

DHEC

Healthy People Living in Healthy Communities

Region 2 Fiscal Year 2009 Report on the Health
of South Carolina's People and Environment

Table of contents

Region 2

Executive Summary	I
Regional Leadership Team	2
County Public Health Departments and Service Centers	3
Public Health Practices	4
Public Health Region 2 Mission Statement	4
Public Health Region 2 Leading Causes of Death	5
Selected Demographics	5
Public Health Region 2 Administrative Highlights	6
Public Health Region 2 Service Areas	7
Public Health Region 2 Clinic and Community Based Services	10-17
BabyNet	10
Children’s Rehabilitative Services	11
Disease Control and Epidemiology	11
Environmental Health	12
Family Planning	12
Home Health Services	13
Immunization	13
Postpartum Newborn Home Visit	13
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	14
Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS)	14
Tuberculosis Control Program	15
Vital Records	15
Women, Infant, and Children (WIC)	15
Ancillary Services	16
Public Health Region 2 Highlights	17

*The federal fiscal year (FFY) runs from October 1 - September 30.
South Carolina’s fiscal year (FY) runs from July 1 - June 30.*

Executive Summary

On behalf of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Public Health Region 2, we are pleased to provide our fiscal year 2009 Annual Report. The report highlights activities and services provided by the health departments in Cherokee, Greenville, Pickens, Spartanburg and Union Counties.

We strive to make adjustments that improve the impact of our programs and services and fulfill our mission of Healthy People Living in Healthy Communities. Programs, services, and staff operate from a region-based coordinated management system that prioritizes accountability, efficiencies and effectiveness tailored to local needs and priorities.

We know that the success of the public health system depends on viable, collaborative partnerships and coordinated efforts. Our partnerships are diverse, and include foundations, schools, the faith community, community organizations and other organizations that provide health and human services.

We look forward to the challenges and opportunities in the coming year. We also invite the interests and support of the constituents throughout Public Health Region 2.

Regional Leadership Team

DHEC Public Health Region 2

Regional Leadership Team

David Goolsby, DVM, MS, MPH, DACVPM	Health Director	596-3333
Barbara Thomas, RD, LD	Interim Health Director/ Director of Administration Services	596-2227 ext. 203
Melissa Overman, DO	Medical Director	596-2227 ext. 207
Stephanie Bobak, RD	Director of Nutrition and WIC Services	596-2227 ext. 231
Keith Coleman, BS	Director of Environmental Health	596-2227 ext. 252
Christy Lanford, MSW, LMSW	Director of Public Health Preparedness	596-2227 ext. 205
Page Rogers, MPH, CHES	Director of Health Education	596-2227 ext. 267
Redonia Thomas, MSW, LMSW	Director of Social Work	282-4245
Doris Vorlick, RN, MPH	Director of Nursing	282-4142
Deborah Wallace, BS	Director of Administrative Support	596-2227 ext. 2063

Region 2 Sites

Main Sites

Cherokee County Public Health Office and Home Health Services

400 S. Logan St., PO Box 338
Gaffney, SC 29342
Health Department: (864) 487-2705
Home Health Services: (864) 487-2702

Greenville County Public Health Office and Home Health Services

200 University Ridge, P.O. Box 2507
Greenville, SC 29602
Health Department: (864) 282-4100
Home Health Services: (864) 282-4400

Pickens County Public Health Office and Home Health Services

200 McDaniel Ave.
Pickens, SC 29671
Health Department: (864) 898-5965
Home Health Services: (864) 898-5839

Spartanburg County Public Health Office and Home Health Services

151 E. Wood St., P.O. Box 4217
Spartanburg, SC 29305
Health Department: (864) 596-2227
Home Health Services: (864) 596-3347

Union County Public Health Office and Home Health Services

115 Thomas St., P.O. Box 966
Union, SC 29379
Health Department: (864) 429-1690
Home Health Services: (864) 429-1692

Auxiliary Sites

Center for Community Services (WIC services only)

1102 Howard Dr.
Simpsonville, SC 29681
Phone: (864) 688-2221 or (864) 688-2213

Chesnee Public Health Clinic (WIC services only)

210 Hampton St.
Chesnee, SC 29323
Phone: (864) 461-2808

Foothills Family Resource Center (WIC services only)

3 South Main St.
Slater, SC 29683
Phone: (864) 836-6364

Greer Human Resource Center (WIC, Immunizations and Family Planning services)

202 Victoria St.
Greer, SC 29651
Phone: (864) 848-5360

Inman Public Health Clinic (WIC services only)

S. Howard St.
Inman, SC 29349
Phone: (864) 472-3393

Tobias Public Health Clinic (Immunizations and Family Planning services)

154 C. George Washington Carver Dr.
Spartanburg, SC 29306
Phone: (864) 598-6092

Woodruff Public Health Clinic (WIC services only)

1 Gregory St.
Woodruff, SC 29388
Phone: (864) 476-3817

Public Health Practices

The public health functions of assessment, policy development and assurance are performed by public health professionals in their interventions with individuals, families and communities. Recognizing the complex forces affecting health delivery systems, public health professionals work as members of interdisciplinary teams and in collaboration with other public entities and the private sector to provide essential public health services which are:

- Monitoring health status to identify community health problems
- Diagnosing and investigating health problems and health hazards in the community
- Informing, educating and empowering people about health issues
- Mobilizing community partnerships to identify and solve health problems
- Developing policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts
- Enforcing laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
- Linking people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable
- Assuring a competent public health and personal health care workforce
- Evaluating effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population-based health services
- Researching for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

Mission Statement

“We promote and protect the health of the public and the environment, and help our communities to prosper.”

S.C. DHEC Public Health Region 2 provides a broad range of health services for preventing disease, improving wellness and quality of life, and assisting the people of our district in building healthy communities. Public health programs emphasize primary prevention and related services to all ages and aspects of the community. Programs vary from traditional immunizations and maternal and child health, to nutrition, dental health for children, health education, counseling and home health services. We provide treatment for persons with various diseases and health problems, including communicable, acute and chronic diseases. We partner closely with individuals and institutions to assure continuity of care, and also assist families and individuals in establishing medical homes in the private-sector. Environmental Health Program activities prevent disease by enforcing standards for food safety, control and prevention of rabies in animals and people, sanitation of public places, and residential sewage and wastewater systems. The health department also provides laboratory services, conducts epidemiological investigations, and provides public health expertise through community collaboration.

DHEC Regions



Ten Leading Causes of Death in Region 2

Cause of Death	Region 2
Heart Disease	184.9
Cancer	184.6
Accidents	53.6
Cerebrovascular Disease	52.5
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	51.9
Alzheimer's disease	32.1
Diabetes	25.7
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	16.2
Septicemia	13.2

(Source: DHEC Division of Biostatistics- 2007) Rate per 100,000 population.

Selected Demographics

	Cherokee	Greenville	Pickens	Spartanburg	Union
Population (Total 844,609)	54,026	427,074	115,662	275,190	27,842
Percent Caucasian	77.5	76.6	89.5	75.4	67.2 (2007)
Percent African- American	20.7	18.0	6.5	20.7	32.1 (2007)
Percent Hispanic or Latino	2.6 (2007)	6.8	2.8	4.7	.08 (2007)
Median Household Income	\$35,299	\$47,408	\$42,174	\$43,207	\$35,570

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau- FactFinder 2006-2008)

Region 2 Population:

899,794 (2006-2008 estimates)

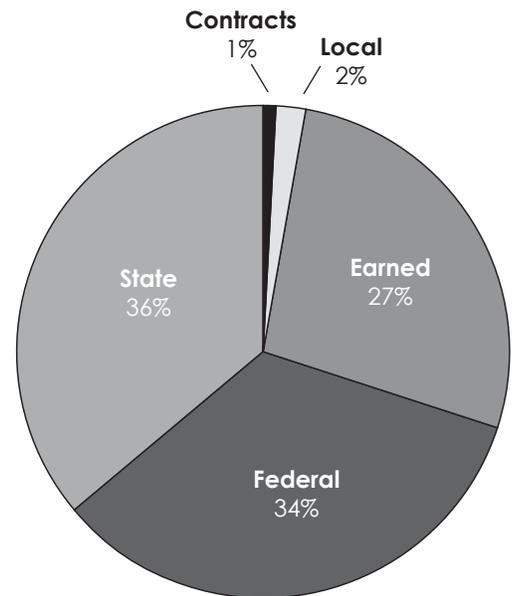
Administrative Highlights Resource Management

Managing the resources of a public health region requires continuous analysis and integration of administrative and programmatic matters. While resource management efforts are becoming increasingly more challenging, applying conservative management principles to assure the most efficient and effective use of available resources has helped Public Health Region 2 address repeated budget reductions of more than \$2,000,000 to state funds during this fiscal year. Functional areas of responsibility include the management of budgets, finance, personnel, information systems, training, vital records, procurement and maintenance. Administrative services and the associated business management functions are essential to all staff and programs. These services support all areas and enable staff to provide a comprehensive array of public health services.

Budget = \$23,474,157		
Source	Amount	Percent
State	\$8,496,651	36
Federal	\$7,972,112	34
Earned	\$6,224,836	27
Contracts	\$162,974	1
Local	\$617,579	2
Total	\$23,474,157	100

Personnel Resources (Full-time Employees)	
Discipline	Number of Staff
Nursing	111
Administrative Services	35
Administrative Support Services	107
Environmental Health	41
Health Education	6
Ancillary Medical	10
Nutrition	34
Public Health Preparedness	5
Social Work	16
Regional Management	10
Total Staff	375
Total Vacancies	27

Funding Sources (as of 6/30/09)



Administrative Support Services

Region 2 Administrative Support staff provides customer service and administrative assistance to both internal and external customers. All health and environmental programs require administrative support staff to coordinate and manage the reception and intake of clients for public health services. Electronic data entry and client record management are key components to assure compliance with program policies and to assure timely access for provision of services. Administrative support staff collect and receipt fees or process appropriate billing for public health services.

Computer and communication skills are vital to support public health customers and staff. The skills of administrative support staff expedite the coordination, planning, and implementation of management and partnership activities in Region 2. They also use various modalities in the preparation and distribution of correspondence, and the maintenance of files.

Environmental Health

Environmental Health is charged with protecting the public in certain environmental health situations. We are involved in three distinct program areas throughout Public Health Region 2. These include: Wastewater; General Sanitation; and, Food Protection.

The Onsite Wastewater Program is responsible for evaluating proposed property sites and issuing septic tank permits where the soils are found to be suitable for the natural treatment of wastewater. We work with homebuilders to help ensure that the environment is protected against preventable and improper discharges of wastewater. Complaints and/or concerns regarding the improper disposal of wastewater are investigated and when necessary, enforcement action is taken.

The General Sanitation Program covers a number of environmental situations. Environmentalists conduct inspections in two DSS programs; day care facilities and foster homes. These inspections address sanitation and safety issues. We also respond to complaints pertaining to vectors, especially mosquitoes, and to the related environmental conditions. Our efforts include providing information and advice to citizens on steps they can take to mitigate or control the situation. Rabies continues to be a major public health concern. Therefore, we investigate all aspects of animal bites that are inflicted on people, and help to ensure a safe outcome for all involved.

The third program area we are involved in is the most visible to the majority of consumers. In the Food Program, we are responsible for inspecting and permitting more than 3,430 retail food service establishments throughout the region. The unannounced routine inspection is the heart of the program. When violations are found, follow up inspections are scheduled to insure compliance with regulations. Complaints filed by the public are also of concern in this program area as they may uncover unhealthy or unsafe situations we may not see on a routine inspection. Lastly, a major concern in a good food protection program is the prevention of food borne illnesses. Understanding this, working with the Regional Epidemiological team, we thoroughly investigate every complaint and illness report. This information is used to develop more effective techniques in our inspection procedures and in educating food service workers.

Public Health Education

Public Health Education is the process of organizing and facilitating learning opportunities to encourage behaviors that promote personal, family, and community health. It is an important component in assuring the public's health, since lifestyle and behavior changes are key factors for addressing many of the health problems facing our citizens. Utilizing sound behavioral science, Health Educators are able to help develop, implement and evaluate interventions for preventing diseases.

Through organized and preventative approaches, such as patient education and broad-based community initiatives, Health Educators are poised to help reduce the impact of chronic diseases, injuries, infectious diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, and maternal/child health problems.

Public Health Nursing

Public Health Nursing provides direct care for individuals, families, and groups in clinics, homes, schools, industries and other community settings with emphasis on the promotion of health, prevention of disease and spread of disease; limitation of disability, and care of the ill at home. Public health nursing practice is population focused. This is the fundamental factor that distinguishes public health nursing from other nursing specialties. Various levels of knowledge, skills and abilities are necessary to provide needed services to the community. Registered nurses may be master's prepared, advanced practice registered nurses, or bachelor's prepared; a registered nurse with an associate degree or a diploma may also provide services in select areas.

Public Health nurses are skilled at working with at-risk/high risk, culturally diverse and vulnerable populations of all ages who need help in accessing appropriate levels of healthcare. With a focus on prevention, public health nurses are effective at enhancing the health status of people in the community

In Public Health Region 2, Chronic Disease Health Educators are serving in roles that complement S.C. DHEC's statewide efforts. One such effort is the Color Me Healthy (CMH) initiative. This best practice program targets four and five-year old children and emphasizes the importance of healthy eating and physical activity.

Regional Health Educators are also skilled in creatively bringing together organizations, agencies, people and themes to implement strategies for change to improve health. Partnerships with both traditional and non-traditional partners are necessary to create and sustain more effective, cross-cutting strategies to achieve a healthy community. Health Educators use their skills to initiate and coordinate community health assessments, goal setting, and strategic planning.

who are at high risk of disability, or premature death. Nursing provides services in areas: Adult Health (Family Planning/STD/Pregnancy testing), Immunizations, Tuberculosis, Postpartum Newborn Home Visits, Metabolic Newborn Screening and other pediatric tracking, Children Rehabilitative Services and Home Health.

Public Health nurses offer client teaching, counseling and support, clinical services, interventions to treat and prevent communicable diseases, such as tuberculosis and childhood/vaccine preventable diseases. Referrals are often made for other services within the health department as well as other agencies.

The community benefits from Public health nurses as a valuable resource and a partner with schools and institutes of higher learning as well as other medical providers. Public Health nurses also serve on advisory boards, community committees, other agency boards and professional organizations.

Public Health Preparedness

There are diverse and complex functions that must be coordinated in order to mount an effective response to an act of bioterrorism, a serious epidemic or other public health emergency. Emergency management and response functions are integrated into each Public Health Program and into each employee's job description. Public Health Preparedness and Disease Surveillance address the critical response capacity of our community by strengthening the public health infrastructure for epidemic disease control and emergency response. Extensive and continuous assessment of the our public health system is underway along with the development of local and statewide plans for a collaborative response to incidents of bioterrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and other threats to public health.

The following Focus Areas are directed toward utilization of scientific methods and technology to ensure the existence of systems to provide ongoing disease surveillance and epidemiology training for public health, clinical, and other healthcare professions.

- Preparedness planning and readiness assessment
- Surveillance and epidemiology capacity
- Laboratory capacity
- Network communications and information technology
- Risk communication and dissemination of health information
- Education and training

Public Health Nutrition and WIC Services

Public Health Nutrition provides professional medical nutrition services, technical assistance, and leadership as an integrated part of total health care in an interdisciplinary team setting. Scientific evidence documents the important inter-relationship of essential nutrients, food composition, human growth and development, physical and mental health, reproduction and active living. Research also shows the relationship between dietary imbalances, excesses and inadequacies with the most chronic and crippling diseases as well as the leading causes of death in our country today.

In Public Health Region 2, nutrition personnel collaborate with policy makers, key public officials, the medical community, related paraprofessionals and community leaders. They work together to establish food, nutrition, and related policy which foster good health and the prevention of disease. They also provide nutrition services to clients from the general public including all ages, and both males and females; women and children are the primary recipients.



The Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program is a Special Supplemental Food Program federally funded through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). WIC is designed to improve the health of families through nutritious foods and nutrition education. The program targets low and moderate income pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants, and children up to five years of age who are at nutritional risk. The WIC program is recognized as the nation's premier public health nutrition program. It has gained this reputation and garnered strong, continued bipartisan support because of its cost-effective, scientifically documented health successes.

Components of the WIC program services include health screening, referrals for health care, nutrition assessments, individual or group nutrition counseling, breastfeeding education and support, general health education and the provision of vouchers for supplemental nutritious foods.

Public Health Social Work

Public Health Region 2 social work staff provides assessment and treatment services related to social, emotional, behavioral and environmental concerns that impact the health status of individuals, families, and groups. Staffs assist clients in building strengths, optimizing choices, and promoting self-determination. Referrals are accepted from individuals, health care providers and community organizations, and are prioritized according to core public health functions and serious psychosocial risk factors.

Social work staff members serve on various state and community boards such as Center for Developmental Services Board, Greenville Technical College Humans Services Advisory Council, Spartanburg Community Housing Committee, Spartanburg First-Steps Board, SCPHA Governing Council and SC-National Association of Social Workers Board. Social workers also support the region's Division of Public Health Preparedness and are critical to the function of the Psychosocial Teams in responding to all hazards.

Clinic and Community Based Services

BabyNet

BabyNet, South Carolina's System for early intervention for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families is based on the requirements of Public Law 102-119, known as Part C of the individuals with Disabilities Education Act. BabyNet can be described as a family-centered, community-based, interagency, multi-disciplinary, culturally sensitive program.

Early intervention services as provided by BabyNet are designed to encourage normal developmental patterns, prevent diagnosed conditions from becoming more disabling and improve the overall functioning of young children who have developmental delays or who are at risk of becoming disabled. Early intervention can often prevent or lessen severe disability, but few families with infants or toddlers who need them have had access to an adequate range of services. All children (birth to three years of age) who meet eligibility criteria will be served regardless of family income.



BabyNet Referrals (July 08 - June 09)	
Cherokee	123
Greenville	941
Pickens	200
Spartanburg	566
Union	55
Total	1,885

Children’s Rehabilitative Services

Children’s Rehabilitative Services (CRS) is a health care program that offers medical evaluation and treatment to children with special health care needs (CSHCN), ages 0-18. Medical services are also provided for sickle cell patients who are transitioned into an adult program. The CRS Program is funded by both federal and state governments. Eligibility is determined by medical diagnosis and family size and gross income. Health insurance and Medicaid are used in addition to program funds to cover medical costs.

CRS strives to provide a holistic approach to the care of the patient by offering nursing, nutrition and social work, as needed. Multi-provider services are required to meet complex needs of the CRS patients. This necessitates much coordination and collaboration to ensure that the children receive the best care available. Some of the services offered are: hospital care; durable medical equipment, orthotic braces, hearing aids; medicines and medical supplies; speech, physical, occupational therapy; Hemophilia supplies; summer camp for children ages 7-20.

CRS Caseload (July 08 - June 09)	
Region Total	872

Disease Control and Epidemiology

The Disease Control and Epidemiology (Epi) Program for Public Health Region 2 is dedicated to the prevention and containment of communicable diseases. A scientific approach is utilized in the response to a reported and verified infectious disease. The Epi Team members are carefully chosen to ensure that expertise is available in all aspects of a timely and effective response. Representatives on this team have expertise in pharmacy, nursing, laboratory procedures, regulations regarding the handling/preparation of food, administration, management, diseases, and immunizations. They also have a working knowledge and relationship with local school districts, day care operations, and nursing homes that might be involved in an outbreak.

A network of communication has been established with local hospital infectious disease staff and/or hospital laboratory staff to facilitate disease reporting. The team works with Central Office consultants in epidemiology and with the news media to enhance and support the recommended plan of action and ensure that the message delivered to the community is accurate.

Vaccine Preventable Disease Cases (July 08 - June 09)						
	Cherokee	Greenville	Pickens	Spartanburg	Union	Total
Haemophilus influenza, invasive	0	7	2	1	3	13
Hepatitis A, acute	1	16	2	1	0	20
Hepatitis B viral infection, chronic	7	72	6	47	0	132
Hepatitis B, acute	0	14	1	4	1	20
Neisseria meningitidis, invasive	0	1	2	0	0	3
Pertussis	0	12	3	6	0	21

Environmental Health

South Carolina law requires the inspection and permitting activities. Restaurant and septic tank inspection fees are collected and are used to offset the cost of these programs.

Food Protection (July 08 - June 09)	
Food Service Facilities	3,421
Routine Food Inspections	6,686
Follow-up Food Inspections	1,862
Food Related Complaints	554
Food Borne Outbreak Investigation	4

Onsite Wastewater (July 08 - June 09)	
Wastewater Applications	1,596
Wastewater Final Inspections	1,685

General Sanitation (June 08-June 09)	
Animal Bite Investigations	2,341
Animals Tested for Rabies	380
Animals positive for Rabies	24

Family Planning

The mission of the Title X Family Planning Program is to provide individuals the information and means to exercise personal choice in determining the number and spacing of their children.

The South Carolina DHEC Family Planning Program provides a broad range of acceptable and effective, medically approved family planning methods including instruction in abstinence, hormonal contraceptives, intrauterine devices, barrier and natural family planning methods.

Title X Family Planning services are offered in eight clinics across the five-county area of Region 2. Any woman of childbearing age and capability is eligible to receive these services. Clients are charged according to a sliding fee scale based on their income and family size. The scale ranges from 0% to 100% of the actual charges. Medicaid is billed for eligible recipients. The Medicaid Family Planning Wavier covers the charges for the annual exam, lab testing, and method for those women who are eligible. However, services are provided regardless of ability to pay.

Family Planning staff provides education and counseling, health history and physical assessment, laboratory testing, and administration or dispensing of legally prescribed drugs and other methods of birth control. Other services include HIV risk assessment, HIV testing with informed consent, follow-up and referral of abnormal findings as required by program policy or federal guidelines, psychosocial assessment, nutritional assessment, WIC referral (if eligible), sterilization counseling and referral, and referral for infertility services.



Family Planning Visits (July 08 - June 09)	
Cherokee	2,289
Greenville	8,249
Greer	1,358
Pickens	4,325
Spartanburg	7,793
Tobias	814
Union	1,406
USC-U	1,154
Total	27,388

Home Health Services

The Home Health Program provides professional and supportive service to patients in their place of residence. The goal of the Home Health Program is to empower the patient and caregivers with the knowledge and resources to provide family centered, self care. Services are provided through home visits by registered nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapist, speech therapist, medical social workers, nutritionist, and home health aides on an intermittent basis under directions of a physician and to homebound patients. Special services available are enterostomal therapy, intravenous therapy, diabetic and wound teaching.

Home Health (July 08 - June 09)	
Total Region 2 home visits	17,358
Total Region 2 patients (unduplicated)	757
Total visits made by the agency	140,816

Immunization

Immunizations are offered to both children and adults and range from routine childhood immunizations and yearly flu vaccinations to vaccines needed for foreign travel. Foreign travel clinic services are available and offer a wide range of immunizations.

Immunization Services Provided (July 08 - June 09)	
	Immunizations
Vaccine	62,447
Seasonal Flu Vaccines	11,024

Postpartum Newborn Home Visit

Postpartum Newborn Home Visit is a service for eligible new moms and babies. To help ensure a healthy start for new moms and their babies, a nurse will make a home visit. Visits include the following services:

- A physical exam for the baby
- Breast care
- Nutrition information
- Educate on signs and symptoms of illness
- Safety
- Resource information
- Immunizations
- Infant sleep patterns/sleep safety/SIDS

Medicaid PPNBHV's (July 08 - June 09)	
Cherokee	366
Greenville	900
Pickens	563
Spartanburg	1,148
Union	73
Total	3,050

STD (Sexually Transmitted Disease) Control and Prevention

The STD Control and Prevention program serves to provide assessment, treatment, and counseling to the five county region. The goals of the program are to increase the number of persons who know their HIV status, to decrease risk-taking behaviors through education and counseling and to reduce the burden of sexually transmitted diseases in the Region by finding and treating those persons exposed to an infected individual.

HIV Tests and STD Visits (July 08 - June 09)		
	HIV Tests	STD Visits
Cherokee	732	2,005
Greenville	1,968	6,794
Pickens	402	993
Spartanburg	2,779	9,334
Union	514	1,078
Total	6,395	20,204

Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS)

Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) implement disease intervention activities to prevent or stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV in the community. The DIS receives and reviews cases and positive laboratory reports from the public and private sectors to identify individuals in need of medical care or other follow-up. The DIS refers infected individuals for examination and treatment. Through investigative activities, DIS identifies and locates infected individuals, including partners, [and suspects who] that might benefit from examination and/or treatment as a result of their exposure or risk factors. The DIS component conducts individual counseling, educational presentations and community outreach activities.

DIS Interviews and Field Investigations (July 08 - June 09)						
	# of DIS	Number of Field Investigations	Number of Early Syphilis Cases Interviewed	Number of HIV Cases Interviewed	Number of Late Syphilis Cases Interviewed	Total Interviews
Spartanburg	2	566	18	52	11	81
Greenville	3*	770	28	64	18	110
Total	5	1,336	46	116	29	191

* Includes Regional DIS Supervisor

Tuberculosis Control

The DHEC Division of Tuberculosis (TB) Control has a legal mandate to protect the citizens of South Carolina from the communicable disease, tuberculosis. This is accomplished through case finding, treatment of active disease, contact investigations, testing and screening, preventive treatment of latent infection, directly observed therapy, and maintenance of a central case register. Other associated services include social work, access to alcohol and drug treatment, professional education and consultation to the medical community and the public. In rare cases, use of court ordered supervised treatment, and institutional quarantine may be necessary to protect the public.

The goals of DHEC's TB Control Program are to:

- Find new cases of active tuberculosis, provide recommended treatment and assure completion of therapy.
- Identify contacts of cases and provide evaluations to these individuals.
- Find those who have latent infection and provide preventive treatment.
- Prevent those who are uninfected from becoming infected DHEC Tuberculosis Control Services available in each county health department include screening, diagnostic treatment and follow-up services for people who have tuberculosis and for those who have been exposed to the disease.

Vital Records

South Carolina Law and Regulation governs the vital records system of registration, certification, and amendment of birth, death, fetal death, marriage, divorce, and induced terminations of pregnancy. Vital records are confidential and access is restricted to those entitled under South Carolina Law and Regulation. All births and deaths occurring within a county are officially registered at the county health department.

County health departments have birth and death certificates from 1915 to the present. Birth records are not public information and death records become public after 50 years. All records are also available at the state office located in Columbia.

Vital Records- Birth/Death Certificates Issued (July 08 - June 09)	
Cherokee	5,781
Greenville	52,254
Pickens	9,115
Spartanburg	34,923
Union	3,221
Total	105,294

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

The Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program is a Special Supplemental Food Program federally funded through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). WIC is designed to improve the health of families through nutritious foods and nutrition education. The program targets low and moderate income pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants, and children up to five years of age who are at nutritional risk. The WIC program is recognized as the nation's premier public health nutrition program. It has gained this reputation and garnered strong, continued bipartisan support because of its cost-effective, scientifically documented health successes.

Components of the WIC program services include health screening, referrals for health care, nutrition assessments, individual or group nutrition counseling, breastfeeding education and support, general health education and the provision of vouchers for supplemental nutritious foods. During FFY09, the average monthly WIC program caseload increased to 25,242 reaching 26,689 participants in September, exceeding target caseload. Region 2 has the largest WIC caseload in the state. The caseload represents the number of monthly vouchers WIC participants use to purchase supplemental nutritious food at local grocery stores. WIC contributed an estimated \$1,632,650 from vouchers to local economies in FFY 09.

WIC Average Monthly Caseload (Oct 2008 to September 2009)	
Cherokee	1,978
Greenville	11,723
Pickens	2,412
Spartanburg	8,132
Union	997
Total	25,242

Ancillary Services

Laboratory Services

S.C. DHEC Public Health Region 2 Laboratories provide clinical support to many local DHEC programs and services, including Family Planning, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Epidemiology, Disease Investigation Specialists, Nutrition, and Environmental Health. The Laboratories support all the clinical programs at the health departments in Cherokee, Greenville, Pickens, Spartanburg and Union Counties.

A national certifying organization operates under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment (CLIA) to evaluate laboratories every two years. In Fiscal Year 2007, the Laboratory at the Greenville County Health Department successfully completed this rigorous inspection to retain CLIA certification. Region 2 Laboratories are certified to do moderately complex laboratory functions on site. They also collect other specimens which are sent to DHEC's Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) or other specialized facilities that can conduct more complex analysis and testing.

Laboratory Services (July 08 - June 09)						
	Cherokee	Greenville	Pickens	Spartanburg	Union	Total
In-house Tests	1,875	3,601	1,896	5,212	1,975	14,559
In-house Workload	2,880	5,244	3,010	6,399	2,644	20,177
Send-out Tests (BOL)	5,508	12,615	3,372	16,856	2,859	41,210
Total Tests	7,724	16,216	5,260	22,068	4,834	56,102
Total Workload	47,020	78,312	38,592	122,259	29,110	315,293

Pharmacy Services

S.C. DHEC Public Health Region 2 maintains a central pharmacy at the Greenville County Health Department and supports the branch pharmaceutical supplies and operations at each of the other county health departments. One full time pharmacist provides pharmacy prescriptions, vaccines, and other medicines and supplies needed by the various programs and services (e.g. Family Planning, STD, Immunization, Tuberculosis, Rabies) in the five county region.

Prescriptions Filled (July 08 - June 09)	
Region Total	3,099

Radiology Services

Radiology services are a key component of the Tuberculosis Program. Chest radiographs are taken at three county health departments. DHEC and certain contract private physicians use these x-rays in the diagnosis of TB, and to help guide the treatment of our TB infected patients. We are working to further the contracted support of this vital public health program.

X-rays Taken (July 08 - June 09)	
Region Total	108

Highlights

Public Health Region 2 Battled Novel H1N1 Influenza

In April 2009, Public Health Region 2 Disease Surveillance Team assisted in the recognition of the first cases of Novel H1N1 Influenza. Surveillance and response to this novel influenza was challenging due to its evolving and uncertain nature. Initially, cases were identified through private providers and tested through the state public health laboratory. Attempts to isolate cases and quarantine contacts proved increasingly labor intensive until the state changed from a containment strategy to one more surveillance-focused. Coordination of testing for patients was handled by disease surveillance staff, verifying that certain criteria are met.

By the last months of 2009, testing and data collection was for hospitalized patients and those who died from H1N1 or resulting complications. A grant-funded Influenza Surveillance Coordinator was a welcome addition in November 2009 to assist with ongoing influenza surveillance efforts.

Since the arrival of novel H1N1 flu in South Carolina, many Public Health Region 2 staff have worked diligently to reduce its impact on our community.

As of February 2010, more than 51,000 school children and staff were vaccinated with 263 schools in Region 2 participating. Over 70,000 H1N1 vaccinations were administered by Public Health Region 2.

Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Responsibilities Shifted to Private Providers

As of September 1, 2009, DHEC Public Health relinquished the responsibility of making Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) decisions and providing vaccine and immune globulin to victims bitten by animals that were unable to be quarantined or tested. Prior to this transition, Environmental Health staff referred bite/exposure victims to Epi staff who would then consult with the Regional Medical Director or DADE consultant to determine if rabies post-exposure prophylaxis was necessary. If PEP was needed, Epi staff would arrange for a doctor to give the series of shots and provide the biologics at no charge.

After September 1, the victim's personal physician is expected to make the determination of necessity to order and administer PEP to the patient. Insurance covers the cost and patient assistance programs are available to the uninsured. Because this is new procedure for many physicians, Public Health Region 2 Epi staff have continued to educate providers about this change, about administration of PEP and how to acquire it. The Public Health Region 2 Medical Director is available for consults for doctors who may not have made such decisions before and want current public health recommendations/ statistics regarding rabies.

Clinics Remained Open Despite Budget Cuts

Due to severe budget cuts, Public Health Region 2 Tobias Teen Clinic and USC-Upstate family planning services were to be discontinued this past fiscal year. Working collaboratively with the community and interested partners, Public Health Region 2 was able to continue family planning services at the Tobias Teen Clinic and USC-Upstate.

The Tobias Teen clinic was created to address the high teen pregnancy rate in Spartanburg County. The Teen Clinic was a collaboration, with the Tobias community providing the clinic space and DHEC providing the staff. Due to budget cuts, DHEC had to consider withdrawing staff support to the clinic. However, through grant funding from the S.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, DHEC was able to continue staff support for the clinic.

Similarly, DHEC was providing on-site staff support at USC- Upstate and was considering discontinuing staff support due to budget constraints. USC- Upstate elected to provide funding for DHEC staff.

Family Planning Program Awarded Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Grant

Public Health Region 2 was awarded a two year Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Grant in family planning to extensively study the application of continuous quality improvement (CQI) strategies.

Greenville County Public Health Department location was the only DHEC site to be selected for the grant. The goal for 2010 is to serve more family planning clients with fewer resources. The results will be nationally published with the intent of improving services nationally.

Public Health Region 2 is looking forward to accomplishing some significant changes that will impact the ability to serve more family planning clients, more efficiently.

WIC Staff Educated Thousands Across the State

In the spring, Public Health Region 2 WIC staff developed a DVD that was used to educate thousands of clients across the state, while minimizing staffing needs. The DVD was developed to train clients on the largest food package change the Women Infant and Children (WIC) Program has ever encountered. The DVD was produced both in English and Spanish. Fruits and vegetables were added to everyone's vouchers. Whole grain options such as whole wheat bread, brown rice and whole wheat tortillas was offered for the first time. Babies started getting baby foods and their breastfeeding moms began getting choice of salmon. Despite all of the changes, Public Health Region 2 WIC staff saved employees countless hours of one-on-one education.

Public Health Region 2 WIC staff also developed printed educational materials for WIC clients to be used throughout the state. A take home activity targeting women who have miscarried was developed, which allowed them to receive nutrition education without a trip to the Public Health Department.

What WIC Means to Customers and Employees

WIC touches lives throughout the year by assisting families with special formula for their premature babies; helping children with developmental delays get appropriate referrals; helping clients with severely low hemoglobin levels seek immediate medical attention; providing supplemental foods to people who have lost their jobs; and helping clients that are homeless feel that they have hope. WIC changes lives everyday and not just by giving them food. WIC also gives customers the support they need, when they need it.

Here's what customers and employees are saying about WIC services:

"I enjoy coming here. I meet different people and everyone is so nice. I like all the helpful information that the staff gives and it's very helpful to me and my children."

"It means helping out women that can't afford to buy formula for their baby. It means there are people out here who really care."

"(WIC gives me the) ability to purchase food that helps my child and I stay healthy."

"It means a lot to me because it's so hard these days to buy everything you need for your children and WIC provides you with hope. Thanks so much for y'all's help."

"Utilizing my professional knowledge and training to provide nutrition education to the public health clients to hopefully make a lasting, positive impact which will improve the health and wellbeing of those we serve."

"WIC gives me the opportunity to make a difference in people's lives. Providing sound nutritional counseling is so needed. Often our clients express gratitude for the help WIC provides to supply formula or needed foods for their families."

"WIC provides nutrition information to help families make healthier food choices and reaches out to families who are in need."

"It's amazing to be apart of something that helps so many people in so many ways. We go home from work everyday knowing we made a difference in many lives. We sleep easy knowing we give the gift of life, love, strength, support, health and wellbeing to everyone that we serve. Where else could we work and be able to say that?"



South Carolina Department of Health
and Environmental Control

www.scdhec.gov

We promote and protect the health of the public and the environment.

CR-007014 4/2010

Total Quantity - 50
Total Cost - \$
Unit Cost - \$