



Eastern Highlands Health District

# Eastern Highlands Health District Programs, Services & Future Objectives

**Using the 10 Essential Local Public Services  
Framework**

**Coventry Town Council**

**September 6, 2016**



## **Vision**

Healthy people, healthy communities...healthier future

## **Mission**

EHHD is committed to enhancing the quality of life in its communities through the prevention of illness, promotion of wellness and protection of our human environment

# Essential Service #1 - Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community

- Regular review of health district public health data provided by local, state, federal, and non-governmental agencies
- Completed 2014 community health needs assessment for Tolland County via CTG
- EHHD centric community health assessment—*Future objective*



# Essential Service #2 - Protect people from health problems and health hazards

- Complaint investigation program
  - 120 – 160 complaints annually
  - Laboratory services
- Lead Agency for Local Public Health Emergency Planning and Preparedness
  - Develop plans (pandemic, Anthrax, smallpox, all Hazards), MRC, Local HAN, stockpiled supplies and equipment, staff/volunteer training
  - Provide 365/24/7 emergency response services (5 to 15 incidents annually)



# #2 - Protect people from health problem and health hazards –cont.

- Communicable Disease Surveillance and Control
  - 900 to 1200 case reports reviewed annually for over 70 reportable diseases
  - 25 to 40 cases interviewed/investigated annually
  - 5 to 10 outbreaks investigated annually
  - Controls implemented when necessary, e.g. Ebola, goat farm Ecoli out break, restaurant closure
- Bathing Water Quality Monitoring Program
  - weekly sampling from 26 locations during swimming season
  - 300 to 350 samples grabbed
  - 2- 4 beach closures annually

## #2 - Protect people from health problem and health hazards –cont.

- Special Environmental Monitoring Projects
  - Landfills, Road Salt, Farms, VOC's
- Respond to school and town PH concerns, providing consultation, and subject matter expertise.
  - IAQ, radon, lead, construction projects, regional water supply planning, individual water supplies, wastewater disposal, risk communication

# Essential Service #3 - Give people the information they need to make healthy choices.

- Media point of contact
  - Monthly press releases
  - Cable TV interviews
  - Local HAN
  - Social media FB
- Child hood Lead Protection Education
  - 4 to 8 cases annually
  - Provide ed. material and consultation

# #3 - Give people the information they need to make healthy choices – cont.

- Ongoing Website topics, e.g. School initiatives (95210, POW) tobacco free initiatives, sun safety, tick borne diseases, Asthma, Rabies, many others!
- EHHD responds to public's need for timely information, e.g. H1N1, Ebola, Zika, seasonal Influenza, localized responses
- Employee Wellness Program (contracted services)
- Local Public Health resource and repository for a broad scope of educational material, and links to reference material, e.g. print, & electronic
- Food safety classes – *future objective*

# Essential Service #4 - Engage the community to identify and solve health problems

- Leader and hub of local public health system, with established relationships with multiple community partners and stakeholders
- Community Health Action Response Team (CHART)
- Substance abuse
  - Work group established (First responders, social services)
  - Planning public forum – *Future objective*
- Plan4Health initiative
  - Planning/Public Health Partnership
  - Tool kit: [www.healthyeasternct.com](http://www.healthyeasternct.com)
- Other community committees/groups
  - Early Childhood Committees
  - Health and Safety Committees
  - UConn SHS Infection prevention committee
  - ESF 8



# Essential Service #5 - Develop public health policies and plans

- Review and comments on local codes, ordinances, polices, plans
  - P&Z, housing, septic pumping, facilities plan, Plan of C&D, relocation plans, public school health policies (TB, lice, ILI), tobacco free campus
- Public Health Advocacy to state, local leaders, boards, commissions, general public
  - CADH, CEHA
- Board of Directors
  - Strategic Planning
  - Annual budget
  - EHHD Sanitary Code adoption
- Emergency Public Health Preparedness Plans
- Community Health Improvement Plan – *future objective*



# Essential Service #6 - Enforce public health laws and regulations

- Food Protection Regulations
  - 600 to 700 inspection annually
  - Licensing program for approximately 250 establishments
  - Temp event permitting
    - 200 - 250 permits issued annually
    - 120 to 150 temp vendor inspections annually
- Subsurface septic system program
  - 220 to 250 permits/plan reviews annually
  - 500 to 600 building permit reviews annually
  - 1000 to 1500 test pits/perc tests annually



# #6- Enforce public health laws and regulations – cont.

- Well drilling permits
  - 160 to 200 permits issues annually
  - 90 to 120 site inspections annually
- Other mandated inspections (pools, group homes, daycares, camp grounds)
  - 25 to 40 annually
- Lead Protection Regulations
  - 2 to 4 inspections annually
  - 3 to 6 cases managed (approx 40 man hours/case)

# #6 - Enforce public health laws and regulations – cont.

- Planning and Zoning Commission referrals
  - 50 to 70 annually
- Legal Abatement Orders Issued
  - 5 to 15 annually
- Special Projects
  - town sewer projects, FOG, town/school building projects, others
  - ViewPoint online application, tracking, payments, complaints –*future objective*

# Essential Service #7 - Help people receive health services

- Coordinate and promote area flu clinics with VNA's
- Promote other community based health services when available, e.g. health screenings, dental clinics, wellness clinics
- Established relationships and maintain listing of area healthcare providers
- Link individuals to personal healthcare services
- Tick testing program

# Essential Service #8 - Maintain a competent public health workforce

- Environmental Field Staff (Sanitarians)
  - Certified Food Inspectors (CEUs required)
  - Certified Phase I & II subsurface sewage disposal
  - Qualified Lead Inspectors (CEUs required)
- Annual performance reviews/set performance goals
- Semi-monthly staff meetings – standardization/training
- Exercises and drills
- Professional development opportunities, e.g. customer service, code updates, best practices, etc.
- Implement Workforce Development Plan – *future objective*



# Essential Service #9 - Evaluate and improve programs and interventions

- Productivity analysis environmental program areas
- Standardization of code enforcement/policy interpretation
- Evaluation protocols integrated in grant funded programs/initiatives
- Regulated Community Customer Service Survey
- ViewPoint/Workforce development plan – *future objectives*

# Essential Service #10 - Use and contribute to the evidence base of public health

- Support Public Health Research and development of evidence based best practices
  - PBRN/CADH
  - Plan4Health
  - CHART mission
  - others
- Report/Present on experiences and practices at professional forums/events





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# Questions?

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