

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2021**

### **CAMDEN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER HEALTH SERVICES  
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

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*Making It Better, Together.*



Dear Citizens:

I am very pleased to present the 2021 Annual Report for the Camden County Department of Health and Human Services. The Department is among the oldest County Health Agencies in South Jersey being established in 1968. Camden City and Cherry Hill Township were originally independent health departments that joined the County Health Department in our early history. That being accomplished all 37 municipalities are served by a single health agency.

This year am pleased to inform you that the Department became the first County Health Department to be accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board in New Jersey. This is a great achievement from the long and tedious work performed by the staff of the Health Department. Oftentimes, the role and services that the Health Department provides are overshadowed by more visible programs within County Government. But there is no other agency that touches everyone to the extent and in the ways that Public Health does.

If we look at the 20<sup>th</sup> century we see tremendous gains in health and longevity associated with sanitation and hygiene, development of antibiotics and vaccines, and fluoridated water supplies all of which have been contributed by public health.

Historically, Public Health prevention and programs have not been appropriately valued, since often we look at medical remedies as a way to create good health. Frequently we overlook the fact that often good health can be effectively achieved by personal behavior, a healthier environment, progressive health policy and availability of health care access for all people.

The challenges today in 2021 have not disappeared but evolved and changed over the decades. The challenges today include overall reduction of health care costs through education and personal behavior, structural changes that will create cost reductions and operational efficiency for our County Public Health Agency, and seeing the impact of public health played out with increases in years of healthy living by all our residents.

Program changes are focusing on collaboration with community resources to reduce chronic diseases, empowering individuals to have a healthy lifestyle, developing sound public health policy and continuing our success in controlling infectious diseases.

I encourage you to read through this report and please do not hesitate contacting us with your ideas and opinions.

Sincerely,

Carmen Rodriguez, Commissioner Liaison  
Department of Health and Human Services

# *Mission Statement*

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The Mission of Camden County Government is to improve the Quality of life for all Camden County residents by providing and assuring access to quality services and programs which are cost effective and responsive to local needs.

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# *Public Health*

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## **What is Public Health?**

Public Health views its patient as the entire Community and seeks to reach people before they become ill. The major distinction between public health and health care is that the public health focus is on preventing or delaying disease while health care treats disease. Public Health encompasses the entire community, small or large, and strives to create a healthier community that reduces health care cost and adds to years of active life.

## **Core Public Health Functions**

- Assess and monitor the health of communities and at-risk populations to identify health problems and priorities.
- Formulate public health policies with community and government leaders to address local and national public health programs and priorities.
- Provide all populations with access and appropriate cost effective care including health promotion, disease prevention and follow-up evaluation.

## **Why should we invest in Public Health?**

In 1999, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a list of the top 10 public health achievements of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These findings show that public health advances have been largely responsible for increasing life span of populations; over twenty five of the thirty years of increased longevity can be credited to public health initiatives. These public health initiatives include development of antibiotics, vaccines, clean water and a safer food supply. Medical advances account for less than 4 years of increased longevity for the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Since 1900 findings show the average life expectancy for Americans has increased by about 30 years. This has made a dramatic reduction in mortality for young children.

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## Public Health Accreditation The First County in the State of New Jersey

The purpose of the accreditation process is to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of the Camden County Department of Health. Camden County Health Department achieved accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The national accreditation status sends an important message to our partners and community that our organization meets national standards and provides services in a manner that all residents should come to expect from their health departments. The national standard seeks to advance the quality and performance of all health departments. Our participation in this program indicates our commitment to the continuous improvement of our health department's services. (U.S. Department of Health & Human Services)



### Quotes from two well-known and respected Public Health Leaders

*“Public health programs help keep disease rates down, which in turn keeps health care costs down. It’s going to be hard to get the economy healthy again if our workers and our health care system are both sick.”*--**Jeff Levi, PhD, Executive Director of TFAH, 2010.**

*“The financial crisis makes it more important than ever for the country to make prevention a top priority. Even in these troubled times, prevention is an investment we can count on to deliver a big payoff—sparing millions of people from developing preventable diseases while saving billions in health care costs.”*--**Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, MD, MBA President & CEO Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.**

# *Ten Essential Health Services*

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1. Monitor health status to identify community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people regarding health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce the laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and ensure healthcare when it is otherwise unavailable.
8. Ensure a competent local public health system and a competent personal healthcare workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Research innovative solutions to health problems.

# ***Programs and Services provided by Camden County Department of Health & Human Services***

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## ***Alcohol and Substance Abuse Unit***

- Prevention
- Education
- Adolescent/Adult
- Treatment
- Women

## ***Communicable Disease***

- Disease Field Investigations
- Epidemiology
- HIV/AIDS
- Rabies Control
- Reportable Diseases
- STD Program (Sexually Transmitted Diseases)
- TB Program (Tuberculosis)



## ***Public Health Nursing***

- Adult Health
- Child Lead Case Management
- Infant and Preschool
- Influenza Immunizations
- Maternal Child Health
- Preventive Screenings
- Special Child Health Case Management



## ***Health Education Promotion & Disease Prevention***

- Community Health Needs
- Health Education/Risk Communication
- Mobile Health Van/Health Connection-Health Screenings, Counseling, and Education
- Public Health & Community Planning
- Smoking Cessation/Cancer Prevention
- Annual Women's Health Conference
- Mobilizing Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP)
- Matter of Balance
- Chronic Disease Self-Management Program
- New Jersey Poison Information Education System

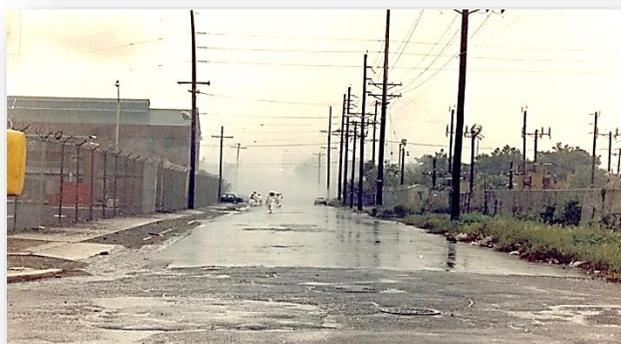
# *Environmental Health Services*

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- Retail Food
- Recreational Bathing
- Body Art
- Tanning Salons
- Public Health Nuisance
- Multiple Dwelling Units
- Pet Shops & Kennels
- Right-To-Know
- Residential UST
- Noise
- Solid Waste Facilities
- Hazardous Materials Complaints
- Hazmat Emergency Response
- Integrated Pest Management
- Pesticide Enforcement
- Swimming Pool Discharge
- Vapor Recovery
- Idling
- Air Quality
- Private Wells
- Individual Sewage
- Public Health Emergency



*Stabilizing leaking containers in a box truck.*



*Response to a Plastic Chemical Fire in Camden County*

## *Office of Mental Health & Addiction*

Office of Mental Health & Addiction	2021	TOTAL
Service / Activity	# OF RESIDENTS SERVED	
Calls to the unit - information / referral		2878
<b>ALCOHOL &amp; SUBSTANCE ABUSE</b>		
Addiction Warmline (24-hour, 7 day-a-week)		351
Prevention/Education Services		1440
Patient Family Education		17
Treatment Enhancements		270
Outpatient (including Methadone)**		223
Intensive Outpatient Treatment**		35
Halfway House		10
Outpatient Counseling Adults		0
Sub-Acute Detox		46
Residential Rehab		40
Transportation		223
Recovery Supports		517
Sober Living		534
Certified Peers in Sober Living		118
Certified Peers in Homeless Shelters		176
Emergency Shelter Placement		24
Substance Abuse Vocational Education		8
Recovery Mentor Services		408
Narcan Kits		227
<b>Municipal Alliance Programs</b> Scheduled/Provided**		8050
<b>IDRC- 12</b>		956
<b>IDRC- 48</b>		141
<b>Total Served by County/Grant Funding - Substance Abuse</b>		<b>13814</b>
<b>Addiction Awareness Task Force Funded Programs</b>		
OPERATION SAL - admission line		<b>103</b>
Project SAVE Referrals (as of Nov 2021)		<b>2420</b>
Project SAVE Enrolled (as of Nov 2021)		<b>533</b>
Post Overdose Grief Support HALO		<b>64</b>
<b>Events held by the County</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>REMEMBRANCE AND HOPE MEMORIAL</b>		<b>1000</b>
<b>Outreach events attended by the county ...</b>		<b>250</b>
<b>REAL SPORTS**</b>		<b>203</b>

<b>SOBER SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT</b>		<b>200</b>
<b>Total Residents Served</b>		<b>4779</b>
<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>		
Oaks Wrap Around Services Program:		267
MHASWNJ Boarding Home Residents Socialization Program:		1558
Oaks Mentally Ill Shelter Services Program:		89
*OF THESE # referred into treatment		74
Oaks Payee and Financial Planning Services Program:		69
<b>Suicide Prevention Walk</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Total Served by County Funding – Mental Health</b>		<b>2057</b>
<b>Total # of Residents Served by Office of Mental Health &amp; Addiction/AATF Funded programs/Activities</b>		<b>23528</b>

## SERVICE SNAPSHOT

### Mental Health, Alcohol and Substance Abuse

- Information and Referral
- Community Substance Abuse Planning
- Education/Prevention
  - Evidenced based education/prevention
  - Student Assistance Counselor services

### Early Intervention

- In-jail assessments and referral
- Second Chance didactic substance abuse intervention/education

### Treatment and Recovery Supports

- Withdrawal Management
- Short-term Residential
- Intensive Outpatient
- Outpatient
- Opiate Maintenance
- Recovery Specialists
- Recovery Mentors
- Vocational Support
- Sober Living
- Patient / family substance abuse education
- Boarding Home Socialization
- Wrap-around Services
- Emergency Shelter Placement
- Payee Services
- Intoxicated Driver Resources (12-hour, 48-hour)



## Information and Referral

The unit provides information and referral to those seeking anything related to mental health and/or substance abuse. Regardless of ability to pay, we provide information related to available services. Because of the merger between mental health and substance abuse, the unit continues to see an increase in the number of callers seeking mental health services. We also pay for the 24-hour addiction information warmline provided by Center for Family Services.

At the start of the year, we were in the middle of Covid19 Pandemic. We were waiting for vaccinations to begin. Every agency subcontracted to provide substance abuse and mental health services was impacted by COVID-19. The effects began in 2020. As a result, we saw exponentially fewer expenditures charged to the county. All face-to-face services were affected. One on one counseling and group sessions decreased. Education and prevention screeched to a halt. Subcontracted peers whether attempting to respond to overdoses in emergency rooms or in other venues were unable to fulfill their obligations. The Emergency Rooms would not let them in. They attempted to accommodate clients using tele-visuals but these are not as effective for crisis circumstances.



## Substance Abuse Services/Community Substance Abuse Planning

We received a grant from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) which covered the cost of 2 Certified Peer Recovery Specialists (CPRS) in 2 of Camden County's shelters. We also were extended 2 grants for an additional year. Our Overdose Fatality Review Team (OFRT) and Innovation Grant were extended. In the case of the OFRT, we

were able to review decedent 40 cases in 2021. This grant comes from the NJ Department of Health. The Innovation Grant is awarded by the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The proposal was modified to include Suboxone post discharge for all eligible county residents.

## Education/Prevention

The county is required to pay for evidenced based education and prevention programming. Programs generally derive from the National Registry of Evidenced Based Prevention programs. We had a number of presentations, particularly from Dr. Ann Murphy from the Rutgers Northeast & Caribbean Technology Transfer Center. She spoke on mental health & addiction post covid19. We presented a suicide prevention movie as well. We spoke to law enforcement about First Responder Suicides at the invitation of NJ Senator Jim Beach. We had to stop distributing fentanyl test strips secondary to the fact they were considered paraphernalia. We have continued to work with Camden County Metro and the Camden County Prosecutor's Office to have outreach events and ensure we are out in the public doing what we can to reduce overdoses.



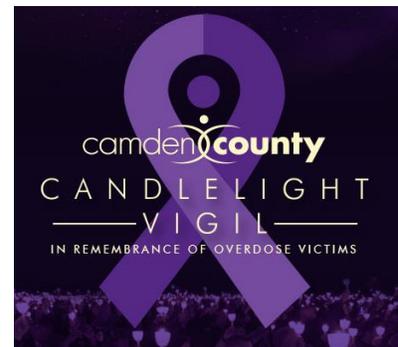
### **Treatment and Recovery Supports**

Overdoses and naloxone administrations in the county initially decreased. However, because of fentanyl, we realized a significant increase in the number of overdose related fatalities. That is not expected to change any time soon, however, there is more awareness that fentanyl is an ugly problem. We have a stronger relationship with Crisis and are working to build upon that. Considering the devastating impact covid19 had on our society, suicides did not increase in the county.

The area where we saw the most significant growth was in sober living environments. We created a program to be able to keep clients in the sober living environments longer. This assisted in reducing relapses. It also provided clients with stronger senses of security.

**Via the Addiction Awareness Task Force (AATF), Programs advanced by the AATF included:**

- Project SAVE**
- R.E.A.L. Sports**
- Annual Candlelight Vigil**
- Operation SAL**
- Certified Peer Recovery Specialists Program**
- Annual Recovery Softball Tournament**
- Fentanyl Test Strips, and other programs throughout the year.**



Some of our staff were heavily involved in the operation of our vaccination clinics. But for a few moments, this staff was in the office, fully engaged and actively ensuring we were getting quality programs out to the County Residents. In spite of COVID-19, between our efforts and those of our sub-contractors, we were able to provide approximately 23,528 unit of service to the public.

### **Mental Health Services Boarding Home Socialization**

The county secures services to enhance the therapeutic milieu experience for residents of boarding homes. These services include socialization, outside activities and assist the residents with mental illness who live in boarding homes to engage and participate in normal everyday activities.

### **Wrap-around Services**

For persons with serious and persistent mental illness the county pays for a comprehensive list of wrap-around services which may include anything from the purchase of a bed to a security deposit for an apartment.

### **Emergency Shelter Placement**

The county provides emergency funding for up to a week of shelter placement for folks who are homeless with serious and persistent mental illness.

### **Payee Services**

The county also offers ‘payee’ services to protect persons with serious and persistent mental illness.

### **Childhood Lead Poisoning Program**

Lead Case Management Services	1690
Lead Inspections	23
Lead Screenings	0

### **Immunization Program**

Child Immunizations	782
Adult Immunizations	965
Influenza Program/County Flu Shots	1481

### **South Jersey Regional Chest Clinic (Tuberculosis Program)**

TB Clinic Visits	381
New Cases	12
Direct Observation Therapy	1433

# ***Community Health Services Division***

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## **Community Health**

- Camden County Health Connection
- Mobilizing Action through Planning
- South Jersey Community Health Needs Assessment Collaborative
- Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Programs

## **Southern Region Specialty Chest Clinic**

- Special Child Health Program

## **Division of Environmental and Consumer Health Services**

- Emergency Response for Hazardous Materials
- Food Surveillance
- Multiple Dwelling Housing Inspections

## **Office of County Health Officer**

- County Bioterrorism Response Program



Camden County Health Officer, Dr. Paschal Nwako, and Community Health Services Division Director, Caryelle Lasher, speak about the importance of getting COVID-19 boosters.



Camden County officials, hospital and academic institution partners address the public at the COVID-19 health hub opening.

## **Health Education Unit**

### ***Camden County Health Connection***

The Camden County Health Connection promotes community wellness on site at county workplaces, health fairs, senior centers, public housing complexes, homeless shelters, nutrition sites, shopping centers and community organizations. The Camden County Health Connection is a mobile unit, which enables our Health and Human Services Department to extend the reach and availability of our health screening and disease risk assessment services provided at our health centers. The Camden County Health Connection houses an experienced staff of a registered nurse and health educators to provide a wide range of health-education and lifestyle-management programs that empower children and adults to take control of their health and improve their well-being. The mobile unit enables the Health Department to increase access to health promotion,

disease prevention and early detection programs for cancer, heart disease, diabetes and stroke in Camden City and southern Camden County. These services include the following:

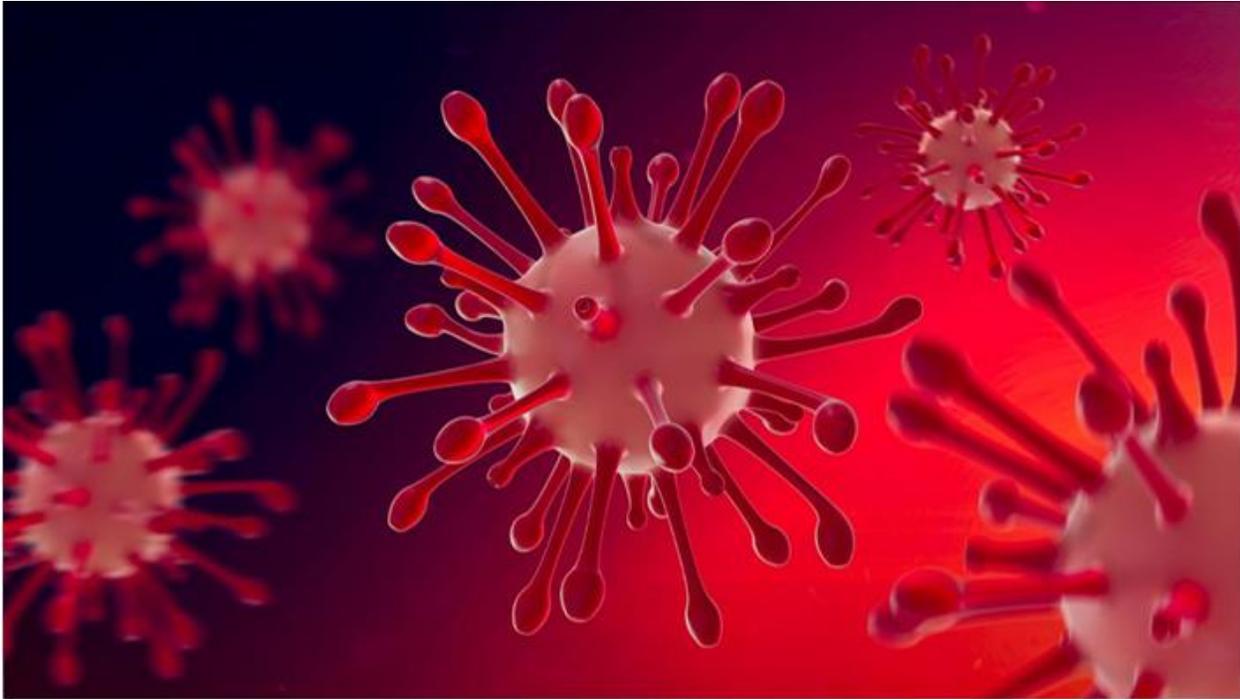
- Blood sugar screenings
- Blood pressure screenings
- Cholesterol screenings
- Osteoporosis screenings
- Chronic Disease Management Training programs
- Stroke Risk Assessment Screenings
- Referrals for community health care services
- Health education, support and counseling
- Follow-up health care services

Support groups such as the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, tobacco treatment and counseling, health seminars and skills-building workshops are also conducted upon request.

These services do not replace regular visits to a primary care physician, but rather emphasize the importance of annual check-ups and help arrange care for people who need them. The overall goal of the Camden County Health Connection is to link this region to needed health services such as health insurance, health care, social services and community health resources. The Camden County Health Connection serves as a health education resource center composed of videos, books, brochures and web-based action-oriented tools to assist residents of all ages in the importance of preventive care.



*The “Camden County Health Connection” Mobile Health Unit*



Partnering across the state to identify creative ways to reach hard to reach, high risk populations, the Camden County Health Connection served as a vaccination site on wheels in the pandemic. The health education unit along with other departments assisted with coordinated drive-through food distributions while life-saving COVID-19 information was distributed.

Camden County employed the help of consultants to target Camden City residents with COVID-19 prevention information and resources. A COVID-19 dashboard of current pandemic statistics specific for Camden municipalities was developed for the Camden County website. The goal of the targeted dashboard of COVID-19 cases was to encourage Camden County residents to get the vaccine. A COVID-19 vaccination community survey was also developed and distributed among Camden City and County residents to inquire about attitudes and beliefs about vaccination. This coordinated effort and other projects reached vulnerable populations at high-risk for COVID-19. Throughout the pandemic, Camden County continued to collaborate with partners and networks to reach populations in need.

Camden County established procedures to communicate key messages and coordinate vaccination logistics for community partners by joining forces with community workforce and professional organizations to develop effective communication channels to rapidly disseminate information ensuring the public would have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Camden County relied on its risk communication and vaccine planning team to get information and messages out to the public.

Camden County partners include but are not limited to:

- Community Health Centers
- Division of Medicaid
- Critical access hospitals
- Pharmacies

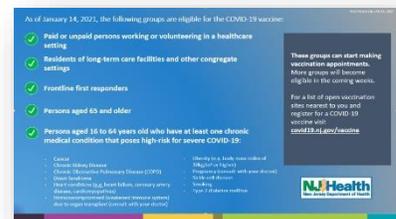
- First responder organizations
- Critical workforce organizations
- Non-traditional providers
- Homeless organizations
- Faith-based/Religious organizations
- Providers of in-home care
- Institutions of Higher Learning
- Schools
- Daycares

### **Risk Communication Activities**

Communicate early about the safety of vaccines in general and have easily accessible, government information to address myths, questions, and concerns.

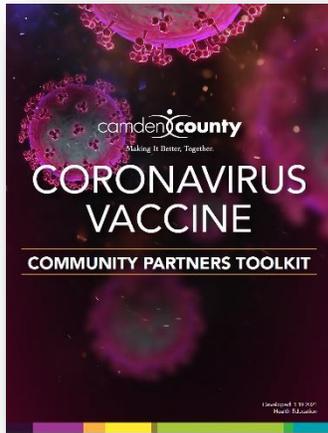
- Keep the public, public health partners, and healthcare providers well informed about COVID-19 vaccine(s) development, recommendations, and public health’s efforts.
- Engage and use a wide range of partners, collaborations, and communication and news media channels to achieve communication goals, understanding that channel preferences and credible sources vary among audiences and people at higher risk for severe illness and critical populations, and channels vary in their capacity to achieve different communication objectives.
- Communicate proactively whenever possible, anticipating issues and forecasting possible problems before they reach broad awareness.
- Ensure that communications meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Plain Language Act, and other applicable disability rights laws for accessibility.
- Use information and education campaigns to extend reach and increase visibility of vaccine recommendations and resources.
- Work closely with partner agencies, representatives of local communities with critical populations, and intermediaries to achieve consensus on actions, consistency in messages, and coordinated communication activities.
- Communicate transparently about COVID-19 vaccine risks and recommendations, immunization recommendations, public health recommendations, and prevention measures.
- Daily Just In Time trainings (JIT) at Camden County Vaccination Center.

Camden County risk communication messages and public information is tailored for specific communities and developed with consideration for health equity. Information presented in culturally responsive language and available in languages that



represent the communities in Camden County is important to address inclusivity, with respect, using non-stigmatizing, bias-free language.

## Slowing the Spread of COVID-19



With COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations, and loss continued to increase, having prevention information and education that would tackle vaccine hesitancy readily available for our community and faith leaders, was a priority for the health education unit. As a result, the health education unit developed a digital toolkit packed with life-saving information along with encouraging and uplifting talking points to be used to help slow the spread of the coronavirus.

## **Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership: Approach to Public Health in Camden County (MAPP)**

Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) is a community health assessment process developed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials and federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). MAPP is intended to help local public health system entities work collaboratively to assess and improve community health and quality of life. The local public health system includes academic institutions, community nonprofit organizations, foundations, health care institutions and providers, libraries, religious and fraternal organizations, schools, social service agencies and other entities that provide public health services and share information about health issues with community residents.

Camden County Health Department collaborated with hospitals, health systems and health departments within Gloucester, Camden and Burlington counties, to: 1) identify, analyze and address health problems; 2) assess applicable data; 3) develop measurable health objectives and indicators; 4) inventory community health assets and resources; and 5) develop and implement coordinated strategies to improve health. This effort was entitled the Tri-County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Collaborative. The CHNA is conducted every three years.

Through collaborative efforts, the community health needs assessment built on prior work of the Camden County MAPP Coalition, local health systems, hospitals, Senior Services Division, Environmental Health and Community Health Services Divisions, and community, emergency and public health preparedness partners. The assessment was also conducted to comply with requirements set for the in the Affordable Care Act, as well as to further the health department's commitment to community health population health management. The CHNA collaborative was built on existing community relationships and developed strategic partners and increased its collaborative approach to community health improvement. In the 2019 CHNA, findings from this

community health needs assessment was utilized by the South Jersey Health Collaborative to prioritize public health issues and develop a community health implementation plan focused on meeting the identified community needs. See the current CHNA here: [2019-2021 Community Health Needs Assessment](#)

## Health Education and Promotion Programs

### *Take Control of Your Health: Chronic Disease Self-Management Program*

The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP), developed at Stanford University, is an effective self-management education program for people with chronic health problems or people who take care of others with chronic health problems. In Camden County, the CDSMP is known as *Take Control of Your Health*. New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) provide statewide guidance and oversight for CDSMP. In collaboration with community partners, the Health Department presents a series of workshops, which are given once a week for six weeks, in community settings such as senior centers and housing sites throughout the County. This program, is facilitated by two trained leaders, one or both of whom have chronic diseases themselves. These sessions enables people with chronic illnesses to learn ways to self-manage their condition and take charge of their life.

Topics covered include: 1) techniques to deal with problems such as frustration, fatigue, pain and isolation, 2) appropriate exercise for maintaining and improving strength, flexibility, and endurance, 3) appropriate use of medications, 4) communicating effectively with family, friends, and health professionals, 5) designing and maintaining a healthy eating and exercise plan and 6) learning how to evaluate new treatments. In addition, program participants learn decision-making, action planning, and problem-solving skills. Each participant in the workshop also receives a copy of the companion book, *Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions*, and an audio relaxation tape, *Time for Healing*.

### **A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls**

Many older adults experience a fear of falling. People who develop this fear often limit their activities, which can result in physical weakness, making the risk of falling even greater. A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls is a program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults.

A Matter of Balance includes eight two-hour sessions for a small group led by a trained facilitator. This nationally recognized program was developed at Boston University.

During the class, participants learn to:

- View falls as controllable
- Set goals for increasing activity
- Make changes to reduce fall risk at home
- Exercise to increase strength and balance

A Matter of Balance is a program that emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls.



Classes are held 2 times a week for 4 weeks for 2 hours each or 1 time per week for 8 weeks. This program is based on Fear of Falling: A Matter of Balance. Used and adapted by permission of Boston University, **A Matter of Balance has been modified to be facilitated virtually during the pandemic.**

#### **Other initiatives include:**

**New Jersey Poison Information and Education Program** helps participants identify poisonous substance found in the home as well as help reduce the number of unintentional poisons that occur in the home.

**Move Today**, an exercise program for older adults to improve balance, posture, muscle strength and flexibility.

#### **QPR Question, Persuade, Refer**

Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training which teach professionals and non-professionals alike, using the simple technique of “Question Persuade and Refer”, to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis, and how to get the person at risk the assistance they need.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major effect on the lives of Camden County residents, facing challenges that can be stressful, overwhelming for both adults and children. Well documented in the CDC, there has been an increase in anxiety and depression since COVID 19, especially among those who have recovered from COVID.

In response to these Public Health concerns, twenty-five Health Department employees in 2020 were trained virtually in QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer), a simple skill set on recognizing depression and thoughts of suicide, asking if the person is in distress and helping them connect to needed services while conducting inspections and participating in other public events. This training was led by Health Education staff who are certified as QPR Gatekeeper trainers.

In 2021, Health Education staff held two QPR presentations virtually. Camden County Youth Development, Inc., recognizing the importance of suicide training during COVID, attended the training virtually in April. Sponsored by the Camden County Board of Commissioners, (formally Freeholders) and in response to the added pressures experienced by or first responders because of COVID, the Health Education Staff also trained 20 first responders and law enforcement in QPR.

#### **Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)**

This training provides a comprehensive, integrated, public health approach to the delivery of early intervention and treatment services for persons with substance use disorders, as well as those who are at risk of developing these disorders.

## Food Trust Partnership Camden County Department of Health and Human Services

The goal of The Food Trust's Healthy Corner Store Initiative is to expand the sale and marketing of affordable, nutritious food in corner stores in lower-income communities, which often have the lowest access to healthy foods and the highest rates of diet-related disease. The Food Trust and the Camden County Health Education Unit brings valuable health education services and health screenings to Camden City residents. Although services were halted during height of the pandemic, we were finally able to provide health screenings during the latter part of 2021.



### October – December 2021

#### **Total number of health corner stores visited: 5**

- Riverfront Supermarket, 130 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive Blvd, Camden NJ
- Camden Food Market, 700 Pine Street, Camden NJ
- Greattown Deli, 1200 Morton Street, Camden NJ
- Litwins Supermarket, 801 Elm St, Camden NJ
- Juniors Supermarket, 2926 Federal Street, Camden NJ

#### **Total number of screening programs:**

- Riverfront Supermarket: 45
- Camden Food Market: 24
- Greattown: 30
- Litwins: 48
- Juniors: 33

#### **Total number of individual participants reached: 180**

#### **Gender:**

- Female 99
- Male 80

#### **Age: Range = 18 -69 years of age**

- Black- 63
- White - 10
- Hispanic - 94
- Other - 8
- Blank - 5

**Lack health insurance** - 40

**Lack a health provider** - 68

### *Community Health Screenings*

Month	Blood Pressure	Cholesterol	Diabetes Fasting Blood Sugar	Health Education Counseling	Tobacco Use Screening, Education & Counseling	Body Mass Index
Oct	34	0	2	34	21	18
Nov	36	0	0	36	26	22
Dec	28	0	0	28	11	13
<b>2021 Totals</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Referrals</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>

### **Health Education Topics**                      **# of persons who received education and counseling**

- Nutrition 180
- Diabetes Risk Assessment 75
- Weight Management 53
- Exercise 180
- Cholesterol 140
- Hypertension 98
- Stress management 96
- Tobacco 72
- Substance Use Disorders 58
- Medication Management 89
- Access to Care 10
- Cancer Risk and Screenings 180



As a core partner of Roots to Prevention (RTP), the health education unit participated by incorporating COVID-19 education and emergency preparedness topics as it relates to food and stocking certain foods during the pandemic. The main goal of RTP is to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables, which contribute to health and wellness, and create new income

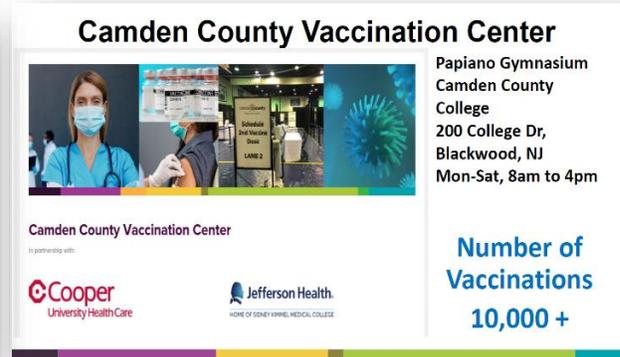
opportunities through urban farming. RTP is a collaboration of residents, nonprofits, farmers, and public health organizations.

## COVID-19 Train-the-Trainer

The Health Education unit offered virtual Train-the-Trainer for municipalities, community and faith-based organizations on how to navigate the County’s website so that they could help the Seniors register for vaccines. In the pandemic, the Health Education unit met with mayors, councilmembers, and local boards of health to get county residents, especially Seniors, scheduled for vaccines. Trainings also included vaccine safety information and a virtual walk-through of Camden County’s vaccination center.



The flyer features the Camden County logo at the top with the tagline "Making It Better, Together." Below this, the text reads "COVID-19 Vaccination Train-the-Trainer: Registering our Seniors for COVID-19 vaccinations at Camden County Vaccination Center" followed by the website [www.camdencountyvaccine.com](http://www.camdencountyvaccine.com). The date "February 6, 2021" is printed at the bottom right.



The flyer is titled "Camden County Vaccination Center" and includes a photograph of a healthcare worker administering a vaccine. The address is "Papiano Gymnasium Camden County College, 200 College Dr, Blackwood, NJ" with hours "Mon-Sat, 8am to 4pm". It also states "Number of Vaccinations 10,000 +". Logos for Cooper University Health Care and Jefferson Health are shown at the bottom.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Camden County Health Department was tasked with many unique challenges. Throughout the last year, the health department administered 112,894 vaccines and tested over 12,500 people using saliva tests with results generating in 24 hours or less.

Camden County administered vaccines at Camden County College during the height of need for vaccine distribution. At the college, our health education unit presented COVID-19 vaccine information to patients and constituents with up-to-date information to keep everyone informed. The educational materials included all, but not limited to, proper mask use, quarantine and isolation timeframe guidance, and vaccine education. As a team, we demonstrated debriefing

practices/hot washes in after-hours communication exercises and drills. When the need for vaccines began to lessen, our pandemic response team initiated what we called our “vaccine road show.” This team efficiently set up and broke down mobile vaccine sites at various locations across the county in a timely manner, in effort to vaccinate as many individuals as possible, including homebound residents.



The need for COVID-19 testing began to rise tremendously around the holidays. As a unit, we

quickly brainstormed ways to tackle this need. During the planning process, all who would be involved participated in a COVID-19 testing training, prior to performing PCR testing, to ensure quality control of specimen. We discovered points of testing distributions that would be suitable for our need. During testing, we maintained infection control measures through proper use of PPE.

Our designated county contact tracers worked with our health education unit to gather the most up to date and the ongoing changes of COVID-19 information to be able to relay information to constituents. Contact tracers are responsible for reaching out to contacts who have been exposed to COVID-19 and provide health education and guidance to interrupt ongoing disease transmission. The County established a COVID-19 hotline for our constituents to obtain COVID related information and education 7 days a week. c

### **Health Education and County COVID-19 Hotline**

The COVID Pandemic has provided a unique opportunity for innovation at the Health Department to meet community needs. In January of 2021, when the COVID 19 Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were first offered, the Health Department's 800 number was receiving at least 80 and above phone calls a day. Although the 800 number was being answered by a health professional, the demand was going beyond one person's ability to answer phone calls, thus leaving a backlog of voicemails.



In response to assuring that all phone calls were answered in a timely manner, a COVID Hotline development team formed. With input from the Health Department, the County's IT unit along with the support of Camden County Board of Commissioners, (formerly known as Freeholders), this led to the development of the procurement of a web-based call center software suite called WAVE by Grandstream. The advantage of having a cloud-based system allowed call takers to be both in County office and work from home as long as they had an internet connection. Callers were routed into Queues based on (what the information they were seeking. The software also provides a resource for administration to track and report on individual calls as well as overall statistical data on calls and call types.

A Hotline staff/supervisor team made up of County employees, along with cost-effective outsourcing (under Health Department supervision), handled more than 500 calls a day which were answered in real time. Feedback included "thank you so much for answering the phone because when I called other 800 numbers for COVID, no one answered." Once call volume decreased, County employees remained to take on the role of monitoring the Hotline.

Through January 2021 to December 2021, 15,084 phone calls lead to helping individuals register for vaccines, and boosters, address concerns about COVID 19 vaccines, locate COVID testing sites, and understand guidelines for isolation and quarantine. Of special note, the Hotline Staff performed a major role in assisting older adults, non-English speaking, and vulnerable residents without internet or computer access to register and provided access to social services.

The Hotline served as a portal for a connection to homebound residents, afraid of being left behind, to the Health Department's Homebound Vaccine Initiative to receive their COVID vaccines at home with either our Community Health nursing staff or our pharmacy partner. Because of system versatility, when there was a Hepatitis A event, the hotline was able to handle calls regarding questions about exposure and how and where to get a HEP A vaccine from our Health Department.

## Health Promotion Initiatives in Tobacco Control

In 2021, two Health Education Staff were newly trained in the Rutgers Tobacco Dependence Program Training. The tobacco control trained staff follow-up with tobacco control complaints in multi-unit dwellings, working in conjunction with Environmental Health Services. They educate housing management and housing ownership on the importance of in adopting smoke free living, provide technical expertise along with our partner, Tobacco Free for a Healthy New Jersey, on how to set up tobacco free living and update already established addendums on the dwellings smoking policy and signage.

Health Education Unit are members of the statewide New Jersey Strategic Advisory Group on Tobacco serving on both the Communication and Health Equity Workgroups. The Health Department is in line with the priorities outlined by the Advisory Group: Point of Sale Policies; Smoke Free Multi-Unit Housing; Tobacco Free Worksites; Tobacco Free College Campuses; Youth Tobacco Use Prevention and Smoke Free Outdoor Ordinances.

The Health Education Unit's, Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist serves as a member of the Camden County College Tobacco Free Task Force. Camden County College received and NJCUITS (NJ Colleges and Universities Implementing Tobacco and Smoke-free Policies) grant to revamp their tobacco free policy to update written policy language to include smoking and the use of all tobacco or tobacco like products including e-cigarettes/vaping for all four campuses.

- Areas of development included are education, cessation, prevention initiatives and community resources.
- The Health Education Unit offers education and cessation programs to help smokers quit or refrain from using tobacco while in their HUD free living apartments.

### Collaboration with Regional Partners

- The Health Department collaborates with (NJPN) New Jersey Prevention Network and Tobacco Free for a Healthy New Jersey (TFHNJ) Collaborative in the southern region on several tobacco control initiatives. We work hand-in-hand with TFHNJ



Forty (40) promotional signs regarding the tobacco-free campus policy were placed at sites throughout the Lakeland Campus.



Quit Survival Kits, and Nicotine Replacement Therapy information for Camden County employees.

Southern Regional Coordinators in local identification of tobacco control issues or opportunities by providing education, solutions and resources to individuals, municipalities and schools, colleges, and workplaces.

- The community initiatives include Tobacco Product Point of Sale, Tobacco-Free Worksites, Smoke-Free Housing Tobacco -Free Campus, Merchant Education and Youth.

### Special Child Health Case Management Unit

Average active caseload	950
Unduplicated number of children served	2689
New referrals	2162
New SSI referrals	1212
<b>Grant Year Camden County Constituents Catastrophic Award</b>	<b>215,905.00</b>

The Special Child Health program is County based and provides Case Management. The Unit is funded in part through the New Jersey Department of Health and the Camden County Board of Commissioner's. Services are provided regardless of financial status. The Special Child Health Case Management Program assists families with children who have developmental delays and health needs. Any child through the age of 21 who has a birth defect, a serious illness, has difficulty walking, talking, and understanding or is at risk of developing a disabling condition, is eligible for services

Case managers work with both children and their parents. These professionals assist families through the maze of the health services system and other related systems for the purpose of meeting individual needs. Specifically, the case managers assist with obtaining hearing aids and orthotics; payment of catastrophic bills; support groups; home nursing care; education and other needs.

### NJ Birth Defects History and Purpose

The Registry is a comprehensive, confidential database that provides data that can be used for epidemiological and statistical purposes for children with specific birth defects. New Jersey legislation, NJSA 26:8-40.2 mandates reporting to the Registry all children diagnosed with a birth defect from birth through five years of age. The Registry was upgraded from paper to a state-of-the-art electronic system in 2009, allowing the entities mandated to report conditions an improved and expedited process of registering and referring infants and children.

Once a child is registered, a copy of the registration is sent to the Special Child Health Services Case Management Unit in the child's county of residence to promote access to preventive and primary care for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN).

### Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI)

EHDI is a national public health initiative that supports the '1-3-6' Guidelines: screening every newborn for hearing loss prior to **one** month of age, completing diagnostic audiologic evaluation prior to **three** months of age for infants that do not pass their hearing screening, and early intervention enrollment by no later than **six** months of age for children diagnosed with hearing loss. In 2002, New Jersey passed a law requiring hearing screening for all newborns. The New Jersey EHDI program offers technical support to hospitals on their newborn hearing screening and follow-up programs. New Jersey EHDI tracks the number of infants screened and how many children are identified with hearing loss in a timely manner. New Jersey EHDI works with health care providers, local and state agencies that serve children with hearing loss, and families to ensure that infants and toddlers receive timely hearing screening and diagnostic testing, appropriate habilitation services, and enrollment in intervention programs designed to meet the needs of children with newly identified hearing loss. Special Child Health Case Management Unit is a key communicator between and among diagnosticians, family, Early Intervention and State.

### **Newborn Bloodspot Screening**

New Jersey law requires that every baby born in New Jersey be screened for disorders that can cause serious health problems. All babies born in New Jersey are required to be tested for sixty (60) disorders within 48 hours of birth. One heel prick provides enough blood to test for all fifty-nine disorders.

Newborn bloodspot screening is a comprehensive program that includes laboratory testing, follow-up of results, and if necessary, examination and treatment by a qualified specialist. Early detection and treatment of the disorders on the newborn screening panel can prevent lifelong disabilities, including intellectual and developmental disabilities, and life-threatening infections. Any child testing positive is referred to the Special Child health Case Management Unit for follow up and support.

New Jersey to Begin Newborn Screening for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) on January 31, 2022

**Screening for CCHD in New Jersey** New Jersey was one of the first states to require CCHD screening in newborns. Beginning August 31, 2011, birthing hospitals in New Jersey need to screen newborns for CCHD before discharge to home. Serious problems can be prevented or addressed if CCHD is found shortly after birth. These children are referred to Special Child Health Case Management Unit.

**Autism Registry** The primary purpose of the Autism Registry is to link families to special child health case management services, which are county based coordinated service providers that have many years of experience and knowledge of local, county, and statewide resources available to families of children with special health care needs. Most recently (2021) Autism New Jersey formed a partnership with the NJ Department of Health's Special Child Health Services (SCHS) Case Management Units (CMU) as the designated Autism Resource Specialist.

### South Jersey Regional Chest Clinic (Tuberculosis Program)

TB Clinic Visits	381
New Cases	12
Direct Observation Therapy	1433

The Southern Regional Specialty Chest Clinic was initiated in 2008 by Camden County Health Department at the request of New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. The program is staffed by both County Health Department and Cooper University Hospital. Cooper University Hospital provides Infectious Diseases Specialists who are well versed in the treatment of Active Tuberculosis of the Lungs and non-pulmonary sites. This group is headed by Henry Fraimow, MD, who is a member of the State TB Medical Advisory Board.

The TB Nurse Case Manager, for Cooper University Hospital, acts as a liaison between the State TB Program, Cooper University Hospital, and the Camden County DHHS. The Case Manager provides nursing assessment, teaching and monitoring of the patient with TB. She also conducts contact investigations, to provide early detection of new TB cases and treatment to exposed clients with latent TB infection. The County Health Department provides additional staffing for nursing and support services. All those seen in the Southern Regional Specialty Chest Clinic benefit from a “one stop shopping” model, as we provide Mobile x-ray services, on site lab technician, Sputum Induction booth, Physician and nursing assessments, and provision of needed medications.

The Regional Clinic provides expert TB Consultation to surrounding counties who may have drug resistant TB or extra-pulmonary TB, or clients who have difficulties during their treatment. The Regional Clinic provides service to patients and case managers from Atlantic Co., Atlantic City, Gloucester, Burlington, Salem, Cumberland, Ocean, Cape May, Mercer and Middlesex counties, in addition to our own cases here in Camden County. The patients receive their medications on a daily basis by DOT, Directly Observed Therapy. In addition, they are monitored closely for medication tolerance and side effects. This enables a thorough treatment plan and ensures that treatment is completed as the Standards of Care require. The TB clinic also provides medical assessment to those new immigrants who have been flagged by the CDC for evaluation once in our country.

### 2021 Annual Local Boards of Health Summit

#### What is a Board of Health?

A Board of Health works in collaboration with the Health Officer to assure that organizational activities are meeting the needs of the community.

In conjunction with the Camden County Department of Health and Human Services and the Camden County Board of Commissioners, members of Local Boards of Health, Green Teams, Planning Boards and other community representatives were invited to attend virtually on November 19, 2021. “Making it Better Together,” was the theme. The purpose was to offer a platform in which Camden County Municipalities and their Boards of Health and MAPP (Mobilizing Action Through Planning and Partnerships) members could share strategies, ideas, and ways to work together to make their town a Gold Standard of Health through Sustainable Jersey presented by **Lauren Skowronski**, program director for community engagement at Sustainable NJ. Officers and Association Council of the NJ Local Boards of Health Association (NJOBHA) are on hand as expert guidance on Local Board of Health questions and to share the importance of joining the organization. NJLBHA provides opportunities for members of local boards of health, other community leaders and health professionals to meet and exchange ideas.



## Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program

The Camden County Public Health Emergency Preparedness Unit has been in existence for over 20 years. Currently the program is led by our Public Health Emergency Notification Systems Coordinator (PHENS) and includes a Health Education/Risk communicator (HERC), Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Coordinator, and more recently a COVID Generalist, COVID Social Support Coordinator, COVID Epidemiologist, and COVID Coordinator. The purpose of the program is to ensure immediate and adequate response to any acts or threats of bioterrorism, infectious disease outbreak, and other public health threats or emergencies. On a scheduled basis the Unit acts to keep response plans up to date, provides education and ongoing training to all department staff, and uses response drills to improve timeliness and evaluate our proficiency. Planning, training, and exercising for an all hazards approach allows us to prepare for a wide range of emergencies. Response drills exercise various aspects of our work which include, but not limited to monitoring disease patterns, communicating risk, providing information to contain the spread of disease, prophylaxis for at risk persons using oral medications or immunizations, receiving and distributing supplies and medicines to our medical community and partners. Partners include County Emergency Management, local Hospitals, County Prosecutor’s Office, County Office of Education, and Regional County Health Departments along with several others. For 2021, the Unit was crucial in COVID-19 vaccination planning and preparedness.

## Camden County Medical Reserve Corps

Our Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of approximately 331 volunteers receives regular training on topics such as family preparedness;



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); Pet Disaster Preparedness; Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR); Incident Command System (ICS); Hurricane Preparedness; Fixed Facilities; Psychological First Aid, Compassion Fatigue; Self Care; Human Trafficking; Mass Dispensing; Vaccine Safety and Handling; and “You are the Help Until Help Arrives.”

The goals and objectives of the MRC are to have all volunteers current with documentations and core trainings; focus on volunteer retention and volunteer engagement; introduce and implement new volunteer recruitment methods; and seek new funding opportunities to sustain and grow the MRC unit. The mission of the Camden County MRC is to provide a cadre of both professional and community volunteers to assist the county in times of a public health crisis. For 2021, the MRC helped in many aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic response. We had over 100 volunteers dedicate over 4,888 hours of help. Not only did they help the Camden County Department of Health and Human Services’ vaccination site at Camden County College, but for other sites within the county as well including Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine, Cooper University Hospital, and other partners. Volunteers were not only vaccinators, they helped fill other needed roles such as greeters, ushers, and observers after people received their vaccination.

Below is a breakdown of some of the volunteers we have on board...

Volunteer Type	Count
Acupuncturist	1
Advanced Practice Nurse	16
Laboratory Director	1
Dentists	6
Doctor of Osteopathy	6
EMTs	2
LPNs	7
Medical Doctor	28
Pharmacist	10

Volunteer Type	Count
Physician Assistants	5
Podiatrist	1
Registered Nurse	120
Veterinarian	2
Non- Public Health/Non-Medical	126

## Communicable Disease Prevention and Control

The Communicable Disease Unit offers services to prevent the spread of disease. There are specific programs dealing with AIDS/HIV, Tuberculosis Control, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Rabies Control, and Reportable Diseases.

### **COVID-19**

Due to the number of COVID-19 cases, New Jersey had to increase their capacity for case investigation and contact tracing. In June 2020, Camden County was chosen to be one of two pilot sites to implement CommCare, a platform that supports uniform and focused efforts on COVID-19 cases and their contacts to ensure they are identified and notified in a timely manner. In July 2020, CommCare was deployed across the state.

- 200 employees were trained in case investigation and contact tracing
- 586 Social Support referrals
- 101 individuals experiencing housing insecurity were placed in housing for isolation and quarantine
- 212 COVID-19 outbreaks investigated

### **Hepatitis A**

Beginning in 2019 New Jersey experienced increased cases of hepatitis A leading to the declaration of a statewide outbreak. While cases declined and the outbreak was declared over in June 2021, we have again seen increasing cases caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV) beginning in September 2021.

- Camden County held 10 Hepatitis A post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) clinics vaccinating 800 individuals

## **Disease Investigation**

Communicable Disease epidemiology is a cornerstone of public health practice to prevent illness and protect the public's health. The Camden County Department of Health and Human Services' Communicable Disease program is responsible for county-wide surveillance and investigation of more than 70 disease conditions reportable to public health by laboratories, health care providers and facilities. Reports of communicable disease are investigated and tracked to identify outbreaks or trends that require public health action or community education. Investigations aim to identify the source of infection so public health control measures can be implemented to prevent further disease spread. The data collected through our investigations about the local burden of disease, risk factors, and disease trends is used to develop appropriate education, guidance, and infection control recommendations to be shared with our residents, health care providers, schools and community partners.

## **AIDS/HIV Program**

Free and anonymous/confidential HIV counseling and testing is offered at both of our two Health Clinics. HIV Counselors provide risk reduction education and referrals to PrEP services.

## **Sexual Health Clinics**

The Camden County Sexual Health Clinics provide free and confidential testing and treatment of all sexually transmitted infections. Last year we provided sexual health services to nearly 1,000 residents. Clinic staff work alongside Health Educators to provide sexual health education and promotion presentations for health care providers, community organizations, and health fairs.

## **Rabies Control**

Rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus found in the saliva of a rabid animal. Rabies infection can occur when infected saliva from a rabid animal contaminates a bite or open wound, a scratch, or a mucous membrane. There is no known effective treatment for human rabies once symptoms develop, but rabies can be prevented if rabies post exposure prophylaxis is given shortly after exposure. Communicable Disease staff work closely with local Animal Control Officers to investigate domestic and wild animal bites, coordinate rabies testing, and provide technical assistance to residents, veterinarians, physicians, and municipal officials.

The Camden County Department of Health and Human Services provides rabies vaccine to support 35 rabies vaccination clinics throughout the county.

## **Communicable Disease and Surveillance**

*Reports from Laboratories, Hospitals, Medical Providers, Public Health. Counts include Confirmed, Probable and Possible cases as defined by the New Jersey Department of Health Communicable Disease Service*

<b>DISEASE NAME</b>	<b>COUNT</b>
AMOEBIASIS	1
BABESIOSIS	12
BORRELIA MIYAMOTOI	0
BOTULISM - INFANT	0
BRUCELLOSIS	0
CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS	59

CHLAMYDIA TRACHOMATIS INFECTION 200	3,296
CHOLERA - NON O1/O139	0
CHOLERA - O1	0
CREUTZFELDT-JAKOB DISEASE	1
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	5
CYCLOSPORIASIS	5
DENGUE FEVER - DENGUE	1
EASTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS(EEE)	0
EHRlichiosis/ANAPLASMOSIS - ANAPLASMA PHAGOCYTOPHILUM (PREVIOUSLY HGE)	1
EHRlichiosis/ANAPLASMOSIS - EHRlichia CHAFFEENSIS (PREVIOUSLY HME)	9
EHRlichiosis/ANAPLASMOSIS - EHRlichia EWINGII	0
FOODBORNE INTOXICATIONS - CIGUATERA	0
FOODBORNE INTOXICATIONS - MUSHROOM POISONING	0
FOODBORNE INTOXICATIONS - SCOMBROID	0
GIARDIASIS	14
GONORRHEA	1,339
GONORRHEA - UNCOMPLICATED 300	0
HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE	6
HEPATITIS A	24
HEPATITIS B - ACUTE	11
HEPATITIS B - CHRONIC	106
HEPATITIS B - PERINATAL	0
HEPATITIS C - ACUTE	6
HEPATITIS C - CHRONIC	424
HEPATITIS C - PERINATAL	1
INFLUENZA, HUMAN ISOLATES - TYPE 2009 H1N1	1
INFLUENZA, HUMAN ISOLATES - TYPE A (SUBTYPING NOT DONE)	963
INFLUENZA, HUMAN ISOLATES - TYPE A H1	0
INFLUENZA, HUMAN ISOLATES - TYPE A H3	13
INFLUENZA, HUMAN ISOLATES - TYPE B	38
LEGIONELLOSIS	18
LEPROSY (HANSEN DISEASE)	0
LISTERIOSIS	1
LYME DISEASE	185
MALARIA	4
MULTISYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME (MIS)	2
MEASLES	0
MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE (NEISSERIA MENINGITIDIS)	2
MUMPS	1
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS - 2019 NCOV	63,728

PERTUSSIS	1
POWASSAN	0
SALMONELLOSIS - NON TYPHOID	55
SALMONELLOSIS - PARATYPHOID FEVER	0
SALMONELLOSIS - TYPHOID FEVER	1
SHIGA TOXIN-PRODUCING E.COLI (STEC)	14
SHIGELLOSIS	16
SPOTTED FEVER GROUP RICKETTSIOSIS	15
STREPTOCOCCUS AGALACTIAE (GBS)	4
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE	35
STREPTOCOCCUS PYOGENES (GAS) - WITH TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME	0
STREPTOCOCCUS PYOGENES (GAS) - WITHOUT TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME	38
SYPHILIS - CONGENITAL 790	7
SYPHILIS - PRIMARY 710	45
SYPHILIS - SECONDARY 720	88
SYPHILIS -ALL OTHER STAGES	210
TULAREMIA	0
VANCOMYCIN-INTERMEDIATE STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS (VISA)	0
VARICELLA	4
VIBRIO INFECTIONS (OTHER THAN V.CHOLERAE SPP.)	4
WEST NILE VIRUS (WNV)	6
YERSINIOSIS	8
ZIKA VIRUS - INFECTION, NON-CONGENITAL	0

## **Division of Environmental Health and Consumer Health Services Emergency Response (Hazardous Materials)**

### *County Environmental Health Act (CEHA)*

Camden County Department of Health is certified by NJDEP to perform investigation, enforcement, and regulation of air pollution, solid waste disposal, recycling enforcement, emergency, and terrorism response, hazardous waste storage and disposal, underground storage tanks, surface and ground water pollution, and noise. In addition to directly providing these services, Camden County coordinates Hazardous Materials Emergency Response services through inter-local agreements with five local fire/hazmat units.

Camden County's Hazardous Materials Response Unit is responsible for development and maintenance of standardized hazardous materials (*Hazmat*) and CBRNE (*Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive*) emergency response capability, capacity, and competence. Camden County Department of Health and Human Services has highly trained and equipped personnel that respond to Hazmat and CBRNE emergencies and conduct environmental investigations in coordination with the N J Department of Environmental Protection (*NJDEP*), the

NJ Department of Health and Senior Services (*NJDHSS*), and the N J State Police (*NJSP*) Special Operations Section.

The Hazardous Materials Response Unit provides exceptional hazardous materials and environmental response services to the citizens of Camden County. The unit handles a broad range of complaints each year from private citizens, business interests, industrial facilities, and other public agencies. They vary in nature from small residential spills of household chemicals and heating oil to large-scale industrial spills, fires, illegal dumping and over the road accidents involving cargo spills or releases of motor vehicle fluids. Our hazmat unit is available to respond to any Hazmat/CBRNE incident in Camden County on a 24 hour per day /365 day per year.

The Hazmat Unit continues to be involved in domestic preparedness planning for the county. The Unit Director regularly participates in planning meetings with Camden County OEM. Based on planning initiatives, response protocols may be revised to improve our response capabilities. Coordination with the county OEM and Fire Marshall has resulted in an integrated network of primary and secondary departments for mutual aid including Hazmat/CBRNE response and mass decontamination.

#### *Neutralizing an acid spill in Camden County*



### **CEHA Unit Septic and Well**

All individual sewage disposal system plan review, installation, repair, and compliance certificate are accomplished by our Septic and Well section. This group also is responsible for the review of private potable wells results & Private Well Testing Act information distribution. Recently our staff has begun a thorough evaluation of Public Non-community water systems within our County to insure the proper compliance with Federal and State Regulations.

### **Food Surveillance**

The Food Surveillance Unit's purpose is the prevention of food borne illness which may derive from retail food establishments. To deliver this purpose this unit focuses its inspection efforts to facilities that may present a greater risk of food borne illness. This approach and enforcement of

NJAC 8:24 are known as Risk-Based Inspection. Retail establishments must be inspected as least once during each year, school facilities are inspected twice each year. Additionally, a 24/7 Non-Hazardous Emergency Response system is in place to respond to fire and/or natural disasters involving food and/or health care facilities where a potential for contamination of food products exists. Annually retail food inspections are performed utilizing tablet computers. Inspection findings are captured and recorded during the course of each inspection and uploaded in real-time to our web-based inspection system.



### *Benefits of Digital Inspections*

- Increased Productivity and Accountability.
- Electronic Record Management and Access.
- Provides Public Records Request (OPRA).
- Standardized Inspection Methods and Reporting.
- Improved Compliance.
- Reduction in Enforcement Actions.

### *Constituent Benefits*

- Educates consumer on inspection process and outcomes.
- Reports inspection results on facilities of consumer interest i.e. child's day care or school, local market, favorite restaurant, etc.
- Reports on emerging food related events i.e. food related bioterrorism, food recalls, facility closures, and food related outbreaks.

### *Industry Benefits*

- Standardized inspection format easy to read, interpret, and translate.
- Critical violations are printed first with timelines for correction.
- Establishment with a good inspection history will see increased business.

## **Multiple Dwelling Housing Inspections**

### *State Local Cooperative Housing Inspection Program (SLCHIP)*

The Camden County Health Department's Multiple Dwelling Housing Unit is an authorized agent of the NJ Department of Community Affairs Bureau of Housing Inspections. As an authorized agent the Unit is responsible for ensuring that hotels, motels and multiple-family buildings of three or more dwelling units operating within Camden County are properly maintained and do not pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of their residents, nor the community in general.

These objectives are achieved by licensed multiple dwelling inspectors conducting five year cyclical and compliance inspections of all hotels, motels and multiple dwellings. Condominiums, Cooperatives and Mutual Housing Corporations fall within the definition of multiple dwelling, and as such, are subject to its provisions.

In addition to the Environmental Programs highlighted above the following services are also provided: *Air Pollution Control, Community Noise Control, Pet Shop & Kennel Inspections, Public Health Nuisance Complaints, Right To Know (RTK), Public Recreational Bathing & Youth Camps, Residential Underground Storage Tank, Pesticide Investigation, Solid Waste Program, Tobacco Enforcement, Body Art, and Water Quality.*

### Environmental Health Inspections

Retail Food	3,596		Hazardous Materials Complaints	32
Recreational Bathing	366		Hazmat Emergency Response	71
Body Art	58		Integrated Pest Management	20
Tanning Salons	11		Pesticide Enforcement	50
Tobacco/Vapor Retail Establishment	10		Youth Camp Pre-Operational Inspection	22
Public Health Nuisance			Swimming Pool Discharge	0
Multiple Dwelling Units			Vapor Recovery	
Pet Shops & Kennels				
Right-To-Know	290		Air Quality	10
Residential UST	88		Private Wells	
Noise			Individual Sewage	
Solid Waste Facilities			Regulated Tanks	

### Housing

<b>DCA Housing Unit</b>		<b>Total</b>
Initial inspections		14,085
Reinspection		5,426
<b>Septic and Well Unit</b>		<b>Total</b>
Septic		163 new systems
Well		83 new systems
<b>Complaints Unit</b>		<b>Total</b>
		2,400 complaints answered

# Contact Information

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