# Health Director's Report May 9, 2019

## **Division / Program: Laboratory/ CLIA Inspection**

(Accreditation Activity 10.1 - The local health department shall develop, implement, and evaluate population-based health promotion/disease prevention programs and materials for the general public.)

## **Program description**

- The DCoDPH Laboratory was inspected by the CLIA Inspection Team on February 28, 2019.
- Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) of 1988 are United States federal regulatory standards that apply to all clinical laboratory testing performed on humans in the United States, except clinical trials and basic research.
- On-site inspections occur, at a minimum, every 2 years and the laboratory must meet all CLIA requirements to maintain accreditation.

## **Statement of goals**

- The Laboratory will continue to maintain accreditation through CLIA by meeting, successfully maintaining, and continually improving upon the CLIA regulatory standards.
- The Laboratory set an internal goal of receiving 2 or less deficiencies as identified by the Inspection Team.

#### **Issues**

# Opportunities

- Previous CLIA Inspection results have greatly improved (2015: 14 deficiencies,
   2017: 2 deficiencies) while still leaving opportunities for improvement.
- o CLIA Inspections are a learning experience for all participants and encourage discussion among peers regarding processes and improvement opportunities.
- Offers Lab Technicians and Lab Assistants the opportunity to experience an external inspection process.

## Challenges

- o CLIA regulations are numerous, varied, and open to interpretation.
- o Previous 2 years of laboratory documentation must be available to the inspectors.

### **Implications**

#### Outcomes

- O The Inspection Team cited 0 deficiencies for the Laboratory which exceeded the goal the Laboratory set as an internal metric. This is the first time that the DCoDPH Laboratory has achieved the status of 0 deficiencies. This is an impressive accomplishment that is awarded to a small percentage of laboratories.
- The Inspection Team made a few suggestions to continue to improve processes within the Laboratory. All suggestions have been implemented.

#### • Service delivery

- Process improvements, record retention, and inspection planning have been underway since June 2017 by the Laboratory Division Director, Medical Laboratory Supervisor, and Laboratory Technical Consultant.
- A plan for Corrective Action was not required as the Laboratory received zero deficiencies.

#### • Staffing

o DCoDPH Laboratory staff assisted in process changes, laboratory documentation, record retention, etc. which culminated in a successful inspection.

## **Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies:**

 Maintain high standards of integrity and efficiency while preparing for the next CLIA inspection in 2021.

### Division / Program: Pharmacy & Health Education / Safe Syringe Program

(Accreditation Activity 10.1 - The local health department shall develop, implement, and evaluate population-based health promotion/disease prevention programs and materials for the general public.)

# **Program description**

• On April 2, 2018, the DCoDPH Pharmacy launched the Safe Syringe Program based on the guidance and program requirements from the NC Division of Public Health.

#### Statement of goals

- To offer new needles, syringes, and injection supplies to reduce the transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C in the community.
- To offer free HIV and Hepatitis C testing and follow-up care.
- To offer education, treatment information, and referrals to community members.
- To provide a safe method of disposal for used needles and syringes.

#### **Issues**

## Opportunities

- Reduce the transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C by offering new needles, syringes, and injection supplies.
- Reduce the risk of bacterial infections (i.e. endocarditis) that occur when injection supplies are reused.
- Connect participants with community resources including treatment options, heath care, and housing assistance.
- o The following items are provided in the Safe Syringe Kit:
  - 10 sterile 1.0mL syringes with fixed needles
  - Alcohol swabs
  - Tourniquet
  - Condoms
  - Sharps Container
  - Additional injection supplies

- Participant ID card
- Printed material for harm reduction and ancillary services
- o Fentanyl testing strips and Naloxone kits are also offered with each SSP Kit.
- o The NC Injury and Prevention Branch received grant funds to purchase SSP supplies in February 2019. Durham County's portion of the grant was \$1,000. SSP supplies have been ordered with these funds to include antibiotic ointment, hand sanitizer, and feminine hygiene products.

### Challenges

- Ensure that used needles and syringes are properly discarded in a puncture proof container. Sharps containers are included with SSP Kits and participants are encouraged to use of them and return the container to the DCoDPH Pharmacy.
- Ensure that used needles and syringes are not deposited in the medication drop box in the HHS lobby.

# **Implications**

#### Outcomes

- o The following statistics have been collected for March 2019:
  - Unique individuals: 3
  - Total contacts: 3
  - Syringes dispensed: 70
  - Syringes returned\*: ~ 41
  - Sharps containers dispensed: 4
  - Fentanyl strips dispensed: 4
  - Naloxone kits distributed (with SSP): 3
  - Naloxone kits distributed (non-SSP): 13
  - Naloxone reversals reported: 0
- o Year-to-date statistics, FY18-19:
  - Unique individuals: 29
  - Total contacts: 49
  - Syringes dispensed: 1180
  - Syringes returned\*: ~ 2126
  - Sharps containers dispensed: 68
  - Fentanyl strips dispensed: 57
  - Naloxone kits distributed (with SSP): 27
  - Naloxone kits distributed (non-SSP): 194
  - Naloxone reversals reported: 2

<sup>\*&</sup>quot;Syringes returned" metric includes needles/syringes returned directly to staff regardless of usage (i.e. substance use, medical use, prescription use)

#### • Service delivery

 Planning and implementation was completed by the Opioid Response Committee with guidance and support from the NC Division of Public Health, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch.

### • Staffing

 Pharmacy, Health Education, and Bull City United team members have received training from the NC Division of Public Health and the NC Harm Reduction Coalition regarding harm reduction strategies and Safe Syringe Program practices.

## **Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies:**

- Statistics from the Safe Syringe Program will be monitored and reported to the Board of Health monthly.
- The Opioid Response Committee will continue to work with the NC Division of Public Health to improve our program and develop strategies to further our goals.

<u>Division / Program: Nutrition Division/Clinical Nutrition Services—Diabetes Self-Management Education Program Recognized by American Diabetes Association</u>
(Accreditation Activity 10.3 - The local health department shall employ evidence-based health promotion/disease prevention strategies.)

# **Program description:**

• The Durham County Department of Public Health's (DCoDPH) Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME) program was awarded continued recognition from the American Diabetes Association.

### **Statement of goals:**

- Maintain compliance with program standards to allow for continued operation of billable services and maintenance of American Diabetes Association (ADA) recognized program status.
- Assure high-quality education for patient self-care.

#### **Issues:**

# Opportunities

The ADA recognition process provides a national standard by which to measure the quality of diabetes education services and helps consumers to identify highly regarded programs. Recognized ADA DSME programs that follow national standards of care can bill for the services.

#### Challenges

Every four years, assessment of procedures, client medical records management, and program delivery are necessary for DCoDPH's DSME program to continue to be a nationally recognized program by the ADA.

#### **Implications:**

#### Outcomes

OCoDPH's DSME program is governed by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC-HHS). By maintaining the standards set by ADA, NC- HHS was awarded continued recognition for its DSME programs for a fouryear period, 2019- 2023. NC-HHS and DCoDPH's DSME program were originally recognized in September 2009.

## • Service delivery

 The DSME program encompasses an initial individual assessment of each participant and nine hours of group or individual instruction. Education covers activity; medications monitoring; meal planning; and preventing and treating complications.

### Staffing

 Fifty percent of one Registered Dietitian's position is committed to administration of the DSME program.

#### Revenue

 DSME is a billable service. DCoDPH is a provider for Aetna, BCBS, Medicaid, and Medicare Part B. Participants not covered by a third-party payer are billed using a sliding scale fee. Each participant in the program serves as a potential source for increased revenue.

## **Next Steps/Mitigation Strategies:**

- As a program approved through the American Diabetes Association and the NC DPH, DCoDPH's Diabetes Self-Management Education program will continue to provide quality diabetes self-management education to residents of Durham County.
- Collaborative efforts with community health care partners and marketing of the program will continue to ensure optimal use of this resource.

<u>Division / Program: Nutrition / DINE for LIFE / Nutrition Education in Durham</u> (Accreditation Activity 10.2 - The local health department shall carry out or assist other agencies in the development, implementation and evaluation of health promotion/disease prevention programs and educational materials targeted to groups identified as at-risk in the community health assessment.)

#### **Program description**

- The DINE program provides nutrition education, and cooking classes to many DPS elementary and middle schools that qualify for the program (50% or more of the school's student body qualifies for the free/reduced lunch program).
- Pilot project of DINE online classes for parents: In an effort to reach the parents with nutrition education and healthy meal planning and preparation skills, DINE is creating an online curriculum of four lessons that parents can access on their computers and/or mobile devices. Participants can view the curriculum at a time of day that works best for their schedules.

## Statement of goals

- To increase nutrition knowledge.
- To improve meal planning and culinary skills.
- To increase self-efficacy in preparing and providing healthy food for families.
- To increase daily consumption of a variety of fruits and vegetables.
- To reduce obesity, overweight and chronic disease risk in Durham's at-risk youth and their families.

#### **Issues**

### Opportunities

- O Historically the only way the DINE program reaches parents, the gate keepers of food for this age group, is through parent handouts that correspond to the lessons the students receive in class. Periodically a DINE nutritionist is asked to speak to families at a PTA or school wide event, but this is sporadic and does not happen at all schools.
- O At the beginning of the school year, DINE conducted a brief needs assessment with parents of children who receive the DINE program to assess interest in receiving classes that offer nutrition information and training in meal preparation skills. Results of the survey indicated that parents are interested in these classes.
- The DINE program is provided to 15 eligible elementary schools in Durham and reaches close to 6000 students a year. If the pilot is a success, expansion of the online program could potentially reach many of these parents with quality nutrition education.
- The DINE program is in four Head Start facilities in Durham reaching around 100 students whose parents could also be reached with this online program.

### Challenges

- Choosing a Learning Management System (LMS) that best meets the needs and deliverables of this project and is affordable for the DINE program.
- O Choosing a texting platform. The project development team has reached out to Alert Durham and is likely to be able to use this resource that the County already has in place.
- Designing slides for an interactive asynchronous online program requires acquisition of new computer software and skill development of the software for the program creators/designers.
- Best methods and practices to market the program to the eligible participants so they will sign up, participate and complete the program need to be explored.
- All staff involved significantly underestimated the amount of time needed to create, design, review, and edit these classes.

## Implication(s)

# • Service delivery

O Based on research results of similar programs and interest surveys of the target population, the program design is as follows: The series will be held for 4 weeks in an asynchronous format using a platform that would allow participants to log in and have access to recorded classes, links to interactive activities and other supporting

materials as well as the ability to send and receive feedback and engage in group discussions. Participants will register for the series that will be offered during a specific period of time. At the beginning of each week, the instructor will send out an email with the week's lesson and assignments and ways to engage with the instructor and class participants. The pilot will target 100 participants who are DPS and/or Head Start parents. Lesson topics include Quick and Easy Meals, Planning and Shopping on a Budget, Snacking for Health, and Eating More Fruits and Vegetables.

- To further encourage behavior change, participants will be part of a texting program and will receive text messages several times per week with important reminders related to the week's lesson.
- O Participants will be given a pre and post survey to evaluate knowledge change, increase in self efficacy and behavior change around healthy eating and meal preparation. There will be a 6-month follow up survey to determine long term changes in self-efficacy and behavior change around healthy eating and meal preparation.

### • Staffing

o Two DINE Elementary Nutritionists

#### Revenue

o No revenue is generated through this educational outreach.

# **Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies**

- Adobe Captivate, a slide development software for use with the LMS for class development, has been purchased, and the two staff members working on the project are taking online classes through the Durham County Library program, Lynda, to be trained on how to use the software.
- The lessons are currently in the development stage and will be completed by the end of July.
- Development of the marketing strategy, creation of the texting library and development of the evaluation tools will happen May-July 2019.
- Marketing to eligible participants to happen August 2019.
- Pilot of the online classes to 100 participants will take place during September 2019.
- Analysis of pre/post data to be completed by the end of October 2019.

### **Division/Program: Tooth Ferry Mobile Dental Unit**

(Accreditation Activity 20.1- The local health department shall collaborate with community health care providers to provide personal and preventative health services.)

## **Program description:**

• The Tooth Ferry is a mobile treatment unit that visits Durham Public Schools. The unit is equipped with two chairs and includes ADEC dental equipment, Nomad (hand-held) x-ray unit, ceiling mounted television and sound system.

#### **Statement of goals:**

• To provide treatment to students in Durham's Public Elementary Schools during the school day.

#### **Issues**

## Opportunities

- The Tooth Ferry team completes dental exams and x-rays for students; and can provide subsequent treatment while the Tooth Ferry is at a school (4-6 weeks).
- o For schools that the Tooth Ferry visits dental screenings help to identify students in need of care.
- The unit can visit multiple schools throughout the school year, as well as summer camps.
- Students have the option to complete treatment in the clinic if services are not completed on the Tooth Ferry.

# Challenges

- o Receiving back from parents the second consent to treat form (after treatment plan developed).
- o Some schools permit the for-profit NC Smiles Van to visit the schools which limits the amount of schools the Tooth Ferry can visit.

## Implication(s)

## Outcomes

- The Tooth Ferry returned to visiting schools in January, and has treated students at Holt, Bethesda, and W.G. Pearson Elementary Schools.
- o Through 4/23 the Tooth Ferry has provided dental care to 229 students.
- **Service delivery** The Tooth Ferry visits schools Tuesday-Thursdays and schedules are contingent upon school bus arrival and departure times.
- **Staffing-** The team includes the Dental Practice Administrator, Coordinator, Dental Assistant II, Hygienist (on specific days) and a contract driver.
- **Revenue** The Tooth Ferry has provided approximately \$23,700 in dental care.
- Other –N/A

## **Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies**

The Dental Division continues to meet with principals from various schools and has tried to get on school meetings schedules to discuss Tooth Ferry services with administrators. The team is also working on ways to streamline forms and get a greater return of the same.

## **Division / Program: Women's Health**

(Accreditation Activity 21.3: The local health department shall develop and implement strategies to increase use of public health programs and services.

## **Program description:**

• The Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) Women's Health Program developed and implemented cross training for the nursing staff in the Maternal Health program and the Family Planning program.

# **Statement of goals:**

- Avoid turning away any patient who presents to Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) seeking a pregnancy test.
- Increase access and decrease wait times for patients to access contraceptives.

#### **Issues:**

## Challenges

Staffing of Family Planning and Maternal Health clinics, difficulty incorporating these walk-ins visits along with scheduled patients. Two different charting systems (Patagonia vs. Epic) also difficult to navigate

#### Opportunities

Cross training which occurred during a period last year allowed nurses to be familiar with the flows on both sides of the Women's Health Clinic. Family Planning nurses have become comfortable in screening pregnant patients for high risk, and scheduling for first prenatal care. Maternal Health nurses are also familiar with charting necessary for Family Planning encounters for negative pregnancy tests.

## **Implication(s):**

#### Outcomes

- 1) Effective 3/11/19, no walk-in patients desiring a pregnancy test have been turned away.
- 2) In the first seven weeks of implementation, an average of 32 walk-in patients desiring a pregnancy test have been seen each week. This compares to an average of 15 patients seen weekly in the seven weeks prior to implementation.

## • Service Delivery

- 1) A clear protocol was developed for Maternal Health nurses to offer Emergency Contraception or QuickStart contraception (oral contraceptive pills, Depo Provera, or Nuva Ring) as desired for patients who present with a negative pregnancy test.
- 2) Agreement and communication across program areas regarding consistent walk-in hours.

#### • Staffing

Agreement among staff that Maternal Health (with more nurses in staffing compared to Family Panning) would see any pregnancy test walk-in patient who presents to DCoDPH after Family Planning has seen their capacity.

### • Revenue

1) If a patient has Medicaid, we can bill \$52.77, and expect to collect approximately \$44.00 per patient. Additional charges may be collected if a patient has a negative pregnancy test and desires to start a contraceptive method that day.

#### **Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies:**

• Progress will be monitored, and adjustments made as a new Family Planning nurse is oriented. Both sides of the Women's Health Clinic are committed to this practice as the new normal.

#### Other

Community partners have expressed support for this much-needed change. Information is being shared widely through the DCoDPH's Maternal Child Health Grant Coordinator and Women's Health Program's ongoing quality improvement collaboration with SHIFT NC.

<u>Division / Program: Health Education/ Men's Health Council Anniversary</u> (Accreditation Activity 10.1: The local health department shall develop, implement and evaluate population-based health promotion/disease prevention programs and educational materials for the general public.)

# **Program description**

- Celebrating its 5<sup>th</sup> year, The **Durham County Men's Health Council** (initially called "Committed and Caring Men: A Health Advisory Committee") continues. The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was held on **March 27, 2014.**
- The first meeting was called to seek guidance on engaging men from communities with the greatest health disparities (African American and Latino) in health promotion activities.
- A diverse group of African American and Latino men, respected by their communities, accepted the invitation to join the committee.
- After more than 1 year of program planning, the group changed their titled to "The Durham County Men's Health Council" (the Council).
- The Council is now a collaboration of men and a few women with a mission to:
  - o "Improve the health and well-being of men in Durham County by promoting and modeling healthy lifestyles and responsible decision making.
  - o Reduce health disparities by targeting men with the greatest health disparities."
- The Council hosts the following annual activities:
  - "Men on the Move" Walks. Held monthly at various City of Durham Parks and/or Recreation Facilities, or on "Healthy Mile Trails" (initiative of Partnership for a Healthy Durham). In 2019 attendance ranged from 12 51 participants.
  - Quarterly Health Forums on Topics Requested by Male Participants. In 2018 presentations were on Emotional Health, Domestic Violence, Sexual Health, Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Prostate Cancer. Attendance ranged from 33 81 participants.

## Statement of goals

- To provide quarterly forums on topics identified by male participants as topics of interest.
- To provide health information delivered by health and medical experts in locations where men are in large attendance.
- To promote healthy movement through "Men on the Move Walks" held on "Healthy Mile Trails" and at City of Durham Parks and/or Recreation facilities.

#### **Issues**

### Opportunities

 Council Executive Leadership Team consist of 28 active members from: Durham County Department of Public Health, Durham Parks and Recreation, Sheriff Office, Fraternal and Service Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, Retired Police, Male

- Mentoring Organizations, Veterans, Durham Partners Against Crime, Duke Health, NCCU Behavioral Health & Wellness Clinic and St. Augustine College.
- o Council has 3 Medical / Health Advisors (Dr. Arnett Coleman, Dr. Christopher Edwards, Dr. Julius Wilder). All share guidance and deliver presentations.
- o On Saturday, June 30, 2018 via a partnership with Duke's Cancer Institute, Office of Health Equity & Disparities, a 3-hour cancer conference was held at the Human Services Building. Eighty-one (81) persons attended.
- Council is planning the first annual Men's Health Conference in 2020 with North Carolina Central University (NCCU) School of Social Work, NCCU Behavioral Health & Wellness Clinic and Duke's Cancer Institute, Office of Health Equity.
- Over six hundred (600) persons were reached by the Council in 2018.

# Challenges

- o Increasing attendance at walks/forums/presentations. Feedback /evaluations from events indicate that programs should be promoted more in the community and more people should hear valuable information shared.
- Originally, the program targeted both African-American and Latino men. However, two Latino representatives on the Council did not remain active. One moved from Durham and the other accepted an additional position as a pastor. After much consideration, the Council realized it did not have the necessary staffing, volunteers or cultural understanding to create a program targeting both Latino and African-American men. This remains a goal.
- Identifying Latino representatives who have the time and commitment has been a
  major challenge. Most recently the two Latino representatives that were active on
  the Council will be relocating out of Durham.

## Implication(s)

## Outcomes

- Over 600 persons attended forums/presentations/walks in 2018. Many of these are duplicates.
- o Male participants are visibly bonding especially through community walks.
- When asked on evaluation forms what they liked most about forums, the most frequent response is the topic and the speaker.
- When asked what they would change, many indicated more publicizing of the event so more people hear the information.

# • Service delivery

- o Monthly, a health forum, presentation, and/or walk is held.
- o Forums are held four times per year on the fourth Thursday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- Originally, walks were held on the third Saturdays during the Spring and Summer.
   This year the Council decided to hold walks each month, except for December.
   During cold months, walks are held at a City Parks & Recreation indoor track.
- In 2018, health forums/presentations were held at the Human Services Building, Cormetech Inc., NCCU, Partners Against Crime meeting and First Calvary Baptist Church.

 Recruitment is through council membership, announcements to various organizations, emails, public service announcements, the Carolina Times and the Durham County and Public Health Communication Offices.

## • Staffing

- o 1 Health Education Specialist (part-time).
- o Executive Committee, Men's Health Council (26 male and 2 female volunteers).

#### Revenue

o None.

# **Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies**

- o Increase outreach and participation from faith community leaders, fraternal organizations education institutions and community outreach organizations.
- o Plan an Annual Men's Health Conference to be held on a Saturday with partner organizations.
- Create a brand strategy to better market Council programs, e.g. "Men on the Move Walks."

# <u>Division / Program: Health Education Community Transformation / Diabetes Awareness</u> <u>Month Events</u>

(Accreditation Activity 10.1: The local health department shall develop, implement and evaluate population-based health promotion/disease prevention programs and educational materials for the general public.)

#### **Program description**

• In 2019, the American Diabetes Association did not hold an official Diabetes Alert Day, stating that they wanted to move to a model in which they talked about diabetes risk every day. However, in observance of Diabetes Alert Day, Tuesday, March 26, 2019, a Chronic Care Initiative health educator provided three opportunities for members of the community to assess their risk for developing type two diabetes and to learn more about diabetes and its complications.

# Statement of goals

- To bring awareness of type 2 diabetes by having community members complete the American Diabetes Association's Diabetes Risk Test.
- To raise awareness of the relationship between diabetes and various chronic conditions.
- To inform participants of simple approaches to improve their overall health while also managing diabetes.

#### Issues

# Opportunities

- o An online presentation, Type 2 Diabetes: Are you at risk? was presented twice with the following agencies:
  - North Carolina Central University Telehealth program
  - Durham County Department of Public Health monthly webinars
- o An in-person presentation, Diabetes: Does it have to be so complicated? was held at the South Regional Library from 6:00 PM until 7:30 PM.
  - The library created and posted their own flyer for this event.
  - The event information was shared with participants of past programming.

# Challenges

- Online presentations are a great way to reach many people without them having to come to one central location. However, in the same note, it can pose a challenge for individuals who do not have the technology to view the presentations.
- Having an event in the evening is convenient for those who work during the day. Traffic
  can still be an issue for those travelling to locations during the post-work, rush hour
  traffic time.

# Implication(s)

#### Outcomes

- o 1 person attended the online webinar and 3 people attended the library presentation.
- Attendance data for the NCCU telehealth presentation was not available at the time of writing this report.

### • Service delivery

o Presentations were held electronically and in-person.

#### • Staffing

o 1 Health Education Specialist staffed all events.

# **Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies**

• Continue to look at ways to share diabetes risk information with the community. Diabetes Alert Day activities can still be planned even if there is no longer an official date going forward.

<u>Division / Program: Health Education: Employee Wellness - Admin II Fitness Center</u> (Accreditation Activity 10.1 the local health department shall develop, implement and evaluate population-based health promotion/disease prevention programs and educational materials for the general public)

(National Accreditation: Measure 8.2.4 A Work environment that is supportive to the workforce, RD 3)

#### **Program description**

• Administration Building II, also known as Admin II was formerly the second Durham County Courthouse was renovated and opened officially in October 2018. On the fourth floor of the building is Durham County Government's third fitness facility. The facility

opened in January and was part of the ribbon cutting ceremony and introduction to the public. The facility houses an aerobics studio and cardio area with four treadmills, two upright and one recumbent exercise bicycles, two ellipticals, and one each of the following: row machine, captain's chair, universal and Smith machine. This facility also has a Stairmaster machine which until that point, only the Judicial Building had.

# **Statement of goals**

- Durham County provides three fitness centers for the employees. Onsite fitness centers benefit both employees and employers as they:
  - o Promote exercise to manage weigh and stress
  - Models a culture that embraces physical activity and contributes towards changes in attitudes about physical activity
  - Motivates and encourages employees, especially more sedentary individuals, to move more
  - Make available health offerings that bring many advantages which can include: reduced healthcare costs, lower absenteeism, increased job satisfaction and enhanced morale.

#### **Issues**

## Opportunities

- Increased physical activity opportunities which can contribute towards improved health outcomes for employees.
- Additional site for which to exercise as employees in other buildings were not either willing or able to come down to Human Services Building to work out.
- Since new waivers were required for badge access, it gave an opportunity to include the current Fitness schedule and updates in the "access granted" emails.
- The size of the Admin II Aerobics studio holds twice as many participants as Human Services Building (HSB)
- Employees have commented on the windows and brightness of the Admin II Fitness
  Center. Both areas are fitted with ceiling fans which was a request by employees and
  fitness instructors. Many of which for the first time started using a DCo Government
  sponsored fitness facility.

#### Challenges

- O There were numerous items that were not completed on the punch list, as a result, the facility appeared to be ready to open but it was not. There were numerous complaints from employees about not being able to use the facility during this time.
- o Communication and marketing were limited to MyDCo which has been less effective in alerting employees about scheduled activities and updates.
- o Admin II has a different badging system than most of the buildings. Although this was mentioned on many occasions using MyDCo, employees were unaware that that their badge had to be activated or they needed a separate badge for the facility.
- o Employees in and near Admin II prefer classes in that building.
- Durham County requirements and the process for contractors has made it difficult to obtain and maintain fitness instructors. This results in fewer group fitness classes.
   Employees continue to ask for more classes.

## Implication(s)

#### Outcomes

- An official Fitness Center Opening was held on Thursday, January 22, 2019, 38
  employees, mostly from Admin II attended. More may have attended but did not sign
  in or participate in scheduled activities and tours.
- o There were four door prizes given to employees who participated in the drawing.
- o Lunch Time Aerobics which is usually held at Human Services Building (HSB) was moved to Admin II that day, for which there were 16 participants.
- We used the opportunity for employees to select which class they wanted next and Zumba Toning maxed out all 30 slots.

# • Service delivery

o Employee wellness supports Choose To Move also through offering classes and advocating for opportunities for employees who are not near a DCo Fitness Center

## • Staffing

One program manager and a wellness attendant staff the fitness centers.

#### Revenue

 Where there is no physical dollar amount that can be identified at this time, employees that engage in physical activity reduce their risks for certain chronic conditions which impacts Durham County healthcare costs.

## **Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies**

- Continue to offer classes and wellness events specific to the fitness center sites.
- Employee fitness instructors as contract employees.
- Once Durham County Government buildings convert to one badging system, processing waivers and badges will be much easier.