



EPISODES

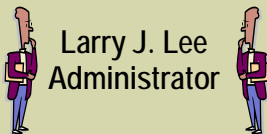
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Happy Holidays

Here at the St. Lucie County Health Department (SLCHD), we are always concerned with our community's health. Here are some warm and fuzzy pieces of information that highlight only *a few* of the things we do for our community.

Immunizations

St. Lucie County received kudos from the State Bureau of Immunizations for being so meticulous in vaccine accountability for the first three quarters of this year (1 January– 30 September 2011). What that means is that our county is saving our government and taxpayers money by minimizing the instances of lost, wasted, or expired vaccines. Not only that, our county was recognized for *exceeding* the national and state goal of 90% vaccine coverage for our 24-35 month pediatric clients.

Tuberculosis (TB) and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)

So far this year, SLCHD's Disease Intervention Specialists provided 4374 direct client services including the investigation of: 9 cases of infectious syphilis; 4 cases of early latent syphilis; 755 cases of chlamydia; 208 cases of gonorrhea; and the preventive treatment of identified recent sexual partners to limit spread of disease. SLCHD's TB division provided 2475 direct client services and investigated 21 active cases of tuberculosis, one involving a large school. Fifty cases of latent TB infection were identified, case managed, and treated. This is important since TB is curable and we can prevent active TB later in life.

Laboratory Professionals

Effective laboratory services are an essential part of any functional health program. SLCHD provides quality services at reasonable prices for those that may not have access to health care. SLCHD's labs have processed *over 5,000 tests* in September and October alone, including: HIV; pregnancy; PAP smears; STDs; and blood chemistry tests. Our Labs are also working on automating our in-house lab testing to improve productivity/efficiency.

Epidemiology Program

There were 732 notifiable disease cases (preliminary data) reported to the state from 1 Jan– 30 Nov 2011 including:

- Rabies Prevention Program (*over 500* animal bites investigated, including: 3 rabid animals; 11 clients received and/or completed rabies post-exposure prophylaxis shots at SLCHD/EPI)
- Lead Poisoning Prevention Program/Case Management (12 cases reported)
- Hepatitis B perinatal prevention program/Case management (23 cases of Hepatitis B+ pregnant women reported; 11 infants born to Hepatitis B+ women; 19 identified sexual or household contacts of Hepatitis B+ pregnant women who delivered; and 56 clients screened and vaccinated for Hepatitis A and/or B)

Public Health Preparedness

SLCHD takes an "all-hazards" approach to planning and is very proactive with exercises and frequent communications. We value our community partners and adore the Medical Reserve Corp! (see pp. 3-7)

- There are two new influenza viruses identified on routine surveillance in the United States– influenza A H3N2 and influenza A H1N2 (none yet in Florida)
- Disease specialists anticipate our children (10 yrs. and younger) may be more affected by these viruses because some adults may have partial, pre-existing immunity to at least a portion of the new flu viruses
- Keep sick at home, cover your sneezes/coughs, wash/sanitize your hands especially before touching food or face, get your flu shots, and see your health-care provider if you are getting worse (antivirals work better if given early)
- You do NOT get swine-origin flu by eating properly handled/cooked pork

For more novel flu information, check out the CDC website:

http://www.cdc.gov/media/haveyouheard/stories/novel_influenza.html

MERLIN Registry System*
Year to Date Incidence of Selected Diseases
1 Jan 2011– 30 November 2011
St. Lucie County & FL comparison

	<u>St. Lucie County</u>		<u>State of Florida</u>	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Central Nervous System & Invasive Diseases				
HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE (INVASIVE DISEASE)	1	3	210	174
MENINGITIS (BACTERIAL, CRYPTOCOCCAL, MYCOTIC)	3	2	173	168
MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE	1	1	55	59
STREP PNEUMONIAE, INVASIVE DISEASE, RESISTANT	20	11	587	714
STREP PNEUMONIAE, INVASIVE DISEASE, SUSCEPT	8	6	619	605
STREPTOCOCCAL DISEASE, INVASIVE GROUP A	4	1	225	230
Hepatitides				
HEPATITIS A	1	0	95	162
HEPATITIS B (+HBsAg IN PREGNANT WOMEN)	23	7	437	405
HEPATITIS B, ACUTE	9	4	245	290
HEPATITIS B, CHRONIC	67	44	4594	3829
HEPATITIS C, ACUTE	6	5	86	96
HEPATITIS C, CHRONIC	316	246	23317	20689
Enteric Diseases				
CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS	27	7	2156	1099
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	14	11	407	368
CYCLOSPORIASIS	4	0	54	61
ESCHERICHIA COLI, SHIGA TOXIN PRODUCING	2	2	398	204
GIARDIASIS	10	13	1133	1997
SALMONELLOSIS	72	75	5461	5834
SHIGELLOSIS	9	2	2452	1045
VIBRIO ALGINOLYTICUS	2	0	46	32
VIBRIO CHOLERAЕ TYPE O1	1	0	10	1
VIBRIO PARAHAEMOLYTICUS	0	1	27	33
Vaccine Preventable Diseases				
MEASLES	0	0	8	1
MUMPS	1	1	24	15
PERTUSSIS	0	3	294	293
VARICELLA	23	6	791	916
Vector Borne & Zoonotic Diseases				
ANIMAL BITE (PEP FOR RABIES)	72	39	2083	1824
DENGUE FEVER	4 (imported)	2	67	183
LYME DISEASE	1	2	126	83
MALARIA	4 (imported)	1	93	121
RABID ANIMALS	3	3	112	118
WEST NILE VIRUS (NEUROINVASIVE)	0	0	20	8
Others				
BRUCELLA	1	0	11	8
CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING	4	3	95	159
CIGUATERA	2	0	46	19
LEAD POISONING	12	9	709	830
LEGIONELLA	0	1	174	165

*Data in MERLIN reports are provisional,
based on cases entered by county health departments
and are not considered official data

MRC 2011 Holiday Meeting

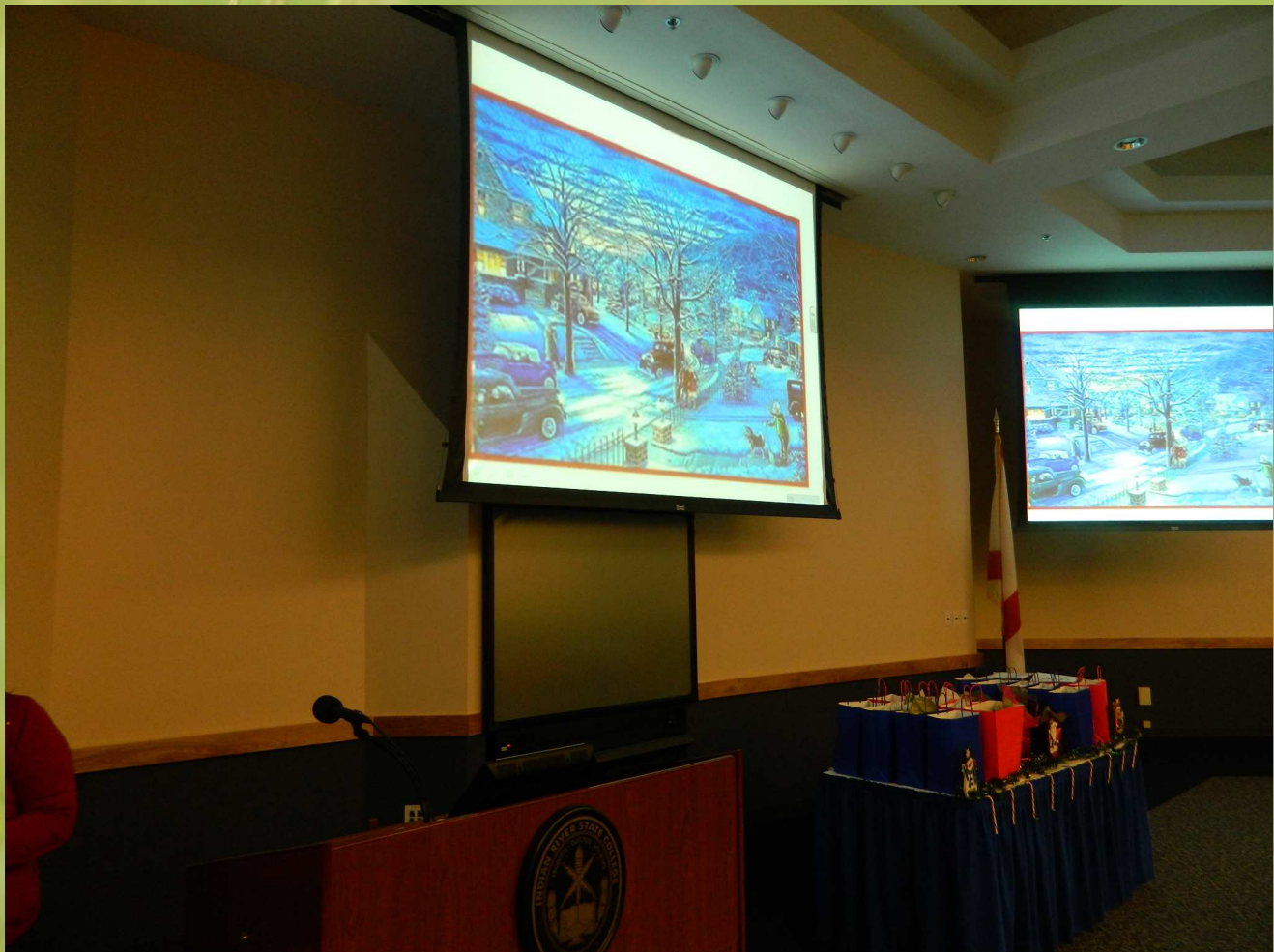
**Indian River and St. Lucie Counties
12/13/2011**



**MRC Coordinators and Partner
Sonji Hawkins, St. Lucie (left), Joan Gentgen, Indian
River (middle) and Victoria Stalls, Indian River State
College/CCTI (partner and member)(right).**



A winter wonderland PowerPoint was prepared that continuously loop throughout the evening. We also gave gift bags to each member (preparedness items for their Go-Kits)



What a turn out!



All things must end. The MRC
Volunteers for Indian River and St.
Lucie Counties are the best.

