



# ANNUAL 2016 REPORT

**Protecting Health;  
Inspiring Prevention.**



No matter who we are, where we live, or what we do, everyone has benefited from the protections of public health in our everyday lives. In fact, it has been the past advancements in public health that continue to save countless lives around the world through the successful use of vaccinations, the chlorination of water, effective environmental protections and routine public health surveillance and disease control investigation. Each and every day, the Northeast Colorado Health Department continues this tradition by protecting our community's health and promoting public health prevention efforts. We do this by preventing disease and responding to new public health threats, supporting access to healthy foods, clean air, and clean water, and by promoting overall healthy lifestyles and health equity. We minimize the impact of disease outbreaks through education, vaccination efforts, early detection screenings, emergency preparedness and response planning, and in routine health inspection services. We further establish these protections by

**I HOPE YOU JOIN US AS WE STRIVE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF OUR WORK AND FOCUS OUR EFFORTS ON BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES IN NORTHEAST COLORADO.**

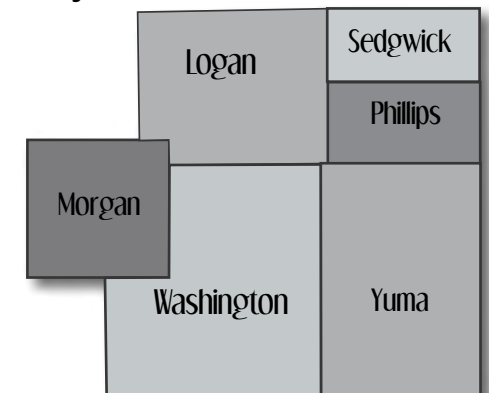
communicating population health issues in a timely and reliable manner and working closely with our community partners.

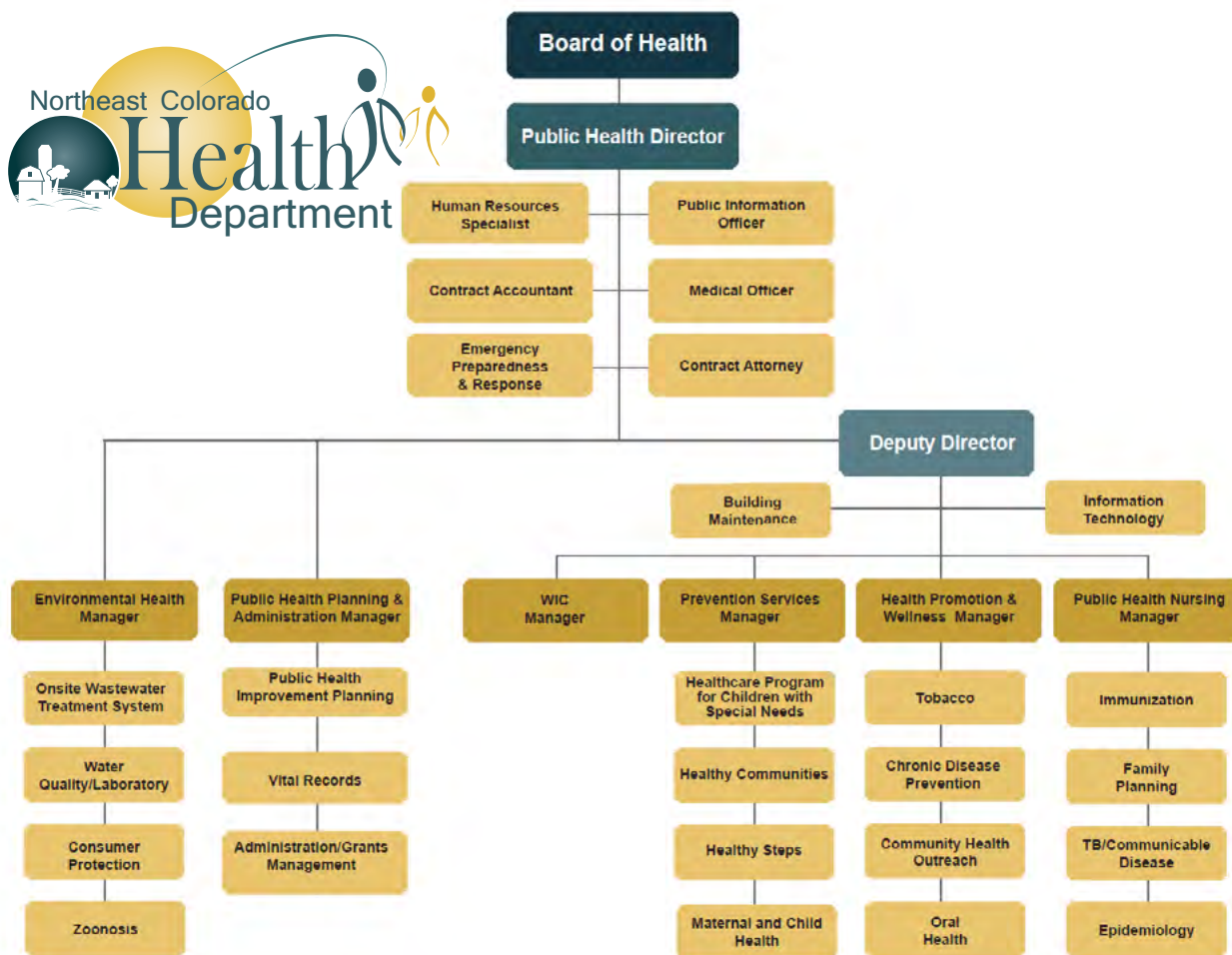
In striving for continued improvement, and with a new strategic plan, NCHD's current ability and motivation to serve the residents of Northeast Colorado is at an all-time high. We are strategically aligned to provide quality public health services to our community and this continues to be evident by what you will see in this report. We take pride in serving Northeast Colorado and it is NCHD's purpose to provide our residents with a wide array of necessary and effective public health programs that will help better ensure our communities are successful, healthy, and thriving.

In looking back at 2016, this marks the foundation of NCHD establishing a strategic sense of protecting and inspiring the health and well-being of our residents. In looking ahead, I hope you join us as we strive to improve the quality of our work and focus our efforts on building healthy communities in Northeast Colorado.

Best regards and health,

Tony Cappello, Ph.D., MPH





# 2016 NCHD ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## MISSION

We are a rural public health department promoting healthy communities and protecting the environment through leadership, expertise, and collaboration.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

In 2016, NCHD completed our first ever Strategic Plan. The plan can be viewed online at [www.nchd.org/news](http://www.nchd.org/news)

## VISION

Protecting health;  
Inspiring prevention.

## GOVERNANCE

NCHD is governed by an eight-member Board of Health whose function is to select and employ the public health director, adopt local health ordinances, rules and regulations, adopt the annual budget, and serve in an advisory role to the public health director.

In 2016, NCHD performed 676 inspections in a variety of settings, including 612 retail food inspections of the 412 licensed facilities in our counties who potentially served 72,000 local consumers.

Environmental Health Services Provided in 2016

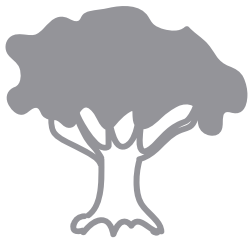
- Childcare Center Inspections—41
- Retail Food Establishment Inspections—612
- Public Swimming Pool/ Spa Inspections—12
- Body Art Establishment Inspections —11
- Water Samples Tested for Bacteria —945
- Septic Permits Issued—132
- Food Handlers Trained through ServSafe —91

Retail Food Safety Violations

- Food-borne Illness Critical Violations Cited —246
- Other Critical Violations Cited —430
- Total Number of Critical Violations Cited —676

Child Care Violations

- Critical Violations Cited —52



The Excellence in Food Safety Awards go to those establishments in our six-county district that maintain the highest standard of food safety in northeast Colorado. These individuals put in the time and top notch efforts to keep the cleanest facilities and ensure the safety of their communities.

FULL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

- Sodexo  
Logan County
- Colorado Plains Medical Center  
Morgan County
- The Skillet  
Sedgwick County
- CBM Food Service  
Yuma County

LIMITED SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

- Sterling Livestock Cafe  
Logan County
- Maveriks #480  
Morgan County
- Bar Lo Cafe LLC  
Phillips County
- Pizza Hut  
Yuma County

NON-PROFIT ESTABLISHMENTS

- Peetz School  
Logan County
- Pioneer Elementary School  
Morgan County
- Holyoke Elementary School  
Phillips County
- Ovid Senior Center  
Sedgwick County
- Woodlin School  
Washington County
- Idalia School  
Yuma County



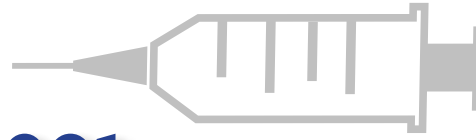
NCHD nurses  
administered

**2,420**

vaccinations

to **1,231**

individuals in 2016.



The **Vaccines for Children (VFC)** Program helps provide vaccines to children whose parents or guardians may not be able to afford them. This helps ensure that all children have a better chance of getting their recommended vaccinations on schedule. These vaccines protect babies, young children, and adolescents from 16 diseases. Children seen in our **VFC** program average **3** shots per visit!

The **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** is a federal assistance program that provides nutrition counseling, breastfeeding support, referrals and free nutritious foods.

In 2016,  
NCHD's **24,167** vouchered WIC  
received participants

**\$1,392,880**

worth of groceries which also benefits our **local economy**.



Typically, we have 8 Family Planning clinics every week across our six counties. In 2016, we served **829** clients to provide low-cost, confidential, preventative reproductive health services to men and women with incomes at or below 150% of poverty and all teens across northeast Colorado. There were a total of **1,733** Family Planning visits.



The **Healthcare Program for Children and Youth With Special Needs (HCP)** supports children with special health care needs, from birth through age 20, and their families. Through care coordination, HCP assists Northeast Colorado families in understanding and coordinating the resources available for care and support.

In 2016 HCP had **196** appointments at **16** clinics and **7** consultations.

NCHD's **Family Recess Respite** is a grant funded program that provides temporary care on a scheduled basis to families of children with special needs. Respite days are held during the school year, one Saturday a month in Sterling and one in Fort Morgan, for seven hours. During those times, families can bring in their child with special needs and any siblings for a day of crafts, games, and recreation. In 2016 there were **14** Respite days, where we were able to provide rest and relaxation to the families of **84 amazing kids with special needs** and **48 siblings**.

Overall we assisted with:

**588**  
hours of respite  
for 8 families

**&**

**361**  
hours of in  
home respite

**H**ealthy Child Clinics are for all children, age six months to five years, and offer free vision, hearing, height, weight, speech, social/emotional, developmental, and dental screenings. The goal of these clinics is to pinpoint any health or developmental issues before these children enter school, and more importantly before any problems have a chance to develop further.

**141** children were screened at **6** Healthy Child Clinics in 2016.

**H**ealthy Communities Program may be able to help citizens ages 0-20 and pregnant women on Medicaid or Child Health Plan Plus with basic non-medical issues including: finding a doctor, dentist, specialist, or other service accepting Medicaid or CHP+ health insurance, finding clothing, food, shelter, employment services, and other resources in the community, even coordinating transportation to and from medical offices and home, and more. Healthy Communities was contacted **2,144** times for referrals.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Northeast Colorado Health  
Department issued

**2,298** Birth  
Certificates  
and

**3,955** Death  
Certificates

**6,253**

**TOTAL VITAL  
RECORDS ISSUED**

in Logan, Morgan, Phillips, and  
Washington Counties.

## PUBLIC HEALTH SHINING STARS

Each year, during National Public Health Week, we recognize members of our communities that have shown outstanding commitment to Public Health over the last 12 months. Award recipients are nominated by NCHD employees for going above the call of duty to protect the health of northeast Colorado.

### 2016 AWARD RECIPIENTS:



Aaron Phillips of Morgan County was nominated by Community Health Navigator Rosemary Lengel for his outstanding work in educating youth about the health effects of tobacco use, as well as his time volunteering as a facilitator to run a tobacco cessation program in the Wiggins School District.



Holly Thompson of Washington County was nominated by Community Health Navigator, Kathy Anderson. As Kathy wrote, "Holly is constantly helping connect parents, schools and community partners to advance the health and wellness of the families in her county."



Terry Curtis of Logan County was nominated by Community Health Navigator Ann Clouse for being a big voice for little ones and helping to promote NCHD programs such as Child Passenger Safety, Immunizations, and the new Breastfeeding Friendly Employers program.



Tom Davis of Phillips County was nominated by Planning and Grants Specialist, Michelle Pemberton for his commitment to keeping children and families safe across northeast Colorado by volunteering at car seat check points and Buckle up For Love events, sometimes even on his days off.

Patricia Brewster-Willeke of Yuma County was also nominated by Michelle Pemberton, Planning and Grants Specialist but was unable to attend the awards reception. Patricia was nominated for her important role in advocating at the state level for the needs of northeast Colorado as well as her vision, energy and commitment to bringing new and innovative healthcare services to northeast Colorado.



# TUBERCULOSIS IN NORTHEAST COLORADO



Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by a bacterium called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. The bacteria usually attacks the lungs, but TB bacteria can attack any part of the body such as the kidney, spine, and brain. Not everyone infected with TB bacteria becomes sick. As a result, two TB-related conditions exist: latent TB infection (LTBI) and active TB disease. TB bacteria are spread through the air from one person to another. The TB bacteria are put into the air when a person with active TB disease of the lungs or throat coughs, speaks or sings. People nearby may breathe in these bacteria and become infected.

The Northeast Colorado Health Department takes precautions to make sure those in our six county region with active Tuberculosis do not spread the disease, and those that have LTBI don't become ill with active TB disease. 2016 was an exceptionally busy year for TB in Northeast Colorado. NCHD nurses made 668 home visits to administer treatment for 2 active

cases as well as preventative treatment for household members.

There was one active case in Morgan County which involved a large family. One NCHD nurse quickly developed a trusting relationship with the family from being in the home nearly every day for almost 6 months. More than a third of the home visits made in 2016 were preventative treatments for several members of this family. According to Colorado State Statute, all active TB cases must be treated with Directly Observed Therapy (DOT); this means a nurse must watch them take the medication to ensure that it is being taken. Also, when a child has LTBI, they are placed on Directly Observed Preventative Therapy (DOPT) because children with LTBI have a greater risk of developing active TB so it is best to observe each dose being taken to make sure treatment is complete.



NCHD nurses made  
**668** home visits to administer  
treatment for Tuberculosis.

The case in Logan County included household contacts as well as extended family. The family spent much time visiting 3 separate households which meant that the nurse sometimes made 3 to 4 home visits daily in order to make sure everyone was provided their medications. NCHD nurses traveled 1,472 miles to complete DOT/DOPT visits on the four individuals from January to June 2016.

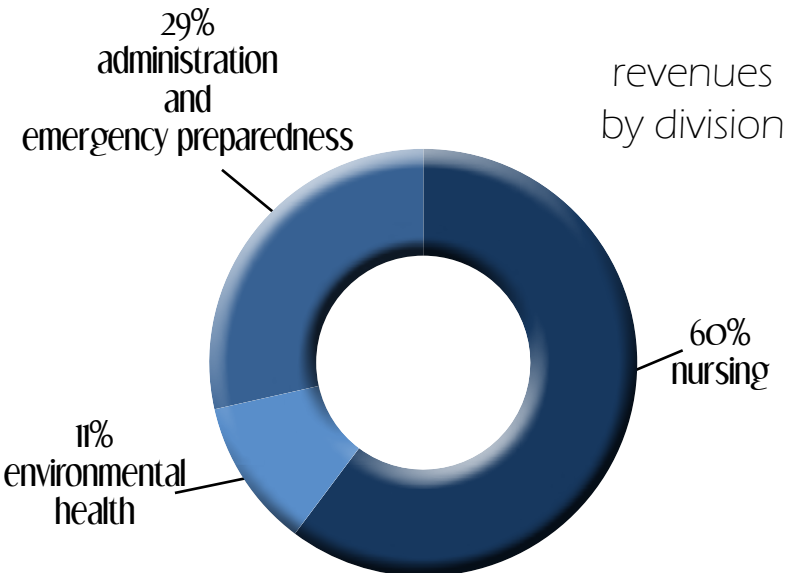
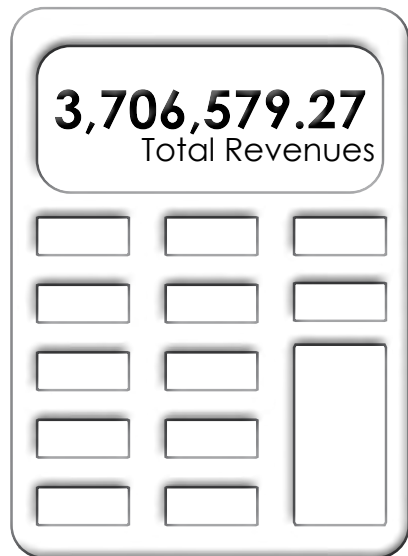
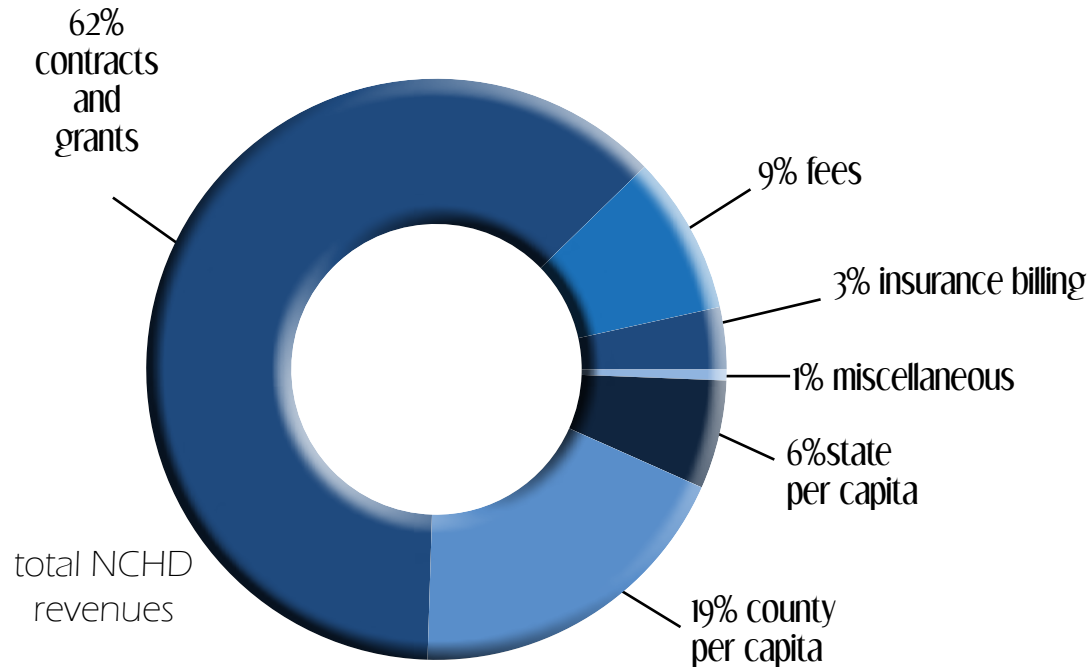
Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) is when there are TB bacteria in the body, but the individual is not sick. Such persons have no symptoms and do not feel sick; they cannot spread TB but they have a positive TB skin and/or blood test. LTBI can develop into TB if the body's immune system weakens which in turn weakens the body's ability to keep the TB germs dormant. According to NCHD Disease Control Specialist Tammy Hort, RN, "It is important for individuals with high risk health conditions such as diabetes, immunocompromised conditions, or if they take medications that suppress the immune system speak to their health care provider about testing. Also, if you were born outside the United States in a country with endemic TB, you should also be tested."



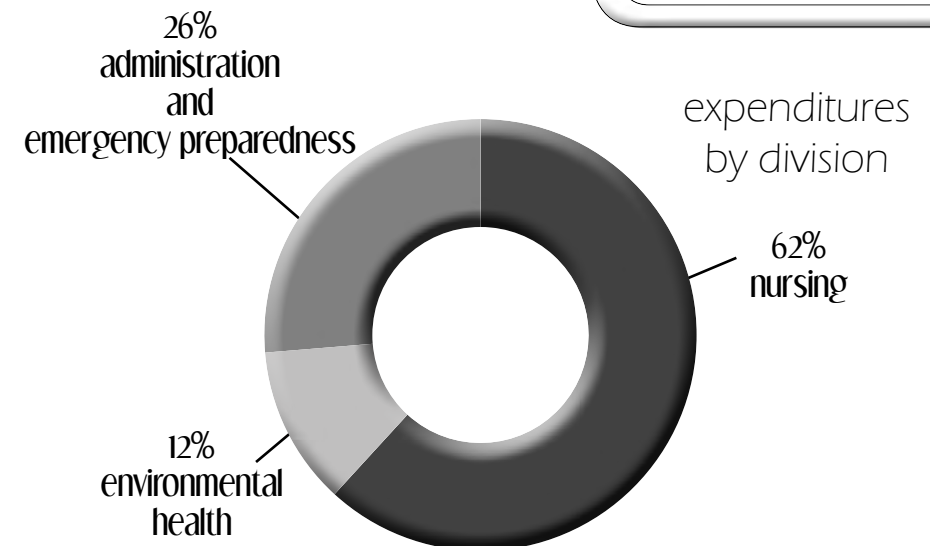
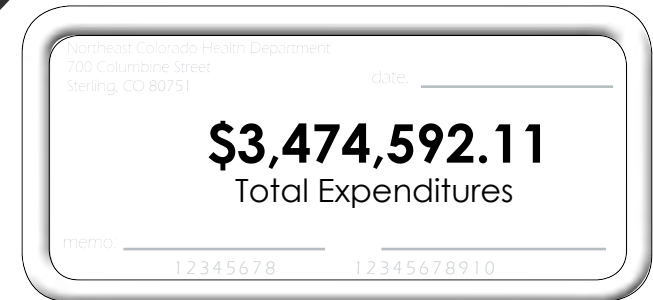
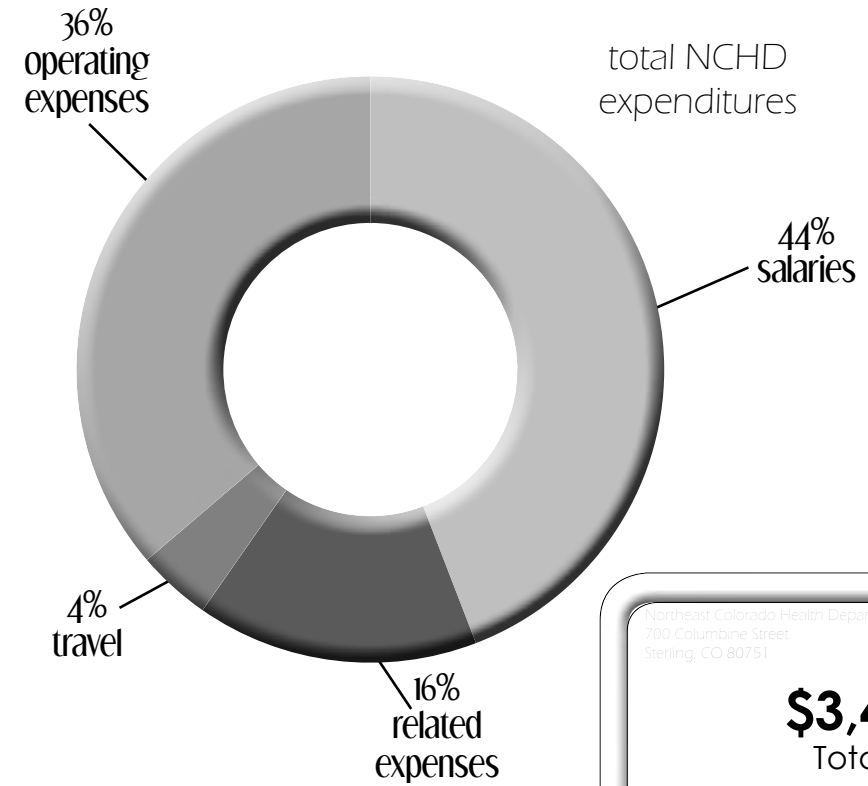
NCHD nurses traveled  
**1,472** miles to complete  
treatment of just one family  
in Logan county.



# REVENUES



# EXPENSES



## **ADMINISTRATION**

**Tony Cappello, PhD, MPH**  
Public Health Director

**Trish McClain**  
Deputy Director

**Melvin Bustos**  
Environmental Health Manager

## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

**Gene Meisner**  
Logan County

**Nancy Zwirn**  
Logan County

**Laura Teague**  
Morgan County

**Roger Segura**  
Morgan County

**Robin Wiley**  
Yuma County

**Terry Hart**  
Washington County

**Joe Kinnie**  
Phillips County

**Mark Turner**  
Sedgwick County

## **OFFICE LOCATIONS**

**Logan County**  
700 Columbine  
Sterling, CO 80751  
(970) 522-3741  
FAX (970) 522-1412

**Morgan County**  
228 W. Railroad Avenue  
Fort Morgan, CO 80701  
(970) 867-4918  
FAX (970) 867-0878

**Phillips County**  
127 E. Denver  
Suite C  
Holyoke, CO 80734  
(970) 854-2717  
FAX (970) 854-4559

**Sedgwick County**  
118 W. 3rd  
Julesburg, CO 80737  
(970) 474-2619  
FAX (970) 474-2716

**Washington County**  
77 Main Ave.  
Akron, CO 80720  
(970) 345-6562  
FAX (970) 345-6561

**Yuma County**  
529 N. Albany St.,  
Suite 1120  
Yuma, CO 80759  
(970) 848-3811  
FAX (970) 848-2888

