BUTTE-SILVER BOW HEALTH DEPARTMENT

3 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN OF OPERATION

2011

The Butte-Silver Bow Health Department, under the direction of the Local Board of Health and Butte-Silver Bow Local Government, operates to serve the general public interests with specific program activities designed to provide the ten essential services of public health according to the National Organizational Definition as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This department currently administers twenty-nine public health programs with a staff of fifty-two employees.

MISSION STATEMENT - The mission of the Butte-Silver Bow Health Department is to promote individual, community and environmental health by understanding, anticipating and responding to the health-related needs of the community. The scope of our responsibilities include:

- Prevention of epidemics
- Protection of the environment
- Food, water and air safety
- Monitoring the health status of the community
- Promotion of healthy behaviors and choices
- Mobilization of the community to respond to severe health risks
- Responding to disasters
- Inform, educate, and empower people regarding health issues
- Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
- Assure a competent public and personal health care workforce
- Evaluate the effectiveness, accessibility and quality of population-based services
- Research new insights and innovative solutions to current health problems identified

The Essential Services listed above provide a working definition of public health and a guiding framework for the inclusion of programs to meet the stated objectives. The Butte-Silver Bow Health Department is logically divided into three divisions; 1) Environmental Services; 2) Health Services; and 3) Addictive Services and behavioral prevention programs. An organizational chart is included in this document for clarification purposes. The remainder of this plan will focus on Division specific goals, objectives, short and long term action plans to achieve these goals as well as evaluation techniques to measure progress or for use as a plan to revise the actions as indicated. Quality Improvement and Quality Assurance will be built into each section as a means of ensuring continued progress.

Butte-Silver Bow Health Department Organizational Structure

Health Officer

Budget and Finance – Clerical Management

Administrative Assistants

Assistant Health Officer for Environmental Services	Assistant Health Officer for Health Services	Assistant Health Officer for Addictive Services and Prevention
Food and Consumer Safety Air Quality Water Quality Residential Metals Superfund Activities Community Enrichment – Junk Vehicle	Maternal Child Health Public Health Home Visiting Family Planning Title X Cancer Prevention WIC Immunizations TB Prevention Travel Vaccinations Home Health School Nursing Emergency Preparedness Detention Center Nursing	Chemical Dependency Outpatient Treatment Services Intensive Outpatient Adolescent Group Individual and Group Treatment DUI Classes MIP Classes Drug Court and DUI Court Prevention Block Grant Drug Free Communities Tobacco Prevention and Compliance

The Butte-Silver Bow County Needs Assessment revealed several areas of need as well as many community partners to work collaboratively to address issues identified as priority needs for the community-at-large. The Community Health Improvement Plan defines strategies for health department programs and community agencies to work together to improve the health of residents.

Purpose – The Butte-Silver Bow Health Department will advise and collaborate with community partners to address identified health issues and to help create policies that will improve community health over the long-term. All community partners have agreed to meet on a quarterly basis to evaluate the progress of strategies identified and/or change these strategies for the most effective outcomes. Sharing of limited funds and personnel resources between community partners will allow the most appropriate use of time and resources to serve the most people in the community.

Several prevailing factors surfaced in the process of defining priority areas of need and strategies to address these needs:

- There is a need for agencies and organizations in the County to increase their collaborative efforts to provide high-quality and cost-saving services.
- Community needs can be more effectively addressed by increasing community involvement and to begin this effort at the neighborhood level versus the community as a whole.
- Models, best practices, and existing infrastructure and programs can be used to effectively and efficiently expand current services or develop new ones.
- Increasing the effectiveness of efforts can be achieved by providing an ongoing communication link between all organizations to ensure collaborative action plans and reduce duplication or unintentional oversight of service availability.

The Strategic Planning Process for the Health Department will be addressed by division with the goals, measurable objectives, and challenges identified according to the essential services provisions, contract requirements and community needs implications.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

The Need – The Butte-Silver Bow Health Department's Environmental Health Division is charged with ensuring protection to environmental hazards including those that occur in soil, water, air, food preparation and storage, as well as abnormal garbage collection and junk vehicle removal.

Goals and Objectives –

- Promotion of the "Healthy Homes" concept which includes testing and removal of indoor paint containing lead, yard soils containing lead, arsenic, or mercury through the activities of the Residential Metals Program.

Monitor and track the homes tested and abatement has taken place (240 properties tested and 60 abatements per year).

- Reduce the effects of wood burning on air quality through education and continuous monitoring of the air quality. Public notifications will be made whenever air quality is less than optimal and specific recommendations made for residents that are sensitive to such changes. Provide educational information in the High School Science classes to increase awareness of the prevention methods including current emission standards in place. Monitor air quality readings continuously and report unacceptable levels with remediation plans filed. Documentation of events will serve as an evaluation tool for this activity.
- Monitor and advise on drinking water conditions including infiltration into the public drinking water system. Provide education related to sanitizing or disinfection of private well water systems – monitor levels of contamination of heavy metal contamination from ground soils. Documentation of testing results and action taken will serve as an evaluation tool.
- Establish a revolving loan fund program for creating healthy homes (improvement fund) using the Redevelopment Trust Fund. These would be funds loaned to individuals wishing to do home improvement and would require repayment over time.
- Develop a "water shut off" prevention program. This would be a hardship fund to pay water bills and prevent the water from being shut off to residential properties. A designated board would administer this program and evaluation of need on an individual basis. This will allow sanitation standards to be maintained in the residential setting. Documentation of board requests and bills paid will serve as an evaluation tool.
- Provide more inspections of restaurants, day care centers, event venues and hot tubs/spas. This need has increased in the past year by 3.3%. To maintain a protective level of inspection will require additional staff to ensure we are taking a proactive approach versus a reactive approach. Evaluation tools will be documentation of inspections done, corrective action plan reviews, and policies instituted by establishments to ensure healthy personnel practices.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

The Need – High risk behaviors, economic stressors, and an aging population in Silver Bow County are all factors leading the high ranking in the State statistical data for heart disease, smoking incidence, obesity rates which will have adverse effects on our population for years to come without positive intervention. Many of these risk factors become intergenerational as acceptable norms and little has been done to break this cycle of events.

Goals and Objectives –

- Widely disseminate information related to all services offered throughout the community by all partners including General Health, Prevention Programs, Mental Health, Child mentoring services, School mentoring services, Afterschool programs, etc. Information will be assembled and provided in written copies as well as online and offered by all community partners.
- Continued education regarding the correlation between high risk behaviors and chronic disease, life-long disability, and prevention strategies. Document all educational sessions provided and by whom with numbers of individuals attending and take home information provided. Monitor and document local health statistics for further planning purposes.
- Direct resources to creating necessary programs and facilities to treat critical needs of children with Severe Emotional Distress as well as transitional services for those leaving foster care settings.
- Provide assistance for non-reimbursable expenses to low income people (i.e., St. James Foundation)
- Identify grant opportunities for construction and operation of a detoxification facility (alcohol and drug detox). Provide acute care and crisis stabilization locally.
- Continue joint efforts to provide patient-centered care, prevention and education services that address chronic disease stressors and alternative behaviors. Encourage and facilitate a medical home for patients and encourage them to access the provider during business hours rather than use of the Emergency Room as a clinic for routine needs.
- Provision of preventative care to low income individuals such as Family Planning reproductive health care and responsible decision making for clients, Maternal Child Health Public Health Home Visiting in increase positive pregnancy outcomes, Monitor Child Abuse/neglect events and ensure child safety in the home, appropriated and recommended cancer screening by providers and requested by clients.
- Drug and Alcohol treatment needs evaluated by every person having contact with clients.
- Use of Home Health Benefits to encourage aging in place with appropriate assistance provided.

ADDICTIVE AND BEHAVIORAL SERVICES DIVISION

The need – Attitudes and acceptance of addictive behaviors for drug and alcohol have had long standing precedence in this community. There is an acceptance of alcohol use as a measure of adulthood. Breaking this intergenerational behavior has been met with challenges throughout. Addictive behavior has many consequences including the highest crime rates in the State. Rates of the major index crimes are very often precipitated by drug and alcohol use/abuse including rape, homicide, robbery, aggravated assault, domestic violence, child abuse/neglect, elder abuse, etc. Definitive action to address these issues has been identified as a priority need.

Goals and Objectives –

- Provide support and education to children and families to encourage healthier behaviors
- Encourage norm changes to reveal substance use is "not OK"
- Provide for acute care/crisis stabilization locally
- Maintain resources for drug and DUI courts
- Develop an elementary school health curriculum that involves parents
- Expand big brother and big sister mentoring services in the schools
- Develop a state-wide MIP database
- Develop a community education for parents using Title 1 funding
- Place a substance abuse specialist in the schools
- Develop an informational website to coordinate services and foster collaboration
- Develop and pass a prevention mill levy

The goals and objectives identified in this document reflect the health department involvement in areas of need in a collaborative mode. Many other action plans can be identified in the Community Health Improvement plan with community partners identified that have expressed a strong interest in specific areas of intervention.

The Butte-Silver Bow Health Department will continue to lead the effort in monitoring progress in this process. Quarterly meetings will be facilitated through this department and progress monitored. Adjustments will occur as indicated by the focus area committees involved and changes or additions to the plan will be identified during those meetings.