
Public Health and You

Tennessee Department of Health | Annual Report | 2015



Public Health and... *You* *Your Community* *Your State* The challenges and achievements of 2014

It was mid-September 2014 when he arrived in the United States, traveling from Liberia to visit family and friends in Texas. After a few days, symptoms of illness started to appear: Muscle pain, fever, weakness. An ambulance brought him to a Dallas hospital September 28. He died ten days later, becoming the first person in the U.S. to fall victim to an escalating Ebola Virus Disease epidemic.

with the disease, there was substantial knowledge about efforts required to protect population health.

The World Health Organization declared the West Africa outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease a Public Health Emergency of International Concern Aug. 8, 2014.

In Tennessee, the State Health Operations Center had been activated a month earlier, August 5, to provide a focal point for all Ebola Virus Disease response efforts in the state. That set in motion a succession of additional efforts to keep residents and



TDH Commissioner John Dreyzehner, MD, MPH and other TDH experts answer questions from media at an Ebola information session Oct. 7, 2014.

Fear and concern were the initial, natural reactions for many Americans. But those on the national and state public health fronts, accustomed to running toward an emergency situation, had already started preparations to simultaneously contain the deadly virus and to safely care for anyone who might become infected. While there was limited domestic familiarity



TDH Executive Team members and laboratory staff practice personal protective equipment use at the State Public Health Laboratory in Nashville in October 2014.

visitors safe. Tennessee Department of Health staff members coordinated patient care exercises and drills for first responders and medical providers; set up a toll-free information hotline to provide accurate information to the general public; monitored health conditions of those traveling from disease-ravaged countries; worked with other state and federal government officials and agencies to identify suitable care facilities; and maintained continuous communication with national and international subject matter experts.

Tennessee Department of Health mission: Protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee.

Much of this work occurred with little or no awareness by Tennessee residents or visitors. It is an example of how, every day, in every county, all residents and visitors are impacted by the often unseen work of the Tennessee Department of Health. With a mission to protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee, the department's 2,800 staff members begin each day committed to making a positive difference for individuals, their communities, our state and our nation. ■



State Epidemiologist Tim Jones, MD answers media questions about Ebola Virus Disease in the State Health Operations Center Oct. 7, 2014.

Public Health and You

Throughout the continuum of life

In 2014, 87,181 babies were born in Tennessee. Small droplets of blood were collected from the tiny heels of 86,574 of these newborns and the samples were sent to the State Public Health Laboratory in Nashville to screen for more than five dozen diseases and disorders. By the end of the year, results of the tests on 2,068 of these newborns indicated a possible health issue or problem, and ultimately 170 babies were identified with a disorder.

As part of continuing efforts to improve the efficiency and quality of this vital service, the newborn screening staff developed reports in 2014 that illustrate each hospital's performance related to screening completeness, unsatisfactory specimens, timeliness of specimen collection and transit time of specimens from collection to arrival in the State Public Health Laboratory. The early identification of health issues detected by newborn screening tests allows clinicians to quickly begin the appropriate therapy to help each child lead a normal life or to reduce the severity of the illness.



A nurse performs a heel stick to collect blood for newborn screening.

Tennessee newborn screening tests include cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia and critical congenital heart disease.

These important newborn screenings are not the first contact a person may have with the Tennessee Department of Health. Even before birth, TDH likely



The Montgomery County Health Department Obesity Primary Prevention Initiative Team hosts a "Health Expo" for community members and coworkers in Clarksville.

provided services to a newborn's mother and father to ensure their health and a healthy pregnancy, along with the licensing and regulation of healthcare professionals in the delivery room; the proper prescribing of medications before and immediately after birth; immunizations for community members to prevent communicable diseases; inspections to ensure safe food for mother; and hundreds of other TDH programs and services that make a difference in the length and quality of life.

In 2014, some 1.4 million people were served by county health departments in Tennessee.

Throughout every resident's lifespan, Tennessee's county health departments offer a range of services to safeguard and improve health including tests for diseases, family planning, immunizations, nutrition programs and a variety of screenings. Other TDH regional, laboratory and central office staff members provide less visible but equally important and diverse protections including air quality monitoring, rabies abatement, disaster preparedness, ensuring compliance by health and medical professionals with all state and federal health and medical statutes, work with homeland security and numerous other initiatives.

Even at the end of life, the department has a responsibility with post-mortem examinations and maintaining accurate details of all deaths. In 2014, the Office of Vital Records carefully stored information on the 64,559 deaths in Tennessee, which benefits families and individuals in many ways and aids research in helping others live longer, healthier lives. ■

The most visible work

Some 1.4 million people were served in 2014 by health departments in Tennessee's 89 rural/suburban counties and six metropolitan counties: Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Shelby and Sullivan. For many Tennesseans, the presence of these facilities, staffed with a variety of trained professionals, provides

an assurance that important health protection services are close to their homes or workplaces.

Preventing the spread of communicable diseases

Vaccinations are one of the most cost-effective public health approaches to reducing healthcare costs because they prevent disease before it occurs and spreads through our communities.

has long been a priority for all health departments, and the assurance of having safe and effective immunizations draws hundreds of people to each facility every year. From older residents who remember receiving their critical polio prevention vaccine in the



Rhea County Health Department Nurse Evelyn Manley, RN administers a flu vaccine to a student in Dayton.

1960s, to younger people who have visited for required school immunizations or flu vaccinations, a county or metro health department is the most recognizable evidence of public health at work in Tennessee.

In 2014, a total of 232,516 people received one or more vaccines at a metro or county health department in Tennessee. The total number of vaccines provided, either by injection or nasal spray, was 507,393. These included:

- 137,186 Influenza
- 38,828 Hepatitis A Vaccine
- 37,365 Varicella Vaccine
- 34,998 Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis
- 34,446 Diphtheria, Tetanus & Acellular Pertussis
- 34,243 Hepatitis B Vaccine
- 32,312 Polio Vaccine
- 28,888 Measles, Mumps, Rubella
- 24,537 Pneumococcal Vaccine
- 21,368 Haemophilus Influenza B
- 18,609 Human Papilloma Virus
- 15,853 Meningococcal Vaccine
- 9,198 Rotavirus Vaccine
- 2,977 Typhoid Vaccine

The Vaccines for Children program, established by Congress in 1993, helps families which may not otherwise have access to vaccines by providing free vaccines to doctors who serve them. More than 600 private physicians, health department clinics, federally qualified health centers and rural health centers in Tennessee participate in the VFC program. In calendar year 2014, the Tennessee VFC Program distributed 1,712,273 doses of VFC vaccine valued at \$77,842,450 to local health departments and well over 500 other clinics that provide primary care and immunizations to eligible children from birth through 18 years of age. Children are eligible for these vaccines if they are uninsured, are TennCare-eligible, are an American Indian or Alaska Native or (in designated



Monroe County Health Department Nurse Tennie Almond, RN administers FluMist® vaccine to a student at Brown Elementary in Sweetwater.

federally-qualified health centers and health departments) if they have private insurance that does not cover immunizations as a benefit.

The Tennessee Immunization Program also distributed 95,490 doses of federal vaccine valued at \$2,075,185 to local health departments in 2014 to be given to uninsured adults or to be used to prevent illness in people who are at risk of becoming sick after being exposed to a vaccine-preventable disease such as tetanus or hepatitis A or B.

The Tennessee WIC Program contributed \$56.6 million to the Tennessee economy in 2014 through vouchers redeemed at local retailers.



Wilson County Health Department Dentist Tara McDuffey, DDS treats a patient at the Lebanon dental clinic.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, commonly known as WIC, is another federal program administered in Tennessee by TDH. In 2014, Tennessee WIC provided nutrition education services and supplemental foods to 117,884 women, 92,596 infants and 147,937 children aged 1 to 5 years. The purchase of healthy food items by WIC participants contributed more than \$56.6 million to the Tennessee economy last year. TDH also helps provide nutrition assistance to senior citizens through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, which served a monthly average of 13,450 low-income senior adults in Davidson, Dyer and Shelby counties in 2014.

The TDH School-Based Dental Prevention Program provided services to more than 41,000 children in 2014.

A network of statewide public health dental clinics meets or exceeds existing standards in regard to quality, quantity, appropriateness, need and safety. These clinics provide comprehensive dental care for

children with TennCare, as well as those who may be uninsured. Three of our public health dental clinics offer comprehensive care for primary care patients of the health departments; all of our public health dental clinics offer emergency care for uninsured adults.

All health departments provide dental screenings and fluoride applications to improve oral health across the state. Through the TDH statewide School-Based Dental Prevention Program in fiscal year 2014, 59 hygienists provided 224,665 sealants to 41,213 disadvantaged children. This program meets children in their schools, Head Start programs, daycare centers, camps, health fairs and community centers. In many cases, this is the first time a child has seen a dental professional.

Work continued in 2014 on maintaining properly fluoridated community water systems in Tennessee. By the end of the year, 281 of the state's 467 systems were fluoridated, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention presented Water Fluoridation Quality Awards to 103 community water systems across the state. Tennessee supports U.S. Public Health Service



Rutherford County TENNderCARE Representative Artchalee Calvert shows children how to properly brush and floss at an event in Smyrna.

recommendations for 0.7 milligrams of fluoride per liter of water to achieve optimal concentration for preventing tooth decay. Currently, more than 5.1 million or 88.1 percent of Tennesseans receive fluoridated drinking water. The benefits of fluoridation to the general population of Tennessee include prevention of pain and suffering, fewer days missed from school and work for medical and dental treatment, economic opportunity fostered by more confident and healthy smiles, and a reduction in dental costs for individuals and insurance providers.



A new service launched by TDH in 2014 to serve families is the Tennessee Breastfeeding Hotline. This hotline is available around the clock, seven days a

week to provide breastfeeding information and support to nursing mothers and their partners and family members, as well as expectant mothers, health care providers and others. The hotline is staffed by International Board Certified Lactation Consultants and Certified Lactation Counselors, and operated in partnership with Le Bonheur Community Health and Wellness in Memphis. Babies who are breastfed reap multiple health benefits, including fewer respiratory, gastrointestinal and ear infections in addition to helping brain development and strengthening the emotional bond with their mothers. Breastfeeding provides health benefits to nursing mothers as well: Mothers who breastfeed are at reduced risk for cardiovascular disease, Type 2 diabetes, post-partum depression, breast and ovarian cancer and other debilitating conditions, and can save money, effort and time by breastfeeding. Employers also benefit from providing breastfeeding accommodations for employees; breastfed babies tend to be healthier, meaning nursing mothers and fathers of breastfed babies may be away from their jobs less to care for a sick child. The Tennessee Breastfeeding Hotline served an average of 400 callers per month in 2014. ■

Public Health and Your Community

Large metropolitan communities and small rural areas alike benefit from the services of Tennessee public health officials. Most of this work occurs quietly, almost invisibly, but contributes significantly to the well-being of residents and visitors in every county.

TDH environmentalists conducted more than 58,000 inspections of food service establishments in 2014.

A prime example: In 2014, TDH environmental health specialists performed 58,047 inspections of food service establishments. While the current food permit and inspection score results are posted prominently in every restaurant and facility serving food, the work behind the permitting and inspections to ensure safe and sanitary food handling and preparation is generally unseen by many. It involves a minimum of two inspections per year of each facility, along with training and enforcement of Tennessee's food service rules and regulations. Employee-level training for food service workers is provided free every month, coordinated through county health departments.

Environmental health specialists also inspect numerous other facilities in communities across the state. A summary of 2014 inspections includes:

- 28,284 inspections of public swimming pools. These inspections are performed at least once per month while the pool is in operation. Owners and/or operators of public pools receive free training on rules and regulations each spring.
- 3,545 inspections of hotels and motels. At least twice each year, hotels and motels are inspected to ensure healthy environments for guests, with current permits displayed and the latest inspection report available for public review upon request.

- 3,783 inspections of child care facilities. Inspections of each facility and its food service operation are conducted at least twice annually.
- 1,445 inspections of schools. Inspections of schools are made at least once per year in most counties.
- 1,940 inspections of tattoo establishments. Four inspections are performed each year of every tattoo establishment in the state.
- 1,268 inspections of campgrounds. Organized camps are inspected at least twice a year to ensure compliance with Tennessee's organized camps law.
- 257 inspections of body piercing studios. At least one inspection per year for each facility is conducted.
- 29 inspections of correctional facilities.

In communities across Tennessee, TDH staff members ensure health care facilities, health care professionals and emergency service providers meet all state and federal standards for the services each provides to the public. These staff members work closely with Tennessee's 36 Health Professional Boards,



TDH Environmental Health Program Manager Lori LeMaster, REHS conducts an inspection at a Nashville restaurant.



TDH Environmentalist John Roman conducts an environmental assessment survey as part of an outbreak investigation.

whose members are appointed by the governor to oversee licensing and regulatory processes in fields ranging from athletic trainers to X-ray operators.

The total number of health care professionals licensed by the boards as of December, 2014 was 268,479. This included:

- Acupuncturists 181
- Advance Practice Nurses10,836
- Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counselors 403
- Animal Chemical Capture Agencies1
- Athletic Trainers 923
- Audiologists383
- Certified Animal Chemical Capture Technicians2
- Certified Animal Control Agencies68
- Certified Animal Euthanasia Technicians275
- Certified Marital & Family Therapists8
- Certified Pain Management Clinics307
- Certified Professional Counselors27
- Chiropractic Physicians1,145
- Chiropractic Therapy Assistants463

- Chiropractic X-Ray Technologists110
- Clinical Perfusionists130
- Dental Assistants9,029
- Dental Hygienists4,557
- Dentists3,805
- Dietitians/Nutritionists1,631
- Dispensing Opticians864
- Electrologists37
- Genetic Counselors65
- Hearing Instrument Specialists132
- Laboratory Schools9
- Licensed Advance Practice Social Workers306
- Licensed Baccalaureate Social Workers ..760
- Licensed Certified Respiratory Therapists1,567
- Licensed Clinical Pastoral Therapists27
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers2,396
- Licensed Laboratory Personnel6,124
- Licensed Marital & Family Therapists ..454
- Licensed Master Social Workers2,496
- Licensed Practical Nurses30,083
- Licensed Professional Counselors1,701
- Licensed Registered Respiratory Therapists3,283
- Licensed Respiratory Care Assistants12
- Manufacturer/Wholesaler/Distributor Pharmacies1,935
- Massage Establishments1,634
- Massage Therapists4,289
- Medical Doctors21,530
- Medical Laboratory Facilities384
- Medical Service Representatives39
- Medical X-Ray Operators3,672
- Midwives45
- Nurse Training Programs105
- Nursing Home Administrators817
- Occupational Therapists2,407
- Occupational Therapy Assistants1,286
- Office Based Surgical Suites12



The Tennessee Board of Respiratory Care is one of 36 Health Professional Boards that oversee licensure and regulation of the state's health professionals.

- Special Training Osteopathic Physicians 21
- Speech Language Pathologists 2,395
- Speech Pathologist Assistants 110
- Veterinarians 2,187
- Veterinary Facilities/Clinics 889
- Veterinary Medical Technicians 586

TDH safeguards the health, safety and welfare of Tennesseans by ensuring licensed health care facilities and health care professionals meet standards to provide services in Tennessee.

- Optometrists 1,225
- Orthopedic Physician's Assistants 24
- Orthotists 154
- Osteopathic Physicians 1,205
- Osteopathic X-Ray Examiners 15
- Podiatrists 61
- Pharmacies 2,548
- Pharmacists 10,981
- Pharmacy Researchers 262
- Pharmacy Technicians 17,990
- Physical Therapist Assistants 3,340
- Physical Therapists 5,079
- Physician Assistants 1,714
- Podiatric X-Ray Operators 130
- Podiatrists 258
- Polysomnographers 551
- Prosthetists 146
- Psychological Assistants 39
- Psychological Examiners 460
- Psychologists 1,374
- Radiologist Assistants 16
- Reflexologists 197
- Registered Nurses 91,685
- Schools of Electrology 1
- Special Training Medical Doctors 71

In 2014, 2,419 complaints were opened against health care professionals, resulting in 1,238 disciplinary actions. These actions are posted on the Tennessee Department of Health website to provide transparency in the disciplinary oversight work conducted by health licensure boards and allow anyone to have accurate information about his or her health service providers.

In 2014, the TDH Office of Health Care Facilities licensed 14 different types of facilities, with 1,824 facilities having a total of 78,515 beds statewide. During the year, 201 new licensing applications were received with 81 approved and 89 in process at year end. Nineteen changes of ownership were approved and 73 facilities closed. The office conducted 5,204 surveys of health care facilities including annual surveys, complaint investigations and unusual incident and revisit surveys. The total number of surveys conducted during the year exceeds the previous year's total (4,674) by approximately 11 percent. Of the 1,473 complaints investigated for all health care facilities, 227 (15 percent) were substantiated. Complaints against nursing homes totaled 760, or 51.5 percent of the total complaints filed against health care facilities. These reflect a three percent decrease from 2013 and an overall decrease of 51 percent since 2010.



Office of Health Care Facilities Director Vincent Davis meets with team members in Nashville.

The total number of emergency service personnel working in Tennessee in 2014 was 20,164. There are 197 licensed Emergency Medical Services throughout the state, including 185 ground services and 12 air services. Tennessee also has 10 licensed invalid service providers. These services make use of a combined total of 1,503 ground ambulances, 70 aircraft and 26 invalid units. During the year there were 117 complaints filed with the Office of Emergency Medical Services, resulting in 16 disciplinary actions taken.

TDH posts information about disciplinary actions against health professionals and surveys of nursing homes online to aid consumers in making health care choices.

State Public Health Laboratory personnel continually work to maintain, safeguard and improve public health through analysis work that involves a broad array of testing. In fiscal year 2013-2014, lab staff members conducted approximately 1.5 million clinical microbiology and environmental chemistry tests. These tests included:

- 31 Samples tested for possible bioterrorism threat agents
- 123 West Nile virus tests
- 480 Tests of retail food samples
- 1,207 Rabies tests
- 1,385 Tests of private wells for bacterial contamination
- 3,279 Influenza polymerase chain reaction tests
- 5,962 Specimens tested for tuberculosis
- 16,944 Tests of public water system drinking water for bacterial contamination
- 82,105 Syphilis tests
- 93,451 HIV tests
- 182,341 Infectious disease serology tests

TDH laboratory staff members conducted 1.5 million tests in 2014, including West Nile virus, rabies, STDs and possible bioterrorism threats.

-
- 260,876 Chlamydia/Gonorrhea tests by Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests
 - 784,955 Newborn screening tests
 - 15,486 Tests for metals such as arsenic, lead or mercury in water and soil
 - 36,533 Tests for inorganics such as ammonia, nitrates or phosphorus from agricultural sources
 - 705 Aquatic biology tests of items such as fish samples for contaminants such as mercury and PCBs
 - 3,555 Radio chemistry tests of water, soil, milk, vegetation and other substances for radioactivity
 - 574 Organic chemistry tests, such as chloroform in well water ■



West Regional Office Emergency Preparedness Program and Henry County Health Department staff members participate in community assessment training with the Henry County Emergency Management Agency in March 2014.

Public Health and Your State

Here are the top four reasons why Tennessee should be one of the healthiest states in America:

1. A generally mild climate that permits year-round opportunities for outdoor activities
2. An abundance of locally produced, affordable healthy foods
3. A network of parks, trails and greenways for exercise
4. For most, proximity to healthcare providers

Here are the top four reasons why Tennessee is currently among the least healthy states in the nation:

1. Tobacco and nicotine addiction (one in four adults)
2. Too much caloric intake (two of three people)
3. Too little physical activity (one of three people)
4. Substance abuse (more than one of 20 people)

The most recent America's Health Rankings® report showed Tennessee 43rd overall in population health. Tennessee was also rated 47th in adult smoking, 48th in diabetes, 36th in infant mortality, 44th in cardiovascular death, 44th in cardiovascular deaths, 42nd in adult physical activity, 43rd in preventable hospitalizations and 47th in violent crime. The leading causes of death in 2014 for Tennesseans included: heart disease, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases, accidents and cerebrovascular disease.

It is the vision of the Tennessee Department of Health to accelerate Tennessee to one of the nation's ten healthiest states.



Bledsoe County Health Department Nursing Supervisor Melissa Britt, RN, talks with students about tobacco use at Bledsoe County High School.

Reducing Tobacco Use

Health and community leaders in all 95 counties of Tennessee in 2014 used funds from a legal settlement with tobacco companies to reduce tobacco use. With nearly one-quarter of Tennesseans aged 18 and older using tobacco, the settlement dollars are a valuable source of funding for community-based efforts to help Tennesseans improve their health.

To be eligible for tobacco settlement funds, the county-level work had to focus on one or more of three targets: eliminating smoking during pregnancy;



McNairy County Health Department staff members partner with McNairy Central High School basketball players and cheerleaders to "Slam Dunk Tobacco" at games in January 2014.



Governor Bill Haslam introduces the "Prescription for Success" plan June 3, 2014.

reducing infants' and children's exposure to secondhand smoke; and preventing child and adolescent tobacco use. There were 303 projects last year across Tennessee addressing one or more of these targets; 123 had school-aged children as the primary audience, 74 addressed smoking during pregnancy, 59 focused on problems with secondhand smoke and 41 were general messages about the health dangers of tobacco use.

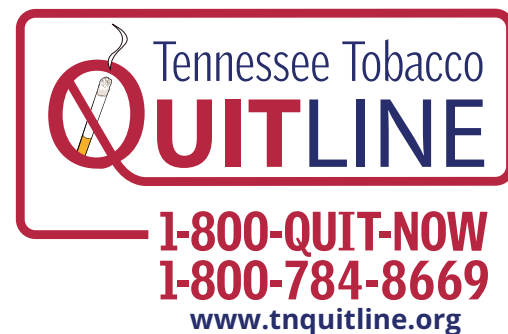
Funds were used for events and activities, billboards, signage, student recognitions, pamphlets and brochures, t-shirts, media ads, theater messaging, training, educational booths and other outreach efforts. The total costs for these 2014 grassroots projects across Tennessee amounted to \$5 million, with all dollars coming exclusively from the tobacco settlement.

Tennessee communities enacted more than 300 projects in 2014 designed to eliminate smoking and reduce exposure to secondhand smoke.

According to annual Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Surveys, Tennessee is recording gradual reductions in tobacco use among young people. In 2011, 29.9 percent of students in grades 9-12 used at least one form of tobacco. In 2013, that percentage decreased to 24.7 percent. Adults in Tennessee are not making the same progress. In 2013, 24.3 percent of adults self-reported as smokers, compared with 24.4 percent in 2001.

Nationally in 2013, 19 percent of American adults identified themselves as smokers.

Another key element in the Department of Health's efforts to reduce tobacco use is the Tennessee Tobacco QuitLine. TDH administers this tobacco cessation counseling program provided free to any Tennessee tobacco users. Tobacco users may participate in the program via telephone or through web-based counseling to receive information about quitting smoking and use of other tobacco products and referrals to local tobacco cessation programs. Participants are eligible for up to eight proactive counseling sessions with master's-level counselors and certified tobacco treatment specialists. There were 10,388 calls to the Tennessee Tobacco QuitLine in 2014, and a total of nearly 91,000 calls since its inception in 2006.



Combatting Prescription Drug Abuse

Helping reduce the personal and community burdens of addictions is not restricted to tobacco. In the summer of 2014, under Governor Bill Haslam's leadership, a group of state agencies came together to create a multi-faceted plan to combat the prescription drug abuse problem affecting people across the state. Named "Prescription For Success: Statewide Strategies to Prevent and Treat the Prescription Drug Abuse Epidemic in Tennessee," the plan has three major

components: 1.) a description of the extent of the prescription drug problem in Tennessee; 2.) information about current efforts to address the problem; and 3.) a plan for the future that includes specific, measurable goals that will allow us to determine if the lives of individuals and families in Tennessee have been improved as a result of these efforts.

Entities involved in the plan along with TDH are the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Tennessee Department of Children's Services, TennCare, U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration, Tennessee Department of Correction, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security.

Working to reduce the epidemic of prescription drug abuse is a top priority of TDH.

Since 2002, the Tennessee Department of Health has been involved in administering the Controlled

TENNESSEE CSMD

Welcome to Tennessee CSMD, Please login to Continue

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For registration questions, please contact the CSMD Administrator.
Email: CSMD.admin@tn.gov or
Phone: 615-253-1305.

Please use the hyperlinks above if you have forgotten your username or password.
If you have unresolved issues after trying the links above, please contact the CSMD Administrator.
Email: CSMD.admin@tn.gov or Phone: 615-253-1305

REMEMBER: The first time you login to the system go to MY ACCOUNT in the upper right corner to review and update all necessary information. Review the email address to ensure that it is a private and confidential email that only you can access. Click on the CHANGE PASSWORD and SECURITY QUESTIONS buttons on the left navigation bar and view/modify as needed.

The starting date of this database is 01/01/2010. If you need information from the Archive (Before 1/1/2010), contact CSMD.admin@tn.gov with details of your request.

When registering the information you provide must match the information as it appears on your Board License. If you experience issues logging into the system (EX: invalid Board License, invalidated DEA) please contact the CSMD Admin via email CSMD.Admin@tn.gov or phone 615-253-1305.

The Tennessee Department of Health is committed to protecting the security of the CSMD data and the information of its users.

Substance Monitoring Database, created by the state legislature as a way to collect data and inform prescribers and dispensers of controlled substance prescriptions their patients are receiving from other health care professionals. In 2012, the Tennessee General Assembly passed the Prescription Safety Act to increase the timeliness and accuracy of information reported to the CSMD. In 2014, TDH continued efforts to educate current prescribers and dispensers about the CSMD and prepare the health care providers of tomorrow by providing training to medical students.

The CSMD is changing the prescription drug abuse problem in Tennessee. Some key outcomes from 2014:

- Utilization of the CSMD increased, with growth of 11.7 percent in the number of registrants for a total of 38,871 registered users by year's end and a 12.6 percent increase in the number of patient reports requested.
- Morphine Milligram Equivalents of pain killers dispensed in Tennessee decreased 4.6 percent. This is the first decline in MME detected since tracking began.
- The number of "doctor shoppers" (patients who use five or more prescribers and five or

more pharmacies in a three-month period) decreased by 13.3 percent. 2014 was the third consecutive year doctor shopping has decreased.

- One third of clinicians report they are more likely to refer a patient for substance abuse treatment after checking the CSMD.

Another component in reducing prescription drug abuse is an early recognition and intervention effort known as Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment, or SBIRT. This program was piloted in the TDH Upper Cumberland Region beginning in March 2014. County health departments across this region screened a total of 2,775 clients last year.

Supporting the ongoing work to reduce prescription drug problems is a stronger effort to gather more information about people who have died from drug overdoses. Throughout 2014, the State Chief Medical Examiner worked to obtain accurate information from county medical examiners about drug overdose deaths in their areas. However, as recently as 2011, only 62 percent of those who died from overdose were autopsied, leaving a void in the critical information chain.

More than 2,700 people were screened as part of a drug abuse recognition and invention program piloted in the TDH Upper Cumberland Region in 2014.

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, or NAS, is an issue involving both prescription and illicit drugs. It occurs when a baby who has received certain drugs, primarily narcotics, through the umbilical cord is abruptly cut off from that supply at birth and then experiences a variety of withdrawal symptoms.

The Tennessee NAS Subcabinet was formed in 2012 by Governor Bill Haslam to encourage leaders from different areas of state government to work collaboratively to reduce NAS births. The subcabinet

includes commissioners and staff members from the Department of Health, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Department of Children's Services, Department of Human Services, Department of Safety and Homeland Security, TennCare and the Children's Cabinet.

In the majority of NAS cases, at least one of the contributing substances the mother was taking was prescribed to her by a health care provider.

TDH made NAS a reportable condition effective Jan. 1, 2013. In that year, 936 NAS cases were reported. In 2014, 1,018 newborns in Tennessee experienced NAS. The case rate in 2014, 12.7 cases per 1,000 live births, was slightly higher than the case rate of 11.7 per 1,000



A newborn is treated for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome at East Tennessee Children's Hospital in Knoxville

live births in 2013. In 2014, 69 percent of NAS mothers were taking at least one drug prescribed to them by a health care provider. Of those taking prescribed drugs, 80 percent were on replacement therapies.

The NAS Subcabinet has developed strategies to address NAS including: enhanced education for health care providers to encourage conversations with women of childbearing age about the potential dangers of using certain drugs during pregnancy; discussing family planning options and encouraging their use until a woman is not using certain drugs; specialized treatment services for mothers with opioid addiction whose babies have been born with NAS; and developing best practices for opioid detoxification of pregnant women.



Mid-Cumberland Regional Office employees with students participating in their PPI tutoring project at Warner Elementary School, Nashville.

Primary Prevention Initiative

One highlight of the TDH efforts to reduce NAS has been the success of our East Region's NAS Reduction Effort. The project was created in September 2013 to reduce the increasing incidence of NAS births in East Tennessee by utilizing a Primary Prevention Initiative. The committee began the first phase of their program by focusing on jail outreach to female inmates of childbearing age to educate them on NAS, NAS prevention and Voluntary Reversible Long Acting Contraceptives, or VRLACs. A goal of the project is to empower these women by giving them the opportunity to make decisions involving their reproductive health.

Sevier County saw a 92 percent drop in babies born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome just nine months after implementing a new NAS Reduction Effort focusing on incarcerated women.

The program was piloted by the Sevier and Cocke County Health Departments in January 2014. Committee members met with the counties' drug court judge and local jail staff to educate them on NAS and how they could collaborate to help reduce the problem. Working in partnership with these local officials, the committee conducted educational sessions in the jails and transported willing interested participants to the health departments for VRLAC placement. Nine months after the program's inception, Sevier County experienced a 92 percent reduction in NAS births. This successful program is now being implemented in all 15 counties in the TDH East Region, and now includes monthly education sessions for both men and women who are on probation as a requirement of their parole. The "NAS Reduction Starter Kit" developed by the committee has been shared and implemented in other regions in the state and has also been shared with neighboring states including Kentucky and West Virginia as a best practice.

All TDH employees have been challenged and empowered to develop and participate in Primary

Prevention Initiative, or PPI projects in their communities. These efforts have resulted in projects great and small, touching on an array of health issues affecting Tennessee's residents including tobacco use, obesity, unhealthy eating, adolescent health and wellbeing and many more. Along with the VRLAC project, another notable example of these efforts includes the Mid-Cumberland Region's Warner Reading Project. Employees in the Mid-Cumberland Region developed a tutoring project for students at Nashville's Warner Elementary School after learning the school did not reach benchmarks required for state testing. More than 30 participants met one-on-one with students in weekly sessions to work on reading plans. In the first year, each of the 22 students in the program demonstrated progress in their reading levels, and absenteeism has decreased among the group. These

PPI projects impact not only the community members served; many TDH volunteers and participants report they too have been impacted in meaningful ways by taking part in these activities.

Closing

From birth to the end of life, in numerous ways at each stage of life, every person in Tennessee is impacted by the ongoing work of the Tennessee Department of Health to protect, promote and improve their health. TDH is committed to continuous improvement in these efforts and strives to provide each and every service in an efficient, effective manner. Our vision is to establish the Tennessee Department of Health as a recognized and trusted leader, partnering and engaging to accelerate Tennessee to one of the nation's ten healthiest states. ■

Resources

Tennessee Department of Health Online

Website - tn.gov/health
Newsroom - <http://tn.gov/health/news>
Facebook - www.facebook.com/TNDeptofHealth
Twitter - <https://twitter.com/TNDeptofHealth>

Tennessee County Health Department Locations

<http://tn.gov/health/topic/localdepartments>

Tennessee State Health Plan

<http://tn.gov/health/article/state-health-plan>

Drive Your County to the Top Ten

http://tn.gov/assets/entities/health/attachments/2015_Drive_Your_County_to_the_Top_Ten.pdf

Controlled Substance Monitoring Database Report

http://tn.gov/assets/entities/health/attachments/CSMD_AnnualReport_2015.pdf

Prescription for Success: Statewide Strategies to Prevent and Treat the Prescription Drug Abuse Epidemic in Tennessee

www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/topic/prescription-for-success

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

<http://tn.gov/health/topic/nas>

Tennessee Immunization Requirements

<http://tn.gov/health/article/required-immunizations>

Tennessee Vaccines for Children Program

<http://tn.gov/health/article/vcf>

Tennessee Restaurant Inspection Scores

Online - <https://apps.health.tn.gov/EHInspections>
Mobile App - <http://tn.gov/main/article/cris-app>

Tennessee Health Care Professional Licensure Verification

<https://apps.health.tn.gov/Licensure/default.aspx>

Tennessee Health Professional Boards

Information - <http://tn.gov/health/section/health-professional-boards>
Board Meeting Schedule - <http://tn.gov/health/calendar>

Tennessee Health Care Facilities Directory

https://apps.health.tn.gov/Facilities_Listings/facilities.htm

Tennessee Nursing Home Survey Inspection Findings

<https://apps.health.tn.gov/FacilityInspections/>

Tennessee Tobacco QuitLine

Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)
Information - <http://tn.gov/health/topic/FHW-tobacco>
Enroll Online - www.tnquitline.com/

Tennessee Office of Vital Records

Information - <http://tn.gov/health/section/vital-records>
Order Certificates Online - www.vitalchek.com/

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

<http://tn.gov/health/topic/statistics-brfss>

Tennessee WIC Program

<http://tn.gov/health/topic/wic>

TDH Oral Health Services

<http://tn.gov/health/section/oralhealth>

Newborn Genetic Screening

<http://tn.gov/health/topic/MCH-nbs>

Tennessee Breastfeeding Hotline

Call 1-855-4BFMOMS (1-855-423-6667)
<http://tn.gov/health/article/breastfeeding-hotline>

Ebola Virus Disease

<http://tn.gov/health/topic/ebola>

America's Health Rankings

www.americashealthrankings.org/TN