



Garfield County Public Health

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Caring For Our Community



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Our Acronyms

Accountable Communities of Health	ACH
Children with Special Health Care Needs	CSHCN
Communicable Disease	CD
Community Health Assessment	CHA
Community Health Needs Assessment	CHNA
Department of Health	DOH
Environmental Health	EH
Foundational Public Health Services	FPHS
Health Care Authority	HCA
Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance Agreement	LSWFAA
Maternal Child Health	MCH
Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response	PHEPR
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	SNAP
Women, Infants and Children	WIC
Youth Cannabis and Commercial Tobacco Prevention Program	YCCTPP

Our Mission

We are committed to professional, caring services that motivate individuals to a higher level of physical, mental, and environmental health awareness and responsibility. Garfield County Public Health District (GCPH) offers services available through programs that impact individual and community health status with the direction of the Garfield County Public Health Officer, Dr. Daniel Kaminsky.

Our Focus

- Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues and trends
- Following and understanding community health trends
- Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts
- Assure a knowledgeable public health work force
- Mobilize community partners to identify and solve community health needs
- Link community members to services
- Plan and prepare for public health emergencies

Our Community

Garfield County, populated at 2,286 in 2020, is the least populated county in the state and geographically one of the smallest counties. The chart below compares county and state data.

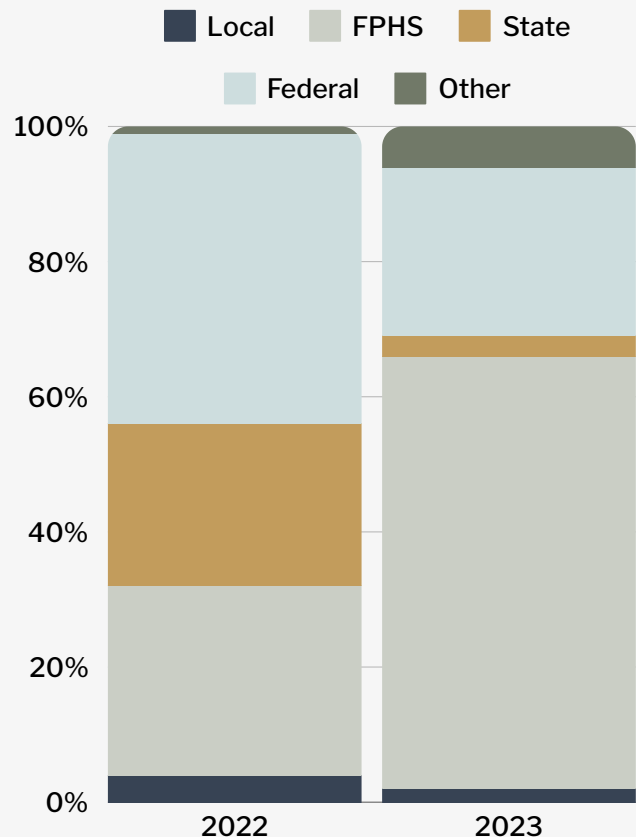
Age	Garfield Co.	WA State
Under 5 Years Old	4%	6.1%
Under 18 Years Old	20%	22%
Over 65 Years Old	26.4%	15.4%
Median Age	50	37
Education (over 25 years)		
High School Graduate or Higher	23.7%	21.8%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	15%	23.1%
Vulnerable Populations		
Disabled Individuals 18yo-65yo	20.4%	10.5%
Persons in Poverty	9.2%	9.9%
+65 Years Old Living Alone	11.3%	3.5%

Our Programs

- Children with Special Health Care Needs
- Community Engagement
- Communicable Diseases
- Community Health Assessment
- Contact Tracing
- COVID-19
- Dental Health Education
- Emergency Preparedness
- Environmental Health
- Hearing & Vision Screenings
- Marijuana and Tobacco Prevention
- Maternal Child Health
- Public Health Nursing
- SAIL
- School
- SNAP
- Vital Records
- WIC

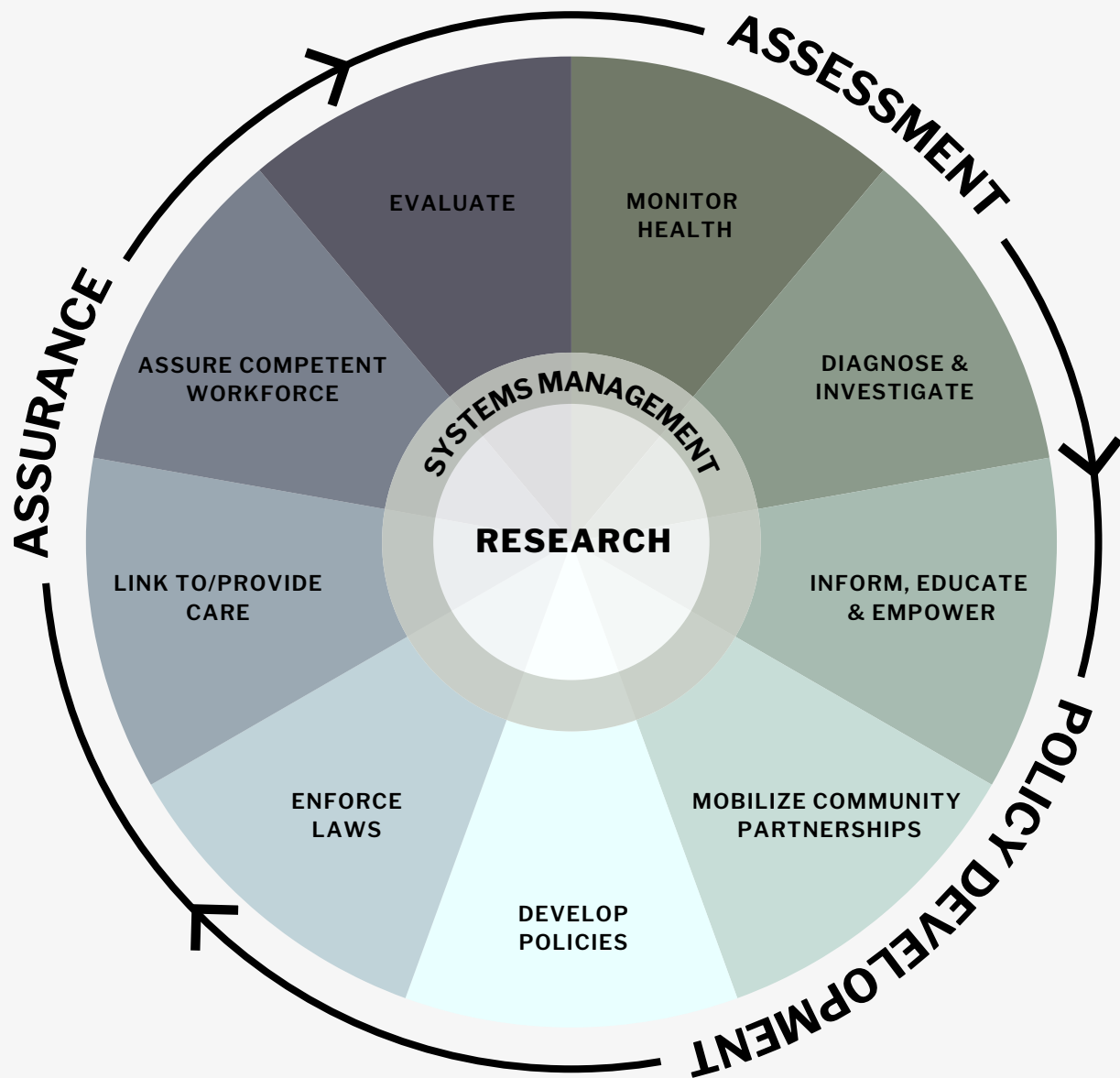
2022 Revenue by Fund Source

Source	Dollar
Local	\$16,250.00
FPHS + 5930	\$494,654.00
State Funded Programs	\$21,678.40
Federal	\$191,555.06
Other/Fees	\$46,781.55
TOTAL	\$772,942.01



Essential Services of PH

The 10 Essential Public Health Services are a framework for public health professionals to protect and promote the health and wellness of people in the community equitably. Garfield County Public Health is dedicated to upholding the 10 essential public health services to ensure all members of the community achieve their health goals by removing systemic and structural barriers. In 2022, Garfield County Public Health highlighted these services in multiple ways which are shown below.



Essential Services of PH

Protecting the public's health across the state is a fundamental responsibility of the state and is accomplished through the governmental public health system. This system is comprised of the state department of health, state board of health, local health jurisdictions, sovereign tribal nations, and Indian health programs. Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) are core services which the governmental public health system is responsible for providing in a consistent and uniform way in every community in Washington.

VITAL RECORDS	EPH	CD	MCH	ACCESS	CHRONIC & INJURY PREVENTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VR Systems Issue Certificates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Planning Inspections & Investigations Zoonotics Radiation Land use 	Such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give shots Clinical services 	Such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maternity care Developmental screening Nurse-Family partnership WIC 	Such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical services Case management Family planning 	Such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opioid treatment Tobacco prevention Suicide prevention
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Coordination Promote immunizations Disease investigations PH Lab 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Planning Coordination Newborn screening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Planning Coordination Patient safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Planning Coordination
Cross-Cutting Capabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSESSMENT - Collect & use data, community health assessments & improvement planning EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE - Plan, lead, mobilize, communicate COMMUNICATIONS - Media, strategy POLICY DEVELOPMENT - Recommendations, implement, cost-benefit COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS - Leadership, government role BUSINESS COMPETENCIES - Leadership, accountability, quality, technology, human resources, fiscal, facilities/operations, legal 					

Definitions

Foundational Public Health Services - Population-based, prevention oriented services that only/primarily government provides everywhere, in order for the system to function anywhere.

Governmental Public Health System - State Department of Health (DOH), State Board of Health (SBOH), Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJ's), Tribal Health and other programs.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT SERVICES

Provided by: many organizations - government and non-government

Funded by: Federal, state, local, government, foundations, CBO's, community healthcare, etc.

FOUNDATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES (FPHS)

Provided by: Governmental Public Health.

Funded by: State & local fees, state government & some federal grants.

Community Health Assessment

Every 5 years, representatives from community organizations, local public health agencies, and health systems, identifies top health priorities in Garfield County. The priorities from 2018-2022 were mental health, alcohol/drug use and abuse, and nutrition/physical activity.

Research shows that it is necessary to look beyond just these health outcomes. Those engaged in public health initiatives need to look at the REASONS why health gaps exist. Public Health, together with community groups, has been working hard to understand health in Garfield County and develop a plan to make measurable, sustainable changes.

Factors like income, housing, education, healthcare, and neighborhoods play a role in determining individual and community health. Unfair and unjust policies and practices are also an important part of this conversation.

Certain groups of people in the community have fewer resources and do not have equitable access to health. The three updated health priorities that will develop from the community health assessment, will address why this is happening.

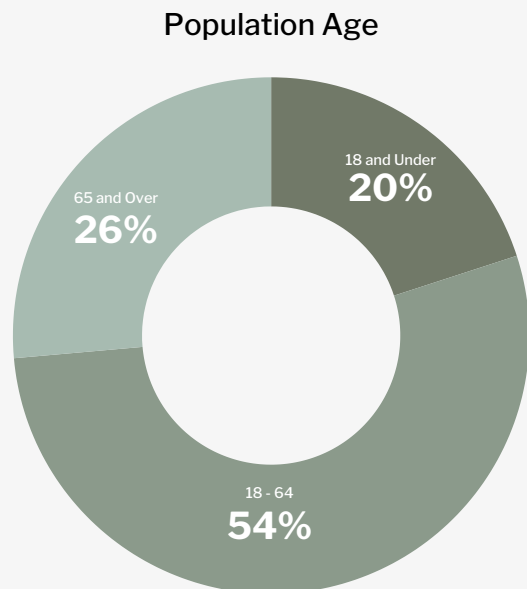
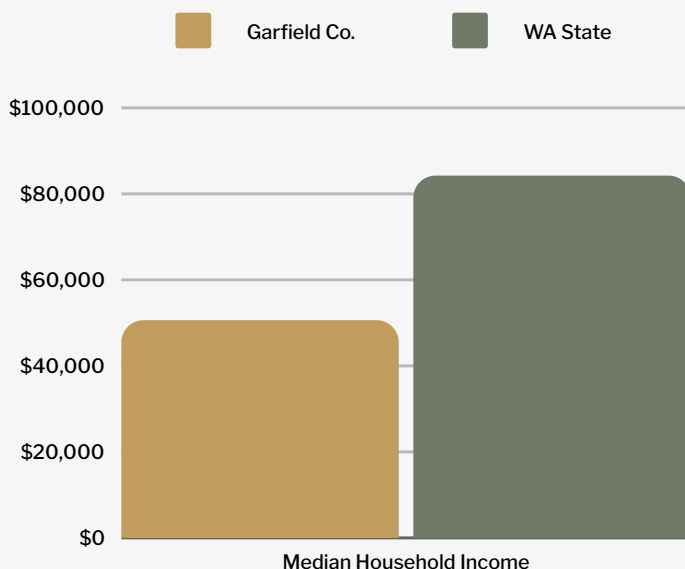
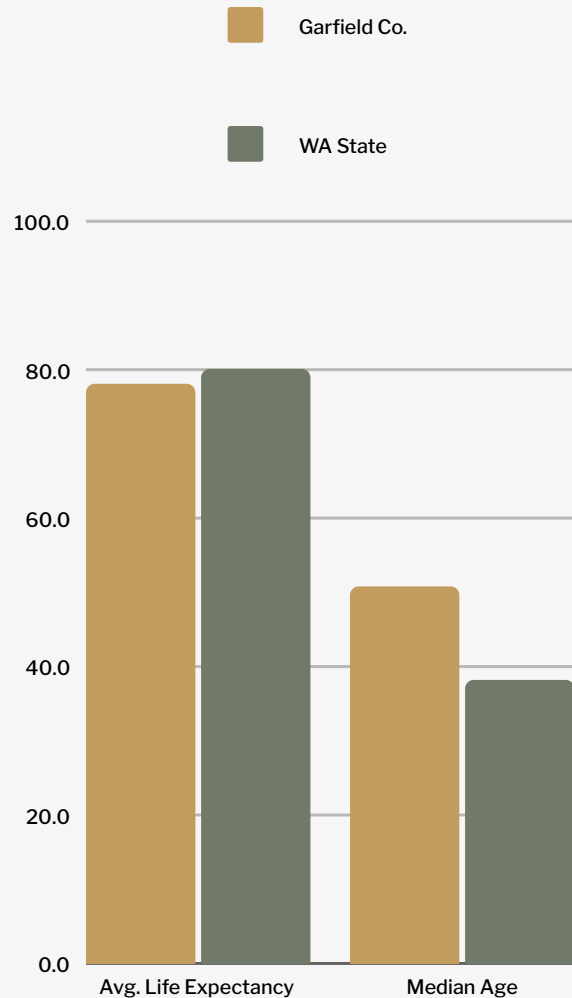
Once the CHA is completed in early 2023, Garfield County Public Health will complete a Community Health Assessment data book to highlight the key factors affecting Garfield County and identify resources to help address the factors. The CHA provides a strong basis for promoting health and improving the health of community members.

Data from the assessments can be used to obtain and secure future grant funding to support programs that encourage a healthier way of life, and to educate residents of Garfield County. A copy of the 2018 CHNA can be found at www.sewa-allianceforhealth.org

Community Engagement

Many think of health as being determined at the individual level - the decisions people make for themselves and how they impact their own health. When focusing on community engagement, we center our work not at the individual or interpersonal level, but with organizations and the full community, and look at the policies and practices which affect each of those levels. This is due to the fact that research demonstrates that only 1/3 of an individual's health is determined by their own health behaviors. Instead, approximately 2/3 of an individual's health comes from social and economic factors, the physical environment in which they live, and services like clinical care and education.

Access to health and well-being is not equal across Garfield County. Rather, we look at how inequities impact individuals and systems at the outer levels, focusing mostly on public policy and community and organizational opportunities for improved health in Garfield County.



Community Engagement

Garfield County Public Health works to improve the health and well-being of the community at the population health level by strategically mobilizing resources and aligning priorities for key health initiatives in the community. This is accomplished by working together with community partners in key areas that will build systems of health in our community.

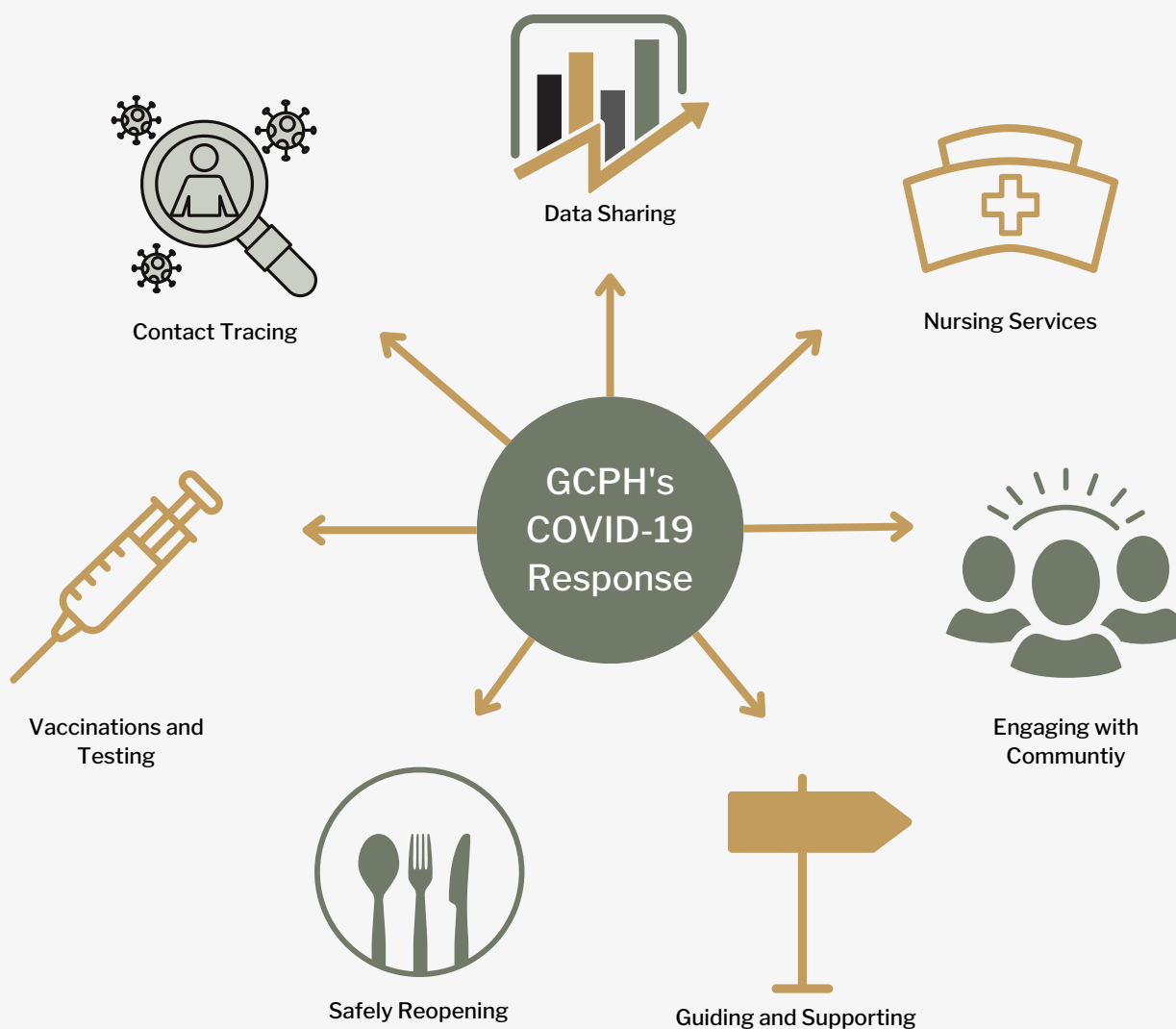
Engaging with the community and community partners is an example of how we can promote healthier lifestyles, strengthen the community, and build relationships. It's an effective and positive way to increase awareness of important public health topics and provide access to resources, which can lead to positive changes in the community. Encouraging healthier activities and events also brings people together and create a sense of unity and pride, as well as encourage collaboration and fostering partnerships. Finally, the events and activities we facilitate are a great way to engaging with youth and provide a safe space for them to interact with their peers and learn more about their health. Below, you will find a list of community engagement opportunities we had in 2022, along with our partners and approximately how many of our residents we touched.

Events + Programs	Estimated Contacts	Partners
Drug Take Back Day	35	Adult Disability Resource Center
Farm to School Program	15	Denny Ashby Library
Garfield County Fair	150	Garfield County Fire District
Hidden in Plain Sight	55	Garfield County Food Bank
Life Skills	25	Garfield County Hospital District
Louise Munday Community Walk	75	Garfield County Planning Department
Main St. Trick or Treat	300	Garfield County Sheriff Department
National Night Out	300	Pomeroy Medical Clinic
Pomeroy Health Fair	25	Pomeroy Partners
Drug Take Back Day	35	Pomeroy School District
TOTAL	1583	

COVID-19

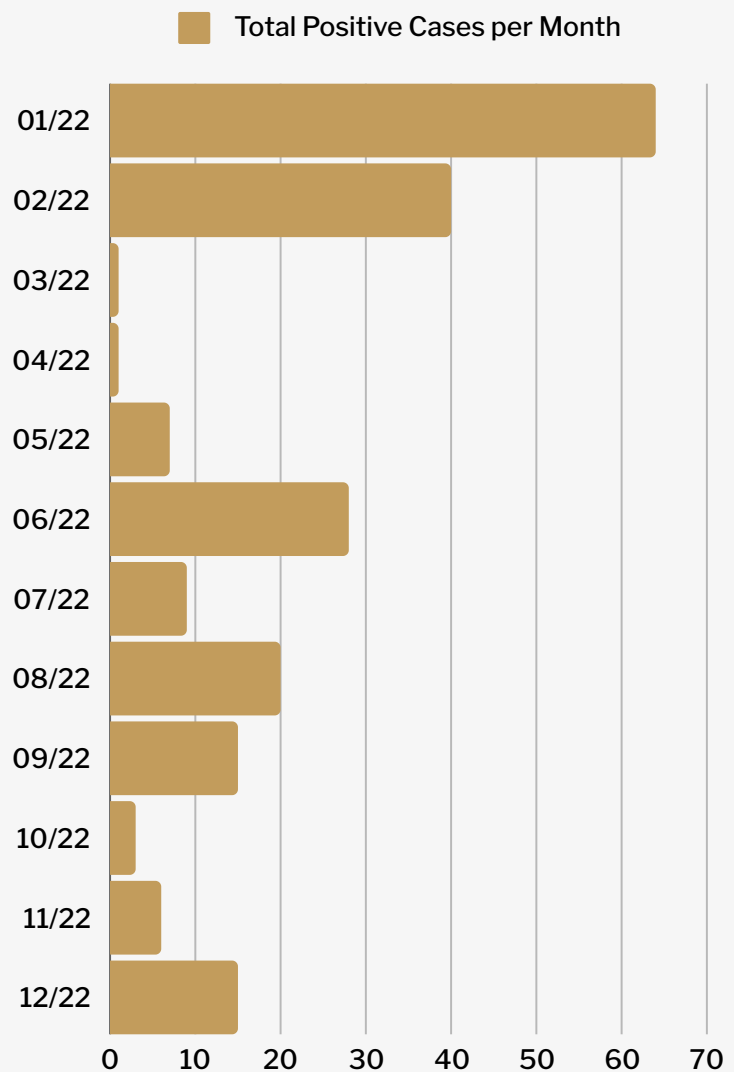
The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have been felt throughout Pomeroy. Like many rural areas, the town has been hit particularly hard by the pandemic. Some small businesses in the town have had to close their doors due to lack of customers, leading to a decrease in jobs and economic activity. Other businesses and public places have had to close as well, leading to an increased strain on families trying to juggle childcare and work from home. Additionally, residents have had to cope with a lack of resources and access to healthcare, as many of the local healthcare providers are overwhelmed with the influx of patients.

GCPH's COVID-19 response required collaboration and communication throughout the division and with the community. Together we were able to successfully navigate the pandemic and begin the transition towards recovery.



Contact Tracing

Contact Tracing has widely been used as an important tool in helping to alleviate the impact of COVID-19 on our community. As the number of cases continued to surge, the responsibility of notifying COVID-19 positive individuals and providing isolation and quarantine guidance fell under the role of the Contact Tracers. The GCPH nurses conducted disease investigation interviews with COVID-19 positive individuals, along with notifying close contacts of possible exposure. However, as COVID-19 continued to change, so did the mitigation strategies that were necessary to try to minimize the spread throughout Garfield County. Toward the second half of 2022, GCPH focused on high-risk populations, such as schools, long-term care facilities, and correctional institutions by providing support, resources and guidance, and continuing to monitor for potential outbreaks within the community.



Throughout 2022, GCPH utilized a variety of methods to interact with and engage the community during the COVID-19 response. This included general messaging to the public with up-to-date guidance and recommendations, hosting interactive events, and telling the stories of those directly impacted by the pandemic. Additionally, strategies were developed to minimize inequities related to COVID-19, including a vaccination program and partnership development with a variety of community groups to meet COVID-19 related health needs.

The pandemic has also caused a significant strain on the mental health of many in the community, as the fear of the virus and the lack of social contact has taken its toll. Despite these challenges, the town has come together to support one another and work towards a better future.

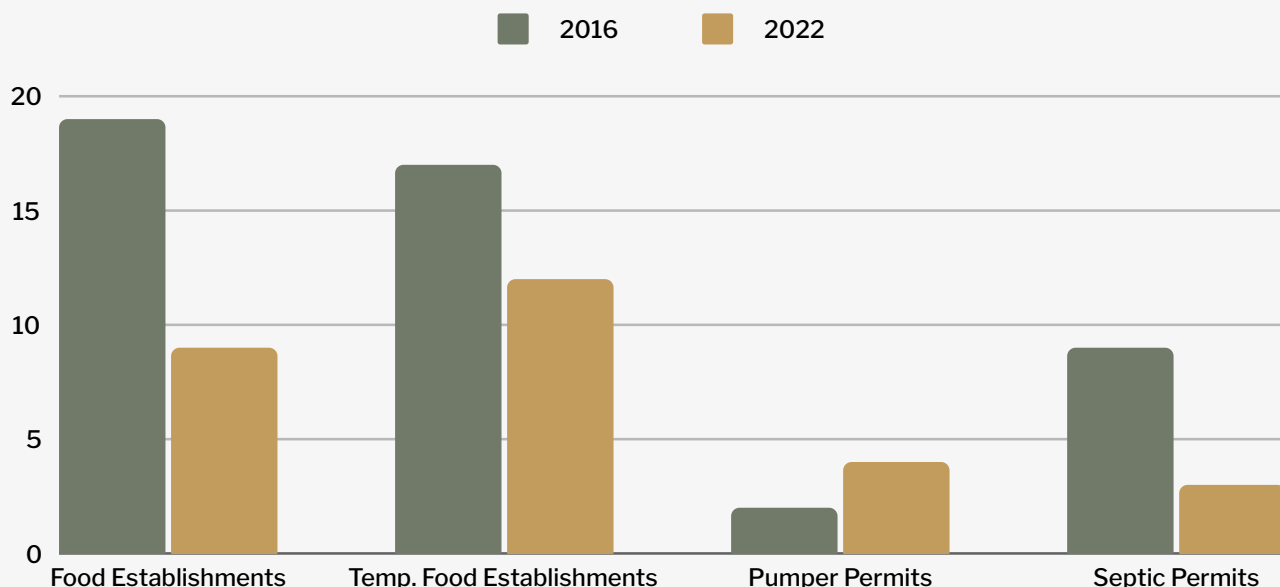
Emergency Preparedness

Public health agencies throughout the United States receive grant funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prepare for emergencies. This funding has allowed Garfield County Public Health to focus on building emergency preparedness capabilities and competencies. Garfield County's Emergency Response Plan consists of Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) which define specific responsibilities during emergency response. The pandemic has highlighted the need for full understanding of how to implement Incident Command Structure (ICS) functions both within public health agencies and also between GCPH and community partners. ICS allows for clear communication between partners and timely delegation of responsibilities. Even though preparedness staff switched to active incident response during 2022, GCPH continued to support local efforts, provided training for staff, and ensured that core ICS courses were completed as a part of new employee onboarding, and more.

Environmental Health

Public health is responsible for managing environmental health by monitoring and protecting the environment for human health. This includes assessing and controlling risks to health from pollutants, hazardous materials, and other environmental hazards, as well as promoting good environmental practices to reduce the risk of harm to humans. Public health also works to educate the public on the importance of environmental health, and the steps they can take to protect themselves and their communities from environmental hazards.

103
Food Handler Cards



Public Health Nursing

The Public Health Nursing Team works in collaboration with our community partners in delivering preventive care to individuals and families in Garfield County. This includes supporting childhood development; prevention, detection, and response to infectious diseases and/or emerging outbreaks; providing support, immunization, and other necessary measures to protect the health and wellness of the entire population.

The Nursing Team works to decrease illness in the community by preventing diseases that spread from person to person, animal to person, and environment to person. In an effort to make the community more prepared for being healthy, GCPH convenes monthly meetings with local health partners to strengthen our community's ability to quickly and effectively communicate important health information.

Communicable Diseases

Garfield County Public Health supported the marketing and promotion of immunization clinics throughout 2022. This included partnership development, staffing at clinics in targeted community locations, and integration of key equity-inclusive strategies for COVID-19 clinics and routine flu vaccination clinics.

In 2022 Garfield County Public Health investigated less than 5 cases for other communicable diseases. Our nurses continue to participate in communicable disease and epidemiology learning.



Children with Special Health Care Needs

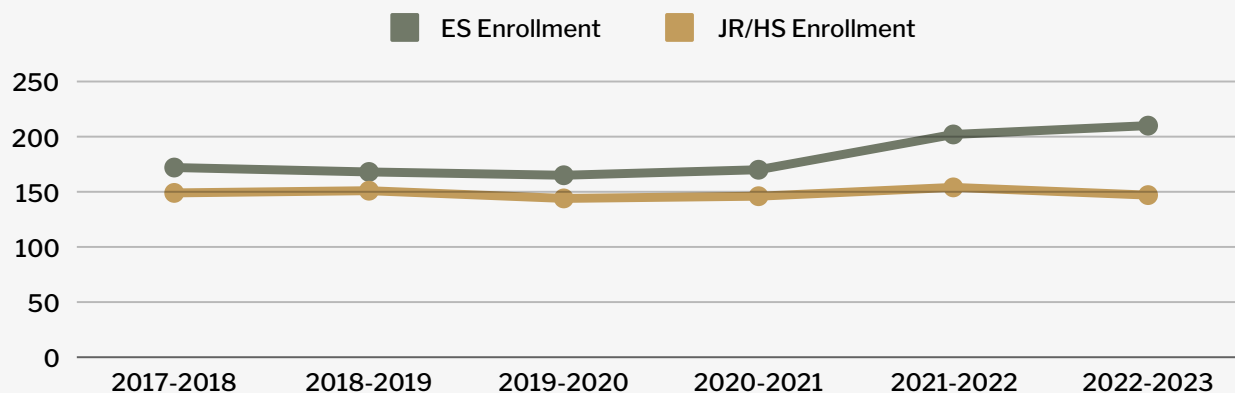
The Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program is in the Healthy Starts and Transitions unit in the Office of Family and Community Health Improvement at the Department of Health. The program promotes an integrated system of services for infants, children and youth up to age 18 years who have or are at risk for chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions and require health and related services of a type or amount beyond what is generally needed.

Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL)

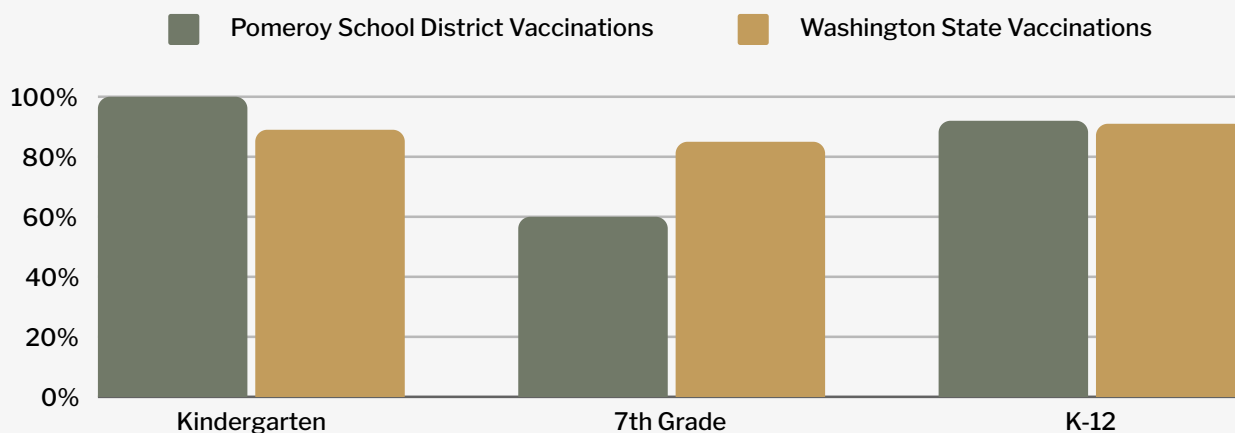
Stay Active and Independent for Life is a strength, balance and fitness program for adults 65 and older. Performing exercises that improve strength, balance and fitness are the single most important activity that adults can do to stay active and reduce their chance of falling. This class is implemented at the Pomeroy Senior Center in both the spring and fall. There are 10 courses per season with 8 participants at each.

School, Hearing and Vision Screenings

Pomeroy School District has 361 enrolled students in 2022-2023 school year. The district's minority enrollment is 10%. Also, 43.5% of students are economically disadvantaged, allowing them to be eligible to participate in the federal free and reduced-price meal program.



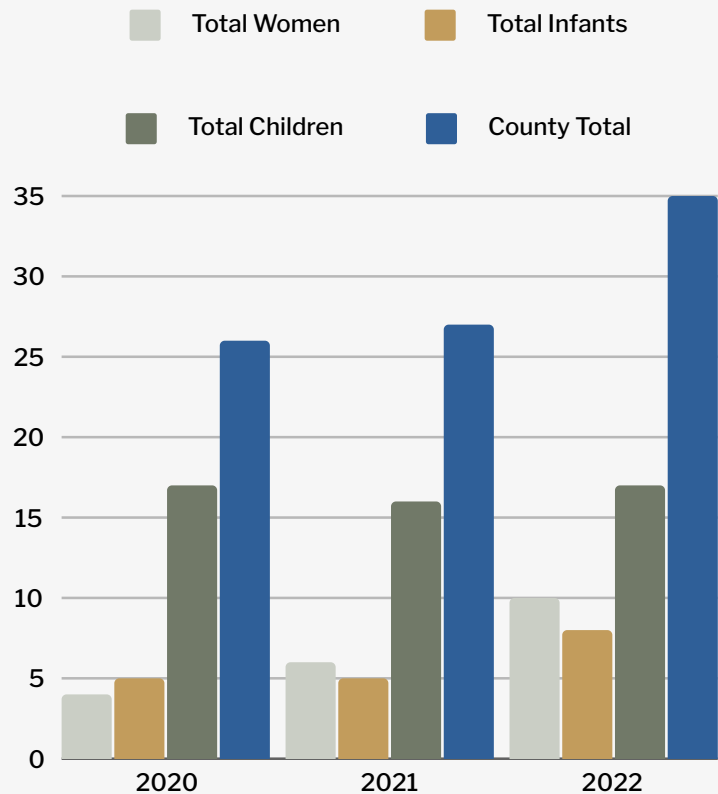
The Garfield County Public Health Hearing and Vision Program focuses on early detection of hearing and vision concerns for students within Pomeroy School District schools. GCPH partners with Pomeroy School District to support hearing screenings and assessments in Garfield County. Universal vision screenings are conducted for all students in the elementary school.



Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

The WIC program (Women, Infants, and Children) is a federally funded nutrition program that provides healthy foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and other services free of charge to eligible families. WIC serves to improve the health of pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and children up to the age of five who are at nutritional risk. WIC helps families by providing nutritious foods such as milk, eggs, cheese, cereal, juice, and more. It also provides education on nutrition, breastfeeding support, and referrals to health care and other community services.

The WIC program in Garfield County has seen exponential growth since 2020, with a total average increase of participants by 35% and an average increase of female participation by 150% in 2022. Participating in the WIC program can provide many benefits to eligible individuals and families. WIC provides nutritious food, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and referrals to health care and other community services. Additionally, research has shown that WIC participation can lead to improved nutrition and health outcomes, such as lower rates of anemia, fewer premature births, and higher birth weights.



Another benefit of the WIC program is reducing the risk of food insecurity by providing access to healthy foods and nutrition education. Lastly, WIC helps to reduce healthcare costs by providing access to preventive health services that can help reduce the need for more costly medical care in the future. We hope that the children and families who benefited from the Garfield County Public Health WIC program, will see healthier outcomes in future generations.

Prevention Initiatives

The goals of the tobacco, marijuana and vapor product prevention program at GCPH are to prevent nicotine, vapor product and marijuana initiation by youth; decrease current tobacco and nicotine use; and reduce exposure to secondhand smoke and vapor product aerosols through policy, public education and cessation encouragement.

GCPH continued to support community-based prevention efforts throughout 2022, which included:

- Spring and Fall Drug Take Back events.
- Distribution of lock boxes to keep medications safe.
- Implementation of a "Hidden in Plain Sight" training for community members, teachers and parents.
- Red Ribbon Week 4th and 5th Grade education on the harms of smoking, and a poster contest to educate community members.



Board of Health

Jim Nelson, Chairman
Garfield County Commissioner

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Board Member

Patti Weaver
Board Member

Justin Dixon
Garfield County Commissioner

Larry Ledgerwood
Garfield County Commissioner

Vonni Mulrony
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Public Health Staff

Martha Lanman
Administrator

Laura Dixon
Fiscal Manager/Administrative Assistant

Jackie Tetrick
Public Health Nurse

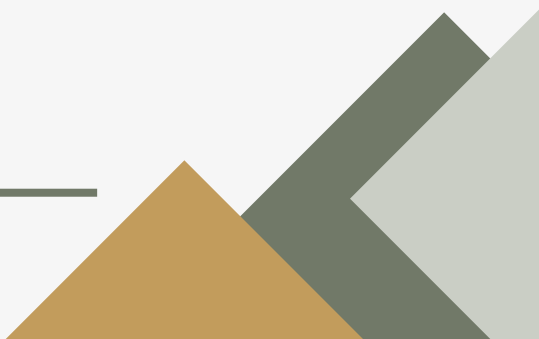
Elizabeth Stringer
Public Health Nurse

Chelsey Eaton
Program Coordinator

Jessica Nelson
Program Coordinator

Health Officer

Dr. Daniel Kaminsky
Walla Walla Department of Community
Health



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At a glance

Some readers might prefer details like a breakdown of your funding while others, like your trustees, will be more interested in the challenges you encountered and the lessons you learned from them.

Key metrics

Some readers might prefer details like a breakdown of your funding while others, like your trustees, will be more interested in the challenges you encountered and the lessons you learned from them.



750M

The entries recorded



200M

Scheduled hours



COMPANY NAME

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Entertainment



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CHALLENGES



Flight needs two web sites to promote both the magazine and sponsored events. An Internet Presence: Flight Magazine needs an e-commerce web site. Flight needs a web site to promote the events. Flight needs a professional and affordable solution.

SOLUTIONS



Impact reports cater to a variety of audiences, so it's best to adjust them accordingly. First, identify your target reader. Next, you can shift your focus on what they need to know.



**Professional
Service**



**Information
Technology**



**Accounting
Management**

BENEFITS



1

Benefits One

Give your colleagues additional context to your report by using a section header for some introductory message or background.

2

Benefits Two

Create stunning reports by identifying the pertinent information you want to share with your colleagues.

3

Benefits Three

Give your colleagues additional context to your report by using a section header for some introductory message or background.