



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# 2017



## City of St. Joseph Health Department Annual Report

# 2017 The Year in Review



From Director of Health  
Debra Bradley, MSW

Hello, and welcome to the City of St. Joseph Health Department 2017 Annual Report! This report offers an overview of the services and accomplishments the health department has achieved during the past calendar year. We continue to serve our area, assuring public safety throughout the entire community by working towards the highest standard of public health for our citizens.

2017 showcased planning and preparedness activities, featuring two local events. The first to occur was the Total Solar Eclipse. Health department staff stationed at Patee Market were trained in basic first aid and use of an Automated Electronic Defibrillator (AED) in preparation for staffing first aid stations during the eclipse event. Staff was also provided additional training on heat-related illnesses by Dr. Lynthia Andrews of Buchanan County EMS. The day of the eclipse turned out to be gray and overcast, however staff proudly sported their bright orange eclipse shirts and offered basic first aid to those in need. The health department staffed two stations, one at Heritage Park and one near Remington Nature Center. The health department partnered with multiple health care providers across the region to assure public safety and emergency response as necessary.

As the eclipse was nearing, we were notified by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) that St. Joseph was chosen as one of nine locations to host an Opioid Summit. A small group of staff and community members went to work planning the event. In the end, partners from DHSS, Missouri Western State University, Mosaic Life Care, Northwest Health Services, and St. Joseph Fire and Police Departments came together with the health department to make the event a success. Over 400 people registered and packed the room. Speakers from across the state spoke on the impact the opioid crisis is having on Missouri. A local presenter shared his personal impact story that captivated the audience. Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive.

The year was filled with planning and collaborations. Within the pages of this report you will find tremendous evidence of the work the health department does in a variety of arenas to protect the health of our citizens as well as to educate and promote healthy choices. Thank you to our partners and to you for all you do to live healthy!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debra Bradley". The signature is fluid and cursive.

## 2017 Personnel Accomplishments

Debra Bradley served as the Chair of United Way Board of Directors

Holly Bowie YWCA Women of Excellence Finalist

Kendra Bundy earned a Master of Science in Management and Leadership

Carol Stockwell Inter-national Association of Administrative Professionals Member of Excellence



**City Link**  
Connecting government with community.

APRIL 13, 2017

**GETTING ST. JOE FIT**  
St. Joe FIT began on April 6, with over 300 participants. Runners, walkers, rollers and four-legged friends all made an appearance at the first event.

**FEATURED ARTICLES**  
Where Will You Be When The Sun Goes Down? You're Thinking of Opening A Restaurant? The Glory of Wine But Wait...The Game

City of St. Joseph Missouri



Missouri  
**OPIOID**  
Summit  
St. Joseph  
November 14, 2017



# 2017 HEALTH DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

## ADMINISTRATION

Birth Certificates Issued	5,198	Press Releases	55
Death Certificates Issued	6,567	Facebook Posts / Reach	219 / 66769

## ANIMAL CONTROL & RESCUE

Field Activity - Complaint Calls	7,222	Dog Park Memberships	586
Field Activity - Summons Issued	1,174	Dog Intake	1,403
Puppies for Parole Graduates	33	Dogs Redeemed	475
Puppies for Parole Adopted	33	Dogs Adopted	629
Spay/Neuter Assist (Animal Kind)	72	Dogs euthanized/died	123
Girl Scout Programs	14	Cat Intake	1,586
Elderly Pet Therapy Program	18	Cats Adopted	614
Media Interviews	140	Total Adoptable	703
No More Bullying School Outreach	84	Cats euthanized/died	513

## CLINIC

Pregnancy tests completed	243	LTBI new cases initiated	4
Enrolled in Pregnancy Case Management	173	LTBI office visits	32
Temporary Medicaid Enrollments	313	Active TB cases-new	2
Immunizations administered	3,785	Active TB case home visit	95
Flu Immunizations administered	757	Active TB case office visits	1
Children immunized	1,190	CPR Classes	26
Children with medicaid/under-/un-insured	1,081	CPR Attendees	103
Children insured	109	<i>LEAD POISON PREVENTION PROGRAM</i>	
Adults immunized	889	Children with Elevated Blood Lead Level	478
Adults under-/uninsured	679	Professional Contacts (dr office,etc)	53
Adults insured	210	Partner Agency Contacts (PAT,etc)	120
Blood Pressure Checks	10	One-on-one Lead Education Visit	19
Head Lice Checks	7	Health Fairs & Community Outreach Events	30
General Consult/Referral	219	Visitors at Outreach	2,987

## COMMUNITY HEALTH

Health Promotion & Community Outreach Events	60	Coalition Building/Community Meetings	90
Visitors at Outreach	14,121	Chronic Disease Self-Management Program	2
Education Displays in Lobby/Waiting Room	20	Obesity Prevention Classes Attendees	19
Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, & Syphilis tests administered	588	Mental Health First Aid Classes Attendees	162
HIV tests administered	603	Attendees to HIV/AIDS/STI (GLI's/Programs)	796
Rapid Hepatitis C tests administered	340	Individuals enrolled in CM, average month	64
Rapid Hepatitis C reactive results	26	Transit Applications	102

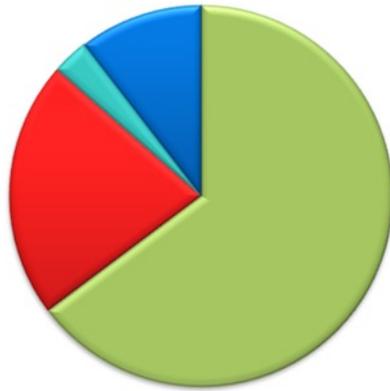
## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Food Safety Inspections	1,273	Tattoo Artist's Cards issued	17
Temporary events worked	25	Calls received (food and non-food)	1,322
Temporary inspections completed	628	Educational programs, DR, WT's, training	328
Childcare Sanitation Inspections	38	Basic Food Handlers' courses taught	10
Lodging	25	Students enrolled in BFH	236
Recreational Water (public pools & spas)	36	Advanced Food Handlers' courses taught	5
On-site Systems	40	Students enrolled in AFH	36

## WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN (WIC)

WIC Vouchers Issued	94,412	Total Dollars in WIC Vouchers Issued	\$2,302,384.00
<i>AVERAGE CLIENTS PER MONTH:</i>			
Women - Pregnant	178	Children	627
Women - Fully Breastfeeding	59	Total Contacts	1,896
Women - Partially Breastfeeding	39	Certification (new clients)	45
Women - Postpartum non-BF	175	<i>BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELOR PROGRAM</i>	
Infants - Fully Breastfeeding	63	New Enrollments	32
Infants - Partially Breastfeeding	38	Individuals Served	250
Infants - Fully Formula Fed	402	Outreach Activities, average per month	15

# Revenue



Revenue by Source

- Taxes
- Grants & Contracts
- Medicaid
- Fees & Permits

# Expenses



Expenditures by Category

- Salaries
- Benefits
- Outside Services
- Materials & Supplies
- Capital Outlay
- Social Welfare Board \*



Expenditures by Division

- Administration
- Animal Control & Rescue
- Clinic
- Community Health
- Environmental
- WIC
- Social Welfare Board \*

\*Funding allocated for the Social Welfare Board is not part of Health Department daily operations; however these funds do represent a portion of our annual budget

A significant portion of the operating budget for the health department is dependent on the acquisition of grants and contracts. Many of our grants are established at the federal level and pass through the state before reaching local health departments.

*The City of St. Joseph Health Department receives funding from the following sources:*

- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
  - Maternal Child Health Services
  - Child Care Health Consultation
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
  - Women, Infants, Children (WIC)
  - Summer Food Service Program for Children
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Preventive Health and Health Services
  - Ebola Preparedness and Response Activities
  - Healthy Eating, Active Living in Local Communities
  - Chronic Disease Prevention Program
- Department of Health and Senior Services/ Health Resources and Services
  - Administration HIV Care Formula Grants HIV Case Management
- Department of Health and Senior Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - HIV Prevention Activities
  - Lead Poisoning Prevention Health Education Program
  - Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- National Association of County and City Health Officials

# Administration

Health Administration is located on the second floor at Patee Market Health Center, and it is where the core operations of the department take place. The staff consists of the Director, Assistant Director, executive secretary, administrative specialist and public information officer, four administrative technicians, a building maintenance technician and a custodian whose time is divided between Patee Market and Animal Control & Rescue.

Certified Missouri Vital Records, which are birth and death records, are a staple of the health department. 11,765 copies were issued to qualified applicants in 2017. The Administrative office is also the public information center for the department, and we issued 55 press releases in 2017 and supervised 43 media contacts. Topics ranged from pet adoption specials to CPR classes to Pony Express Bike Share to flu clinics. Our most notable news trend was Animal Control and

Rescue facility over-crowding. Our shelter had multiple adoption price reductions in 2017. The trend points to a couple of truths – one being the shelter staff’s commitment to finding life affirming options for shelter guests; another is the need for an upgrade to the facility and its capacity.

Marketing campaigns promoted lead poison prevention, heat and other weather related safety, distracted driving, safe sleep and SIDS Awareness, CPR and other classes offered by the health department, our free flu clinic, HIV and STI testing, pet adoptions, our WIC division and breastfeeding peer counselor updates, mental health, food safety, St. Joe Fit updates, bicycle safety for riders and drivers, a course for parents of teen drivers, immunization clinics, quit smoking, and more! Our marketing was through radio, social marketing such as Facebook boosts, newspaper advertising, and movie screen previews. 219 Facebook posts had a reach of 66,769.

# Opioid Summit



# November 14, 2017

The City of St. Joseph Health Department was honored to be selected as one of nine host communities of the Missouri Opioid Summit series. The summit, held at the Fulkerson Center on the campus of Missouri Western State University, welcomed experts from around the state to speak about different aspects of the opioid crisis gripping our nation and our state. This complex issue brought professionals from diverse disciplines together to develop strategies for successful intervention.

Over 400 registered for the event, which ran the morning of November 14th. A post-event survey gathered information for the possibility of a future task force, and 50% of respondents indicated interest in participating. In the order they responded by percentage, the following fields of employment were represented: Corrections, Physician/Nurse, Social Services, Student, Other, Behavioral Health, Public Health, Youth & Juvenile, Education, Government, Law Enforcement, Pharmacy, and Clergy. Feedback from post event surveys overwhelmingly touted the success and positive community impact of the event.





# Solar Eclipse



## August 21, 2017

The North American Total Solar Eclipse was an event we would remember the rest of our lives! Anyone within the path of totality would see one of nature’s most awe-inspiring sights. This path, where the moon would completely cover the sun, would stretch from Lincoln Beach, Oregon to Charleston, S. Carolina. Because St. Joseph was within “The Path”, planning for this colossal event started months in advance. Beginning in February of 2017 the St. Joseph Health Department (SJHD) met regularly with members of Buchanan County EMS, St. Joseph Fire Department, St. Joseph Police Department, Mosaic Life Care, and many other emergency response personnel from multiple agencies and jurisdictions throughout Northwest Missouri and beyond. Many details and activities were coordinated to begin the Thursday prior to the eclipse on Monday. Each agency had specific roles to fill and many agencies would be cross-collaborating, requiring careful coordination of services and available equipment. The health department Public Information Officer produced press releases with health and safety tips to be published bi-weekly beginning early summer with information to help the public prepare for the heat, the crowds, the traffic, safe eclipse viewing, and other related topics. The health department’s role on the day of the eclipse was to operate outdoor on-site first-aid. Sixteen staff members,

including seven Registered Nurses, staffed two first aid stations. One location was the pergola near a boat dock along the Missouri River, between the Remington Nature Center and the St. Joe Frontier Casino. The second site was located inside the concession pavilion at Heritage Park Softball Complex. SJHD staff was equipped to administer basic first-aid, supported by Buchanan County EMS for more acute medical scenarios. The SJHD purchased enough first-aid equipment and supplies to respond to the 13,500 visitors those sites could accommodate. Further, the SJHD purchased, assembled and delivered over 130 brown-bag lunches to City personnel staffing several official viewing sites along the riverfront. Trails West! annual arts and music festival ran August 18th through Monday, the 21st, and visitors to St. Joseph were expected to be astronomical once eclipse viewers were added into the mix. However, the day of the eclipse was overcast, cool and it rained in parts of the city as the moon passed in front of the sun. The eclipse was magnificent and breath-taking, even if it wasn’t the dazzling spectacle viewers anticipated. Regardless of the weather conditions, the careful coordination and capable execution of the response plan was evident. The day was phenomenal from an emergency management perspective and health department staff assigned to the first aid sites enjoyed serving the community by working this event.



# Community Health

The Community Health division has two case managers, one of whom is the division supervisor, two health educators, and one community health nurse. The case managers serve persons living with HIV in northwest Missouri. The community health nurse does testing and treatment for some sexually transmitted infections (STI's). The health educators serve St. Joseph and Buchanan County and under a grant with the state of Missouri, they also serve the northwest section of the state with HIV/STI health education.

## St. Joe Fit

Hosted by the City of St. Joseph Health Department and the City of St. Joseph Parks, Recreation, & Civic Facilities Department, St. Joe FIT encourages people of all ages and physical abilities to get up, get out, and get fit! With over 1,000 registered to participate, St. Joe Fit had a



record setting year in 2017. The free program met at a different location on the urban trail system every week from April through August. St. Joe FIT provided a map and distance calculations so participants could track their progress. St. Joe FIT participants live a more active lifestyle; connect with friends who are committed to making healthy choices; mix up their fitness routine; and qualify for prizes and incentives just by showing up! Aqua Zumba, offered five times at the Aquatic Park pool, was another free alternative of St. Joe FIT. Those who completed every designated section of the urban hike and bike trails earned the distinction of "St. Joe FIT 2017 Trail Blazer". Drawings for prizes such as FitBit products, cooling towels, walking weights, water bottles and other exercise related items were held throughout the season and at our finale on August 31st. The rewards were an added bonus, the true reward was enjoying the urban trail system and getting out to enjoy some exercise!

## Pony Express Bike Share (PEBS)

The Pony Express Bike Share was launched in August, and it truly is a "share" program. There is no charge or registration process to use the bikes. Riders can borrow one of 40 bikes from seven rack locations in St. Joseph's downtown district for short term trips within the city. Pony Express Bike Share launch was held August 2nd at City Hall. Community supporters, Council Members, and bike enthusiasts were in attendance to help get the program rolling. Following a ceremonial launch, volunteers rode the new bikes to the downtown bike racks.

Cities all over the world use bike share programs to promote healthy lifestyles, generate storefront revenue, and attract visitors, and PEBS has the expectation of the same. The initial outlay to purchase bicycles and bike racks was made possible with a grant received by the City of St. Joseph Health Department from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant. With this grant the health department and others creatively adapted St. Joseph's pilot program, modeled from a similar program in the Mid-West that has seen success and growth over several years. The program will be sustained by community partners and sponsors who provide financial and promotional support.



## Mental Health First Aid

In November, 57 staff members from Central High School were trained to provide first aid for youth facing a mental health crisis. The City of St. Joseph Medical Reserve Corps funding supports building resilience in adults and youth by strengthening the mental health of our community.



## Midtown Community Garden

Located on 19th Street off Messanie, a new Midtown Community Garden was built in 2017. The garden contained two features – a communal bed where neighbors helped plant and weed in exchange for produce. It also contained six raised beds, which were “claimed” by individuals or groups to grow and keep their own produce. Planning meetings gained community input and support. A lot was learned, mostly, “you reap what you sow.”



## Stock Healthy-Shop Healthy

The City of St. Joseph Health Department partnered with the University of Missouri Buchanan County Extension Office to offer a program called Stock Healthy-Shop Healthy in St. Joseph. The program focuses on encouraging small food stores to offer nutritious, healthy foods in neighborhoods that lack a large supermarket. Friedrich's Market, which opened in the fall, agreed to participate. Friedrich's began accepting SNAP in December, which benefits more potential customers in the downtown area where the store is located. In addition to offering fresh local produce, Friedrich's delivers, serving those with mobility issues. The goal of the store is to offer fresh, minimally processed food to downtown St. Joe, which aligns well with the mission of Stock Healthy, Shop Healthy as downtown is considered a food desert because it is an urban area in which it is difficult to buy affordable or good-quality fresh food.



## Kids Tour of St. Joe

Kids Tour of St. Joe is in its 8th year, and once again, the program was a great success. Two events were held, on June 17th at Hyde Park and July 15th at Corby Pond. Kids aged 3-14 enjoyed bike rides along the trails of the parks. Each participant received a medal, a free t-shirt, and lunch provided by Chick-fil-A restaurant. In addition to the “races”, kids learned safe bicycling practices at a safety rodeo, and dirt bike trail etiquette from a trail pro.



Dana Tolbert, RN & Mitzi Teliczan (seated) monitor tests at an outreach event

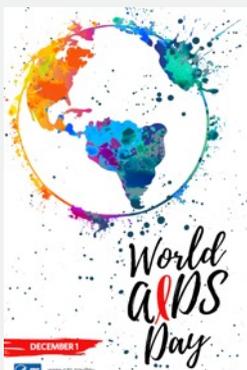
## HIV/AIDS/STD Testing, Counseling and Education

HIV testing and counseling staff participated in multiple outreach events in 2017 in order to provide free HIV and Hepatitis C testing. Our testing services were available at events including St. Joe Pride, Missouri Western State University, Northwest Missouri State University, Cosentino's Price Chopper, St. Joseph Open Door Food Kitchen, Project Homeless Connect, Trenton Preferred Family Healthcare, and at St. Joseph shelters and treatment facilities, and the health department.

The Centers for Disease Control recommends everyone born between 1945 – 1965 should be tested for Hepatitis C once in their live time, due to less rigorous medical practices and high infection rates in the past. The health department offers Hepatitis C screening, as well as testing for HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis, and generally offers Hep C testing at outreach events.

## HIV Case Management

In 2017, HIV Case Managers served 70 individuals living with HIV in 15 Northwest Missouri counties. By December 15, 2017, 94% of Case Managed clients acquired comprehensive medical insurance for 2018, which is important for clients who require ongoing medical care. No infants born to HIV positive women are infected with HIV in our region.



# Clinic

The clinic staff consists of six Registered Nurses, one of whom serves as supervisor. Each nurse has a specific role in the clinic division, and all know at least one other position for continuity of service in the absence of a staff member.

## Prenatal Case Management

Our prenatal case manager works closely with MOSAIC Life Care Women's Health to set pre-natal care appointments for our mutual clients. In 2017, 243 pregnancy tests were completed and 173 pregnant women enrolled in prenatal case management. 313 women sought temporary Medicaid through this program. Temporary Medicaid is the connection for pregnant women to have access to important prenatal care.

## Monitoring Communicable Disease

Clinic nurses monitor and provide follow-up on reports of communicable disease, including tuberculosis (TB). To protect the client and the public, clinic nursing staff completed 95 in home visits with TB clients to ensure medication compliance in 2017. 284 Tuberculin skin test screenings were administered by the clinic, usually for employment. The clinic responded to communicable disease reports with investigation and follow-up 595 times. The health department nurses are a resource and referral source for the prevention, control and containment of communicable diseases for health care professionals and the community. Among those communicable diseases that were a potential threat to our area in 2017, the health department was called upon to provide Tuberculosis information and worked in collaboration with physician offices and patients to ensure medication compliance and assist with the execution of isolation standards when necessary.



## CPR/AED/First Aid Classes



The clinic offers the American Heart Association Heartsaver® CPR/AED and Heartsaver® First Aid classes monthly. The classes are open to the public and are held at the department.

More than 100 people took advantage of the opportunity to take the classes in 2017.

## Lead Poisoning Prevention Health Education & Case Management

The Lead Poisoning Prevention Health Education Program expanded to partner with local community agencies, child care centers, physician offices, and schools. Twenty-nine health fairs and community outreach events allowed the program to share



lead poisoning prevention education to almost 3,000 people. In addition to group outreach events, our staff joined the State of Missouri's Environmental Specialist III on home visits in order to supply education while the home underwent inspection.

Our Lead Case Manager and Lead Health Educator partnered with the Department of Health and Senior Services to provide lead testing to children in child care centers. 106 children at five child care facilities were tested in two days. The state's Environmental Specialist III considers this success story to be a sentinel goal for other county and state programs to aspire to.

There is no safe level of lead in a child's bloodstream. It is important to test for elevated blood lead levels (EBLLs) because lead exposure often occurs with no identifiable symptoms. Our Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provides case management to families with children who's test results indicate they have discernible lead in their blood. The program saw a dramatic increase in lead poisoning case management load due to a shift in minimum amount of lead tolerated in a child's system before they are referred for service. This has given the clinic the opportunity to offer earlier intervention to families as they help their children recover from lead poisoning. The average number of children in case management increased from 26 cases per month January through July to 50 per month during the last half of the year. November set a new record with 64 children in lead poisoning case management.



## Working Together

Case management can take on many forms, from office visits to coordinate other medical care; referrals to agencies who can assist with food, housing, or clothing needs; it can even mean a nurse oversees medication compliance. It was an example of that final scenario that put neighboring health departments into an unusual partnership. The City of St. Joseph Health Department nurses provide daily home visits and follow up to clients regularly. Our clinic began home visits for a patient who worked in Buchanan County and had an address in St. Joseph, but as it turns out, the home is located just over the Buchanan County line in Andrew County. Due to a temporary staffing shortage at Andrew County Health Department, our staff continued daily visits to ensure there was no break in care until Andrew County could take supervision of the client. It was in everyone's best interest and helped build a stronger partnership with Andrew County Health Department.

## Immunizations

The month of August is always a busy time for the City of St. Joseph Health Department. Due to Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education requirements, local public health departments are often called upon to provide service to students returning to school. In addition to providing certified copies of Missouri birth records, health department staff are highly skilled at administering immunizations to children. Students entering kindergarten, 8th & 12th grade and college needed vaccine boosters before school started. This year, the clinic saw 533 children and 38 adults in August, gave 1,124 immunizations and registered those shot records into Missouri's immunization data base to give other providers across Missouri access to each patient's vaccine history.

RN's Connie & April perform monthly vaccine accountability



The health department participates in educational outreach events through our Maternal Child Health grant. We partner with the Community Drug Council, Every Mile Matters coalition, Northwest Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety and those partner agencies.



## Maternal Child Health

Our work related to the Maternal Child Health contract is focused on injury prevention. Those efforts include advocating for certification of those who serve alcohol so they are better equipped to identify under-age seekers, recognize when to stop serving patrons, and ensure patrons do not drive under the influence. We also advocate for stronger, more consistent implementation of impact or diversion sentencing for traffic offenders to the dangers of impaired, aggressive or distracted driving. The health department is involved with community partners to strengthen coalitions whose focus is on traffic safety initiatives. The department works with parent groups, youth organizations, child care facilities and the public to promote proper use of child passenger safety seats,

"It Only Takes One" teen driver education, "First Impact" parent education, and youth and adult bicycle safety. We provided pencils to every elementary student in Buchanan County schools participating in Red Ribbon Week activities; supplied "It Only Takes One" prizes to high schools involved in the program and purchased outdoor signs for campaign weeks; promoted and held "First Impact" classes for parents of new drivers, supplied helmets for bicycle safety classes, and joined other partners to present "Docudrama" outreach events to regionally located high schools. A new direction for the grant in 2017 was in response to a disturbing increase in infant asphyxiation deaths due to "over-lay". A Baby-Box program was initiated as part of our safe sleep education.

# WIC Women, Infants, Children

The Women, Infants and Children, or WIC, division of the St. Joseph Health Department has a staff of ten that served 22,752 participants in 2017, and as a result, \$2,302,384 was issued in checks for the purpose of purchasing healthy foods from local grocery stores. WIC staff consists of four nutritionists, three clerks, and three breastfeeding peer counselors.

WIC Participants may qualify as adults if they are pregnant, post-partum or breastfeeding. A mother may receive benefits until her baby is one year old if she is breastfeeding. Children can participate until age five. WIC teaches how nutrition impacts overall health in personal counseling, WIChealth.org and breastfeeding classes. Food packages are specific to the health needs of each participant, and checks are for purchasing healthy foods approved by federal WIC guidelines. WIC also makes referrals for medical and community services.

St. Joseph WIC maintained a Gold Level Loving Support Award of Excellence for Exemplary Breastfeeding Support and Practice in 2017. In addition, WIC encouraged area businesses to apply for Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite Awards, and two businesses received this distinction, making a total of 16 Breastfeeding Friendly Worksites in St. Joseph.

WIC employs Breast Feeding Peer Counselors (BFPC's) who provide support to WIC mothers who choose breastfeeding. They manage and organize breastfeeding education and outreach which includes speaking at area schools, Parents as Teachers, Health Advisory Council, and other community programs. The peer counselors are also responsible for coordinating all events related to World Breastfeeding Week/Month in August.

Breastfeeding classes are taught nine times weekly, covering benefits, support team and infant care, pumping and storage, and baby basics. Class is taught in Spanish on Wednesday. BFPC's are in the office each weekday 8:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and are available by phone 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily. The WIC Breastfeeding Coordinator and BFPC'S serve on a St. Joseph Breastfeeding Task Force that works to promote breastfeeding in our community, and they facilitate support groups for breastfeeding mothers as well.

	2017	2016	2015
Women - Fully Breastfeeding	711	618	663
Women - Partially Breastfeeding	475	584	519
Women - Postpartum non-BF	2095	2122	2273
Women Breastfeeding by %	36%	36%	34%

# Environmental

Environmental Services is located inside Patee Market Health Center, and is comprised of three Environmental Public Health Specialists (EPHS), with oversight provided by the Assistant Health Director. The EPHS's provide a multitude of services that work toward the common goal of ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of the citizens of St. Joseph.

In 2017 the three Environmental Public Health Specialists completed over 2,000 inspections, combined. They ranged from routine, new facility, complaint-driven, follow-ups, temporary event, educational, or other types of inspections. The EPHS's inspect food, lodging, childcare and tattoo establishments, public and semi-private pools and spas, on-site wastewater

treatment systems, provide 24/7 disaster response involving food and drug products, follow-up on indoor air quality concerns and smoking ordinance complaints, license tattooing artists among other environmental concerns. The St. Joseph Health Department has a contractual agreement to provide specific environmental services to Holt County, Missouri.

The Basic and Advanced Food Safety Courses were another success. The courses are taught monthly, with the goal of giving attendees a more solid foundation in safe food handling techniques. Typically, attendees own, manage, or work in the food service industry. The course is offered at the health department, but can be taught off-site at suitable venues.

August is World Breastfeeding Month. St. Joseph WIC celebrated our expecting and breastfeeding moms with activities to show St. Joseph supports breastfeeding mothers and to help normalize breastfeeding within our community. The World Breastfeeding Week theme was “Sustaining Breastfeeding Together”. WIC recognized two physicians as Breastfeeding Champions, selected by our community of moms. Our 2017 recipients were Dr. Carmen Ford at Internal Medicine at Mosaic Life Care and Casey Wagner, APRN at Women’s Health at Mosaic Life Care.

## World Breastfeeding Month Activities



## Breastfeeding Champions:



Jessica Casey, Casey Wagner, APRN, LaSherrie Tyes, and Nancy Langemach



Dr. Carmen Ford

Mental Health issues touch new mothers in the form of Perinatal Mood Disorder and Postpartum Depression (PPD). WIC staff acquired training to screen for PPD in 2017, and recognized the need for more resources in our community. To jump-start the conversation, WIC broadcast the movie *Dark Side of the Full Moon* in October. This documentary explores the disconnect between maternal mental health and available resources in the U.S.

The film gives a face and voice to the 1.3 million mothers affected each year. Representatives from several agencies attended the movie, and they took action shortly thereafter. In November, the Perinatal and PPD Task Force was formed, with representatives from community agencies. They plan to begin a support group in 2018 to help women struggling with Perinatal Mood Disorder and Postpartum Depression.



EPHS Thomas Beavers demonstrates hand-washing to pre-schoolers

September 30 marked the completion of the first contract year with the Bureau of Childcare of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) for Environmental Services to inspect local childcare facilities. There are approximately 55 licensed childcare facilities to inspect throughout St. Joseph and Buchanan County. The centers are inspected by the health department upon request from DHSS; 38 were done in 2017.

The health department responded to requests from tattoo artists who were interested in offering tattoos at special

events. Other municipalities have language in their by-laws allowing tattoo artists to acquire a temporary permit to do tattoos at festivals, markets and shows. In 2017, St. Joseph added similar language to our established ordinances regarding tattoos.

EPHS staff was prepared for the Eclipse in August. Because the spectacle took place during Trails West!, even more food trucks needed temporary food permits. There are usually around 15 food trucks in town for Trails West!, but this year with the anticipated increase in visitors to our city, 25 vendors sought permits. Environmental Services helps ensure the health of the public is protected during these, and other, large scale events.

# Animal Control & Rescue

Animal Control & Rescue staff includes the manager, an office coordinator, a humane educator, a senior animal control officer, three animal care specialists, and six animal control officers. AC&R works to prevent the spread of diseases communicable from animals to humans (zoonotic diseases) and to ensure proper care and humane handling of animals in the community through education, outreach, and hands-on activities.

## No More Bullying!

St. Joseph Animal Control & Rescue offered elementary schools the No More Bullying!® program for a second year. The curriculum was developed by Wayside Waifs in Kansas City, MO for third through fifth grade students. Six schools in the St. Joseph School District have incorporated the program as part of their regular school year and more teachers hope to schedule the sessions in their classrooms. Students receive a workbook to follow along for the five-day program that uses about an hour of class time each session. The No More Bullying!® Curriculum reinforces fundamental character principles, empowering students to create a more respectful and safe environment.



## Awards & Accolades

Terrie Irwin (left, with Holly Bowie) earned the Animal Care Specialist of the Year Award from the MO Animal Control Association. For exhibiting superior dedication to the animals in her care, her animal care facility and her community. She brought great credit upon herself, her agency, and to the animal care and control profession.



Darrin Parton received the Shine On Award from Newspressnow for going above and beyond to assist a family when their pet was struck by a car on Thanksgiving day and veterinary care was more difficult to come by. Thank you and congrats, Darrin!



To celebrate the continued success of St. Joseph's off-leash dog park, AC&R celebrated! The 3rd Annual Howl-A-Palooza, Woof'in Wild West! was held on September 7th



## 2017 Rabies Clinics:

- Lindberg: 120 rabies shots given
- Hosea: 112 rabies shots given
- Nazarene: 166 rabies shots given
- Skiath: 173 rabies shots given
- Mark Twain: 181 rabies shots given
- Civic Arena: 89 rabies shots given

### **Adoptions can be serendipitous...**

Carol Ann the cat came to the shelter as a malnourished stray with a missing eye. Carol Ann was friendly enough, but for weeks she was over shadowed by fluffy, frisky, silly cats that were quickly selected over her. But she didn't give up, and greeted everyone who came looking for a feline friend.

One day, Barbara came to the shelter hoping to replace her beloved Phoebe, her cat who had recently passed away after 16 wonderful years. Barbara had her heart set on a male and was directed to the Catio to meet the available cats. When Animal Care Specialist Theresa went back to check on Barbara, Carol Ann had won her over. Carol Ann was quickly adopted and re-named Kit Kat.

Kit Kat now spends her days lounging on a screened in porch and dining on seafood pate'. She has a favorite toy and a doting owner who will ensure she is never homeless again.



While Kit Kat wanted nothing more than a nurturing human to reciprocate her loving nature, Tessa had become accustomed to surviving on her own. Animal Control Officers responding to calls would get to the location and she'd either hidden so well they could not find her, or she would not allow the officer near her. It took nearly two months and some unorthodox strategies to capture this wily American Bulldog!

Compared to many abandoned dogs seen by Animal Control, Tessa was relatively healthy, but her skin had small spots of hair loss from untreated ringworm infection, and her left eye had a gland prolapse or "Cherry eye". Her behavioral and social well-being was a concern, also. Animal Control staff are experienced working with fearful dogs and were patient and diligent in their attempts to earn Tessa's trust.

Working with Tessa was a challenge. She did not show signs of aggression toward people or other dogs, but she had no interest in forming relationships. She showed no signs of

regular dog emotions, no panting or shaking, no typical eye movements, and she was not vocal. Socializing Tessa was agonizingly slow, made even more difficult with no information available about her history. Socialization usually begins as a puppy by familiarizing dogs to different people, animals and situations. Without it, fearful or aggressive behavior can result, and dogs can become overwhelmed in new environments.

Several months into "Project Tessa" small but encouraging signs of progress were evident. She began to show regular doggie mannerisms such as sniffing, making eye contact, showing interest in the other office resident, Cheech the Chinchilla, and best of all she snored like a freight train when she fell asleep. She got a bath and an ear cleaning. She still wanted to hide under a desk, but she began walking with a leash to get there. Her ringworm cleared up and her prolapsed gland was monitored closely.

Animal Control and Rescue staff carefully contemplated Tessa's future. At the end of June, she was placed with a doting family who has close ties to the shelter with great success and Tessa has found her forever family!



These are just two of the hundreds of adoption stories St. Joseph Animal Control and Rescue could share every year. Much of the success of our shelter is due to the tireless volunteerism of the Friends of the Animal Shelter of St. Joseph, Inc. This organization invests time and funding into the shelter. They help pay medical bills, they are raising funds in a capital campaign, and every time the shelter offers a discount on adoptions to reduce over-crowding, the Friends pay the difference so the shelter budget doesn't suffer. They truly are friends of our shelter, and we are forever grateful for their generosity.



**Public Health**

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**City of St. Joseph  
Health Department**

City of St. Joseph Health Department  
Patee Market Health Center  
904 South 10th Street,  
St. Joseph, MO 64503

Administration  
Environmental Services  
Community Health Services  
(816) 271-4636

Clinic  
(816) 271-4725

Women, Infants & Children ~ WIC  
(816) 271-4723

Animal Control & Rescue  
(816) 271-4877  
701 Lower Lake Road  
St. Joseph, MO 64504

[www.stjoemo.info](http://www.stjoemo.info)

 [StJosephHealthDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephHealthDepartment)

## 2017 Staff Committee Involvement

Arthritis Advisory Committee

Bicycle Friendly Community Coalition

Buchanan County Community Organizations Active in Disaster

Community Action Partnership - Health Advisory Committee

Community Drug Council

Cultural Diversity Committee

Every Mile Matters Coalition

Healthy St. Joseph Steering Committee

Helping Everyone Achieve Long Term Health (HEALTH)

Inter-national Association of Administrative Professionals

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Metropolitan Planning Organization - Bike/Pedestrian Committee

Midland Empire Equality Coalition

Missouri Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Task Force

Mosaic Life Care Ethics

Missouri Animal Control Association - Certification Committee

Missouri Community Prevention Planning Group

Mosaic Breastfeeding Task Force

Northwest Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety - Vulnerable Users Chair

Parents As Teachers Advisory Council

Pediatric Behavioral Health in Disasters Statewide Work Group

People Establishing AIDS/HIV/STI/Hepatitis Care and Education (PEACE)

RAISE (Ryan White Part C Program) - Client Advisory Committee

RAISE (Ryan White Part C Program) - Quality Assurance Committee

United Way - Board Chair

United Way - Leadership St. Joseph Steering Committee

United Way Success by 6 - Parent Education Team

United Way Success by 6 - Partner Team