



ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2021-22



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
IN SANTA ROSA COUNTY**

Part of the state and national public health system since 1944

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A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



I believe all Santa Rosa County residents should view public health as a utility, like water or electricity. People expect water to flow from their faucets when they are turned on and the lights to come on when they flip the switch. In the same way, public health is an essential service and a trusted resource for everyone in our county, state, and the nation. It is a responsibility I do not take lightly. We must work to inform and educate the public as best we can concerning all factors affecting their health.

This annual report is representative of the tremendous work the staff of the Florida Department of Health in Santa Rosa County are performing on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Matthew Dobson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

R. Matthew Dobson, M.S.
Health Officer | Administrator
Santa Rosa County Health Department



MISSION, VISION, and VALUES

Our Mission:

To protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, and community efforts.

Vision:

To be the healthiest state in the nation.

Values: ***(I CARE)***

Innovation: We search for creative solutions and manage resources wisely.

Collaboration: We use teamwork to achieve common goals and solve problems.

Accountability: We perform with integrity and respect.

Responsiveness: We achieve our mission by serving our customers and engaging our partners.

Excellence: We promote quality outcomes through learning and continuous performance improvement.

Essential Public Health Services:

1. Monitor health status to identify community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assure a competent public health and personal health care workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

ABOUT DOH-SANTA ROSA

The Florida Department of Health in Santa Rosa County (DOH-Santa Rosa) has been part of the state public health system since 1944. Located in the Florida Panhandle, it serves a population of approximately 190,405 and provides services at two locations; the main clinic site in Milton and a satellite clinic in an area of Gulf Breeze known locally as Midway. DOH-Santa Rosa provides services in 6 divisions:

1. Administrative Services.
2. Community Health.
3. Environmental Health.
4. Health Services.
5. Operations.
6. WIC.

DOH-Santa Rosa was started in 1941 with a staff of eight under the direction of Dr. Stebbins of Pensacola, who served as director in Escambia County and part-time director in Santa Rosa County. It provided a public health program that placed emphasis on nutrition, midwifery, immunizations, environmental health, and venereal disease, now referred to as sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

In the early 1970s, a second office was opened in Gulf Breeze. The health department operated out of this facility until the Midway clinic was opened in 1998.



DOH-Santa Rosa Clinical Staff members.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

R. Matthew Dobson, M.S.

Administrator | Health Officer

In March 2022, R. Matthew Dobson was appointed Administrator (Health Officer) for the Florida Department of Health in Santa Rosa County. He began his career with the department as a Health Educator in Community Health for Santa Rosa County. He became the Public Health Services Manager for Community Health and helped lead Santa Rosa County's work toward gaining reaccreditation. While at Santa Rosa he has served as the Lead Staff Member for the Community Health Needs Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan, DOH-Santa Rosa's strategic plan, Performance Management Quality Improvement, and Workforce Development.



Dobson has successfully completed the Public Health Executive Leadership Class offered by the department in conjunction with USF.



Nancy Hardison

Operations Analyst II

Nancy Hardison, Operations Analyst and Chief Deputy Registrar (CDR) of Vital Records, has been with the Florida Department of Health for 13 years. The CDR assumes the responsibility of managing the day-to-day operations of the vital statistics unit and

must be familiar with vital statistics laws and regulations, and strives to maintain a good rapport with practitioners, funeral directors, and others involved in the records registration process. In addition, Nancy provides administrative support to the health officer and several other departments.

Mary Clanton

Operations Manager | Human Resources

Mary Clanton, the Operations Manger and Human Resources Liaison, has been with DOH-Santa Rosa since 2006. She is a graduate of the University of West Florida with a Masters in Public Administration with a certificate in Managing Sustainability and Resiliency. Mary is responsible for overseeing the faculties, purchasing, web management, IT management, human resources, cell phones, contact management, and billing.



Kimberly Fischer

Community Health Manager

Kim Fischer joined DOH-Santa Rosa towards the end of the 2021-22 fiscal year. Beginning at DOH-Escambia as a Health Educator and working up to manage the foundational documents and to include the Community Health Assessment and Improvement

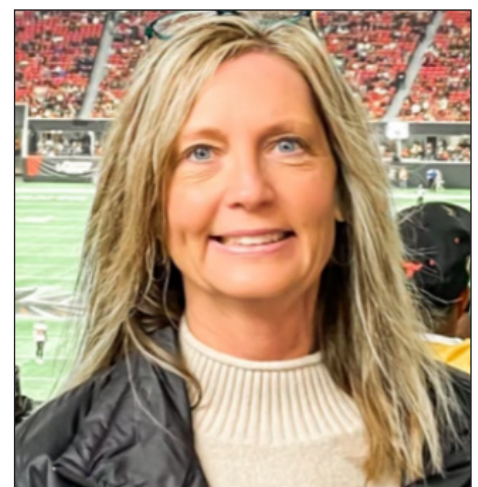
Plan Report. Kim enjoys being able to get into the community and partner with organizations and people to develop programs and strategies to improve the health of our community. It is a privilege to be able to lead the community health promotion program team in our efforts to protect, promote, and improve the health of our residents.

Sherry Worley

Director of Nursing

Sherry Worley, the Director of Nursing has been with DOH-Santa Rosa for 25 years. She began her public health career in a grant funded clinic position and has worked School Health, Healthy Start, tuberculosis

and Epidemiology before taking on the DON position in November of 2022. Sherry is responsible for the oversight of the Health Services Team which includes family planning, immunizations, STD, TB, ADAP, We Care, School Health, Epidemiology and Vital Statistics.



Del Lewis

Administrative Services Manager

Del Lewis, the Administrative Services Manager, has been with DOH-Santa Rosa for over 25 years. Del is responsible for the managerial oversight and monitoring of Santa Rosa's financial operations, budget, and

information systems including Santa Rosa's public COVID-19 call center. Additional responsibilities include directing the completion of periodic financial statements and reports, assisting with the fiscal year-end close process, and overseeing expenditure, revenue, and cost accounting reports.



Dianne Pickens

WIC Manager

Dianne Pickens has been with the DOH-Santa Rosa for 34 years. She is a licensed nutritionist and has her masters in public administration.

Currently, she oversees the WIC program and the breastfeeding peer counselor program for Santa Rosa county. Dianne is responsible for overseeing the Bi-Annual Nutrition Program Plan.

Herman Davies

Environmental Health Manager

Herman Davies has been with the Florida Department of Health for over 22 years. Herman was appointed the Environmental Health Manager in 2015. He previously served as an Environmental Specialist

and Environmental Supervisor. Herman graduated from the University of West Florida with a BS degree in Environmental Science. Herman manages the Environmental Health Division of DOH-Santa Rosa to prevent disease of environmental origin.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The staff of the Administrative Services Division work behind the scenes to support the functions of DOH-Santa Rosa. These detailed and analytical thinkers manage a budget of approximately \$6 million and work with program managers to ensure budget proposals are accurate, complete, and in compliance with Florida Statutes and the Florida Department of Health's State Health Office's regulations. They track revenues and expenditures, track accounts payable and receivable, and monitor contracts to estimate the CHD's future financial needs and ensure the availability of funds.

The sections of Finance and Accounting, Revenue Management, Budget Management, General Services, Human Resources, Vital Statistics, and Management Information Systems fall under the umbrella of the Administrative Services Division of DOH-Santa Rosa.



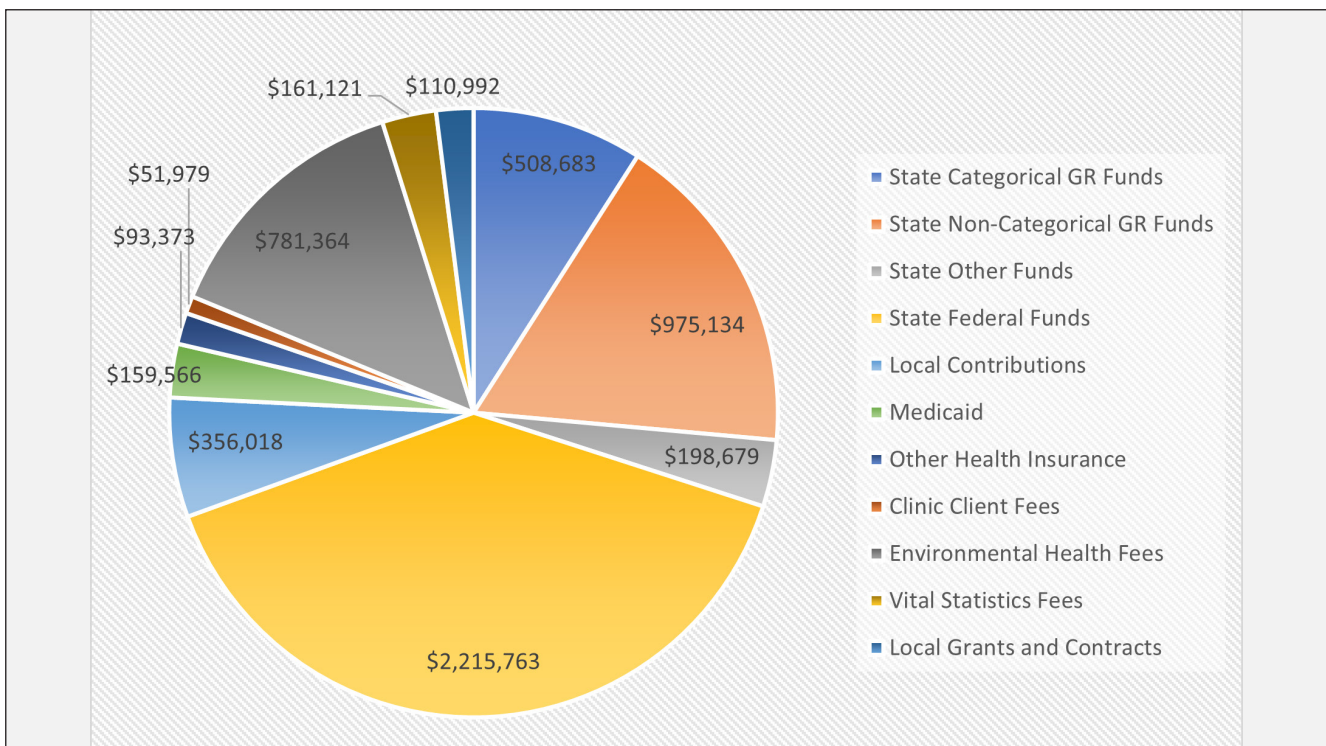
Administrative Services Manager Del Lewis (left), Accountant Jack Boyd (middle), and Budget Analyst Stephen Walker (right) make up the DOH-Santa Rosa Administrative Services department.

DOH-Santa Rosa Fiscal Year 2021-22 Revenues

Revenues:

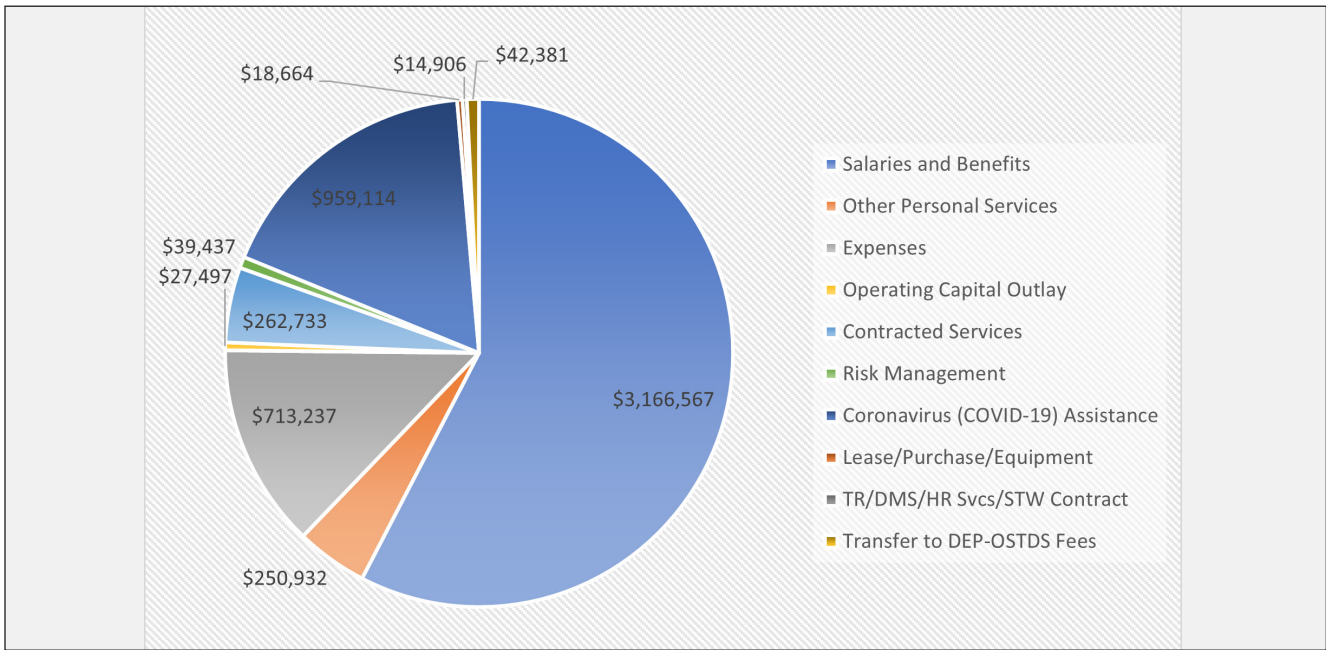
State Categorical GR Funds	\$508,683
State Non-Categorical GR Funds	\$975,134
State Other Funds	\$198,679
State Federal Funds	\$2,215,763
Local Contributions	\$356,018
Medicaid	\$159,566
Medicare	\$2,767
Other Health Insurance	\$93,373
Clinic Client Fees	\$51,979
Environmental Health Fees	\$781,364
Vital Statistics Fees	\$161,121
Local Grants and Contracts	\$110,992
Other Revenue	\$23,544
Other Grants	\$9,715

Total Revenues: \$5,648,608



Figures taken from 2019 FLHealthCharts

DOH-Santa Rosa 2021-22 Revenues.



Figures taken from 2019 FLHealthCharts

DOH-Santa Rosa 2021-22 Expenditures.

DOH-Santa Rosa Fiscal Year 2021-22 Expenditures

Expenditures:

Salaries and Benefits	\$3,166,567
Other Personal Services	\$250,932
Expenses	\$713,237
Operating Capital Outlay	\$27,497
Contracted Services	\$262,733
Risk Management	\$39,437
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Assistance	\$959,114
Lease/Purchase/Equipment	\$18,664
TR/DMS/HR Svcs/STW Contract	\$14,906
TR/ACHA/Medicaid	\$2,116
Transfer to DEP-OSTDS Fees	\$42,381
TR EH Surcharge/Admin fee	\$6,766
Refund State Revenues	\$4,398
Cash Transfers Between Same FID-Dep	\$11,385

Total Expenditures:	\$5,520,133
2020-21 Certified Forwards	\$88,253
Revenues - Expenditures + Certified Forwards	\$40,222

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

The Community Health team includes programs and services geared towards reducing:

- Chronic diseases, such as diabetes and heart disease.
- Tobacco consumption and secondhand tobacco exposure.
- Impacts of hurricanes and local disasters through planning and partnership.
- Social and economic barriers to achieving one's full health potential.

Additionally, the Community Health team works with a multitude of community partners to plan and

implement health improvement plans and inform and educate the local community through participation in community events.

“This team is committed to improving the health of our community. I get to see it daily in their work and their dedication to attending as many community events as possible. This team works tirelessly to ensure the proper education materials and products are available to fit our strategic initiatives. I am proud to be a part of this team.”

- Kimberly Fischer, DOH-Santa Rosa
Community Health Manager

Community Health Improvement

During the 2021/2022 fiscal year, Achieve Healthy EscaRosa (community improvement organization) underwent the task of developing the newest community health needs assessment report. This report was officially published January of 2022 and highlights six significant identified needs based on almost 3,000 community

survey responses and population health data analysis. Some data highlights include leading causes of death for the county, child and infant mortality rate, overdose death rates, and social and economic factors like poverty and high school graduation. Over the next 3 years, Achieve Healthy EscaRosa will work to implement access

to health care pilots and work with community organizations to improve the other five areas.

These six identified needs are:

1. Overweight and obesity.
2. Substance abuse.
3. Mental health.
4. Child abuse.
5. Access to health care.
6. Food insecurity.

Tobacco Cessation and Prevention

The Tobacco Prevention Program in Santa Rosa County works under the direction of the Bureau of Tobacco Free Florida to reduce Floridians’ tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke. Program staff work in specific policy areas such as cessation access for priority populations and comprehensive tobacco control in K-12 schools to promote policy and system change to de-normalize tobacco use. The program is actively involved in community outreach and works with the Tobacco Free Santa Rosa Coalition on their efforts towards policy change.

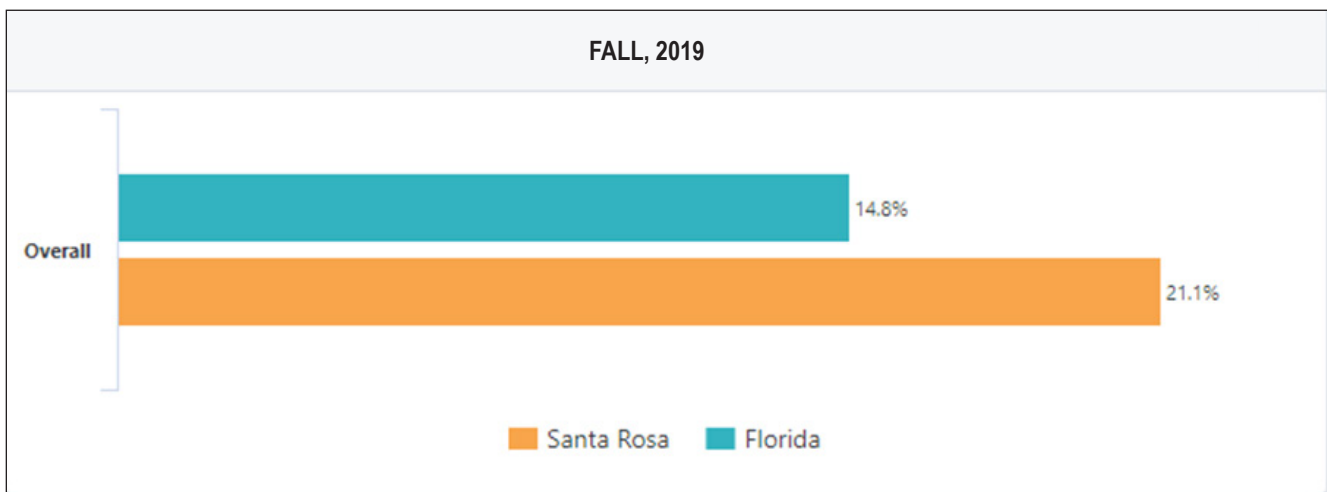
The National Night Out is an annual community outreach organized by the Tobacco Prevention Program and CDAC Behavioral Health. Held in the parking lot of the Clyde L. Gracey Community Center, community leaders, organizations, and local businesses come together to celebrate a new school year with school supplies for children and resource information for families. In 2021 National Night Out was a drive



Vince Nguyen educates residents on the dangers and harmful effects of smokeless tobacco at a community event.

through event and food was provided in addition to school supplies and resource information.

Coordinated efforts are being made to reduce the county’s tobacco use rates. Cessation classes are offered in partnership with the Area Health Education Centers (AHEC). Classes are available free of charge and can include cessation aids such as nicotine lozenges and patches.



Figures taken from 2019 FLHealthCharts

21.1% of Adults in Santa Rosa County smoke, higher than the State average of 14.8%.

Students Working Against Tobacco



Officer Noel Sevilla, a SWAT Advisor at Woodlawn Beach Middle School, presents “Escape the Vape” to 6th graders.

The youth organization Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) engages local youth and the community with tobacco prevention and education efforts. With guidance from the health department’s SWAT Coordinator and school SWAT advisors, students work to de-glamorize Big Tobacco and to advocate for a tobacco free future. Over 60 youth from Hobbs Middle School, Woodlawn Beach Middle School, and Jay High School participate in meetings, trainings, and community outreaches throughout the school year.

“UnSpoken” is an activity meant to empower youth to bring attention to Floridians who lose their lives each day due to tobacco use. SWAT youth are silent for the day to represent the victims who no longer have a voice to take a stand against the tobacco industry.



SWAT students remain silent for a day to raise awareness and represent victims of the tobacco industry.

Public Health Preparedness

Public Health Preparedness (PHP) also falls under the Community Health umbrella. All DOH-Santa Rosa staff members regularly participate in public health preparedness trainings and exercises coordinated by the PHP Planner.

On March 4, 2022, Community Health/PHP conducted a Continuity of Operations (COOP) tabletop exercise during the quarterly staff meeting. The Senior Leadership Team was divided by their respective programs at several places in the Milton facility and given a series of questions and scenarios to work if they had to relocate the health department's total operations to another facility.

Community Health/PHP gave hurricane preparedness presentations and COVID-19/pandemic updates to the Jolly Jays Senior Citizens Group in Jay, Florida — in addition to several Jay Chamber of Commerce Meetings — and handed out preparedness literature and information at various outreach events, such as NAS Whiting Field Military Appreciation Day at NAS Whiting Field on May 20, 2022, and the Senior Citizens Expo at the Clyde L. Gracey Community Center on March 11, 2022, which are both located in Milton, Florida.



Community Health/PHP conducted the annual DOH-Santa Rosa Rabies POD on October 22, 2021. 348 dogs and 96 cats were vaccinated in two hours.

National Diabetes Prevention Program

DOH-Santa Rosa offers Prevent T2 classes to the community to educate participants on how to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes for those who have pre-diabetes or have risk factors for developing diabetes. The program is endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and is an evidence-based program. By making small steps that make big changes, the classes teach the skills needed to make healthy food choices and to promote increased physical activity.

DOH-Santa Rosa facilitated four classes over the last two years with 19 participants completing the program. Many positive changes occurred with a total weight loss of 477 pounds, and 13 participants lost over 5% of their starting weight. A goal of 150 minutes of moderate physical activity is recommended weekly, and a total increase of 600 minutes a week from the participants was achieved. Several participants were also able to lower their hemoglobin A1C scores as a result of making changes to their lifestyle.

Our participants learned how to make healthy choices daily and how to maintain these changes for life. DOH-Santa Rosa offers recurring Prevent T2 classes every January and August.



DOH-Santa Rosa Community Health table at the Community Health Fair promoting healthy meal portions and daily activity.

Accreditation

The Florida Department of Health, as an integrated health system, received official reaccreditation on March 9, 2022 from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). This reaccreditation period will last for five years.

PHAB requires accredited bodies to have six foundational plans that are continuously reviewed and then updated at least every five years. Additionally, as an integrated health system, DOH-

Santa Rosa must show alignment to the state's foundational plans to ensure consistency. The foundational plans are:

1. Community Health Needs Assessment.
2. Community Health Improvement Plan.
3. Strategic Plan.
4. Workforce Development.
5. Performance Management and Quality Improvement Plan.
6. Emergency Operations Plan.

Minority Health

In July of 2021, funds were provided to the DOH-Santa Rosa to support the Office of Minority Health in improving the quality of life, and to reduce social and economic barriers for county residents. The development of minority health initiatives began with a collaboration of staff from various program areas including Epidemiology, School Health, Environmental Health, WIC, Community Health and Fiscal/Administration. The team conducted a scan of Santa Rosa County, and they identified childhood overweight and obesity as a top health priority and food insecurity as a significant barrier within the county.

The plan was completed and released

to the public in June 2022. The plan aggregated data on both Florida and Santa Rosa County from various sources consisting of information on specific data. The plan also includes goals and objectives pertaining to the Food Access Among Food Insecure Santa Rosa Individuals and Children project, a project designed to reduce childhood overweight and obesity within the county by improving access to nutritious and affordable foods.

In addition to creating a plan, the team is also tasked with hosting an event for National Minority Health Month in April. On April 8, 2022, DOH-Santa Rosa presented “Billy Mills- Evening of Inspiration.”



Left to right: Erin Moore (Minority Health Liaison), R. Matthew Dobson (DOH-Santa Rosa Administrator), William “Billy” Mills (guest speaker and 1964 Olympic Gold Medalist), and Chief Dan “Sky Horse” Helms (Santa Rosa Creek Indian Tribal Council) at the “Billy Mills - Evening of Inspiration” event.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Division of Environmental Health at DOH-Santa Rosa is the first line of defense against environmental problems, and it helps to prevent illness and injury by reducing environmental risks through education and the enforcement of Florida laws. The staff work in conjunction with the local chapter of the Florida Environmental Health Association (FEHA) to provide at least 12 hours of continuing education for on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems contractors each year. Attendance at these trainings approaches 100 participants for each class.

In addition to providing training, Environmental Health is responsible for investigating sanitary nuisance complaints, coordinating rabies investigations, and inspecting:

- Mobile home parks.
- Public swimming pools.
- Tanning salons.
- School facilities and food services
- Assisted living facilities and food service.
- Detention group food services.
- Limited use wells.

Environmental Health staff also perform site evaluations for new construction, and they issue any necessary septic permits. All staff are



DOH-Santa Rosa Environmental Health team.

required to become certified in on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems and food safety and sanitation within six-months of employment.

For the Healthy Beaches Program, advisories are issued if levels exceed 70 *Enterococci* per 100 milliliters of marine water after a resample is conducted.

Environmental Health staff investigate food and waterborne illness complaints, and they are responsible for investigating illness outbreaks associated with food and water consumption and recreational water usage.

Services performed by Environmental Health staff in the past year include:

- 867 facility inspections.
- 1,505 septic tank permits.
- 554 rabies investigations.
- 148 sanitary nuisance investigations.
- 32 foodborne illness complaints.

Healthy Beaches Program

Santa Rosa County is part of Florida's Healthy Beaches water quality testing program. Samples are collected every other week from March through October from 4 locations along Santa Rosa Sound, and they are analyzed for *Enterococci* bacteria.

The Division of Environmental Health at DOH-Santa Rosa issues health advisories when elevated levels are confirmed.

The bacteria is commonly found in the intestinal tracts of humans and animals. The presence of this bacteria in samples may be an indication of fecal pollution, which may come from storm water runoff, pets, wildlife, and/or human sewage. High concentrations may cause diseases, infections, or rashes if the bacteria come into contact with the skin or are ingested while swimming.



HEALTH SERVICES

Health Services is the largest division in DOH-Santa Rosa, offering:

- Immunizations for children and adults.
- School-based immunization program.
- Family Planning program.
- Child exams.
- School and sports physicals.
- STD screening and treatment.
- RN Express Clinic.
- Communicable Disease/Epi reporting and investigation.
- TB Control.
- School Health.
- Chronic Disease.
- Confidential HIV screening.
- ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program).
- PrEP (HIV Pre-exposure Prophylaxis Program).
- Insulin and Epilepsy Medication Programs.
- Child Passenger Safety Seat Program.
- Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program.
- White-Wilson Expanded Breast Cancer Screening Program.
- Special Needs Shelter staffing.
- Vital Statistics.
- We Care (specialty health care program for uninsured residents).
- Records management.
- Front desk clerical services, including fee collection and scheduling appointments.

Clinical Services



From left to right: DOH-Santa Rosa Clinical Staff Grace Petermann, Angela Carrasco, and Holly Diermyer.

Clinical services are provided by appointment five-days-a-week at the Milton location and biweekly at the Midway location. Most major insurances are accepted and family planning fees are on a sliding scale based on family size, income, and the federal poverty guidelines. In FY 21-22, the clinic provided 30,789 individual services to 14,018.

Immunization

The Immunization Program provides vaccines for children from birth through 18 years at no cost to parents through the Vaccines for Children Program, including:

- Hepatitis B.
- Hepatitis A.
- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis).
- Hib (haemophilus influenzae type b).
- PCV13 (pneumococcal conjugate).
- MMR (measles, mumps and rubella).
- Varicella (chicken pox).
- Meningococcal.
- HPV (human papillomavirus).
- Polio.
- Flu.

Some vaccines are also available for adults at fees equal to the cost of the vaccine plus an \$18 administration fee. In some cases, vaccines for adults may be covered by insurance. DOH-Santa Rosa does not offer vaccines required for international travel.

DOH-Santa Rosa also partners with the Santa Rosa County School District to provide vaccines to students through school-based clinics.

Parents are offered flu vaccines for their students in the Fall, and in the Spring, parents of 6th grade students are offered the Tdap vaccine.

Family Planning

The Family Planning Program is funded in part by the Title X Federal Grant Program of the Public Health Services Act, the family planning program general revenue fund, and fees collected for services. Services are available for women of child-bearing age who desire help in planning their families. Physical examinations

and a variety of contraceptives are available, including the option of sterilization for those who desire a permanent method of birth control.

Sterilization services are provided at no fee for men and women who qualify.

There are many benefits to family planning including having children when

you are ready, being happier and healthier during pregnancy, not worrying about an unplanned pregnancy, and making your own decisions about birth control.

The Family Planning Program offers education and counseling for healthy living, breast health, STD prevention, and birth control options.

School Health

All students in Santa Rosa County from kindergarten through high school receive School Health services through a cooperative arrangement with the Santa Rosa County School Board and Pediatric Services of America (PSA). A specially trained PSA Health Technician is on duty daily at each public school. DOH-Santa Rosa School Health Team consists of registered nurses and an LPN who facilitate services in public schools and serve as liasons for private schools.

Services provided include:

1. Vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings.
2. Height and weight assessments/ body mass index (BMI).
3. Nursing assessments.
4. Immunization and health record reviews.
5. Health counseling.
6. Individual emergency health care planning.
7. Assistance with referrals and accessing community resources.



Deeya Davis RN, school health nurse give a Santa Rosa County student a flu vaccine at one of the school bases flu clinics.

2021 - 2022 School Health Screenings

<i>Screening</i>	<i>Targeted Grades</i>	<i>Students</i>
Vision	K-1-3-6	9,056
Hearing	K-1-6	7,150
Scoliosis	6	2,011
Growth and Development w/ BMI	1-3-6	4,939

AIDS Drug Assistance Program and Pre-exposure Prophylaxis

The Aids Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is supported by grant funds distributed under the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009. The grant supports efforts to improve the quality, availability, and organization of HIV/AIDS health care and support services.

The program provides prescription medications to Florida residents living with HIV and AIDS, and it makes it possible for them to live healthier, longer, and more productive lives. The program provides services for those who are uninsured, underinsured, or ineligible for Medicaid. In fiscal year 2021-22, the DOH-Santa Rosa ADAP Program provided medication for 17 individuals.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is medication given to individuals who do not have HIV themselves but may be exposed to HIV, and it is administered to help prevent infection. The medication works best when it is used in conjunction with counseling and safer sex practices. The medication is currently available at DOH-Santa Rosa.

Breast Cancer Screening

DOH-Santa Rosa participates in the Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. The program provides

uninsured women between the ages of 50 and 65 with annual breast cancer and cervical cancer screenings. The

program is critical in diagnosing these cancers when they are in their earliest stages and most treatable.

Services Provided Through The White Wilson Expanded Breast Cancer Screening Program

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Mammograms</i>	<i>Ultrasounds</i>	<i>Breast Biopsies</i>
2019-2020	27	11	8
2020-2021	7	7	8
2021-2022	2	8	8

OPERATIONS

The Operations Division comprises of facilities, purchasing, human resources, information technology, and web management, as well as contract management and billing services.

Services provided include:

- Personnel liaison (posting job requisitions, on-boarding new employees, and processing separation tickets for terminating/retiring employees).
- Point of contact for county maintenance; submitting work orders for facility repairs and maintenance.
- Ordering and receiving supplies and commodities.
- Obtaining quotes for facilities renovations and repairs.
- Managing contracts for custodial services, landscaping service, and biomedical waste disposal services.
- IT services.
- Web management services.
- Processing billing for services.
- Purchasing of new vehicles and removing older vehicles from service.

VITAL STATISTICS

The Vital Statistics Program provides certified copies of birth and death records for those events that occur in the state of Florida, as well as information on correcting errors and obtaining vital records from other states. In fiscal year 2021-22, over \$161,121 was collected in fees, making the program self-sustaining.

Florida's Bureau of Vital Statistics registers and certifies vital records, including birth, death, marriage, and divorce throughout 67 counties. Birth and death registration was not required by state law until 1917, but there are some birth records on file dating back to 1850 and death records dating back to 1877.

Statewide, over 2.6 million certified vital records were issued to requestors in 2022. In fiscal year 21-22, Santa Rosa collected over \$161,121 in fees.

Vital records are essential for the just administration of our laws and for the protection of individual rights. In addition, the statistical data from these records is of great value to public health agencies.

WOMEN, INFANTS, and CHILDREN

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) supplemental nutrition program provides nutritious foods for low to moderate income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children from birth through the age of 5 who are at nutritional risk.

Benefits for food packages that meet participants' individual needs are provided through an electronic benefits card and can be used to purchase items at any of the 20 approved vendors in Santa Rosa County. On average, participants redeem approximately \$173,000 in benefits each month; \$2,076,581 in total benefits were redeemed in WIC fiscal year 2021-22, which runs from October 1 to September 30.

Breastfeeding promotion and support are integral components of the WIC Program. An International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant and peer counselors see clients in the office, and they are available by phone seven days a week to provide support, education, and assistance to mothers in

order to make informed decisions about infant feeding. Breastfeeding classes are also offered each Thursday at the Milton location and are facilitated by a trained breastfeeding counselor.

In January 2018, WIC introduced its breastfeeding support group, The Milky Way. The group meets once a month at the Milton Public Library on Alabama Street, and it is open to all pregnant and/or breastfeeding mothers, nursing infants, and toddlers (whether or not they participate in WIC). The group has been so successful that it was expanded to the Midway location in January 2020.

The WIC Program presently serves:

197	Pregnant Women
187	Breastfeeding Women
145	Postpartum Women
557	Infants
1,329	Children



DOH-Santa Rosa WIC breastfeeding support group, The Milky Way, celebrates World Breastfeeding Week, Aug. 2021.

WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

The WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), a collaboration between the Florida Department of Agriculture and WIC, provides WIC clients with coupons that allow them to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from participating vendors at no cost. DOH-Santa Rosa hosts a farmers market on-site at its Milton location throughout the summer. The market is open to the public, and WIC coupons are accepted. \$39,000 in coupons were distributed in 2022 to WIC clients for use at farmers markets throughout the area.

Walk for Mommy & Me

The WIC program also sponsors the annual Walk for Mommy & Me. The event, which is free and open to the public, regularly attracts between 200 and 300 participants, and it supports the Florida Department of Health's Healthy

Weight initiative.

The 2022 Walk for Mommy & Me was attended by 371 members of the community, 14 student volunteers, and 75 vendors and staff from DOH-Santa Rosa for a total of 476 attendees.



DOH-Santa Rosa sponsors the annual Walk for Mommy & Me event.

