



**CITY OF MANCHESTER HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
MONTHLY BULLETIN – MARCH 2010**



**Chronic Disease Prevention & Neighborhood Health Division**

**Developing a Blueprint for Violence Prevention in Manchester**

Community leaders, residents and stakeholders have identified violence as priority public health issue facing the City of Manchester through the completion and review of the 2009 Greater Manchester Community Needs Assessment. Please visit:

<http://www.manchesternh.gov/website/Departments/Health/DataandReports/tabid/700/Default.aspx>).

While violence is preventable, it requires a long-term investment of resources, leadership, people and commitment.

The Alameda County Violence Prevention Blueprint, a nationally recognized template, defines violence prevention as “a comprehensive and multifaceted effort to address the complex and multiple risk factors associated with violence including, but not limited to, poverty, unemployment, discrimination, substance abuse, educational failure, fragmented families, domestic abuse, internalized shame, and felt powerlessness”. Manchester’s Weed & Seed Strategy is working with residents, community organizations, collaborations, government and the private sector to measure the impact of violence and intentional injuries on its most vulnerable residents and to develop recommendations for action.

To assist in identifying community resources and areas of need, the Weed & Seed Strategy’s Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment (PIT) sub-committee is in the process of creating an inventory of current violence prevention initiatives, which will be instrumental in developing the recommendations for action.

If your organization or collaboration has something to contribute or would like to be involved in the development of a blueprint for violence prevention in Manchester, please contact:

Shell McCorkle, the Weed & Seed Strategy’s Program Coordinator, at 628-6003 x468 or [mmccorkle@manchesternh.gov](mailto:mmccorkle@manchesternh.gov)

**City of Manchester  
Violence-Related Data**

- ❑ **Intimate Partner and Dating Violence:** In 2009, the YWCA Crisis Service received 1976 domestic violence related calls for service. It is estimated that only 20% of incidents are reported.
- ❑ **Sexual Assault and Rape:** In 2009, there were 43 rapes reported to the Manchester Police Department. The FBI reports that only one in nine women who are sexually assaulted report the crime. In 2009, the YWCA Crisis Service received 641 sexual assault related calls for service.
- ❑ **Child Abuse:** In 2008, DCYF conducted 932 assessments of alleged child maltreatment. Children under the age of one are at the highest risk of maltreatment.
- ❑ **Youth in Physical Fights:** In 2009, nearly one in four of Manchester’s high school students reported being in a physical fight (YRBSS).
- ❑ **Elder Abuse:** In FY 08, BEAS received 197 reports of elder abuse. Experts estimate that only one in six cases or fewer are reported.
- ❑ **Suicide:** In 2006, there were 21 fatal suicide attempts among Manchester residents and 127 inpatient hospital admissions for self-inflicted injuries.
- ❑ **Murder:** Between 2008 and 2009, there were 5 murders in Manchester (MPD).

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*To improve the health of individuals, families, and the community through disease prevention, health promotion, and protection from environmental threats.*

## Community Health Division

### ***World TB Day 2010 "TB Elimination: Together We Can"***

World TB Day is held each year on March 24<sup>th</sup>, commemorating the dates in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacteria that causes tuberculosis. At the time of the announcement, TB was rampant throughout Europe and the Americas. Dr. Koch's discovery paved the way toward diagnosing and curing TB.

In the United States, the 2010 theme for World TB Day is "*TB Elimination: Together We Can.*" The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is calling for sustained action in the battle against TB through partnerships on the local, state, national and international level. A unified effort is needed to reach those at highest risk for TB and to identify and implement novel strategies for testing and treatment of high-risk populations.

The Manchester Health Department TB Program remains on the move with TB control efforts. Consistent with CDC recommendations, the Department provides testing and intensive case management for high-risk clients being treated for disease or latent infection. Partnering with the local medical community, hospitals and long-term care facilities, the Manchester Health Department continues to work toward preventing the spread of TB and reducing the overall burden of disease.

## Environmental Health & Public Health Preparedness Division

The Environmental Health Division staff worked tirelessly during the aftermath of the February Windstorm to ensure that food service establishments were assessed for damage and/or loss of power. The focus was making sure that unsafe food was removed and properly disposed of, aiding the establishments in cataloguing their losses for insurance purposes and working towards re-opening establishments as soon as possible.

Staff was active in assessing the status of approximately 100 food service establishments which experienced significant power interruptions. Environmental Health Supervisors were out during the weekend to check businesses affected and assuring that foods which were held at improper temperatures were discarded and not offered for sale. We found that despite loss to business and some structural damage, Manchester's affected food service establishments were willing to work with the Health Department and were responsible in taking the steps to protect the public health after this storm.

Most establishments were re-opened as of Sunday February 28. A few businesses were still without power until Monday but were cleared for operation in the afternoon. As of Wednesday March 2, only Milly's Tavern was closed due to roof damage. Following clearance inspections from this and other offices they have now also re-opened for business.

## School Health Division

School Health Services are now available to the Manchester School of Technology. The Health Office is open, and new school nurse Shirley Nelson is working with school nurses in the surrounding schools that send students to this regional career and technical center. MST is part of the public school system of the City of Manchester and provides a variety of programs to over 300 students. Mrs. Nelson will be providing the full scope of school health services including first aid, health counseling and referrals, and health promotion.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit our website at <http://www.manchesternh.gov/CityGov/HLT/Home.html>, or call 624-6466