

2017 Department of Health & Senior Services Significant Milestones

Dr. Randall W. Williams, Department Director visited all 115 counties while coordinating a Cabinet-wide response to combat the opioid crisis.

The **Division of Senior and Disability Services** have adjusted the care plans of 8,618 participants of Consumer Directed Services participants since July to be consistent with participants that receive In-Home Services. Participants care plans do not exceed 60% of the average cost of nursing home care as a result of this change.

The **Division of Regulation and Licensure** made major strides in protecting the health of Missourians while simultaneously addressing the opioid epidemic. Legislation was passed that allows for any citizen to receive naloxone by way of a statewide standing order signed by Dr. Randall Williams. DRL applied for and received a four year grant totaling \$3.2 million to train first responders and equip them with the life-saving drug naloxone. Also, DRL implemented the a statewide prescription drug monitoring program that utilizes data analytics to determine controlled substances that are being inappropriately obtained, prescribed, or dispensed.

The **Division of Administration** created a new financial monitoring tool for use in monitoring subrecipients; provided training on 2 CFR 200 (Uniform Grants Guidance); and achieved department operational cost savings of \$45,956 by changing the process of assigning phones department-wide and consolidating lease space in the Springfield area.

The **Division of Community and Public Health** implemented the early implementation of Adoptee Rights. This allowed for a smoother transition for an already overworked unit, provided better customer service for those we serve, and was appreciated by the sponsor of the legislation and advocacy groups. The division also did a rapid implementation of SB 5. Staff were incredibly responsive in making necessary changes to forms, rules, practices, etc. to implement this legislation

The **Office of Public Information** supported DHSS in holding nine opioid summits throughout the state by partnering with local public health agencies and state cabinet departments to promote the events through social media, press releases, the DHSS opioids web page, and individual media invitations.

The **Office of Governmental Policy and Legislation** successfully advanced legislation to allow the distribution of naloxone without a prescription, encourage individuals to seek emergency medical attention in the case of an opioid or alcohol overdose, and continue the income tax checkoff that funds the Missouri Organ Donor Registry through fiscal contributions.

The **Office of General Counsel** provided legal counsel necessary to implement SB5 passed during the second 2017 special session.

The **Office on Women's Health** re-established the Women's Health Council to provide input and feedback on how best to improve outcomes as the department develops and implements strategies to improve women's health in Missouri.

The **Office of Performance Management** Leading DHSS managers through a "culture of QI" assessment that let them evaluate the QI culture of their unit and develop strategies to improve that culture. Working with DHSS staff to update program descriptions to include measures that are meaningful and represent efficiency and effectiveness.

The **Office of Primary Care and Rural Health** submitted 212 applications to the Health Resources and Services Administration to update the federal Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations; (102 Primary Care, 92 Dental Health, and 18 Mental Health) and provided financial assistance to 38 physicians, dentists and nurses through the loan repayment programs in exchange for working in designated HPSAs to increase access to primary health care to rural and underserved Missourians.

The **Office of Minority Health** sponsored two major events in collaboration with the Missouri State Highway Patrol to bridge the gap between law enforcement and the minority community, one took place in Lilbourn, Missouri and another took place in Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

The **Office of Dental Health** provided 92,692 dental screenings in 2017, an increase of 9,553 (11%) over 2016. An estimated 185,386 fluoride varnish treatments to these same children in Missouri saving MO HealthNet approximately \$1,001,243 in reimbursement.

The **State Public Health Laboratory** continued to deliver quality public health laboratory services by providing clinical and environmental testing for approximately 290,000 samples for Missouri citizens with a documented 100% customer satisfaction. The laboratory trained 72 Missouri sentinel laboratory facilities in the handling of infectious substances and biosafety. Additionally, the laboratory worked to incorporate new technologies to provide vital services and increase efficiencies in the areas of electronic laboratory reporting, expanded newborn screening for SCID, and initiated new methodologies in whole genome sequencing.