

# Public Health Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Wicomico County Health Department

Lori Brewster, M.S., APRN/BC, LCADC **Health Officer** 



**Publication Date: October 2020** 



# WICOMICO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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# WICOMICO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

# Serving the public health needs of Wicomico County since 1929

#### **MISSION**

To Maximize the Health and
Wellness of All Members
of the Community through Collaborative Efforts

#### **VISION**

**Healthy People in Healthy Communities** 

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- Maximize health status through prevention, education, clinical, monitoring, advocacy, and regulatory services
- Initiate programs in response to identified needs
- Strengthen the physical, behavioral and environmental health of all citizens of Wicomico County
- Commitment to all populations while striving for health equity
- Address social determinants of health

#### **OUR LOCATIONS**

E.S. Adkins Building 801 N. Salisbury Blvd Salisbury, MD 21801 Fritz Building 300 West Carroll Street Hurdle Building 108 East Main Street Salisbury, MD 21801 Village Dental Center 705 N. Salisbury Blvd Salisbury, MD 21801





## **MESSAGES FROM LEADERSHIP**



As the COVID-19 pandemic brought the world to a halt, the Wicomico County Health Department continued to provide public health services to address not only COVID-19, but other community health needs. Working tirelessly, we have tested, contact traced, and spread awareness throughout our community in an effort to stem the spread of the virus.

In addition to our pandemic response, the entire agency adapted to a new working environment: telework. Despite early struggles to implement teleworking, WiCHD overcame

the challenge to meet the needs of our community by offering curbside vital records, family planning, and many other services. Our Environmental Health Division also became an integral part of COVID-19 compliance enforcement through their responses to complaints.

As we weather the twists and turns of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will continue to serve our community.

Lori Brewster
Wicomico Health Officer

# In Memoriam Bob Culver, Wicomico County Executive

Bob Culver passed away on July 26, 2020. As county executive and a past member of the Wicomico County Council, Mr. Culver was a friend and supporter of Wicomico County Health Department. His service and leadership will be missed. He will be remembered for the many contributions he's made to Wicomico County.



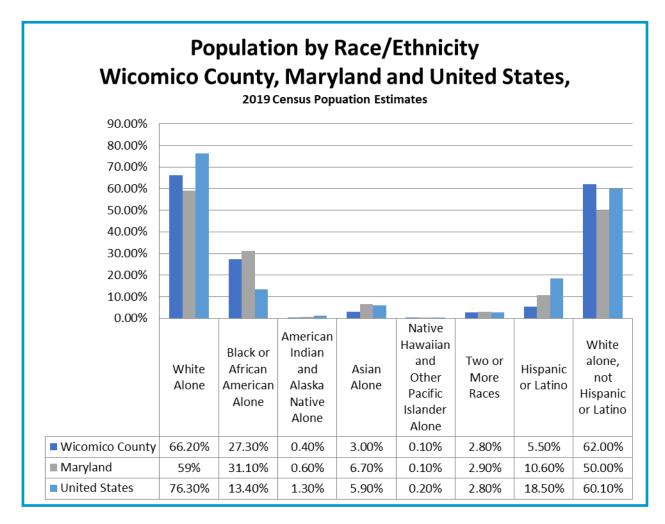




# **DEMOGRAPHICS**

# DEMOGRAPHICS WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND, & UNITED STATES Based on 2019 Census Estimates Wicomico County United States

	Wicomico County	Maryland	United States
Population	103,609	6,045,680	328,239,523
Foreign Born Persons	8.3%	15.1%	13.5%
Median Household Income	\$56,608	\$81.868	\$60,293
Persons in Poverty	14.6%	9%	10.5%







# Wicomico County Health Department 2017-2022 Strategic Plan: Fiscal Year 2020 Reporting

This document will report progress made during fiscal year 2020 (FY20) for Wicomico County Health Department's (WiCHD's) 2017-2022 Strategic Plan. The five year plan focuses on five priority areas:

- I. Improve community health and wellness by focusing on priority areas identified with the Local Health Improvement Coalition; chronic disease and behavioral health; also addressing access to care.
- 2. Provide, maintain, develop and ensure quality public health services.
- 3. Adopt business practices that will assist in reducing administrative costs and increase revenues by improving operational efficiencies.
- 4. Build and grow partnerships that will facilitate improved communication and expand public health wellness and awareness.
- 5. Recruit and retain a competent and diverse workforce.

Notable achievements for each priority area will be presented. FY20 program accomplishments for programs not included in the priority areas will also be reported at the end of this report. You will notice throughout the document, that progress for many health department programs was impacted by COVID-19.







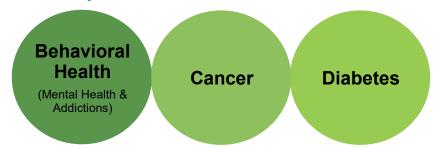
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**Priority Area 1:** Improve community health and wellness by focusing on priority areas identified with the Local Health Improvement Coalition: chronic disease and behavioral health. Increasing access to care will also be addressed.

#### Wicomico Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC)

- The LHIC is coordinated by WiCHD.
- Members of the LHIC are jurisdictional-level stakeholders and partners.
- Members are charged with providing input and guidance on the identified health priorities for Wicomico County.
- Health priorities are updated every three years when our Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is completed.
- Identified health priorities are then addressed in our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).
- The CHNA and CHIP were completed during FY20; they are completed as a joint partnership with TidalHealth Peninsula Regional Hospital and Somerset County Health Department.

#### FY 2020 - FY 2022 Updated Health Priorities



#### Wicomico County Opioid Intervention Team (OIT)

The OIT continues to address the heroin, opioid, and fentanyl crisis impacting Wicomico County. FY20 activities included:

- Successfully launched the Wicomico Goes Purple Awareness Campaign;
- Created an OIT Educational Trailer for parents and guardians (trailer is a mock teenage bedroom set up to show possible red flags for substance use);
- Deployed OIT Trailer 22 times and reached over 3,000 individuals;
- Provided Narcan training to 184 people (mostly county employees); and
- **Distributed 250 Deterra medication disposal bags** throughout the community which encouraged safe disposal of prescription medication.





#### **Community Outreach and Addictions Team (COAT)**

The COAT program hires peer support workers, people who have been successful in the recovery process, to help others struggling with addiction, with the goal of linking individuals to treatment services. During COVID-19, the team has been successful in continuing to assist individuals via phone support.

In January 2020, the COAT program began implementing performance management and changed some processes in data collection, in order to better use the data to make improvements to the program. FY20 is reported below.

			2020 COAT Duation Measu			
	Total # Outreach Services	Unduplicated # Served*	# Served Reporting History of Opioid Use*	# Linked to	6 Month Follow-Up of % Remaining in Recovery**	# of Navigation Services Provided*
Wicomico County Residents		177 (74%)*	85 (48%)*	94 (53%)*		
Non-Wicomico Residents		63 (26%) *	28 (44%)*	25 (40%)*	**	
Total	1,413	240*	113 (47%)*	119 (50%)*	**	260*

<sup>\*</sup> Data for the categories marked, do not include data from July 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019 due to a change in data collection and data operationalization.

#### NOTES

• Total # of Outreach Services is a total of all phone calls made (whether answered or not), and face-to-face contact (whether home or not).

 <sup>&</sup>lt;u>Unduplicated # Served from July 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019</u> used a different method to calculate # served. The # served based on this
method is 148 for Wicomico County Residents and 59 for Non Wicomico Residents. Please be cautioned that some of these numbers duplicate the
numbers reported above using the revised data collection and data operationalization.

FY2020 COAT Navigation Services*				
Type of Assistance	# Served by Assistance Type	# of Services Provided	Average # of Services Per Person	
Insurance Assistance	9	10	1.11	
Transportation	54	72	1.33	
Food Assistance	0	0	N/A	
Housing	19	21	1.11	
Financial Assistance	6	6	1.00	
Medical Linkage/Referrals	8	11	1.38	
Other (e.g. Support Meeting Schedule, Resource Information, Treatment Resources, etc.)	105	140	1.33	

\*Data does not include data from July 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019 due to a change in data collection and data operationalization.

#### NOTES

- # Served by Assistance Type is the unduplicated number of individuals receiving the type of service. However, # served may be duplicated across the types of assistance, as an individual may receive more than one type of assistance.
- # of Service Provided is the total # of times staff provided the service, which may include providing individuals with the same type of assistance multiple times.





<sup>\*\*</sup>This measure assesses progress of individuals served the prior fiscal year. Data collection began January 2020. Six months of data will be reported in the FY21 report.

#### **Wicomico Local Behavioral Health Authority**

The Wicomico Local Behavioral Health Authority (LBHA) plans, manages, and monitors a full range of treatment and rehabilitation services for persons with mental illness and/or persons with substance related disorders through the Public Behavioral Health System. The LBHA coordinates the Behavioral Health Workgroup, which is also a subcommittee for the Local Health Improvement Coalition.

#### FY20 accomplishments include:

- LBHA staff provided 10 Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) trainings to 162 people. Due to COVID-19, several classes were cancelled in FY20.
- Provided directly or sponsored a combined total of 25 trainings with



- **672 individuals trained**. Trainings included: MHFA, Hearing Distressing Voices, Emergency Petition, Narcan training, Sexual Health in Recovery, Human Trafficking and ASAM training. This does not include the ones cancelled due to COVID-19.
- 589 individuals received Narcan training and 839 Narcan kits were dispensed.
- Worked to expand access by translating Narcan training brochures into different languages. Also recruited an individual from the Haitian/Creole community to participate on the Behavioral Health Workgroup.
- Developed a Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services plan to implement in FY21.
- Implemented performance management by reviewing outcome data from the MHFA training.



#### **Harm Reduction Center/SHORE Center**

During FY20, the Harm Reduction Center opened to promote healthier and safer drug use practice for individuals who are not ready to access treatment. The Statewide Ethnographic Assessment of Drug Use and Services (SEADS) Report completed in early 2020 identified this as a service gap for the Eastern Shore. A syringe voucher program has been developed in which pharmacy partnerships distributed nearly 1,000 new syringes in the community.





#### Wicomico Behavioral Health Program

During FY20, the Behavioral Health (BH) Program continued to provide outpatient Addictions services, Medicated Assisted Treatment services, Co-Occurring Adult services and Outpatient Child and Adolescent Mental Health treatment. The program worked to increase access to services by offering same day intake services for addiction clients and walk-in intakes for mental health services.

FY20 # Served by Behavioral Health Program			
PROGRAM	# SERVED		
Addictions Program	711		
Medicated Assisted Treatment Program	250		
Mental Health Program	565		
Jail Program* 263*			
*Services stopped in February 2020 prior to the Wicomico Detention Center closing to visitors due to COVID-19.			

The BH program also started a new Vivitrol Program in the local detention center, in which inmates are provided education and the first injections with follow-up. Services were paused due to COVID-19.

#### **Opioid Misuse Prevention Program (OMPP)**

At medication disposal boxes across the county, **I,513 pounds of prescription** medications were collected for safe disposal. OMPP staff also participated in the Rural Opioid Technical Assistance (ROTA) webinar, educating attendees on the program and safe medication storage/disposal.

#### **Alcohol and Other Drug Use Prevention FY20 Activities**

- ♦ Youth and Young Adult Media Campaign was completed for Underage/Binge Drinking.
- ♦ Numerous skill building sessions to assist with mental health issues were provided to 25 youth and 25 adults.
- ♦ Binge Drinking Parent Focus Group completed; despite numerous attempts and incentives, not enough parents were recruited for additional groups.







The Wicomico Safe Station began services in August 2019 providing 24/7 immediate access to treatment resources. During FY20, the Safe Station:

- Served 152 individuals, of which 143 were linked to recovery services (usually within 24 hours), and
- Received a Mid-Shore Behavioral Health Caliber Award in recognition of their contributions to the public behavioral health system within the region.

#### **Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program**

The Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program (PRP) provides rehabilitation and support for individuals to develop and enhance their community and independent living skills. During FY20, PRP served 109 clients ages 6 - 72 years. Workers provided their participants with 2,607 on and off-site visits. During the Covid-19 pandemic, PRP has provided access to services via telehealth. During FY20, PRP has made significant progress in collecting data about intervention effectiveness across several domains as well as client satisfaction. FY20 data shows 95% of PRP participants were satisfied with services.

#### **Smoking Cessation Program**

- Offered free Stop Smoking Classes, providing education, support and stop smoking aids such as patches, Chantix and Lozenges to 89 individuals.
- Increased access to services by collaborating with numerous partners to offer Stop Smoking classes throughout
  - offer Stop Smoking classes throughout the community including behavioral health agencies, subsidized senior housing complexes and pharmacies.
- From March 2020 to June 2020 no classes were offered due to COVID-19. The Tobacco Coordinator provided phone outreach during this time.





Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP) and Cigarette Restitution Fund Cancer Prevention, Education, Screening and Treatment Program (CPEST)

 Both programs assist individuals obtain cancer screening exams, such as mammograms, Pap tests, and colonoscopies. People with abnormal results receive navigation assistance.



- Access was increased by establishing a referral process with our local Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), translating BCCP literature to Haitian Creole, and providing education and outreach to the community.
- Planning began for working with a provider in the Haitian community as well as working with the Haitian radio station.
- CPEST funded 22 colonoscopies and BCCP funded 271 mammograms and over 76 Pap tests.

The Village Dental Center completed oral cancer screenings for 666 patients in FY20. Individuals with abnormal screenings are referred to an oral surgeon.

#### **SCALE** (Sustainable Change and Lifestyle Enhancement)

SCALE is a 12 week evidenced-based weight loss, nutrition, and physical activity program for women ages 18 - 55 years, and their children ages 7 - 17 years.

During FY20, 2 classes were implemented, serving 27 women and 10 children. The 1st class cohort had a 41% retention rate. The 2nd class was not completed due to COVID-19, although phone coaching was provided for several months. Positive feedback was received. See participant feedback below.

"The program has given me a lot of useful tips as far as healthy eating and helped me put things into perspective as far as weight gain. Hearing what works for other people as well has helped, learning from one another. The gym part of the program really helped me as well as far as my mental health before COVID hit us."





#### **Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)**

DPP is an evidenced based lifestyle change program developed by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for preventing type 2 diabetes. DPP classes meet weekly for 12 weeks and then monthly for up to a year. During FY20, one DPP class started but was put on hold due to COVID-19. In FY21 WiCHD will work to implement an on-line DPP class called HALT (Health and Lifestyle Training).



#### **WalkWicomico**

The WalkWicomico coalition is managed by WiCHD. During FY20, WalkWicomico revamped their website to be more user friendly. Additionally, the phone app was updated to include trail maps. Unfortunately, many of the FY20 walks, including *Walk at* 

*Lunch*, were cancelled due to COVID-19. Prior to that several walks were held, including:

- National Folk Festival Sneak Peek Walking Tour in September 2019.
   Approximately 15 people participated.
- Walk Maryland Day in October 2019. Approximately 30 people walked despite the record heat.
- "Ghosts of Christmas Past" walk was held in December 2019, in which a guided tour of downtown Salisbury was donated by Chesapeake Ghosts and limited to 30 participants. The free event "sold out".







From left to right: National Folk Festival Sneak Peak Walking Tour, Walk Maryland Day 2019, and Ghosts of Christmas Past Walk.

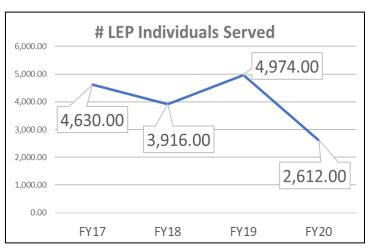


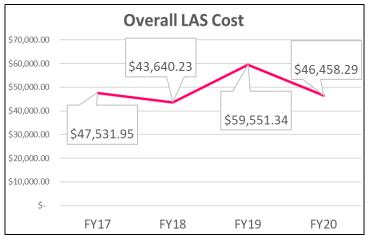


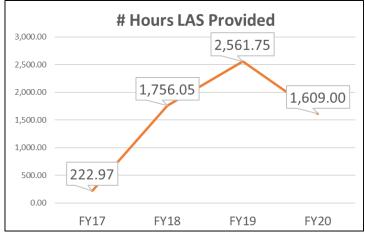
#### **Language Access Services**

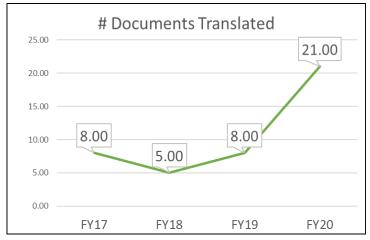
Language Access Services (LAS) at WiCHD increases access to services for our Limited English Proficient (LEP) population. LAS includes interpreter services from contracted interpreters (in-person interpretation), the Language Line, (telephonic interpretation) and Bilingual WiCHD staff. LAS also includes translation services, in which vital documents are translated into the most common languages served.

The tables below show the trend from FY17 to FY20 of: the # LEP individuals served, the # Hours LAS provided, the # of documents translated and the overall LAS Cost. COVID-19 had an impact on all areas decreasing except the # of documents translated.













#### Priority Area 2: Ensure quality public health services.



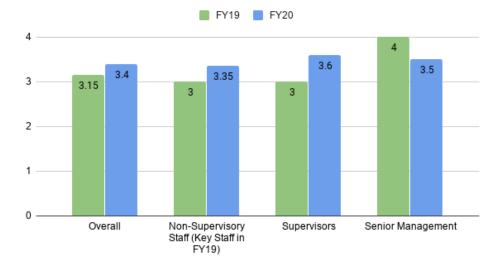
#### **Quality Council Completes Culture of Quality Assessment**

WiCHD completed its annual self-assessment using the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) Culture of Quality Improvement (QI) Roadmap. In FY20, the assessment was expanded to include all staff.

The FY20 score is 3.40, indicating WiCHD remains at a Phase 3. It is worth noting that although Phase 4 was not achieved, the score is higher than FY19's score of 3.15. To reach the next phase, the Quality Council will continue planning and implementing improvement strategies.



#### FY19 and FY20







#### **FY20 Quality Council Activities**

- Finalized an agency-wide Customer Satisfaction Survey to be implemented in FY21. Project was delayed due to COVID-19 response efforts.
- Reviewed 2 new staff ideas for improvement, but did not accept them as QI projects and instead sent back informal improvement recommendations.
- Collaborated with Personnel to create an onboarding process for new employees. Implementation will occur in FY21 due to COVID-19 issues.
- Developed and implemented a half-day, face-to-face Introduction to Quality Improvement training; **200 employees were trained** over 8 sessions.
- Trained all Senior Managers in Performance Management; each Senior Manager selected at least one program to track performance measures and identified performance standards.
- Assisted 4 programs improve and streamline data collection for performance measures.





WiCHD employees practicing how to make process maps during the FY20 all staff Introduction to Quality Improvement Training.

#### **Accreditation Activities**

WiCHD successfully completed its fourth Annual Report after becoming accredited by the **Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)** in 2016. WiCHD continues efforts to improve areas identified as opportunities for improvement, including performance management and quality improvement planning. WiCHD also has been preparing for reaccreditation in 2021.





#### **Accreditation Activities (continued)**



In FY20, Case Management and Behavioral Health programs continued improving quality via their CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) accreditation activities. This included quarterly performance management data collection and analysis. Two WiCHD staff members also attended the National CARF training in February 2020 to gain additional insight on improvement strategies.

# Working with Community Partners to Provide Quality Services

Recognizing that input from community partners is invaluable, WiCHD participates in and/or coordinates countless efforts that focus on identifying and addressing gaps. A few examples of these efforts include the following:



- <u>Child Fatality Review Team</u> the team consists of partners from various sectors. The team seeks to develop an understanding of the causes and incidence of child deaths in Wicomico County, in order to develop plans for and recommend changes to prevent child deaths.
- <u>Tri-County Alliance for the Homeless Lower Shore Continuum of Care Committee (HALS CoC)</u> is a group of individuals and organizations from Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties that address the common concern of homelessness. The group has been successful at obtaining funding for subsidized housing for many years.
- <u>Tri-County Health Planning Board</u> the three Lower Shore Health Departments of Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties, along with community stakeholders and partners have been meeting about three times a year, since at least 1993. The counties collaborate on common issues and pool resources when appropriate.





**Priority Area 3:** Adopt business practices that will assist in reducing administrative costs and increase revenues by improving operational efficiencies.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many of the typical business practices halted as staff took on Emergency Preparedness and Incident Command roles. However throughout the pandemic and subsequent quarantine, WiCHD continued with its ongoing performance improvement initiatives.

#### **Ongoing Performance Improvement Initiatives**

- Budget reports distributed monthly for review, followed by quarterly meetings with management staff to analyze current and future expenditures, and to plan for the following fiscal year's budget
- Tracking and monitoring productivity of Fee for Service (FFS) staff
- Implemented budget training in the onboarding of new supervisors that have budget duties in their job duties.







**Priority Area 4:** Build and grow partnerships that will facilitate improved communication and expand public health and wellness awareness.

#### Public Communication to Expand Public Health and Wellness Awareness







890 Followers

1.2k Followers

7.3k Followers

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, WiCHD used social media and the agency website to push information out to the public. Social media followers significantly increase in comparison to previous years as the community turned to WiCHD's social media presence for information.

#### Stakeholder/Community Input Obtained in Planning Processes

Many programs gather input during planning. Below are just a few of many examples.

- The Dental Program used customer satisfaction surveys to adjust business practices and outreach efforts.
- Environmental Health contacted realtors and septic installers for input on Environmental Health's septic application and permitting process. After improvements were made, public meetings were offered to inform them of the changes, seek further input, and address additional questions.
- The Tobacco Program participated in bi-weekly stakeholder meetings with other agencies across the lower eastern shore







#### Priority Area 5: Recruit and retain a competent and diverse workforce

#### **Staff Performance Reviews**

All staff evaluations were completed in the time frame required and all data was entered into the Workday system by the due date. There were some challenges due to the pandemic and staff teleworking, but they were addressed and resolved.

#### **Workforce Development Plan**

The plan is in the process of review and revision to set new and attainable goals and to find a new and accessible assessment tool.

#### **Staff Training Plans**

During FY20, Personnel worked with the Quality Council to revamp New Employee Orientation to make it more interactive as well as help improve the new employee's acclimation to the agency. Implementation was delayed to FY21 due to COVID-19.

### **FY20 Program Accomplishments**

In the previous fiscal year, the Personnel Department went from three staff to one staff. During FY20, the vacancies were filled and the hired staff have done well working together as a team. Despite having to telework due to COVID-19, the team has continued learning and growing together, having to adapt the way some work is completed. It also lays the groundwork for a great succession plan for the Personnel Department.

DEMOGRAPHICS*				
EMPLOYEE TYPE**				
Regular	176	83%		
Contractual	37	17%		
Total	213	100%		
**18 Vacancies not incl	uded			
GENDER				
Female	181	85%		
Male	32	15%		
Total	213	100%		
RACE				
Black	81	38%		
White	124	58%		
Other	4	2%		
Don't Know	2	1%		
Missing Data 2 1%				
Total	213	100%		
AGE				
< 18	I	0.5%		
18-24	4	2%		
25-34	29	14%		
35-44	60	28%		
45-64	103	48%		
65+	16	7.5%		
Total	213	100%		
*As of September 2020				

**EMPLOYEE** 





**Program Accomplishments:** this section of the report will present FY20 program accomplishments for programs not included in the identified priority areas.

**Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** monitored and provided intervention (or targeted case management) for **44 individuals** with elevated blood lead levels. Approximately, **797 families** received lead poisoning packets throughout FY20.

**Asthma and Lead Management,** a home visitation program offers education, environmental assessments, case management and other community resources to families with children who have asthma or lead poisoning. **Over 118 families** received "green" cleaning supplies, pest traps, mattress and pillow encasements, and HEPA vacuums to reduce asthma triggers and lead risks.

Babies Born Healthy (BBH), is a home visiting program that targets pregnant women in Wicomico County to provide education, care coordination, assessments and referrals to local resources. **97 individuals** were served in FY20.

The Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP) was busy throughout FY20, processing **2,408 Medicaid applications** and completing **5,749 verifications** to finalize client eligibility. Also, the program hired a bi-lingual staff who speaks Spanish and Creole, which will help the program serve more clients.



As part of a safe sleep initiative, Surveillance and Quality Initiatives (SQI) program provided 72 portable cribs to families in Wicomico County who did not have a safe, separate place for their baby to sleep as well as distributing over

**II5** safe sleep kits. The program also performed **I9** car seat safety checks and distributed **I6** car seats to Wicomico County residents with no car seat.





Healthy Families, a voluntary home-visiting program to promote healthy child growth/ development, strengthen parent-child bonds, and offer family support services for pregnant and parenting families, completed **725 home visits,** serving **76 families**. The program also went through a 3-day reaccreditation, earning praise on their new staff members and program processes.



The Adult Evaluation and Review Services (AERS) conducted 533 comprehensive assessments for elderly and disabled individuals in order to identify resources to help the individual remain in the least restrictive environment within the community. AERS helped provide linkages to services such as personal care assistance, chore services, home delivered meals, and home modifications.

**Strengthening Families** is an evidence based prevention program that aims to assist families within late primary school/early high school. During FY20, **4** booster sessions were held for **5** families that previously completed the program. The booster sessions serve as a follow-up and review of parent-child skills. The sessions covered topics like dealing with stress and peer pressure, family bonding, and positive communication.



The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is a supplemental nutrition program servicing the tri-county area. It serves women, infants and children under the age of 5. During FY20, 5,111 participants were served, with a 98.5% caseload assignment.





Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Management Information Systems (MIS) Department facilitated the switch to teleworking for nearly 200 WiCHD employees and implemented a telehealth system to continue patient appointments. Merging with Somerset County Health Department's IT division, MIS created a Regional MIS program to serve both health departments in order to collaborate problem-solving and reduce cost.



Although **Health Fair Participation** halted during the COVID-19 Pandemic, WiCHD participated in **31 health fairs** in FY20, equaling about **398 hours**.



Medical Assistance (MA) Transportation provides eligible Medicaid recipients in Wicomico County with non-emergent medical transportation. In FY20, the program served 2,663 riders . Additionally, the program provided 2,022 ambulance trips, 5,746 wheelchair trips and 38,716 ambulatory trips.

**Environmental** Health (EH) utilized Bay Restoration Funds for the installation of 32 BAT septic tanks and 12 drainfields. Additionally, funds were also used for the design cost for an innovative and alternative septic system.

EH's Food Protection and Community Services Program revised employee coverage to provide faster customer service. Additionally, this program was allocated the duties of siting and testing new wells, inspecting and licensing Mobile Home Parks and Campgrounds, and investigating Nuisance Complaints. This re-assignment of duties allowed for a more-focused approach on these specific applications and allowed for more appointment availability.





The Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) Grant is a teen pregnancy prevention program. The main component for this grant is the GEMS Program, an abstinence program for middle school females in 3 local middle schools. In FY20, the program served 83 students.

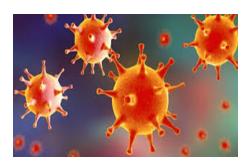


Other SRAE accomplishments include:

- Reaching **92 parents and adult professionals** by hosting 3 parents nights and a professional workshop for Wicomico Schools counselors
- Educating 100 5th grade students on personal hygiene
- Providing 100 hygiene kits to 5th graders via a faith-based partnership

The Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP), is an evidence based curriculum that provides education to male and female youth about preventing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. In FY20, PREP provided education to 27 youth.

The Family Planning Program provided reproductive health services to 1,675 clients during FY 20, including services for annual breast exams and pap smears. Patients receive education at every visit about monthly self breast exams and screening for early detection and prevention of breast cancer. Our program provides referral and case management for abnormal breast exams and pap smears.



#### **Sexually Transmitted Infection Rates**

Rates in Wicomico County remain high. The gonorrhea rate for FY20 was **75.3 per 100,00 population**, the 4th highest in the state. Our chlamydia rate was the 2nd highest in the state at **312.7** falling behind Baltimore City's rate at 405.4.







Adult and Childhood Immunizations
Program provided vaccines for 363 adults and children over 459 visits. During our 2019 Back to School Immunization clinics 209 Wicomico County children received vaccines required for school. In addition those children meeting the

criteria for HPV vaccine were offered to boys and girls during immunization clinics along with education regarding importance of HPV in cancer prevention.

The Immigration/Civil Surgeon Program offers physical exams, infectious disease screenings and evaluation of required immunizations needed for those undocumented clients going through the immigration process to obtain their green card for future citizenship and legal residency. Our WiCHD certified Civil Surgeon served 203 clients over 258 visits during FY20.

The School Based Wellness Center (SBWC) served 292 enrolled students across both Wicomico High School and Wicomico Middle School. During FY20, the SBWC students had a total of 992 visits. Students have access to behavioral health services at both locations. Also, the SBIRT assessment process was implemented in our SBWC sites to identify and make early referrals of identified high risk behaviors.



**Vital Records** continued to provide Death Certificates when the agency was closed at the beginning of the pandemic. Otherwise, funeral homes may have had a delay in providing services if they had to order the certificates on-line through the Maryland Department of Health's Vital Records





# WICOMICO HEALTH IN THE COMMUNITY



























