



ANNUAL REPORT

2019



Public Health
Larimer.org/health

2019 gave our department a chance to focus internally and develop a strategic plan. Strategic planning is such an important part of our prioritization process. It drives our focus areas and helps us understand where we need to allocate resources and efforts.

As part of the new direction and alignment with our department wide approach, we have a new mission and vision. This new mission and vision focuses on helping our community have access to healthy choices and a healthy environment.



This was not a quick or simple process. My first year in my new role was spent learning and gathering feedback. I wanted to understand where our department needed to grow, and what was working and not working. This process helped us look at the areas we want to focus on and narrow them into priority areas with measurable objectives.

These goals and objectives are not easy, nor are they simple. They will require teamwork and innovation to move our department forward. Everyone will have the opportunity to participate and brainstorm ideas to be part of the solutions and systems that are developed over the next few years.

This plan will help us stay focused on our bigger goals and objectives while still carrying out the daily operations of our department. We cannot be successful, as a department or in strategic planning, without everyone's help and efforts. I can't wait to see where the next five years take us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Gonzales, MPH". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tom Gonzales, MPH
Public Health Director

Administration

Tom Gonzales, MPH
Public Health Director

Averil Strand, RN, MSN
Director of Community Health Services

Shaun May MS, REHS
Director of Environmental Health

Andrea Clement-Johnson MS
Director of Health Promotions

Bruce Peters
Director of Administrative Services

Dr. Chris Nevin-Woods DO
Medical Director

Board of Health

Jennifer Lee MS
Janna West-Kowalski, MS
Teri Olson
Bernard Birnbaum, MD
Brian DeGrosso

County Commissioners

Steve Johnson

District I

John Kefalas

District II

Tom Donnelly

District III



CORE VALUES



New Mission

Working to provide everyone in Larimer County the opportunity for a healthy life.

New Vision

Larimer County is a thriving, health-aware community where everyone has access to healthy choices and a healthy environment.

Our Values

Professionalism - We interact together and with customers through respect, empathy and quality of work.

Strategic - We think and plan for the future.

Equitable - We treat each other and residents to ensure needs are met, everyone is valued and people feel treated fairly.

Teamwork - We collaborate and work together.

Strategic Plan

Much of 2019 was spent working on a 5 year strategic plan for the organization. This process included feedback from all employees in the organization, and helped the agency prioritize focus areas for the coming years. Throughout this process, a new Mission and Vision statement was also created, to better align with the new direction of the organization. This new mission and vision focuses on helping the community have access to healthy choices and a healthy environment.

2020 - 2025 Plan

A 5 year strategic plan provides direction for an organization and places emphasis on the areas where we wish to see measurable improvements. It does not represent all of the work at LCDHE, only the strategic focus areas. By successfully implementing this plan over the next 5 years, we position the organization and our services to best address the changing demographics, needs of the community, and Public Health 3.0 principles. You will see that an overarching theme for this plan is to invigorate our organization's operation and position staff to have the tools and support needed to propel us into the future.

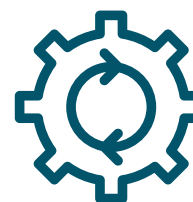
Our Priorities



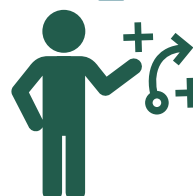
Be Prepared for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Threats



Invest in our People



Invest in our Internal Processes and Systems



Be Health Strategists



2019 News Releases

These releases are just a few from 2019 that showcase the work done by LCDHE.



Pilot Community for the Colorado Equity Compass Collaborative

In partnership with local partners, LCDHE was selected as a pilot community for the Colorado Equity Compass Collaborative. Partners involved in this pilot project are Larimer County Department of Health and Environment, Larimer County Workforce and Economic Development, Larimer County Department of Human Services, Larimer County Behavioral Health, Larimer County Information Technology, La Family/The Family Center, City of Fort Collins, Health District of Northern Larimer County, United Way of Larimer County, and the Bohemian Foundation.



Board of Health Supports Restricting Youth Access to Products Containing Nicotine

The Larimer County Board of Health voted to support and recommend that Larimer County and its municipalities pass local ordinances restricting youth access to products containing nicotine. The passing of HB 19-1033 authorizes counties or cities to enact a resolution or ordinance regulating the sale of cigarettes, tobacco products, or nicotine products to minors. Possible regulations include tobacco retail licensing, raising the minimum age of tobacco related products to age 21, and flavor restrictions.



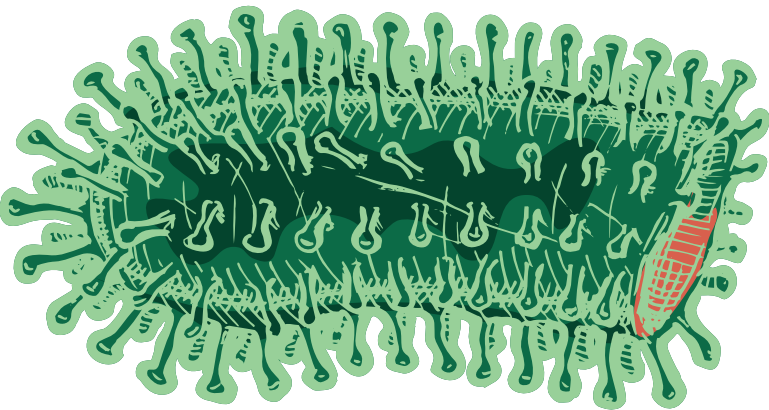
Robert Wood Johnson Ranks Larimer County as 7th Healthiest in Colorado

Larimer County ranks 7th healthiest in Colorado, according to the annual County Health Rankings, released today by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute (UWPHI). The Rankings are available at www.countyhealthrankings.org.



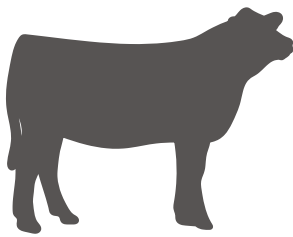
Influenza Activity on the Rise in Larimer County

Influenza season began in January, with twenty-one local residents hospitalized by January 4th. All hospitalized patients testing positive for influenza after September 30 are counted as influenza cases for the current year.

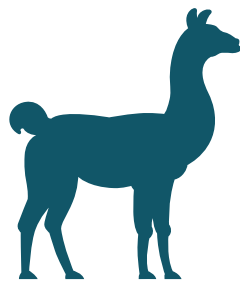


Rabies in 2019

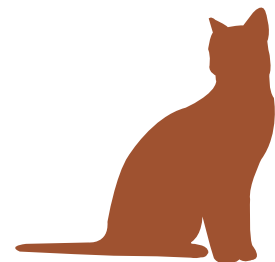
Larimer County had the highest confirmed rabies infections in animals across the state of Colorado.



In May a steer tested positive for rabies after signs of aggression. LCDHE worked with the processor and owner to minimize risk and exposure.



In August, a llama tested positive for rabies after displaying signs of aggression and dying. LCDHE worked with local property owners to notify them about rabies in the area.



In August, a stray cat tested positive for rabies after potential contact with residents. LCDHE worked with partner agencies to notify nearby residents about potential exposure.

While human infections of rabies are rare, they can occur. LCDHE works closely with those who have been exposed to animals that test positive for rabies.

Rabies is spread primarily by saliva through the bite of a rabid animal. Once symptoms of rabies infection appear, there is no cure and the infection is fatal. People that have been exposed to rabies can receive medication treatment to prevent illness. Treatment is often recommended in the form of Postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) for anyone who came in contact with the rabies positive animal.

Occasionally, like in the case of the rabies positive cat LCDHE investigated, exposures are unknown. Notifications are done publicly to make people aware of the potential risks and need to seek treatment.

LCDHE reminded pet and livestock owners to keep their animals up-to-date on rabies vaccinations to prevent lengthy and costly quarantines—or even euthanasia—if they have an encounter with a rabid animal. Livestock owners need to check with their veterinarians about rabies vaccinations for their horses, cattle, and other livestock.

In Larimer County, positive rabies is most normally found in skunks and bats but does occasionally cross into other species. Skunk rabies may pose a greater risk to pets and livestock because—as ground-based animals—they may interact more with animals than bats.

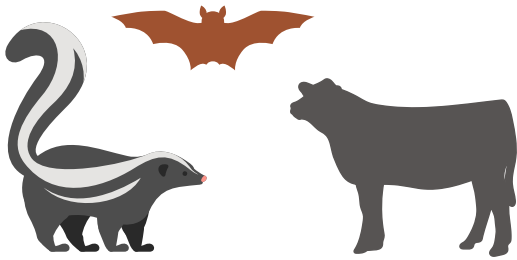
While Larimer County had more rabies exposures in unusual species in 2019, it coincided with high rabies numbers in animals across the county. Larimer County had the most positive animal incident numbers across the state in 2019.



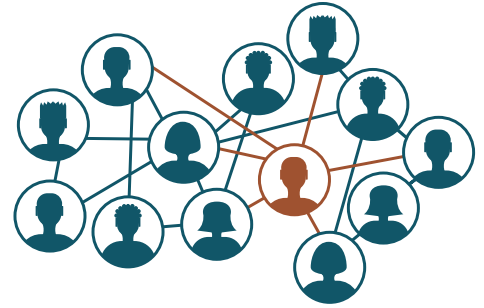
1,297
Retail Food
Inspections

64%

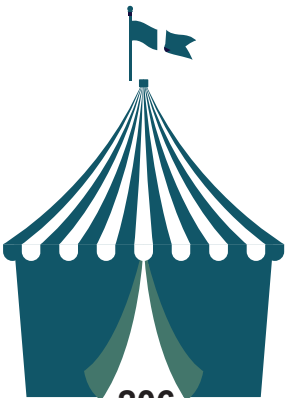
Percentage of restaurants that received a "Good" or "Excellent" during an unannounced food safety inspection



Number of positive rabies tests - 55 (10 bats, 42 skunks, 1 cat, 1 cow, 1 camelid)



524
Communicable Disease
Investigations



206
Special Event Land
Use Permit Reviews



Number of Women,
Infants and Children
served by the WIC
program



237 clients served
through Nurse Family
Partnership



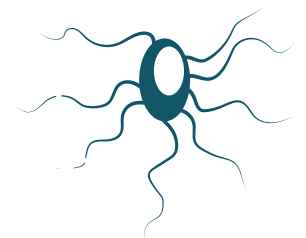
246
Number of
hospitalizations
for influenza



1,139
Burn permits
issued



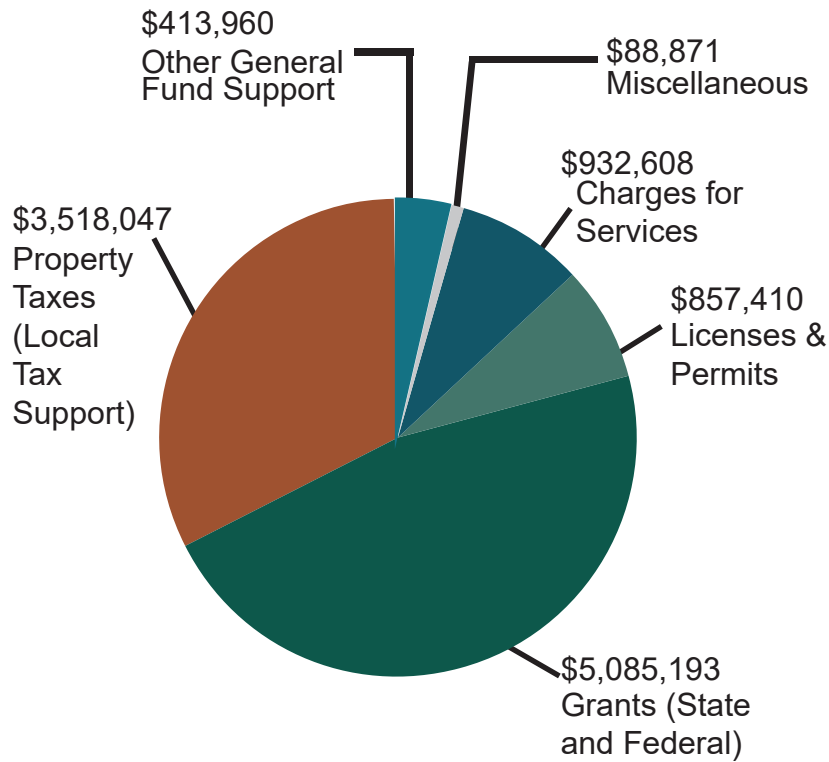
1,456 Chlamydia
& Gonorrhea
Tests Completed



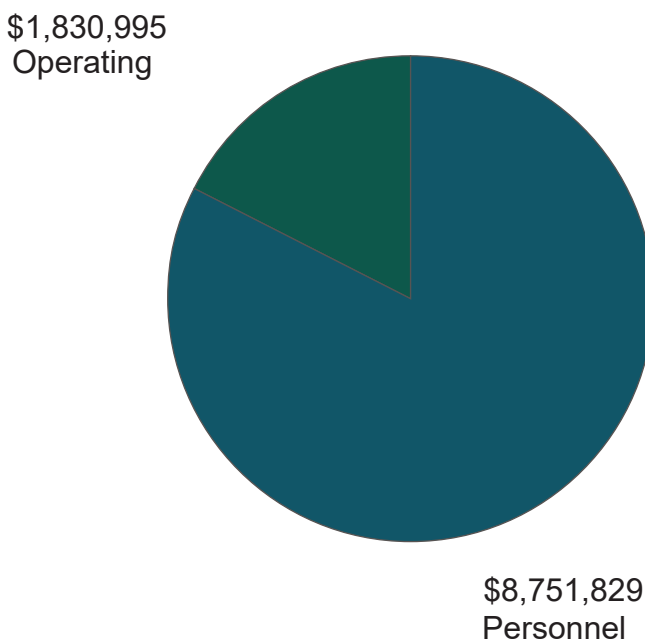
43
Salmonella cases

Financials

Revenues \$10,896,089



Expenses \$10,582,824



Department Services in 2019

Childhood vaccinations given	2,521
Number of TB cases treated	2
Childcares & schools inspected	186
Solid and hazardous waste inspections	108
Licensed EMS inspections	89
On-site wastewater (septic) permits	258
Land use plan reviews	206
Restaurant plan reviews completed	160
Influenza vaccines given	1,317
Contraception counseling provided	1,904
STI tests given	2,601
Nurse-Family Partnership families	237
Prenatal Plus home & office visits	142
Healthy Communities interactions w/providers or community agencies	7,694
Medicaid or CHP+ application assistance provided to young adults (under 21) or families	66
Families served through HCP for Children with Special Needs Program	238
Birth certificates issued	8,743
Death certificates issued	17,800
Number of International Travel Clinic clients	295
Licensed retail food establishments	1,835

