



Community Health Update – December 2025

Activities:

- **Clinical Services:** DCHD has hosted four vaccine clinics between September – November 2025. Nearly 90 individuals were provided with 291 vaccines including standard child and adult vaccines, flu, and COVID.
- **Behavioral Health:** Earlier this year, the Department shared that DCHD and the Douglas County Mental Health Division (DCMHD) came together to launch a new suicide prevention workgroup that includes representation from Douglas County Human Services, Douglas County School District, local law enforcement, judicial, aging services, local faith-based and other community-based organizations, hospitals, and behavioral health programs. The goals of this group include:
 - Assessing current suicide prevention efforts in Douglas County;
 - Identifying gaps in services or outreach;
 - Identifying actionable interventions; and
 - Developing a plan for our community.

In October 2025, the Workgroup established five subcommittees focused on target populations in the community to include:

- Perinatal (12 months before/after birth for moms and dads)
- Youth (Birth – 17 years) and Transition-Aged Youth (18 – 24 years)
- Men (25+ years)
- Older Adults (55+ years)
- Veterans and First Responders

The subcommittees have been charged with analyzing county, state, and national data related to the target population and will be reporting out on their findings on April 1, 2026. The findings will allow the Workgroup to develop targeted action steps that support individuals and families in reducing the number of deaths by suicide in the County.

National Drug Take Back – On Saturday, October 25, 2025, DCHD partnered with Douglas County Sheriff's Office and the DEA to collect expired and unused prescription and over the counter medications. In total, more than 650 pounds of medications, including prescription opioids were collected and safely disposed.

- **Maternal Child Health:** DCHD hosted its first annual Community Open House on Thursday, September 4, 2025, at the Lansing Point location. The event successfully brought together nine community partners, including:

- DentaQuest
- Developmental Pathways
- Douglas County Early Childhood Council
- Douglas County Human Services
- Douglas County Libraries
- Public Health Institute at Denver Health (vaccine administration)
- South Metro Safety Foundation (car seat safety checks)
- Tessa
- YANA

Additionally, DCHD's internal divisions were well-represented, with staff from the Maternal and Child Health and WIC Programs, as well as Community Health, Environmental Health, and Vital Records.

Key outcomes:

- Approximately 35 community members attended;
- Five car seat safety checks were conducted; and
- 12 vaccines administered

The Open House was an important step in increasing community engagement by enhancing public awareness on the broad range of public health services available in Douglas County and strengthening partnerships with key community organizations. Building on this momentum, the Community Health division looks forward to future outreach events.

- **Tobacco Prevention:** Two Community Health Educators recently completed training to become Tobacco Treatment Specialists through MaineHealth. These same team members also completed training to administer the Baby & Me Tobacco Free program – an evidence-based, smoking cessation program proven to reduce the burden of tobacco on the pregnant and postpartum women. DCHD will begin offering this no-cost program in early 2026.
- **Mini Grant Awards:** After the success of the mini grant received from the Office of Gun Violence (OGVP) Prevention in the spring to purchase secure firearm storage devices, DCHD was awarded a second mini grant from OGVP for \$9,581.00 for the purchase of additional storage devices. This funding aligns with recommendations from the county's child fatality review team, as the number of deaths by suicide from self-inflicted gunshot wounds in youth has been increasing over the past three years.

- **Community Partner Highlights:**

The Community Health team participated in the following community presentations and events from September 7 – November 30, 2025:

Date	Event	Location
9/23/25	DCSD Community Fair at Legacy Campus	Lone Tree
9/25/25	MHFA Class with 23 rd Judicial District Probation	Castle Rock
9/25/25	MCH Local Strategy Summit Presentation on Community Partnerships	Englewood
9/27/25	Highlands Ranch Senior Center Older Adult Health and Resource Expo	Highlands Ranch
9/27/25	Douglas County Youth Congress	Lone Tree
10/2/25	Parker Senior Center Community Resource Fair	Parker
10/7/25	Infectious Disease Presentation for Parker Parks & Recreation	Parker
10/11/25	Kiowa Fall Fest	Kiowa
10/14/25	Immunization Clinic at Parker Senior Center	Parker
10/21/25	MHFA Class with 23 rd Judicial District Probation	Englewood
10/25/25	National Drug Take Back Day with DCSD	Highlands Ranch
11/8/25	Elbert Woman's Club Christmas Bazaar	Elbert
11/12/25	Immunization Clinic at DCHD	Englewood
11/14/25	MHFA Class with AdventHealth	Greenwood Village
11/16/25	Adult and Immigration Vaccines Presentation at St. Francis of Assisi	Castle Rock
11/20/25	Narcan Training with Banyan Treatment Center	Castle Rock
11/20/25	Immunization Clinic at The Pines at Castle Rock Apartments	Castle Rock