

Director's Update to the Board of Health March, 2024

Protecting Health – Preventing the Spread of Infectious Disease

Winter maladies (and measles)

COVID-19, Flu, and RSV numbers continue to fall nationally and here in Davidson County.

We have not seen any cases of measles in Tennessee but about two dozen cases have been reported across the country since the beginning of the year.

PrEP Clinic Update

Based on data comparing January and February of 2023 to those same months this year, the PrEP clinic has increased the number of patients seen by 29.3 percent. Since the start of 2024 we have received 37 referrals. Of those, 28 have been added to our patient load. This is the current count as of March 11. We also have observed a 16.6 percent increase in the number of women who started on PrEP since October 2023. Every year, we set a goal for our clinic with the State Department of Health to increase our numbers of new patients. In 2023, our goal was to add 60 new patients to our clinic. We met and exceeded this goal by adding 63 patients in 2023.

One initiative we have been working on is getting more patients on Apretude, the long-acting injectable PrEP. Since October, we have successfully approved four patients, bringing the total to six. We have four applications awaiting approval. Additionally, we are establishing a partnership with VIIV to facilitate the approval process for both uninsured and insured patients.

We also have implemented rapid HIV testing at patient appointments, allowing us to initiate them on oral PrEP on the same day. The majority of our patients leave with a starter pack of Descovy. We have successfully collaborated with our partners at Gilead to ensure we have starter packs and printed medication information for our patients when they leave their first visit.

Due to the recent rise in syphilis cases among women, we are working on a marketing strategy to get more women on PrEP. We are still in the planning stages with the communications team, but we hope to add more female patients to our case load in 2024.

Creating Healthier Community Environments

Opioid Response

We have reviewed responses to the RFP for a pilot treatment program for opioid response and are in process on awarding the successful applicant(s). We will need to take these through Metro council for approval to spend opioid settlement monies.

Improving Health - Services to Individuals & Families

Readiness Fair

On Saturday, April 6, MPHD and MNPS will co-host the Kindergarten Readiness Fair at Lentz Public Health Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Employees from multiple areas throughout the department will be available to offer resources. Please see the flier in your packet for more information.

Some Clinic Numbers:

1) Colposcopy at Woodbine

2021 Total: 11

2022 Total: 38

2023 Total: 74

2024 (Jan&Feb): 13

2) Flu Shots

VFC (children <19): 1,045; Metro purchased child (private stock): 174

317 (adults aged 19-64; eligible uninsured adults): 998; Metro purchased adult (TNCare, Medicare): 189

Employee flu: 295

TOTAL: 2,701

Patient Surveys

Clinical Services collects and analyzes patient satisfaction surveys to assess how we are doing and what we could do better. Clinical Director Laura Varnier would like to share some of the feedback. The following comments were written by patients who were seen at every one of the PH/FP clinics and the SHC.

“Everything was fantastic! Thank you for providing great care for a minimal cost. This clinic should be advertised more.”

“Very EFFICIENT AND MINDFUL nurses! Great experience anytime I come, thank you.”

“I have been coming here for over a decade and the staff has always been kind and patient with me, which is something that I have always appreciated. I genuinely don't think there's anything needing improving on.”

“Ya están haciendo un excelente trabajo.” (“They are already doing an excellent job”).

Improving Access to Healthcare

Covid Vaccination Campaign

Over the winter months when respiratory infections commonly circulate, MPH D carried out a successful targeted media campaign to encourage COVID-19 vaccination. The campaign was focused on geo-targeted areas that are served by the COVID Disparities Grant, prioritizing those whose health needs are underserved. Videos and still images in English, Spanish and Arabic were created to inform audiences about the new, widely available COVID-19 booster. The campaign ran from November 10 through January 31, performing at or above baseline expectations in all placements. More than 884,000 total impressions were recorded across display, pre-roll ads for video clips, and connected TV placements.

Baby Shower

The Nashville Strong Babies program conducted another successful Community Baby Shower, an annual event where families can learn about services and resources available in the community. More than 200

families pre-registered for the event at the Cal Turner Family Center on the Meharry Medical College campus. Prizes were awarded and families were able to speak with medical students about their baby's health concerns. Immunizations were available for attendees. In addition to the Nashville Strong Babies program, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening, Family Planning and Ending the HIV Epidemic programs all participated.

The Nashville Strong Babies also will participate in What to Expect: The Parenting Conversation with Meharry Medical College, Scarritt-Bennett and the New Life Center on Saturday, March 23. Participating parents will be exposed to new and useful skills in preparation of parenthood.

Organizational Updates

An MPH D contingent visited another possible site for a Woodbine replacement clinic last week. It is near the building we had been negotiating to buy in the Antioch area but is nearly twice as large and Metro already owns it. We remain ever hopeful.

Kindergarten Readiness Fair

Countdown To Kindergarten!

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT • STUDENT IMMUNIZATIONS (ALL GRADE LEVELS) • SCHOOL BUS EXPERIENCE • STUDENT PHYSICALS
DOOR PRIZES • MNPS & COMMUNITY PARTNER INFORMATION BOOTHS • CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECK • INTERPRETERS AVAILABLE



Saturday, April 6
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Lentz Public Health Center

2500 Charlotte Ave. • Nashville, TN 37209

Start preparing your child for the first day of school with the MNPS Kindergarten Readiness Fair!

What to Bring to Enroll on Site:

- Birth Certificate or Record of Birth
(Certified copies of birth certificates available for purchase)
- Updated Tennessee Immunization Certificate or Immunization Record
(You can also receive a copy at the fair)
- Proof of Physical
- Proof of Davidson County residency
- Parent/Guardian photo ID

Student Immunizations Provided by Lentz Public Health Center:



If you plan to attend the fair and have three or more children who will be enrolling or receiving immunizations, please email the MNPS Early Learning Department for more information at EarlyLearningPreK@mnps.org.

Eligible children from birth through 18 years of age may receive free, federally-funded vaccine through the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC). Children from birth through 18 years of age must meet at least one of the following criteria are eligible to receive VFC vaccine: TennCare, Uninsured, American Indian or Alaska Native or Underinsured.

An administration fee of \$20 is charged for vaccines but will slide according to income. If you have private insurance, private stock vaccine is available. Money is collected at time of visit by cash, check, or credit card. Metro Health Department can bill CoverKids but we do not bill private insurance at this time. However, we will provide a patient services ledger if you wish to seek reimbursement. COVID vaccines will be available to individuals 6 months of age and older free of charge. If you have received previous COVID vaccines, please bring your vaccination card with you.

For Information on Immunizations visit: <https://www.nashville.gov/departments/health/clinical-health-services/immunizations>.

For more information visit:
earlylearning.mnps.org/fair





METRO NASHVILLE
ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

MACC Feb 2024 Stats

02/01/2024 and 02/29/2024

		Species							Totals	
		Canine			Canine Totals	Feline				Feline Totals
		Adult	Up to 5 Months	Unknown Age		Adult	Up to 5 Months	Unknown Age		
Beginning Animal Count as of 02/01/2024		161	14	0	175	26	31	1	58	233
I N T A K E S	Stray/At Large	260	30	2	292	46	11	1	58	350
	Transferred in from Municipal Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Transferred in from Other Rescue Group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Owner Requested Euthanasia	13	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	13
	Relinquished by Owner	15	6	1	22	3	0	0	3	25
	Other Intakes	22	2	0	24	2	0	0	2	26
	Total Intakes	310	38	3	351	51	11	1	63	414
O U T C O M E S	Adoptions	68	21	0	89	30	12	0	42	131
	Returned to Home	94	3	2	99	2	0	1	3	102
	Transferred to Rescue Group	70	7	0	77	13	8	1	22	99
	Other Live Outcomes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Return to Field	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Live Outcomes	232	31	2	265	45	20	2	67	332
	Died in Care	1	0	0	1	3	1	0	4	5
	Lost in Care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Euthanasia	45	0	1	46	5	1	0	6	52
	Owner Requested Euthanasia	13	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	13
Total Other Outcomes	59	0	1	60	8	2	0	10	70	
Total Outcomes	291	31	3	325	53	22	2	77	402	
Ending Animal Count as of 02/29/2024		183	18	0	201	28	16	0	44	245
Save Rate		84.51%	100.00%	66.67%	86.09%	84.31%	81.82%	100.00%	84.13%	85.79%