.00)	\$ (1,539,106.00)	78.48%
Medicaid, Insurance Reimbursement	\$	(362,204.00)	(106,435.00)	29.39%
Federal Grant	\$	(7,607,428.00)	(4,360,935.00)	57.32%
State Grant	\$	(6,804,215.00)	(3,971,475.00)	58.37%
Other Grant	\$	(443,474.00)	(381,374.00)	86.00%
County General Funds	\$	(7,764,425.00)	(7,446,548.00)	95.91%
Investment Returns	\$	(85,000.00)	\$ -	0.00%
Total Revenue	\$	(25,027,786.00)	\$ (17,805,873.00)	71.14%
Expenditures				
Salaries	\$	17,064,930.00	\$ 8,089,153.00	47.40%
Employee Benefits	\$	4,698,957.00	2,161,752.00 \$	46.00%
Supplies	\$	738,884.00	412,792.00	55.87%
Services and Other	\$	2,033,850.00	\$ 1,439,898.00 \$	70.80%
Community Programs	Ś	62,482.00	33.681.00	53.91%



2Q25 Financial Summary







Questions



Arapahoe County

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Board Summary Report

File #: 25-517 Agenda Date: 9/17/2025 Agenda #:



Story Time!

Developing a metric for Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) is a tricky business. After much discussion, the team leaned on the purpose of our program - to ensure that ACPH staff can handle whatever comes at us above routine operations - to develop our metric.

EPR staff have heard in countless discussions after incidents and exercises that our colleagues across the department want support in formalizing how to respond when things go sideways, want an understanding of what they might be asked to do during an incident, and want to practice what it might look like.

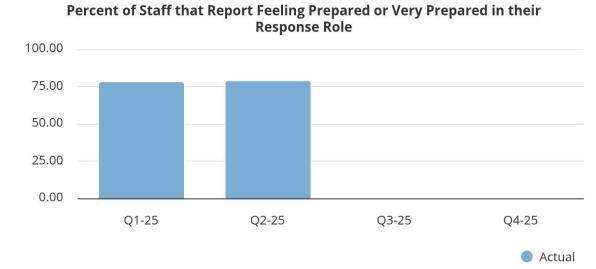
The staff at ACPH is some of the most experienced and well-trained in the state. They have the skills to respond to almost anything that may impact our communities. EPR is working to create a culture of preparedness to not only practice and hone those skills, but to increase the confidence our experts have in themselves when times are challenging.





Metric Overview

- Percent of staff that report feeling prepared or very prepared in their response role
- As incidents continue to increase in frequency and complexity, public health staff are required to maintain a state of readiness to ensure the mitigation of health and medical consequences. Having staff that are trained and able to transition between incident response operations and routine efforts with a measure of familiarity and comfort allows for more efficiency, effectiveness, and a more resilient health and medical system.





Learning Opportunities

Identify Challenges & Actions

- Challenge: Identifying and Developing Public Health Specific Trainings
 - Tailoring training to staff needs not just general preparedness
 - Being creative with what is already out there and adapting it
- Challenge: Integrating Preparedness Training into Routine Work for All staff
 - Taking advantage of existing opportunities
 - Utilizing a variety of platforms
 - Being available
- It takes time!





Arapahoe County

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Board Summary Report



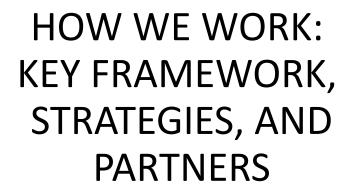
HEALTHY AGING AND THE COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Priority Population: Older adults



Agenda







LOOKING AHEAD: HEALTHY AGING AS A STRATEGIC LENS



DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS



Key Strategies

INTEGRATION

AGE FRIENDLY
PUBLIC HEALTH
SYSTEM

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

SHARED GOALS AND RESOURCE ALIGNMENT **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

PARTICIPATORY APPROACH

Incorporating Nationally Recommended Activities



What is an Age Friendly Public Health System?

The <u>Trust for America's Health</u> (TFAH), in partnership with the <u>John A. Hartford Foundation</u>, developed a framework for Creating Age-Friendly Public Health Systems.

- Healthy aging as a core public health function
- Six areas of age-friendly public health actions
- Aligns with the 10 Essential Public Health Services



AFPHS 6Cs FRAMEWORK

Creating and Leading

Connecting and Convening

Coordinating Programs

Collecting Data

Communicating

Complementing

Source: www.afphs.org



Promoting Age Friendly Public Health Champion Program

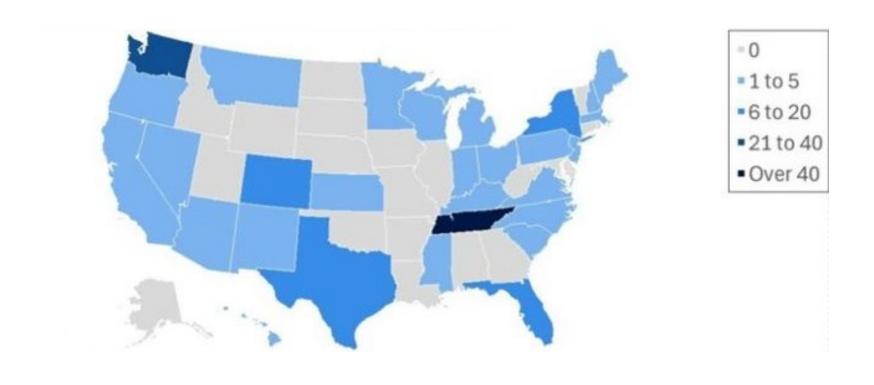
Anyone can become a champion!



Source: www.afphs.org



AFPHS Champions by State



Source: www.afphs.org



Why This Approach?

- Promote health across the lifespan
- Advance health equity for older adults
- Elevate our role as an ally
- Strengthen collaboration opportunities



Healthy Aging Advisory Team

Serve as a division level liaison

Strengthen strategy, expertise, and learning

Provide diverse insights, informing aging-related work

Act as a sounding board for new opportunities and challenges



Co-Delivering Health Education in Rural Arapahoe County



Browse the Library >



Services ~

Spaces ~

Research ~

Chat With Us

Español

Русский

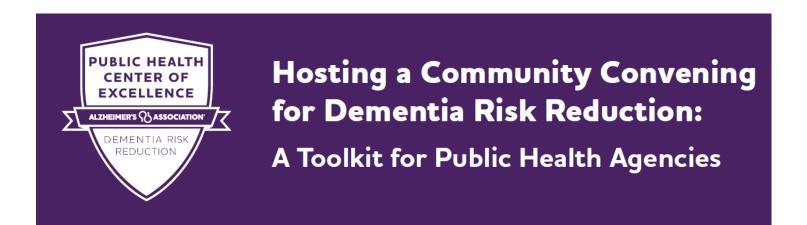
Events > Aging Mastery Series

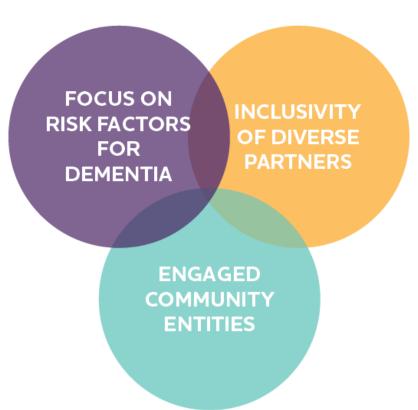






Convening Partners to Combine Efforts, Fill Gaps, Avoid Duplication









Senior safety is focus of upcoming events in Arapahoe County

Physical, financial, emotional well-being are among topics

Scott Gilbert Sep 4, 2025 Updated Sep 4, 2025

Recent News Coverage



Safety for older adults will be the focus of two upcoming events in Arapahoe County on Sept. 19 and 20, one at Englewood's Malley Recreation Center and the other at Arapahoe Community College in Littleton.

PEXELS STOCK PHOTO BY ANDREA PLACQUADLO

Looking Ahead: Healthy Aging as a Strategic Lens

- Cross cutting approach embedding into all efforts
- Commitment to age friendly principles, equity, and health across the lifespan
- Not a standalone an agencywide strategy that can strengthen every CHIP goal



Your Engagement Accelerates Progress







SHARING EXPERTISE EXPANDING OUR NETWORK

CHAMPION FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

YOUR LEADERSHIP IS MAKING AN IMPACT, THANK YOU!



Questions and Discussion

Contact:

Melissa Smith, MPH, CHES Senior Community Health Promotion Specialist

> msmith4@arapahoegov.com 303-734-5373



Arapahoe County

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Board Summary Report

 Public Health Director's Report
Prepared by: Jennifer Ludwig
Data Prepared: September 11, 20

Date Prepared: September 11, 2025

Dates Covered: August 20, 2025 - September 11, 2025

A. Mission Moments

Family Connects

After nearly two years of planning and preparation, we are thrilled to announce the successful launch of Family Connects at Arapahoe County Public Health! Our very first home visit took place on September 4, followed by a second visit on September 5, marking the beginning of this important program. This evidence-based program will provide free nurse home visits to families with newborns, connecting them to community resources and ensuring a strong start for children and families across our county. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal of increasing economic security and mobility by improving access to affordable physical and behavioral care.



Family Connects first home visit!

B. Program Updates

Partnerships, Planning and Community Health Promotion

1) Community Engagement and Event Participation

Recent events: City of Englewood Neighborhood Nights, Housing Fair at Littleton Main Street Apartments, Aurora Pride

Upcoming events: Aurora Public Schools Behavioral Health Event, Older Adult Safety Symposium, Longer Tables Littleton, Englewood Homeless Connect Event, Food Justice Festival, Sheridan Celebrates

Please reach out to <u>Grace Soulen</u> or visit our <u>Community Engagement Event Request Form</u> to suggest upcoming outreach opportunities. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) cross-cutting objective to advance community engagement.

2) Arapahoe Food Security Coalition

The Arapahoe Food Security Coalition is in the process of completing a new strategic plan and identification of priority activities. Several emergency food provider partners in the coalition are experiencing significant strains on capacity as funding and resources dwindle and the need for services increases, demonstrating the critical nature of the coalitions work and the resources ACPH has dedicated to the group to help increase collaboration among providers in western Arapahoe County. ACPH staff are preparing a job posting for the community engagement specialist who will lead the coalition and prepare the coalition to charter as a 501C3 with the State of Colorado. This new position, supported through braided funding, will be key to increasing efficiency and availability of emergency food resources. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal to increase access to healthy, affordable food.

 Aurora Partners for Thriving Youth Supporting City Ordinance Limiting Youth Access to Tobacco and Other Age Restricted Substances

ACPH staff, along with partners from Aurora Public Schools and Adams County Health Department, are working with staff from the City of Aurora to put forward a new retail sales licensing program for the sale of nicotine, tobacco, and other age restricted products. A local retail sales license for tobacco is an evidence-based strategy that limits youth access to age restricted products by empowering oversite by local authorities. The APTY coalition has secured support for the ordinance from the majority of Aurora City Council members and key community partners, such as the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal to increase community safety.

4) Harm Reduction Learning Event

The Community Health Promotion Team hosted an overdose prevention learning opportunity August 26 for partners from metro local public health agencies and members of ACPH's Harm Reduction Participant Advisory Leadership Initiative, comprised of persons with lived and living experience. Caitlin Molina, Project Director for the CDC-funded Drug Checking Los Angeles Program at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine, presented on her team's experience employing Fourier transformation infrared (FTIR)

spectrometry as an evidence-based, public health surveillance tool for analyzing and responding to the local, unregulated drug supply. A representative of the City and County of Denver's Harm Reduction Program shared updates on their plans to launch drug checking using FTIR as a strategy within their overall harm reduction program in fall of 2025.

5) Community Health Promotion Teams Presenting at Public Health in the Rockies Conference

Two teams from the ACPH Community Health Promotion program will be presenting their work at Public Health in the Rockies to share successes, lessons learned, and ability to replicate in other areas:

- a. The ACPH Tobacco Control and Prevention team will join partners from Aurora Partners for Thriving Youth and Adams County to present on collaborative work with the APTY Coalition and their work on preventing youth tobacco and substance use through partnership and addressing SDOH and Shared Risk and Protective Factors.
- b. Melissa Smith will present on ACPH's **Age-Friendly Public Health System** designation the first in Colorado and activities around increasing partnership and collaboration that align and advance the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan.

Nutrition Division

- Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program Expanding Services to Boulder WIC Clients
 Starting October 1, 2025 the ACPH Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program (BFPC) will begin providing
 peer to peer breastfeeding support services to the Boulder County WIC Program. ACPH WIC
 received \$37,000 from CDPHE to expand BFPC hours to support pregnant and breastfeeding dyads.
- 2) WIC Co-location at Children's Health Clinic Resource Connects to begin in September ACPH WIC has provided support to the Children's Health Clinic Resource Connects program by following up on referrals from providers at their pediatric clinic. With a new two year MOU and funding of \$110,000, ACPH WIC was able to hire a WIC Coordinator to provide in person services now two days at week to better serve their patient population and referrals to increase access to WIC and food.

Community Health Nursing Division

- 1) Maternal and Child Health & RHC Programs
 - a. In August, ACPH's MCH team hosted the first ever county sponsored community doula training. Eight organizations nominated 22 participants for a four-day, bilingual training taught by Elephant Circle. The program strengthens perinatal support for families, especially those covered by Colorado's new Medicaid doula benefit, while also creating accessible pathways into the workforce for community members who can provide culturally and linguistically relevant care. Trainees described the experience as both personal and professional growth. One shared, "This training opened my eyes to how important it is to support and empower people so they can take an active role in their birth." Another reflected, "During my pregnancies and after giving birth I was always alone. Now I understand how valuable it is to have someone by your side." With about 44% of the county's 7,500 annual births covered by Medicaid, roughly 178 doulas would be needed to meet demand. This first cohort is being mentored as they work toward doula certification,

Medicaid enrollment, and launching their practices. Twenty more people are already on the waitlist for the next training opportunity. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal of increasing economic security and mobility by improving access to affordable physical and behavioral care.

b. Beginning in September 2025, Wendy Nading and Laura Don will be serving as voting members of the Colorado Access Performance Improvement Advisory Council (PIAC) to provide guidance and recommendations to help improve health, access, cost and satisfaction of Medicaid members and providers. Wendy will serve on the child-focused PIAC and Laura Don will serve on the adult focused PIAC. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal of increasing economic security and mobility by improving access to affordable physical and behavioral care.

2) Immunizations

- a. In August the Immunization Program provided 1373 vaccines, an increase of 50% from the average of the past two years. This was accomplished with improved processes, not additional staffing.
- b. Immunizations piloted rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for privately insured individuals (those with Medicaid and uninsured were already seen) in partnership with Communicable Disease Epidemiology over the summer due to reported access challenges. The pilot will become a permanent service offering with some process improvements. For uninsured individuals or those whose insurance will not cover the vaccine who income qualify, the Immunization Program works directly with the manufacturer to obtain no cost doses. Rabies PEP is life-saving medication that often comes with significant financial cost. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal of increasing economic security and mobility by improving access to affordable physical and behavioral care.
- c. Immunizations supported measles post-exposure prophylaxis related to the most recent measles case associated with Children's Hospital Colorado. This included the provision of immune globulin to four infants under six months of age not able to receive the vaccine.

3) Sexual Health

- a. Sexual Health received a \$25,000 award from the Caring for Colorado foundation to increase access to contraception through their "Choose When" initiative. This funding will be used to purchase long-acting reversible contraceptives such as contraceptive implants and intrauterine devices. Contraceptive implants cost \$650 each, so this grant will provide long-acting contraception at no cost to 30-40 people in our community. Last year, the Sexual Health clinic provided 254 contraceptive implants to our patients, >75% at no cost. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal of increasing economic security and mobility by improving access to affordable physical and behavioral care.
- b. The Sexual Health team continues to be recognized for its innovative collaboration in providing STI testing and treatment to clients accessing Harm Reduction services in the community. Renee Lenthe and Kara Lenhoff from Sexual health are presenting their work on Syphilis FDT with Harm Reduction Supervisor Elicia Chacon at Public Health in the Rockies in September. They have also been invited by NACCHO to be featured on their website and

newsletter as a case study for innovative STI treatment. Sexual Health and Harm Reduction staff are also invited to present as subject matter experts on STI treatment at the upcoming Syringe Access Program Summit sponsored by CDPHE for all syringe access programs in Colorado.

c. The Sexual Health Program conducted a patient satisfaction survey in July, and the results are in! We received 98 responses, with an average score of 4.7/5 in all categories. Our highest ratings (4.9/5) were in the courtesy of our front desk, feeling listened to by the provider, and the explanation and time patients received from our medical assistants. Ease and convenience of hours, the explanation of charges that patients received for services and time spent in the waiting room received the lowest scores, but still an overall high score of 4.7/5. 71% of patients reported hearing about our services from a family member or friend who recommended our services, which speaks to the high quality, compassionate care patients receive in our clinic. 14% learned about our services online, 6% were referred by another provider. Positive comments included appreciation for services provided in Spanish, convenient locations, kindness and respect from staff members. There were no negative comments.

4) Harm Reduction

- a. Harm Reduction Program (HRP) staff attended Aurora Pride on 8/30 at the Fletcher Plaza on Colfax. The event brought together dozens of organizations, service providers, and other vendors to offer information, resources, goodies and more to the local Aurora community. HRP staff offered testing services via Prevention Point and were joined by Sexual Health and Immunization staff. Staff engaged with roughly 100 people on harm reduction, sexual health and other education. Additionally, 5 people were tested, and 3 people were identified as needing STI treatment, and were immediately connected with sexual health. This initiative aligns with the ACPH Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal of increasing economic security and mobility by improving access to affordable physical and behavioral care.
- b. HRP continues to see major increases in participants accessing services; preliminary data shows a total of 443 program encounters in August alone! This includes syringe access participant encounters only.
- c. In collaboration with Communications, HRP worked on creating signage for our fixed sites to promote and encourage conversations around testing services (HIV, syphilis, Hep C) and substance use treatment options (methadone, contingency management, etc.). This project is currently in the works.

Health Protection and Response Division (*Environmental Health, Communicable Disease Epidemiology and Emergency Preparedness and Response Programs*)

1) Environmental Health Programs

a. On May 22, 2025, the Colorado General Assembly signed <u>Senate Bill 285</u> into law with bipartisan support and strong backing from the Colorado Restaurant Association. S.B. 285 will incrementally increase Retail Food Establishment fees over the next three years, beginning with a 25% increase in 2026. On August 6, 2025 "Categorical Fees", which include the Plan Review Application Fee and the Site Evaluation fee, increased from \$100.00 to

- \$155.00 and on September 1, 2025, Retail Food License fees increased by 25%. All Retail Food invoices, which will be mailed towards late October, will reflect this increase. For more information and a chart outlining the license fee increases, please click here.
- b. The Water Quality program staff successfully completed their 2025 routine inspections of all operating seasonal public and semi-public recreational water facilities in Arapahoe County. The Water Quality program staff also successfully completed a round of second inspections for water chemistry at the same seasonal recreational water facilities. Program staff completed a total of 55 routine inspections and 55 chemical checks for seasonal facilities. Work is now well underway to complete second inspections of all non-seasonal facilities by the end of 2025.

2) Emergency Preparedness and Response

- a. Annually in September, FEMA sponsors National Preparedness Month. The campaign is used to encourage individuals and families to develop an emergency plan, build a disaster kit, and learn vital skills to help them stay safe and recover quickly when disaster strikes. The year, the theme for the campaign highlights that preparedness starts at home. For more details, visit <u>Ready.gov.</u> The ACPH Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Program organized a variety of engaging activities to share information with all staff to include:
 - Hosting a Ready 2 Card Game at each ACPH location.
 - Training Needs Assessment to inform the department's multi-year training and exercise plan,
 - Psychological First Aid Training,
 - EPR 101 Training, and
 - EPR hosting a table at the Annual Public Health Potluck, where we are giving out a new preparedness item to all employees.
- b. The EPR Program participated in the Federal Workshop for Bioterrorism on September 9, 2025, which is an important step in the Colorado North Central Region Bioterrorism Exercise Series. The workshop provided an all-day opportunity for local and state emergency preparedness and response staff from public health, law enforcement, fire, hazmat, emergency management, EMS, and other key sectors to meet with representatives from federal response agencies. During the workshop, federal partners provided detail and information about their roles, responsibilities, capabilities, and planning assumptions and provided opportunities for questions from state and local partners. The exercise served to enhance local response efforts leading into the October full scale exercise.

C. Communicable Disease Epidemiology Update

Ongoing Activities of Note:

a. COVID-19: Similar to increases being seen nationwide, reports of COVID-19 hospitalizations and outbreaks are increasing both in Colorado and Arapahoe County. Eight confirmed and three suspect outbreaks have been reported in Arapahoe County since the middle of July 2025. The Communicable Disease Epidemiology (CDE) program investigates all reported suspect and confirmed outbreaks to provide disease control guidance, monitoring data trends, and provide recommendations to prevent the spread of illness. A full respiratory

season update, including COVID-19, influenza, and RSV, will be provided in the October Board of Heath Directors report.

b. *Measles:* As of 9/9/2025, Colorado has 27 cases of measles in 2025, with five hospitalizations and no fatalities reported. Five additional cases were reported in Mesa County in early September with known exposure to a confirmed case. Eight of the Colorado cases are related to an out-of-state traveler who was infectious on their flights and had a layover at Denver International Airport. Arapahoe County has had 5 cases of measles thus far in 2025. The CDE program continues to monitor the measles situation in Colorado, the United States, and internationally, as well as conduct interviews with close contacts associated with new cases in Colorado. The CDE program is in the process of scheduling in-person meetings with all the hospitals/hospital systems in Arapahoe County related to strengthening measles preparedness and response coordination.

Additionally, on 8/27/2025, the ACPH CDE program, EPR program, Immunization program, and Chief Medical Officer provided training to staff at the Arapahoe County Detention Facility on measles, vaccinations, and preparedness should there be a measles incident impacting this facility. A measles tabletop exercise is scheduled for November to continue the collaborative efforts between public health and the detention facility to respond to communicable disease incidents.



c. West Nile Virus: As of 9/9/2025, there have been 133 cases of West Nile virus (WNV) in Colorado, including 4 in Arapahoe County. Of the 133 cases statewide, 63 caused neuroinvasive illness, 62 hospitalizations, and 8 deaths. During this current season, our EH

Consumer Protection program submitted 38 mosquito samples to CDPHE and 2 have tested positive for WNV.

- d. Rabies: As of 9/9/2025, 52 animals have tested positive for rabies in Colorado, including 4 bats in Arapahoe County. While rabies is reported throughout the year in Colorado, reports of rabies positive animals increase in the summer months. The CDE program continues to receive reports of suspected rabid animals and interactions with people and/or domestic pets this season. We urge residents to keep their pets up to date with their vaccinations and report any interactions with wildlife to public health right away.
- e. *Ebola*: Ebola virus disease (EVD) is a severe and often fatal illness affecting both humans and other primates. The virus is transmitted to people from wild animals (such as fruit bats, porcupines, and on-human primates) and then spreads through direct contact with blood, secretions, organs or other bodily fluids of infected people, and with surfaces and materials contaminated with these fluids. The EVD fatality rate can vary from 25% to 90% with an average around 50%. People with EVD may experience both "dry" and "wet" symptoms. Dry symptoms include fever, aches, pains, and fatigue which commonly occur early in the course of illness. As the illness progresses, "wet" symptoms such as diarrhea, vomiting and unexplained bleeding can occur. Healthcare providers and family members caring for someone with EVD without proper infection control methods have the highest risk of infection. The FDA has approved an EVD vaccination that is recommended for U.S. adults 18 years and older who are at potential risk of exposure to EVD.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has reported an EVD outbreak of 37 cases as of 9/6/2025 in the Bulape Health Zone, Kasai Province. A total of 157 close contacts has been identified. A World Health Organization (WHO) national rapid response team has been deployed to the affected region to strengthen disease surveillance, treatment, and infection prevention and control measures in health facilities. Close contacts and frontline healthcare workers will be provided an EVD vaccine to prevent illness. On 9/8/2025, the CDC issued a Level 1 travel health notice for the DRC. Genomic analyses suggest the outbreak was caused by a new zoonotic spillover event. While traveler monitoring for U.S. residents has not been initiated at this time, the CDE program continues to monitor the situation for awareness should monitoring begin to protect the health and safety of Colorado residents.

D. Social Media and Communications

Caitlin Silverstein, RN, Immunizations Associate Manager, was quoted in the Littleton Independent in an article on measles vaccination: https://www.littletonindependent.net/news/article_f494974b-9a26-42c9-92b8-fff42b595eed.html

Leslie Levine, Senior Community Health Promotion Specialist, was featured in an article from the Littleton Independent about food security and the Arapahoe Food Security Coalition: <u>Building a local safety net</u>: <u>Arapahoe Food Security Coalition tackles hunger in tri-cities | News | littletonindependent.net</u>

E. Conference Presentations

National Environmental Health Association

The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) hosts an Annual Education Conference (AEC), which bring together industry professionals from across the county. The 2025 NEHA AEC took place in Phoenix, Arizona, July 14-17 and Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) III, Michael Roy was selected to present on the work he has done to improve the ACPH mobile food program. Michael's presentation highlighted several steps that he and the mobile team have taken to improve the customer experience and reduce county costs. Michael reported that his presentation was very well attended by both in person and virtual participants.

Public Health in the Rockies

Renee Lenthe, Sexual Health Nurse Supervisor, Elicia Chacon, Harm Reduction Supervisor, and Kara Lenhoff, Sexual Health Senior Registered Nurse, will be presenting *Field Delivered Treatment for Syphilis in the Community and County Detention Center in Arapahoe County* as a Program/Research "Showcase" Session.

Becca Miles, Immunizations Senior Registered Nurse, will be conducting the inaugural *Public Health Nurse Skills Lab* for the Public Health Nursing Chapter of the Colorado Public Health Association. This year's educational focus is on tuberculosis.

Melissa Smith, Senior Community Health Promotion Specialist, will present *Becoming an Age-Friendly Public Health System: Integrating aging into core public health practice.*

Devan Lorimer and Sue Howk, Senior Community Health Promotion Specialists, along with Aurora Partners for Thriving Youth and Adams County Health Department, will present *Protecting Future Generations: Strategic Partnerships in Youth Tobacco Prevention that Enhance Community Resiliency.*

Award from Colorado Public Health Association

Lillian Wald Award

Rebecca "Becca" Miles, BSN, RN Becca's journey in public health nursing began long before she became a Registered Nurse. A kinesiology grad from the University of Colorado Boulder, she found herself working at a school serving teen moms. It was there, watching the school nurse teach prenatal classes while caring for daycare babies, that Becca knew she wanted to work in community-focused preventive care. She earned her BSN from CU Anschutz in 2004, Becca has now dedicated more than two decades to public health in Colorado. She's currently enrolled in CU Nursing's prestigious DNP/MPH dual-degree program, a move that reflects her mission to blend advanced clinical expertise with systemic public health leadership. Becca is a proven leader in Colorado's Public Health Response: 18 years at Tri-County Health, including a pivotal leadership role during the COVID-19 pandemic, training case investigators and launching mass vaccination efforts. Currently, as a Nurse Educator in Arapahoe County's Immunization Program, she designs and delivers training that ensures her team is ready to protect the community, from chickenpox to measles. At heart, Becca is deeply personal in her public health approach. Her belief is simple yet powerful: when a nurse protects one family, they plant a seed of health across generations. As a mother of four, she truly understands the significance of that act, especially for families new to Colorado or the U.S. She champions systemic thinking, influencing policy and programs so that everyone, regardless of insurance status, can access services.

