

Lincoln County Health Department Annual Report 2007



The Lincoln County Health Department has a mission to protect and promote the health of the citizens in Lincoln County and our guests. We do this through a variety of programs ranging from child health to monitoring of environmental health risks. This is a big mission and our resources are limited. Therefore, we work with our local and state partners to assess health indicator data and review input from community members to assure our services achieve this mission. We also partner with public and private agencies to pool resources to meet common goals. These partnerships are crucial to the work that we do.

This report is a snapshot in time of the work we do. Much of our work is in response to notifiable conditions and the control of communicable diseases. In some cases, our work is focused to serve one client which in turn impacts the community, such as WIC or immunizations. In other cases, our work is focused on the community to prevent illness or reduce exposure to environmental risks, such as our food inspection program or drinking water programs. Either way, our services are focused on improving the health of those who call Lincoln County home.

To assure this work is successful; we are working with state partners to monitor statewide health indicators. We are also working with local partners to develop local health indicators. It is through tracking change in health indicators that we can truly measure our success in achieving our mission.

We hope that you will find the 2007 annual report useful in understanding the role of public health in our community and the types of public health services you receive every day, even if you don't realize it.

Sincerely

Ed Dzedzy, R.S.
Administrator

#1: Understanding the Health Issues of Our County

The monthly publication of Washington State Department of Health's "epi-TRENDS" was distributed to all local healthcare providers allowing them to track certain diseases in Lincoln County.

Measured the height and weight of 1127 students in 7 Lincoln County School Districts. This data will be used to assess the BMI (body mass index) trend for those 7 participating districts. Reports will be available in 2008.

Determined that the ABCD dental program was not sustainable at this time for Lincoln County due to the need of matching funds.

Monitored, investigated and assessed all Notifiable Conditions that were reported to us in 2007. An increase although not statistically significant was noted for Chlamydia particularly in the Davenport/Reardan area. Other STD rates continue to be low.

Applied for and was accepted in the Community Health Assessment Mentorship Program. This program matches mentors and mentees from health department assessment staffs across the state to increase assessment skills.

Vital Stats

237 Birth Certificates

92 Death Certificates (first copy)

#2: Promoting the Health of Our County

Distributed 2 Child Health Notes newsletters to local healthcare providers and childcare centers on Maternal Depression and one on Within Reach formerly known as Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies.

Provided education to the public regarding the importance of STD prevention. Also provided education, follow-up, and ensuring partner treatment to prevent further infections.

Sent out 38 Health Alerts to our Healthcare Provider Network. The Alerts included a variety of topics such as an outbreak of pertussis in Spokane, updates on influenza, salmonella, West Nile Virus, immunizations and new treatment guidelines for gonorrhea.

The "Food Rules" newsletter was distributed on a quarterly basis and posted to the health department's website for easy distribution. The West Nile Virus brochure was also updated in May with the most current information.

Provided nurse consultations to 3 childcare centers on a monthly basis for their infant toddler population. 7 licensed family home childcares were provided information and education on various topics ranging from communicable disease and oral health to safety issues and immunizations by the childcare nurse.

Partnered with Lincoln Hospital, Odessa Memorial Healthcare Center, NW Med Star and Sacred Heart Medical Center to develop a system response to Acute Mio-cardio Infarction (AMI) to increase system response to reduce the time it takes for patients in rural areas to be transported and treated at Sacred Heart. This has resulted in reduction of heart muscle lost and better health outcomes for patients.

Partnered with the school nurse for Creston, Wilbur and Almira schools for education to 144 elementary students from grades K- 4 on Oral Health.

Referred Women, Infant, Children Nutrition (WIC) program clients to oral health care resources.

All 335 WIC clients received our own brochure "Healthy Smiles for Life" and oral health care kits for all children.

Provided 39 individuals with tobacco quit kits through the Maternal Child Health program to assist them in quitting their tobacco use. 15 of these individuals were pregnant at the time they received their kits.

Continued to offer and teach the tobacco diversion and cessation classes to 9 youth referred by Lincoln County Juvenile Services and Lincoln County school districts.

Met with the superintendents of Reardan, Creston, Harrington, Odessa, Wilbur, and Almira schools and explained the data from the BMI measurements. They were given a hand-out to use at their discretion that explained the results for their schools. The overall results are that Lincoln County falls in line with the nation for children who are overweight and at risk for being overweight. Although the county is not above the national average this is not a positive result as the national average is climbing.

20 parents attended an educational evening for the Growing Gorillas preschool on immunizations, "cover your cough" and head lice.

#2: Promoting the Health of Our County

Sponsored the sixth annual Mid-Summer Night's Dream. A night devoted to women's health, with over 230 women in attendance. The evening's topic was hormones throughout a lifetime.

Authored 8 health corner articles for publication in the local newspapers. The article topics ranged from receiving a flu shot and school immunizations to West Nile Virus and staying out of the extreme heat.

Co-sponsored 4 Family Movie Nights with Lincoln County Drug and Alcohol Center at the Davenport Memorial Hall, Davenport High School and Wilbur Schools with a total of 250 people in attendance. At each event information on tobacco prevention and drug and alcohol prevention was handed out to families.

Continued to update the health department's website with current information.

Participated in the 6th annual Odessa Women's Night hosted by Odessa Memorial Healthcare Center with over 100 women in attendance.

Linked clients with Department of Social and Health Services, Medicaid, Department of Children and Family Services, oral health and health care providers, Family Resource Center, Planned Parenthood, breast health services, prescription help, Care & Share, People 2 People, and various other services.

Education to the public and local healthcare providers on notifiable conditions including how to contact the health department 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

WIC workers provided 783 nutrition education sessions to their clients.

The WIC program served 335 women, infants and children.

Our WIC case load expanded from our approved load of 200 to 240 clients and continues to grow.

WIC coordinator worked with our environmental health staff to provide education and testing information to clients about the potential danger of high nitrate levels in drinking water.

Breastfeeding education and support was offered to pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Performed 11 pregnancy tests. Referred clients to prenatal care, First Steps, Medicaid, and Planned Parenthood or other birth control resources.

54 children 0-6 years of age were screened for developmental delays, with 2 children being identified as needing further follow-up or evaluation. Linked them with services and provided case management through our Family Resource Coordinator.

48 children with special health care needs were served in Lincoln County through assurance of services, case management, home visits.

Completed home visits that focused on education for parenting skills, baby & child development, parent & child bonding and evaluation of emotional health.

#3: Protecting the Health of Our County

2 bats were sent to the Public Health Lab for rabies testing and the results were negative.

20 animal bite investigations were completed to assure the prevention of rabies.

Monitored Flu in Lincoln County through lab reports and school absences.

Identified the need for flu clinics through coordination with local providers. Well attended flu clinics were sponsored by the Health Department in Sprague and Seven Bays to assure access in these areas.

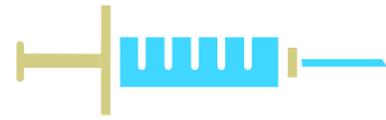
Organized a functioning mass vaccination clinic as part of a regional emergency preparedness exercise. 184 individuals received vaccinations in 3.5 hours with 42 community partner volunteers including Hospitals, EMS, Law Enforcement, County and private businesses.

Performed 17 HIV tests and provided risk reduction counseling to all tested.

Administered 60 TB tests with 2 identified as positive, but not active. Those identified received and completed 9 months of treatment.

Conducted case investigation and follow up to 8 reported cases of Chlamydia.

Updated the Health Department's emergency response plans to assure our preparedness to respond to local and regional events. This involved working with local partners such as the hospitals, EMS, law enforcement, etc. This effort is coordinated with regional partners to



653 total immunizations were given.

Completed site visits to 3 of 4 healthcare clinics receiving Vaccines for Children and assured that all were in compliance with standards of storage and administration of vaccine. Odessa Clinic was nominated by the Lincoln County Health Department and granted an award from the Department of Health for exemplary practices in vaccine management.

New vaccine introduced and funded through Vaccines for Children – Pediarix a vaccine containing Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio and Hep B.

Conducted 25 water tests for nitrates, 4 of these tests were nitrate tests for pregnant women and were funded through a preventive health block grant.

6 water fluoride tests, none were above the mcl levels.

Tested 1074 water samples for bacteria. 30 systems tested positive for coliform bacteria (this includes both private and public water systems). 2 systems tested positive for E-coli. Our water lab serves public and private water systems for Lincoln, Grant, Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties.

Performed tobacco compliance checks on 16 tobacco retailers with one sale of tobacco to a minor. Giving Lincoln County a 6.3% non-compliance rate compared to the state's non-compliance rate of 9.4%.

4: Quality and Efficient Operations

Participated in regional Pandemic Flu and Emergency Preparedness planning and response activities.

Have established program goals for WIC, Maternal/Child Health, First Steps, Tobacco Prevention, and Emergency Response as the first step in our efforts to become compliant with the Standards for Public Health.

Trained all staff on notifiable conditions, HIPAA/confidentiality, communicable disease and emergency response.

The Tobacco Prevention Coordinator participated as a member of the Washington State Tobacco Prevention and Control Program's Implementation and Advisory Committee.

Prepared for the third Public Health Standards assessment that will be conducted at the Health Department in April 2008.

Received a Quality Improvement grant from DOH to assess our notifiable conditions program and conduct a rapid cycle improvement methodology to improve our response time and disease investigation protocols.

Staff Training for appropriate personnel was provided on shipping and handling of bio-hazardous materials, immunizations, new vaccines, epidemiology of vaccine preventable diseases, professional updates in program areas for job improvement.

Participated in the Public Health Improvement Partnership for Washington State through the following workgroups and committees: performance standards revision, performance management, public health funding and public health information technology.

Partnered with ESD 101 School Nurse Corps and Prevention/Intervention Specialists.

Collaborated with Lincoln County Drug and Alcohol Center, local hospitals and clinics, Juvenile Court Services and Lincoln County Sheriff's Department.

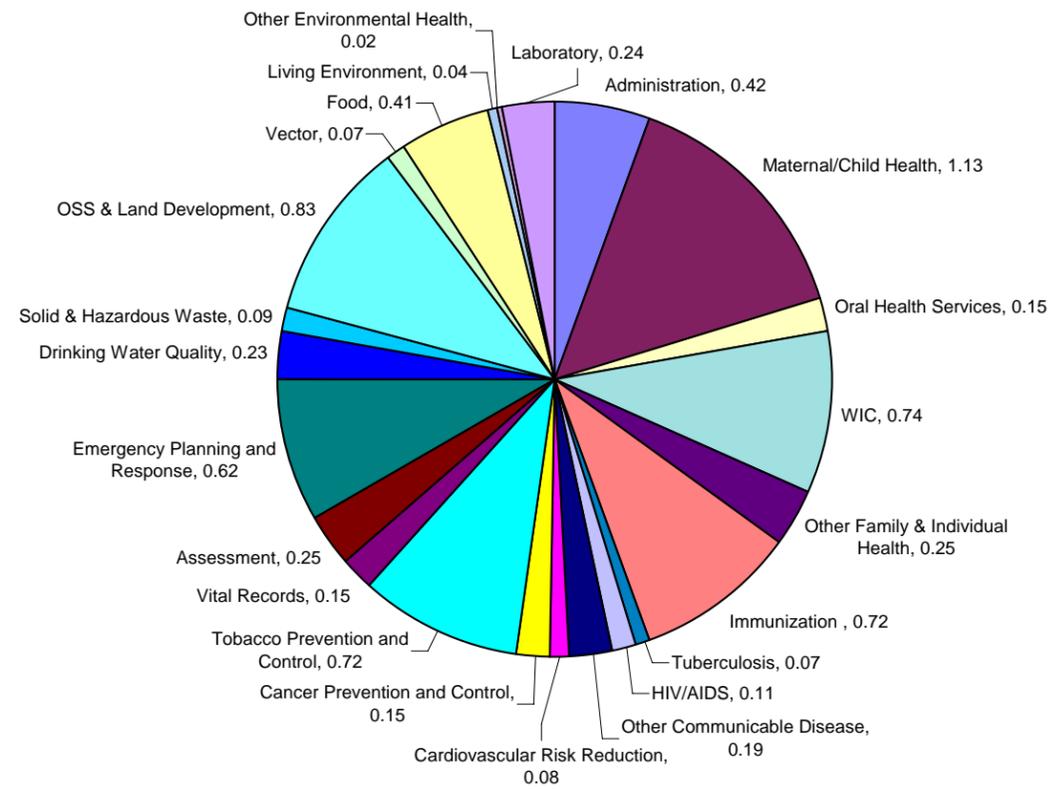
Participated in one regional and one statewide emergency response exercise (WASABE), including a mass vaccination clinic to practice our response to regional health events.

Our Mission

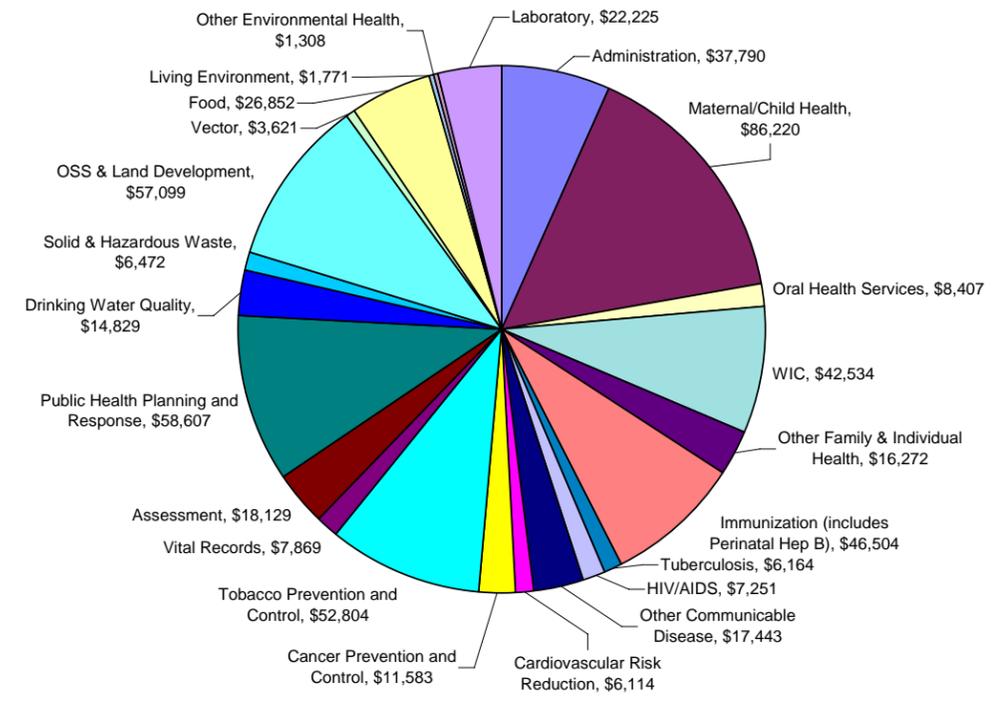
To promote and protect the health of Lincoln County by preventing disease and injury through assessment and program implementation in cooperation with our community partners



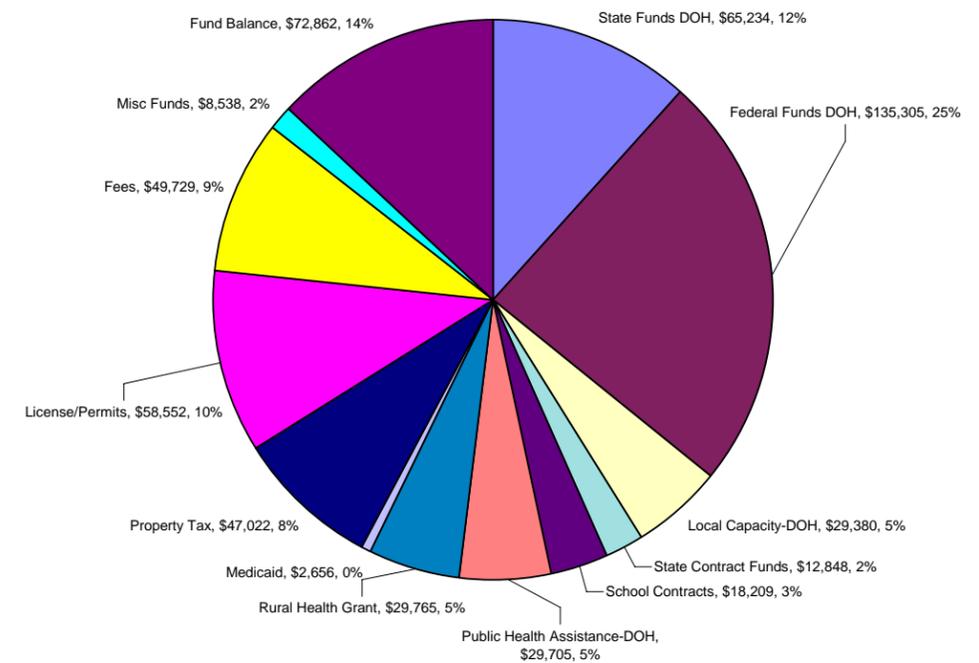
FTE Distribution



Program Expenses



2007 Revenues



Assuring the safety of food and water

55 Food Safety Classes were held and 334 food handler cards were issued.

101 permits issued for temporary food events and 63 events inspected.

70 Restaurant inspections completed.

Issued 103 on-site septic system installation permits.

5 sanitary surveys on public water systems were completed, assuring safe and potable water to consumers.