

## Director's Update to the Board of Health April 2025

### Protecting Health – Preventing the Spread of Infectious Disease

#### Measles

We were notified of a positive measles case within the state's Mid Cumberland Region (which includes us) on Friday, March 21. The next day we were notified of seven contacts identified within Davidson County. Since the exposure by that point was already more than 72 hours old, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) was not recommended. When outside of the PEP window, our team notifies the contacts of exposure, educates on the disease and assesses immunity. If the contact is found to be immune, there is no further follow-up unless they become symptomatic. If the contact's immunity cannot be verified, they are asked to quarantine and will receive daily checks to assess for symptoms for 21-28 days. TDH managed the daily check-ins.

When a case is identified within our county, appropriate personnel are notified immediately, and we begin contact tracing. Once contacts are identified, we will offer PEP if it is within the appropriate timeframe. If we identify a contact that requires testing, we will arrange to meet them at their home or another open-air location (such as a parking lot) to obtain the specimen. In preparation, we have conducted a measles tabletop exercise and have identified personnel to activate, as needed. All key personnel have been fitted for appropriate PPE and we have clear flow charts to assist in navigating next steps.

#### Strike Team Numbers

This chart shows clinic totals at the MNPS Portables where we offer both physicals and vaccines. In total these clinics we have given 2,753 vaccines, conducted 240 physicals, and seen 1,068 students. This is the group we refer to as our Strike Team, one of the units whose funding was eliminated (a cut that was then put on hold) but whether that grant gets restored or not we have moved this groups' funding to the School Health budget. The main difference due to that funding stream change will be that we can serve only MNPS students, who to date have comprised about 80 percent of the clientele.

Month	Vaccines Given	Physicals Given	Total Students
March 2024	158	0	74
April 2024	180	0	88
May 2024	90	0	37
June 2024	89	17	39
July 2024	654	76	249
August 2024	949	58	333
September 2024	130	25	49
October 2024	104	19	43
November 2024	90	12	33
December 2024	59	7	24
January 2024	93	15	43
February 2024	83	6	24
March 2024	74	5	32

## **STI Awareness**

April 14-18 is recognized as STI Awareness Week. To celebrate our staff are decorating our lobbies and offering walk-in appointments on Thursday, April 17 and Friday, April 18. We are looking forward to serving our community, raising awareness about STIs and how they impact our lives, and continuing to provide STI prevention education, testing, and treatment to any individuals who are interested.

## **Improve and Sustain Family and Child Well-Being**

### **Nurse's Week**

May 6-12 will be National Nurse's week at MPHD with the theme, "The Power of Nurses." The MPHD Nursing Leadership Team plans to celebrate nurses throughout the week with different events, providing tokens of appreciation, and illuminate local buildings to honor nurses. Plans will be shared as we get closer to the event week.

## **Create Healthier Community Environments**

### **Earth Day**

Nashville's Earth Day Celebration will be Saturday, April 19, from 11:00 to 5:00. Air Quality will be hosting MPHD's tent as they do every year.

## **Organizational Updates**

### **State of Metro – Council Budget hearing**

The Mayor's State of Metro address is scheduled for May 1 at 10 a.m. in the main library downtown. He also releases his proposed budget that day.

The Metro Council has scheduled its budget hearings in the ensuing weeks. Ours is on the first day of the hearings, Monday, May 12, at 5 p.m. in the Council chambers in the Courthouse.

## **EHR**

Our electronic health records system went live on Feb. 25. The vendor, Patagonia Health, went live with 115 users, including individuals from East Preventive Health, Lentz 120 Preventive Health, Woodbine Preventive Health, Sexual Health Center including DIS/EIS, Tuberculosis Elimination including Outreach, Pharmacy, Presumptive Eligibility, STRIKE, STD Outreach, EPI, and Women's Health Navigation.

Overall, implementation has been very successful, and staff have been excellent at anticipating needs and troubleshooting through initial issues. The EHR CORE team remains supportive of implementation needs, assisting individuals daily as issues arise. Next steps include initiating interfaces within the electronic health record including bidirectional TennIIS and lab interfaces including TDH state lab and AEL.

Finally, we look forward to onboarding additional locations/programs as additional funding becomes available, adding Behavioral Health, Occupational Health, and additional Population Health programs.

## **Grants cuts update**

As you know, three of our grants were summarily stopped in late March, a few days prior to your retreat. We have scrambled to adopt to those cuts which were anticipated, but not for another year or so. This week a federal judge issued a temporary restraining order on those cuts. We will see what comes of that.

## **Lentz Renovations**

Beginning on Monday all three Centennial rooms will be out of commission for renovations funded through the Public Health Infrastructure grant. The audio will be updated, and the video screens will go to single big screens instead of the four smaller ones abutting one another, and well as some other updates. Once that is finished the Board room will be closed for similar updates for a week or two, depending. The work is expected to take about two months all told.

## **MACC**

The animal control shelter has gotten an emergency generator. This is great news for the animals who will no longer have to soldier through cold winter nights or hot summer days with no heat or air conditioning, as well as for our stock of vaccine supplies and the people who have frequently had to go out there and unload them for a trip to Lentz until the power came back on, when they could be returned to the shelter.

And in more good animal news, our new veterinarian is scheduled to come on board in 11 days (but who's counting). We very much look forward to having Dr. Hope Hunter on staff. We continue our search for a section veterinarian.

## **New to Public Health**

During the last year six of our staff members \_ three from the Clinical Services Bureau and one each from Behavioral Health and Wellness; Immunizations; and Oral Health \_ completed the year-long New to Public Health residency program, sponsored through the PHIG grant. This program allowed individuals early in their public health careers to participate in monthly activities around public health competence and foundational capacities.

In addition, each of the staff designed and implemented (or is in the process of implementing) their own evidence-based practice project.

## **Music City Behavioral Health and Wellness Summit**

The summit will be April 14 (next Monday) with featured speakers Jelly Roll, a Nashville native and musician, and the keynote speaker, Dr. Karlton Moore, the former director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The summit will allow local leaders and stakeholders a chance to discuss topics such as fostering resilience, building safety and empowering wellness in our communities.

The summit will be a full day of information and messages around mental health, behavioral health and community violence. Dr. Moore's keynote will begin the day, followed by panel discussions with local and national behavioral health experts. A panel featuring youth leaders will precede a discussion with Jason DeFord, known professionally as Jelly Roll.

There is no cost to register. As of this morning we had 640 people registered.

## **Continuing Education**

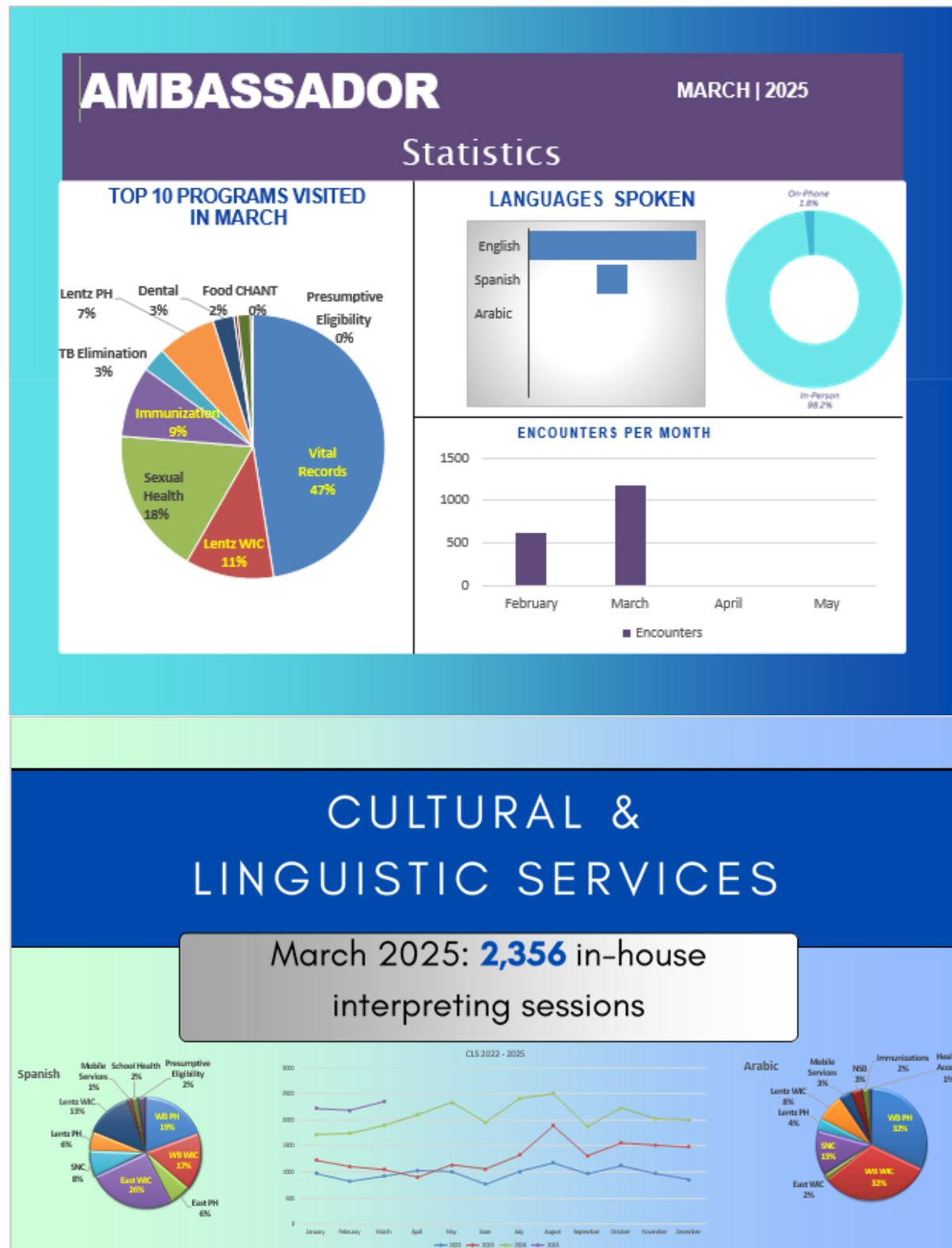
MPHD's accredited Continuing Education Learning Series inaugural session was April 2. The sessions will occur quarterly; the upcoming sessions will have virtual option. This too is funded by the Public Health Infrastructure grant through the University of Wisconsin Interprofessional Continuing Education Partnership (ICEP)

The inaugural session unfolded as follows:

Theme: Foundations of Public Health: Empowering Public Health Champions

- Focus: Overview of Public Health Competencies, Presenter: Sanmi Areola, PhD
- Focus: Historical Development of Public Health and Public Health Policy today, Presenter: Tatum Johnson, RN, BSN
- Focus: Epidemiology and Public Health Strategy through the Lens of Public Health Core Competencies, Presenter: Abraham Mukolo, PhD

## Linguistic Services



## CULTURAL & LINGUISTIC SERVICES

March 2025: **2,356** in-house interpreting sessions

#### Spanish

Program	Percentage
East WIC	26%
WB PH	19%
WB WIC	17%
Lentz WIC	13%
Lentz PH	6%
SNC	8%
East PH	6%
Mobile Services	2%
School Health	2%
Presumptive Eligibility	2%

CLS 2022 - 2025

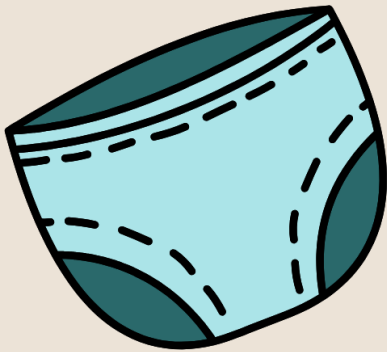
#### Arabic

Program	Percentage
WB PH	32%
WB WIC	32%
SNC	13%
Lentz WIC	8%
Lentz PH	4%
East WIC	2%
Mobile Services	3%
NSB	3%
Immunizations	2%
Health Access	1%

**IT'S PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK!**

MPHD'S PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK  
COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

# DIAPER DRIVE

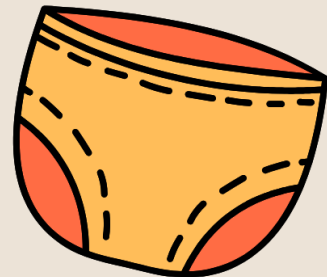


donations collected  
April 7-11

Help us serve our  
families!

Together we are collecting  
diapers to donate to  
families served by our  
health department  
programs!

- ANY SIZE DIAPERS ARE WELCOME
- PULL-UPS OR TRAINING PANTS TOO
- PLACE DONATIONS INTO YOUR AREA'S BIN
  - LENTZ WILL COLLECT IN CENTENNIAL ROOM C
- DONATIONS WILL BE PICKED UP MONDAY, APRIL 14
- ALL DIAPERS WILL BE REPACKAGED INTO BUNDLES OF 25 TO BE GIVEN AWAY TO CLIENTS IN NEED



If your group wants to repackage together or has other questions, reach out to Lauren Cromer  
([Lauren.cromer@nashville.gov](mailto:Lauren.cromer@nashville.gov))

# PHW SPIRIT WEEK! 2025

Come help us  
celebrate Public  
Health Week with  
some themed dress  
up days!

**APRIL 7** Your Health is Our  
Mission



Dress as your favorite  
SUPERHERO!

**APRIL 8** Climate Action Starts  
Here: Championing  
Resilience for Health.



Wear GREEN like our  
planet!

**APRIL 9** Health Equity Starts  
Here: Optimizing Health  
for ALL



Wear TIE DYE (Peace, Love, Health) or  
MIX AND MATCH (Be Inclusive and  
Embrace Differences)

**APRIL 10** Advocacy Starts Here:  
Amplifying Voices for  
Public Health



Let's Get Loud!! Wear NEON or  
bright colors!

**APRIL 11** The Future of Public  
Health Starts Here:  
Strengthening the  
Public



The Future is strong and  
bright! Wear workout gear  
or MPHD shirts.

Don't forget to refer to the Fit Friday Guidelines  
for what is appropriate attire for the [work place](#)  
(Ex. T shirts, Cardigans, loose fitted pants:  
joggers, sweatpants, yoga pants.) Apparel should  
not expose underwear, midriff, or buttocks during  
the entire expected range of motion required for  
the workplace environment.



**Best Dressed**

Best Dressed for the job: nice shirt, dress, pants, shoes, glasses, etc

**Most likely to bring the best snacks**

Snacks are my happy place: always has the best snacks

**HGTV Star**

The coworker that should star on HGTV: Best Decorations or Workstation

**Coffee Is Life**

Coffee is life: Always has a cup in hand or creamer in the fridge

**Big Stepper**

Big Stepper: Puts the health in Health Department: always working out, taking the stairs or walking the track

**Master Chef**

Master Chef: lunch always smells/looks amazing, gives best suggestions for lunch, feeds the floor with home cooked goodies

**MPHD Paparazzi**

Paparazzi: most likely to take or display photos

**Ace Ventura**

Most likely to talk about their pet at work: Their pet is their child and they are mentioned just as much

**MPHD SUNSHINE**

MPHD Sunshine: most likely to bring positivity to the workplace

**"The" MPHD**

"The" Health Department: has the most knowledge about the Health Department, knows random fun facts, or self proclaimed MPHD expert

# 2025

## PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK SUPERLATIVES

Vote for your superlative favorites on your team, within your bureau, and all over MPHD. This should be a fun way to see how we are all connected. Happy Voting

**Please make sure to vote by April 9th**

**Vote Here!**