



MANCHESTER HEALTH DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT SUMMARY, OCTOBER 2006

Homeless Healthcare Program

PROGRAM LISTING:

Arbovirus Surveillance & Control

Chronic Disease Prevention

Communicable Disease Control

Community Epidemiology

Dental Health

Environmental Planning and Pollution Control

Food Protection

HIV Prevention

HOMELESS HEALTHCARE PROJECT

Immunizations

Institutional Inspections

Lead Poisoning Prevention

Public Health Investigations

Public Health Preparedness

Refugee Health

School Health

Sexually Transmitted Disease Control

Tuberculosis Control

Water Quality

Youth Health Promotion

Summary of Program:

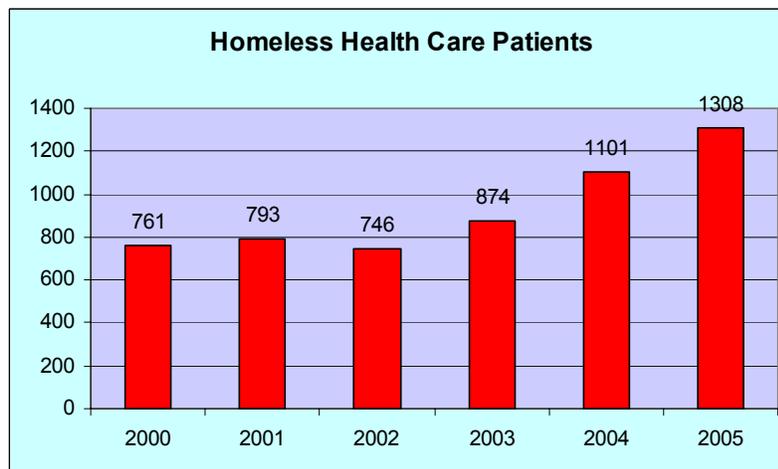
The City of Manchester first received Federal funding to support health care services for the City's homeless population in 1987. This funding is utilized to provide primary medical care, substance abuse services and case management for homeless individuals.

Today, all services are provided by CMC's Community Health Services Mobile Community Health Team (MCHT) under contract with the Manchester Health Department. Full health care services are primarily provided at New Horizons homeless shelter five days per week and at Families in Transition sites two days per week. Each of these sites has one fully equipped exam room, one room for private intake and interviewing, one room for patient counseling and an ample waiting area. Both sites provide classrooms where the MCHT conducts health education, parenting classes, wellness programs, behavioral education groups, and recovery counseling sessions.

In addition, nursing outreach services are provided at the YWCA Battered Women's shelter, the City's Emergency Housing Family Shelter, The Way Home Family Shelter, and the Child and Family Services Homeless Runaway Teen Resource Center. HCH nurses screen all patients during intake to determine their eligibility for local and state social service and entitlement programs and assist them in applying and enrolling for available services. MCHT also works closely with substance abuse treatment programs, detox shelters, halfway houses, and the facility for the dual diagnosed at the Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester.

Under federal law, a person is considered homeless who "lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and has a primary nighttime residency that is: (A) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations... (B) an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or (C) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. The term 'homeless individual' does not include any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained pursuant to an Act of Congress or a state law."

Homeless Healthcare Program statistics:



Key 2005 Homeless Health Care Services

- ~ 1,310 patients
- ~ 8,334 encounters (clinic visits)
- ~ 457 dental referrals

Community Activities

Operation Millyard: On August 5, 2006, the City of Manchester conducted a full-scale emergency training exercise at Arms Park in Manchester's Millyard, as well as at Catholic Medical Center, Dartmouth Hitchcock Clinic, Elliot Hospital, and the VA Medical Center. The exercise, dubbed "Operation Millyard" required responding personnel and their administrators work through a large-scale, multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency response to an emergency. The exercise provided an opportunity for all agencies that were involved to identify strengths and weaknesses in their emergency response plans. Exercises such as this strengthen our community's ability to effectively respond in the event of a true emergency.

Manchester Crusade Against Cancer: In recognition of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Planning Committee of the MCAC has set-up an educational table for Breast Cancer Awareness at City Hall for community residents who visit the Tax Collector's Office, as well as City Employees. The table will be displayed throughout the month of October. Pink Ribbons of Awareness have also been displayed on the doors of City Hall.

The Manchester Health Department, NH Minority Health Coalition, and the American Cancer Society have partnered around the development of the Manchester Accesses Mammograms (MAM) program. MAM is a home-based educational program offered in multiple languages to promote and increase access to mammograms for women who are 40 years of age or older, who have limited English-proficiency and are uninsured/underinsured. Women of African Descent who speak English have been recruited for the pilot session, which will allow for feedback from the target audience and evaluate the current structure and curriculum for dissemination in other cultures/languages.

High-Intensity Targeted Screening (HITS) Project: The Community Health Division conducted a High-Intensity Targeted Screening (HITS) Project in the center city to provide lead screenings and education on prevention on September 19th, 20th and 21st. Teams comprised of Health Department staff and representatives from The Way Home canvassed neighborhoods and provided door-to-door outreach. Families with young children were referred to the Neighborhood Public Health Van, which was parked nearby. A total of 383 households received visits. Sixty-nine children received capillary blood lead screenings, with 39% (27) being elevated ≥ 10 ug/dl. The children with elevations are being referred to their health care providers for venous confirmation.

A total of 117 blood lead screenings were completed by the Division during the month of September, including those done at HITS, WIC and on-site. The nurse case manager made 17 home visits during the month. A total of 6 newly confirmed cases of lead poisoning were reported to the Department and the children are receiving case management. As the month drew to a close, lead case management was being provided for 129 children. Of those, 30% (38) were refugee children.

Health Link Program: From September 1, 2005-August 31, 2006, points of referral to the Health Link Program included the local hospitals, school and community health nurses, emergency forms, friends/family, local community providers and the pregnancy care center. Families have been referred to thirteen local health care providers. The compliance rate is as follows:

- 63 referred to physician and compliant
- 17 referred to physician and not compliant
- 100 referred to physician and registered as a patient with the practice (appointment was not made by Health Link, rather by the individual or the physician practice)
- 150 referred to Healthy Kids
- 57 referred to the Health Access Network

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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