



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

**City of Englewood
Department of Health**



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CONSULTANTS

Deborah L. BaldwinPublic Health Consultant

Patricia AugustPublic Health Nursing Supervisor

Dr. Marjorie Jones, MDPediatrician

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

The Englewood Health Department has seen another successful year of growth in 2022, with focus on prevention. There were COVID-19 and Influenza immunization clinics, as well as Childhood Immunization clinics. Prevention of disease remained a goal in our Hypertension and Diabetes programming activities. We look forward to continued success with these programs, and you will see more to come in the upcoming year.

Deborah Baldwin, remained an asset to the Health Department, working with our new Director, Dr. Shatrujan Bastola. The Health Department has continued to provide educational programming to improve the health of our constituents, obtain grant funding to support our vaccination endeavors and for the new exercise facility to be erected at Mackay Park. We also want to recognize ALL of the staff for their hard work and dedication to our city.

The Englewood Health Department continues to partner with several organizations including Englewood Health (hospital), the Municipal Alliance, local religious institutions, schools, businesses, health professionals and volunteers who all contribute to maintain and sustain OUR healthy community. I want to specifically thank our Council members and the Mayor, for the financial support they continue to provide for the budget of the Health Department, this allows us to continue to be a resource for our community. Thank you as well to our many community leaders and volunteers who help sustain our wonderful neighborhood and look to improve the health and wellness of each person here.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve this community on the Board and as President for the last 3 years.

Dr. Aliza Solomon
President, Board of Health

MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICER/DIRECTOR

Year 2022, for the Englewood Health Department, was an inspiring year. COVID-19 cases incidence and fatality in 2022 decreased many fold as compared to 2020 the year COVID-19 pandemic started. This was the result of effective public health measures inclusive of timely case detection, contact tracing and quarantine recommendations, proper case management, vaccination and other personal hygiene and environmental sanitation efforts. Public Health Nursing, Health Education, Environmental Health, Vital Statistics and administrative divisions were in the forefront to implement these public health actions in conformity to the standard guidelines and practices recommended by NJDOH and CDC. The Health Educator, Public Health Nurse and all EHD staff worked tirelessly to provide outreach and services to the city's most vulnerable residents. EHD is thankful to the administrators and nurses of the schools and long term care facilities for their remarkable support in this regard. Furthermore, without community participation and support the fight against COVID-19 would not be successful. Resilience of EHD staff and Public Health Partners in the communities, particularly, schools, nursing homes, Englewood Health (hospital), faith-based organizations and community leaders made a difference.

In 2022, Vital Statistics staff also continued their primary responsibilities and functions by providing the services related to the distribution of birth, marriage and death certificates to the residents and issuing Retail Food Establishments and pet licenses. Health Inspectors continued their hard work in accomplishing the tasks of food inspections and attending public health complaints as they arose. In the year 2022 only, REHS team under the able leadership of Priscilla Lewis carried out 304 RFEs, 20 vending machines' and 83 temporary events inspections.

Despite the focus of the health department's on COVID-19 prevention and control, Public Health Nursing, under the able leadership of Claudette Murdock, relentlessly provided clinical and immunization services for the residents including priority COVID-19 vaccines.

The Englewood Health Department continued its emphasis on the prevention and control of chronic diseases through programs namely: wellness challenge, summer steppers, get fit in the fall, chronic disease self-management for the residents. Julie Green, the city Health Educator, continued to provide her visionary leadership to make EHD's health education programs successful.

This year we were able to secure grant fund worth more than ½ a million dollars for local public health capacity building and were able to hire two key staff under the titles Local Health Outreach Coordinator (LHOC) and Infectious Disease Preparedness Generalist (IDPG) who have made a significant contribution towards the prevention and control of COVID-19 and other reportable communicable diseases their clusters and/or outbreaks. Their contribution in providing health education and awareness in the matters related to public health risks and remedies has been remarkable. Their outreach to the residents disproportionately affected by these diseases is of particular value. They have added values to the works of community outreach, public health nursing services and communicable disease surveillance works.

I think the City Leaders are the best friends of EHD as they always put community's health at first. They have always been supportive to our efforts in fighting public health problems in the communities. In this connection, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Aliza Solomon, the then Board of Health president and all BOH members for guiding me through their emails, and phone calls and for giving guidance during Board of Health Meetings. Dr. Kenneth Rosenzweig and Hon. Mayor Michael Wildes and the council members have been always kind to me for inspiring to do the hard work I respect and value. I have highest regards for the visits that council members and BOH members make to the EHD despite their busy schedules. These visits have inspired me and my team. My special thanks goes to Deborah Baldwin, EHD's Public Health Consultant, whose assistance, particularly during my first months of transitioning as the Director/Health Officer of EHD, was invaluable.

I consider my EHD staff to be a professional family. I believe and trust that they are hardworking and will continue to work with them in team in the spirit of professional camaraderie and guide them the best I can to continue to make EHD one of the best Public Health Departments in the state of NJ with a single goal of delivering state of the art public health services to the needy residents and communities of the City of Englewood.

I feel blessed to be associated with the City of Englewood as its Health Officer and will continue to serve with integrity, honesty and honor.

Dr. Shatrujan Bastola
Director/Health Officer EHD

COVID-19 IN ENGLEWOOD

Epidemiological Report on COVID-19: 2020-2022

2019 Novel Coronavirus infection was first reported in December 2019 in Wuhan, China. It started spreading to multiple countries outside of China. The first case of COVID-19 was reported in the U.S. on January 20, 2020. Cases started spreading in the U.S. across states. On March 4, 2020, the first COVID-19 case was reported in New Jersey. On January 31, 2020, the WHO declared 2019 Novel Coronavirus outbreak to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and on March WHO declared it to be a pandemic. Here, in the U.S., States' Department of Health began implementing shutdowns in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. While it led to the disruption to everyday lives, it was inevitable in mitigating the unprecedented risk of morbidity and fatality associated with COVID-19. COVID-19 caused thousands of cases in Englewood and led to loss of several lives. The table below shows the distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths among Englewood residents from the start of the pandemic till the end of 2022. While the COVID-19 cases reported in 2022 were almost twice as much as that in 2020, the COVID-19 related deaths in 2022 were one third of that in 2020. Daily case incidence per 100,000 population and case fatality rate also show that while the rate of COVID-19 cases climbed up as we went from 2020 to 2022, the severity of COVID-19 infections dropped sharply.

Table 1: Overview of COVID-19 cases and deaths among Englewood Residents (2020 to 2022)

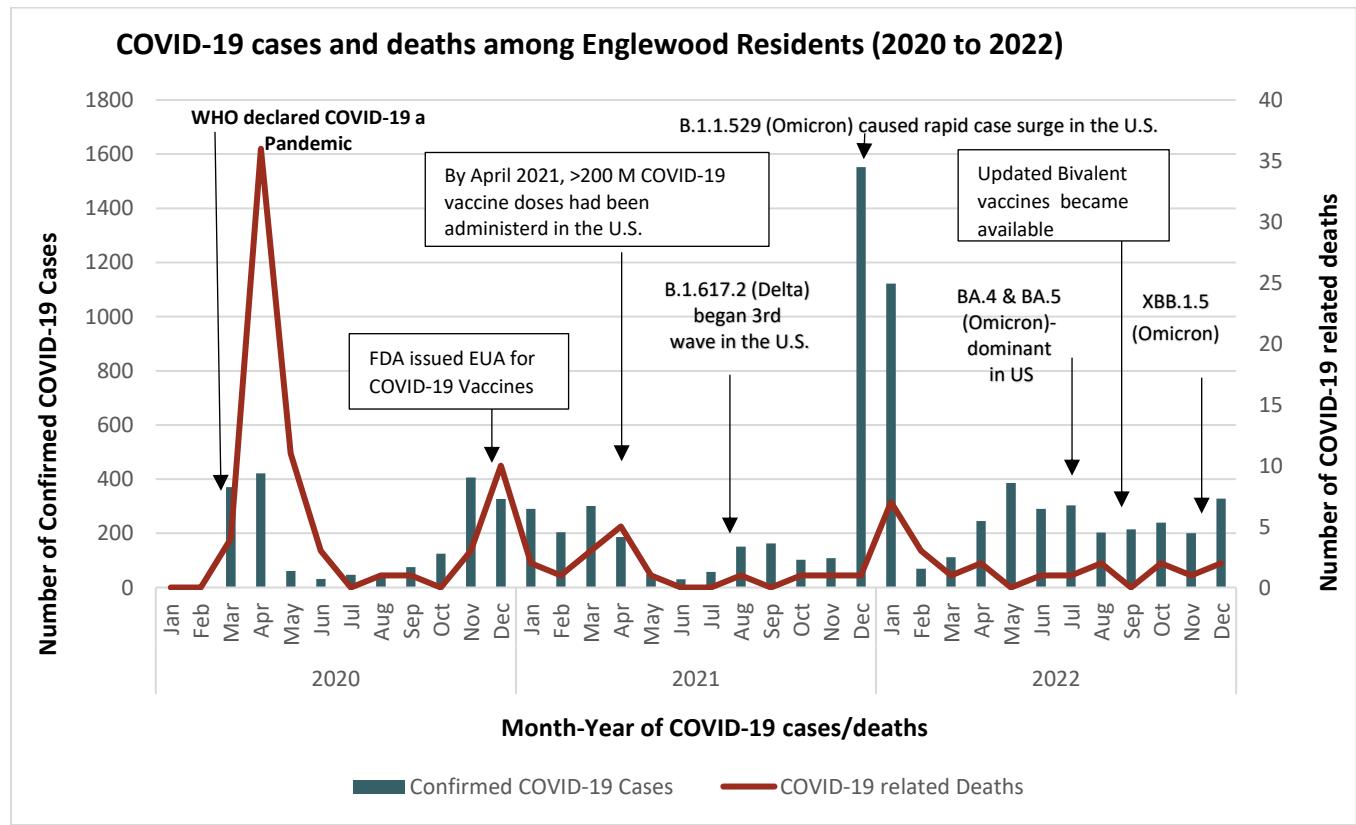
Year	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Daily case incidence per 100,000 population	Case Fatality Rate
2020	1904	69	18	3.6
2021	3194	16	30	0.5
2022	3713	22	35	0.6
Total	8811	107		

Data Source: Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS)

*COVID-19 deaths here includes deaths which meet certain criteria set in COVID-19 case definition; Englewood population as of July 1, 2021 census: 29,113

The graph below depicts epidemiological trend in COVID-19 cases and deaths reported among Englewood residents from the start of the pandemic till the end of 2022. Number of COVID-19 cases are represented by bars and are indicated by the primary Y-axis, number of COVID-19 related deaths are represented by the line chart and are indicated by the secondary Y-axis. Months and Years of occurrence of cases and deaths are shown in the X-axis. In Englewood, COVID-19 cases started in March 2020, spiked to as high as 400 cases in the initial months of March and April 2020 with over 35 deaths in April 2020 alone. Following declaration of COVID-19 as pandemic by WHO on March 2020, implementation of shutdowns across the States, and the transition into summer, significant drop in COVID-19 cases was noted in Englewood. In December

2020, FDA issued emergency use authorizations (EUAs) for COVID-19 vaccines for the prevention of COVID-19. While COVID-19 vaccines were rolled out and were starting to show effect, highly transmissible COVID-19 Alpha variant emerged and rose in early 2021 leading to some rise in cases for a few months. Overtime, COVID-19 virus spawned variants and sub variants posing additional challenges to disease control. During the summer months of 2021, B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant caused a third wave of COVID-19 infections in the U.S. Fall of 2022, Omicron variant was identified. The first case of the Omicron variant in the U.S. was reported on December 1, 2021. Soon, by January 2022, it accounted for approximately 99% of all COVID-19 cases in the U.S. at that time. Due to its increased transmissibility the Omicron variant and decreased vaccine protection against this variant, cases skyrocketed in December 2021 through January 2022. This resulted into some increase in COVID-19 related deaths. However, deaths were significantly lower than in April 2020 indicating combined protection offered by COVID-19 vaccines and the herd immunity. During summer months of 2022, cases rose due to highly transmissible omicron sub variants BA.4 and BA.5. Following that, FDA called for Omicron-specific updates to COVID-19 vaccine in fall 2022. Other Omicron sub variants BQ.1 and BQ.1.1. were also prevalent in fall of 2022, and by late 2022, a new Omicron sub variant XBB.1.5 became the predominant variant in the U.S. XBB.1.5 has been described as the most transmissible strain so far, more efficient and contagious than its predecessors pointing toward the continuation of COVID-19 cases into 2023.



Data Source: CDRSS

Figure 1: A graphical representation of COVID-19 cases and deaths among Englewood residents

This graph aims to show a trend into COVID-19 cases and deaths in Englewood and highlight some important milestones. Three years into the COVID-19 pandemic, the Englewood Health Department staff worked tirelessly in implementing prevention and control measures including early case detection and management, contact tracing for isolation and quarantine recommendations, COVID-19 vaccination, referral to testing, community outreach and distribution of COVID-19 prevention and testing tools, community partnership with schools, nursing homes, hospital, community organizations, etc. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Englewood community remained resilient by partnering with Public Health towards the reduction of disease burden.



Vaccine clinic at Dwight Morrow High School

VITAL STATISTICS & LICENSING

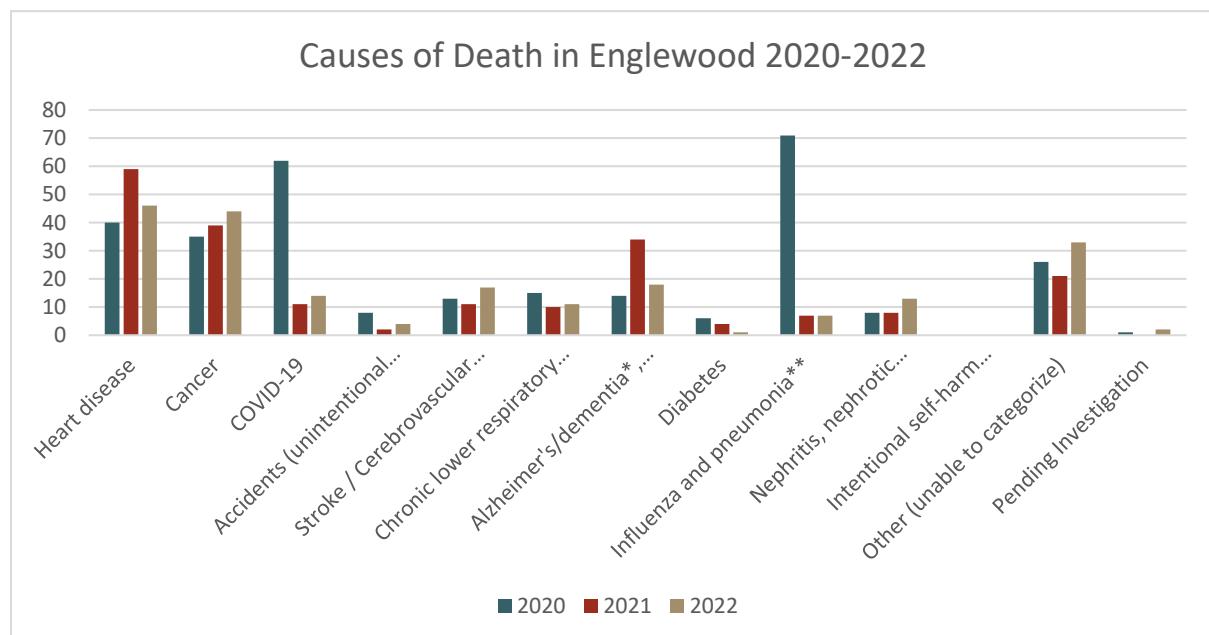
In the aftermath of COVID-19, the number of birth rose from 2,999 to 3,148 between 2021 and 2022. There were 24 fetal deaths in 2022 in comparison to 13 that occurred in 2021. The average number of fetal deaths during the last five year period was 14, ranging between 6 and 24 deaths report. Although the number of Englewood marriage certificates filed increased by 28.8%, the amount of total marriage certificates issued rose by approximately 6%.

According to New Jersey Vital Statistics (NJVS) Death Reports, 205 residents passed away in 2021 and 211 passed away in 2022 resulting in 2.9% percentage increase in death for 2022. Cardiac Arrest and Respiratory failure were the leading causes of death in the year 2022.

In the year 2022, Retail licensing increased by 6% as compared to the year 2021. There were 379 retail licenses in 2021 and 402 in 2022. A significant portion of this increase in retail licenses emerged from General Licenses (Pools, E-Cigarettes, Vape, and Body Art). Sixteen Pool Licenses, five Body Art licenses, and 20 Vape licenses were issued in 2022. This is in comparison to 12 Pool licenses, two Body Art licenses, and 16 Vape licenses issued in 2021. As the City of Englewood continues to grow residentially, so do the businesses within the city.

Annual Pet Licensing did not gain much traction compared to last year. In 2022, there were 290 dogs licensed compared to the 324 licensed in 2021. This resulted in a reduction of 10.5%. Cat licenses also saw a decrease of 5% with 60 licensed in 2021 compared to 57 licensed in 2022. The lower percentages of Pet Licensing in 2022 may be a result of the impact COVID-19's had on residents, including economic hardship.

Statistics show 568 dogs and 109 cats were licensed for 2020. Looking at 2019, the year prior to the start of the pandemic, 621 dogs and 114 cats were licensed. 2022 licensing decreased by 48.9% for dogs and 47.7% for cats when compared to statistics from 2020 and when compared with the numbers from 2019, the pet licensing decreased by 53% for dogs and 47.4% for cats. As the economy gains traction, and the 2022 Pet Census' impact takes effect, there may be notable changes to pet licensing in 2023.



VITAL STATISTICS & LICENSING

CAUSES OF DEATH (PRIMARY)				
Englewood Residents				
CDC ranking as of 2022		2020	2021	2022
1	Heart disease	40	59	46
2	Cancer	35	39	44
3	COVID-19	62	11	14
4	Accidents (unintentional injury)	8	2	4
5	Stroke / Cerebrovascular disease)	13	11	17
6	Chronic lower respiratory disease	15	10	11
7	Alzheimer's/dementia*, complications of	14	34	18
8	Diabetes	6	4	1
9	Influenza and pneumonia**	71	7	7
10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis	8	8	13
11	Intentional self-harm (suicide)	0	0	0
12	Other (unable to categorize)	26	21	33
13	Pending Investigation	1	0	2
TOTALS		298	206	208

* Other incl Adv Age, Failure to Thrive, Sepsis, Autoimmune, etc

**Incl aspiration pneumonia and HCap

REVENUE

REVENUE	2020	2021	2022
Operations:			
Certified Copies, Amendments, Permits	87,233	146,938	146,409
Marriage/Civil Union/Dom Partner Lic	3,724	4,004	2,240
Dog Licenses	4,620	2,780	2,482
Cat Licenses	662	388	268
Pet Late Lic Fees & Dupl Tags & Hen Lic	251	523	908
Retail Food Licenses / Plan Reviews	58,995	59,670	69,190
Food Establishment Re-insp / Late Lic Fees	325	950	1,898
Misc Lic (Pools, Temp Food, etc)	11,150	19,350	21,459.50
FMC / FHC Course Registration	0	0	5,350
CHC User Fees	1,344	1,507	
Mental Health FA Train/Stigma Free Englewood	0	0	1,797
Misc Income (Copies, Notary, Exped Srvcs)	323	119	126
Fee For Service (Mantoux, Flu/Other Vaccines)	660	721	580
Total Operations Income	169,287	236,950	253,682.50
Grants:			
EMHC Reach & Teach	0	0	
EHMC/Rutgers Healthy Commun Collab	5,500	5,500	
Municipal Alliance: Sticker Shock	579	0	
Municipal Alliance: Stigma Free Initiative	0	0	
Bergen County: Stigma Free & Wellness Init			
Municipal Alliance	0	0	5,754.10
Municipal Alliance: DMHAS			4,620
Bergen County: Comm Devel Block Grant	5,119		
FDA/NACCHO Food Safety Program	5,500		
NJ ACCHO Emergency Prep (COVID19)	24,263		
NJ ACCHO Strengthening PH Capacity	5,615		
NJ DOH COVID Strengthen PH Capacity	142,236		274,735
NJ DOH COVID Vaccination Suppl Funding		50,000	50,000
Total Grant Income	188,812	55,500	324,735
REVENUE GRAND TOTAL	358,099	292,450	578,417.50

EXPENDITURES

EXPENDITURES	2020	2021	2022
Contractual Services	9,996	39,705	40,430.14
Advertising	236	1,190	655.22
Postage	4,246	3,129	2,613.95
Printing/Binding	1,467	971	1,287.80
Vehicle Repair/Maintenance			
Office Equipment - Servicing		542	555.58
Specialized Services	25,860	19,016	22,134
Books, Publications			31
Office Supplies	4,806	4,212	4,530.63
Training Aids/Programs	951	1,130	2,485.98
Meetings, Conventions, Conferences	612	761	488.85
Uniforms & Accessories	1,308		2,080.48
Memberships	345	95	535
Travel Allowance	1,500	1,272	
Office Furniture	308		
Other Equipment	11,890	2,942	
Motor fuel & lubricants	352	468	774.55
Other materials & supplies	797	512	948.87
Food & drugs	873	632	
Photo, Blueprint & Developing (Copiers)	5,103	5,103	5,004.99
Equipment repair/maintenance		225	
Child Health Clinic	8,253	938	
Youth Programs	113		
TASE (Tobacco Age of Sale Enforcement)		250	80
EXPENDITURES TOTAL	79,016	83,093	84,637.04
Staffing	12.5 FTE	12.5 FTE	14.5 FTE

ENVIRONMENTAL

During the year of 2022, the Environmental Health Unit consisted of a Public Health Investigator/Animal Control Officer and two Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS). Under the direction of the Health Officer, the Environmental unit provides education and enforcement of State and Local laws to protect the public.

The REHS team is required by the State of New Jersey to conduct inspections for:

- ✓ Retail food establishments
- ✓ Temporary food events
- ✓ Youth Camps
- ✓ Public Recreational Bathing Facilities
- ✓ Body Art Facilities
- ✓ Smoke Free Air Act
- 1. Tobacco Age of Sale Enforcement
- 2. Electronic Smoking Device Age of Sale

Duties of the REHS

- ✓ Review plans for
 - Retail food establishments
 - Barber, Beauty and Nail Salons
- ✓ Daily/weekly review of
 - Food recalls
 - Recreational lab reports
 - Childhood Lead Tracking (Bergen County Agreement)
- ✓ Investigate complaints
- ✓ Conduct food handler trainings

The Public Health Investigator/Animal Control Officer ensure public safety by:

- ✓ Conducting State mandated inspections of Pet shops and Kennels.
- ✓ Assisting the Veterinarian with vaccinations at the Rabies Clinic
- ✓ Investigating Animal Bite reports and suspected rabies exposure
- ✓ Initiating Dog/Cat confinements
- ✓ Complaint investigation including, but not limited to the following:
 - Domestic/Wildlife Animals
 - Air/odor
 - Mold
 - Noise
 - Hoarding
 - Outdoor Rodent/mice activity
 - Solid Waste
 - Sewage
 - Stagnant water/mosquito
 - Noxious Weeds
- ✓ Responding to other various public health complaints & Health Ordinance violations.

The Environmental Health Unit resolves different kinds of complaints and violations by educating the public and, when necessary, issuing notice of violations or summonses to resolve public health issues.

RETAIL FOOD PROGRAM

During 2022, the REHS team was responsible for the inspection of approximately 304 retail food establishments, 20 vending machines and 83 temporary events in the City of Englewood.

The goal of the Retail Food Program is to assure safe food for the public to enjoy through efforts such as: increasing awareness about safe food handling methods with food handlers, owners, managers, and the public routine inspections with mandated corrections; and legal enforcement and/ or closure when all efforts fail. We view food safety as a partnership between retail food establishments and the health department.

While we look at all aspects of the operation, our concentration is on the FIVE major risk factors identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These risk factors are the aspects of food handling that directly cause foodborne illnesses. They are:

1. Poor personal Hygiene
2. Inadequate cooking temperatures
3. Improper Holding temperatures
4. Unclean food contact surfaces
5. Unsafe food sources.

Retail Food inspections are based upon the rules and regulations set forth in Chapter 24 of the New Jersey State Sanitary Code (NJAC 8:24- et al) and Minimum Standards. Other local and State codes can also be used as needed.

When an inspection is conducted at a retail food operation, a health inspection placard is issued.

- ✓ **Satisfactory** (white placard) the establishment is in compliance with the State Sanitary Code.
- ✓ **Conditionally Satisfactory** (yellow placard) the establishment is in violation of one or more sections of the State Sanitary Code and a re-inspection is required.
- ✓ **Unsatisfactory** (red placard) the establishment is in violation with one or more gross unsanitary conditions of the State Sanitary Code and poses an imminent health hazard. This results in the establishment ceasing all operations until the violations are corrected and compliance achieved.

Placards must be publicly displayed in the front entrance facing the street for easy viewing by the public. All inspections are available to the public for viewing on the City's website.

HEALTH ORDINANCE FEE ADJUSTMENT FOR CONDITIONAL RATINGS

There was an increase in the issuance of Conditional ratings during sanitary inspections in 2022. This involved an in depth look into food service managerial controls and the possible lack of food service education. Ratings were issued. To improve compliance, the Health Department adopted an ordinance restructuring assessment for establishments that fall out of compliance during routine inspections, which is now effective as the following states within the Health Code.

CHAPTER 485. FEES AND FEE SCHEDULE SECTION 485-2 FEES FIXED

The licensing year fee for the several licenses or permits referred to in this Code are hereby fixed as follows: D. Re-inspection penalty fee. Retail food service establishments and restaurants receiving a conditional rating shall immediately be assessed a fine of 25% of the normal license fee. Retail food establishments and restaurants receiving a second, subsequent, conditional rating shall immediately be assessed a fine of 50% of the normal license fee. During 2022 a total of 52 establishments were issued Conditional Ratings. Once the ordinance passed in June, 30 establishments were subjected to the new fee assessments.

FOOD HANDLERS COURSES

Food Handlers Courses were once again facilitated at the local food establishments. A total of 10 classes were conducted this year, indicating a need for increased education within an ever-changing food service workforce. The REHS team embraced the opportunity to provide these trainings in English and Spanish at locations including Englewood Public Library as well as in house at Englewood restaurants. A total of 155 restaurant employees became Food Handler Certified. Employees were guided on Food Safety Best Practices including: personal hygiene, cold and hot food holding, cooked food temperatures, and thermometer use in addition to cleaning and sanitation.

TEMPORARY FOOD LICENSE INSPECTIONS

A Temporary Retail Food Establishment is a retail food establishment that operates for a period of no more than 10 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration. The temporary events involve the sale and/or preparation of food in an indoor or outdoor setting. A Food Vendor must obtain a Temporary Event License with the Englewood Health Department. An REHS is then required to inspect the event the day of to ensure all regulations under the State Sanitary Code are followed and that proper food handling techniques are being observed. During 2022, there were 83 temporary licenses issued for events which included, but not limited to the following:

- ✓ Englewood Memorial Day Parade
- ✓ Prince Hall Community Festival
- ✓ Department of Recreation "Eggstravaganza"

- ✓ Englewood Farmers Market
- ✓ Englewood Sidewalk Sale
- ✓ "Juneteenth" Celebration
- ✓ 4th of July Celebration
- ✓ Jabari Back to School Cookout
- ✓ Department of Recreation "Spooktacular"
- ✓ Flat Rock Brook Fall Festival

CITY LICENSES & MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS

The Englewood Health Department conducts Certificate of Occupancy and Continued Certificate of Occupancy inspections at a retail food establishment, beauty, barber, and nail salons. These inspections are conducted to ensure compliance with all City and State regulations as well as the State of NJ Board of Cosmetology. In addition, the REHS is responsible for plan reviews for new construction and renovations of existing structures. Floor plans are required when:

1. There is a new construction of a retail food establishment;
2. There is a conversion of an existing structure for use as a retail food establishment;
3. There is remodeling of a retail food establishment or a change of type of retail food establishment; or
4. The health authority determines that plans and specifications are necessary to ensure compliance with these rules.

Plan reviews cover businesses such as retail food establishment's beauty, barber, nail salons and Public Recreational Bathing Facilities.

PUBLIC RECREATIONAL BATHING FACILITIES

As COVID advisories slowly declined in 2022, the Public Recreational Bathing Facility season was in full swing for Englewood swimmers. The Health Department performed inspections of the 2 City Pools and 11 semi-private pools. Englewood has 9 seasonal pools and 2 year round pools. Seasonal pools are inspected once during the season, while year round pools are inspected twice a year. During the course of each inspection a pool is checked for water quality/proper chemical levels, adequate safety equipment, properly certified lifeguards and no hazards to the public. This ensures that each pool is in compliance with Chapter 26 of the Public Recreational Bathing Facility Rule.

SUMMER YOUTH CAMP

Youth camps in the City of Englewood must register annually with the New Jersey Department of Health. The NJDOH sends to the Englewood Health Department a list of youth camps that require a pre-opening inspection. During the pre-opening inspection, the REHS will review very important items, for instance, employee history checks, sex offender checks, CPR certifications, and Health records. The REHS team will also ensure that the camp has a fully stocked binder with the policies and procedures of the

camp, a first aid kit, a retail food license (if required) and a medical program. The youth camp must be in full compliance with the Chapter 25 New Jersey's Youth Camp Standards code in order to open for the season. In 2022, there were 2 new youth camps assisted by the REHS team to successfully register for compliance with NJDOH licensing protocols.

ANIMAL CONTROL

The City of Englewood holds a contract with the Bergen County Animal Shelter for a large portion of animal control. Supplementing animal control for the City within the Health Department is the Public Health Investigator, who is also certified by the State as an Animal Control Officer. This allows the Department to assist residents in a timely manner or to help the County as needed for the safety and comfort of the residents when problems arise with contact to domestic or wild animals.

Additionally, the Public Health Investigator follows up on animal bite reports. This includes people bitten by domestic animals, or wildlife, and also when a domestic animal is bitten by wildlife. Following state guidelines, the Public Health Investigator checks on the status of person or animal exposed to what may be a potentially rabid animal. If a person is bitten by a domestic animal, the Public Health Investigator will review the proof of current rabies vaccination and issue a ten day confinement for the animal to ensure the health of both the animal and the person bitten. Also, when a domestic animal is exposed to wildlife or "bites of unknown origin," a different confinement period may be required, depending on the rabies vaccine status of the domestic animal. This may include confinement for 45 days in case of a previously vaccinated pet up to 6 months for an unvaccinated pet.

RABIES CONTROL

In October of 1989, the raccoon variation of rabies first came to Warren and Hunterdon Counties.

Within 3 years the fatal viral disease was detected in all 21 Counties in New Jersey. To fight the spread of rabies, free rabies clinics are available through the Health Department, the Bergen County Animal Shelter and Englewood Cliffs Veterinary. At the Health Department's clinic alone, 48 cats and dogs were vaccinated against rabies in 2022.





Additional efforts to prevent the spread of rabies includes the investigation of all bite reports, issuing confinements of domestic pets involved in bites and the quarantines of those pets that were exposed to potentially rabid animals. The unit works with bite victims concerning the status of biting animals and the possibility of victims needing post exposure prophylaxis for rabies for the prevention of rabies. When necessary the Unit confers with State and County agencies for guidance to ensure the safety of the public.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

The Public Health Nursing unit continues to offer services to the City of Englewood and surrounding municipalities that may not have their own Child Health Clinic.

The Englewood Health Department's Child Health Clinic has seen a growth in the amount of non-US citizens seeking health services. Health services provided by the department include:

- Well-Child Clinics
- Adult preventable disease vaccines
- COVID-19 vaccines
- Mantoux skin testing
- Community outreach and referrals
- Patient education

The Public Health Nurse offered/recommended annual training to participating employees on the daily functions and running of packaging, storing, administering, and documenting VFC, Adult 317, and COVID-19 vaccines. To adhere to the Vaccine Program standard, the Public Health Nurse participated in annual training required by the NJDOH and completed re-enrollment of the vaccine clinics (VFC and Adult 317) in order to administer vaccines.



Englewood Health Department, in accordance with CDC recommendations, administers Janssen, Moderna, Novavax, and Pfizer vaccines for COVID-19. As of September 16th, Bivalent vaccines for Moderna and Pfizer were administered. The Englewood Health Department conducted COVID-19 clinics via vaccine outreach clinics and walk-ins. Information on COVID-19 vaccine clinics are advertised through flyer e-blasts, social media, and robocalls. To date, a total of 1,633 COVID-19 vaccines were administered.



ADULT VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASE – 317 VACCINE PROGRAM

Adult Vaccine Preventable Disease is a program designed to reduce the spread of infectious diseases in the communities that are preventable by vaccines. The program provides vaccines at an affordable cost to uninsured adults in and surrounding communities. The type of adult vaccinations administered are:

- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis A & B combined
- Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (HPV)
- Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR)
- Meningococcal
- Pneumococcal
- Tetanus Diphtheria acellular Pertussis (Tdap)
- Varicella
- Shingrix (Shingles)



The majority of adults who received the affordable vaccines in 2022 were non-US citizens seeking to become permanent residents. Additionally, adult students received vaccines.

CHILD HEALTH CLINIC

EHD's Child Health Clinic aims to maintain the health of infants and school-aged children in Englewood and surrounding communities who are uninsured, have Medicaid part A, American Indian or Alaska native. The Well-Child clinic provides preventive health care for newborns and children up to 18 year old. The service includes:

- Physical examinations
- Health screenings
- Immunizations
- Mantoux skin testing
- Counseling



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Public Health Nurse participated in numerous community events by providing blood pressure screenings and administering vaccines held at churches, workplaces, and centers. Community events are planned throughout the year to raise awareness for a particular disease or health condition.



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTING

In 2022, COVID-19 continued to be the dominant infectious disease. The Public Health Nurse worked with the New Jersey Department of Health for COVID-19 case monitoring of outbreaks in schools, Long Term Care Centers and Assisted Living facilities. Infectious disease may spread through blood, body fluids, contact, droplets, food, and vectors. The monitoring of infected residents aided to reduce and prevent the spread of disease through patient education. Aside from COVID-19, Englewood had a small number of non-outbreak cases of the following:

- Campylobacter
- Giardiasis
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Lyme
- Pertussis
- Salmonella
- Shigella
- Streptococcus Pneumoniae
- Streptococcus Pyogenes
- Varicella

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Public Health Nurse attends regular Continuing Education trainings, seminars and webinars to remain up to date with the latest public health policies and procedures. These include:

- Vaccines for Children
- Vaccine Preventable Disease
- Communicable Disease Monitoring & Reporting
- Immunization Audit
- New Jersey Immunization Information System Documentation
- New Jersey Inventory Management Order & Distribution System for vaccines
- Lead Poisoning in Children
- AdvancedMD Electronic Medical Recording System

The Public Health Nurse offered the following annual trainings for the staff:

- the Communicable Disease Reporting Surveillance System
- New Jersey Immunization Information System

- AdvancedMD Electronic Medical Record software
- COVID-19 Standards of Practice for: Vaccine Administration, Storage, Packaging, and the handling of all related documentation

SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION AUDITS

The New Jersey Department of Health mandates that all students in both public and private schools, inclusive of daycares, preschools and grades K-12, be immunized according to the State's recommended vaccine schedule. This mandate is authorized and enforced by the School's Administrator and the Local Health Department. Medical and religious exemptions are accepted with the proper supporting documentation.

LEAD EDUCATION

There have been very few occurrences of lead in children. Lead is a metal that can be harmful to children and adults. It may be found in drinking water, paint chips from older houses, soil, pottery and spices. In the event that there is a lead case, the parent(s) or guardian of the affected child is educated about the various food groups and protective measures to take to lower the child's lead levels

SEASONAL FLU EDUCATION PREVENTION

The Englewood Health Department partnered with Walgreens to provide flu vaccines to the Englewood community, including employees and surrounding areas. The flu vaccination events were held at the Englewood Health Department and Englewood Public Library.

RECERTIFICATION OF VACCINE FOR CHILDREN AND ADULT 317 VACCINES CLINIC

The department's clinic must be recertified each year in order to remain in compliance with the State of New Jersey and be able to administer vaccines. Recertification was conducted in March 2022 and both clinics were approved and activated for re-enrollment for the current year.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Educator is responsible for conducting a variety of health education and promotional activities with the purpose of promoting, maintaining, and improving individual, family and community health. They plan activities and events for the public or special groups such as health fairs, discussion groups, educational presentations, trainings, seminars and more. In addition, they encourage a healthy lifestyle and effective behavioral change by continuously planning, developing and implementing community-based programs.

NEW PROGRAMS

ENGLEWALKS WELLNESS CHALLENGE



This year, the Englewood Health Department developed a program that addressed many of the different needs of community members based on the most recent Community Needs Assessment. Participants were challenged to walk at least 10,000 steps per day to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease and improve their overall health and wellbeing. In addition to the individual daily component of the challenge, participants met in person weekly for group exercise led by a personal trainer who was

donated by GYMGUYZ Personal Training. In addition, our department distributed health education information and COVID-19 test kits, masks, hand sanitizers, and more.

Participants were able to use the Holy Name Hospital Fitness Center for free throughout the challenge and also received a free adult or children's class from Tiger Schulman's Martial Arts.

A kick-off event was held on April 27, 2022 at Mackay Park and included a variety of resource tables from local organizations, educational handouts, blood pressure readings by Englewood's Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and group exercise with a personal trainer. Participants tracked and submitted their daily steps each week and received weekly email reminders. Special events were



held throughout the Wellness Challenge including a virtual nutrition education class and cooking class by Inserra ShopRite Registered Dieticians, a virtual presentation on pedestrian safety by the Brain Injury Alliance of NJ, and more. A finale event was held on June 3, 2022 which also featured resource tables, distribution of COVID-19 supplies, blood pressure readings, a raffle drawing, and more. Additionally, the participants with the most steps were awarded ShopRite gift cards.

SUMMER STEPPERS

The Englewood Health Department developed a new summer walking program called the Summer Steppers. This four-week program encouraged residents to continue to stay active after the Wellness Challenge concluded through light group stretching and walking at Mackay Park once per week. Much like the EngleWalks Wellness Challenge, the goal of this program was to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, symptoms of depression, and improve cognitive health.



GET FIT IN THE FALL

Similar to the Summer Steppers walking program, the *Get Fit in the Fall* program debuted for the first time this year in collaboration with Bergen County Community



Health Improvement Partnership's county-wide walking initiative. This program featured group exercise with a personal trainer from GYMGUYZ Personal Training, complimentary blood pressure readings by Englewood's Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and healthy recipes and food from the Shirvan Family Live Well Center's Registered Dietician and Chef. In addition, our department distributed health education information and COVID-19 test kits, masks, hand sanitizers, and more.



HEALTH PROMOTION

CITY OF ENGLEWOOD WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Each month, an article was submitted for the “Current Health News” portion of the city website. The article is usually based on National Health Observances or upcoming community events. This is intended to provide the community with the latest news relevant to their health and wellbeing.

The Health Educator also assisted with the health department's Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram content by posting COVID-19 advisories, current health news and tips, community events and National Health Observance dates. By utilizing social media platforms, the Englewood community remained informed and prepared throughout the year.

NEWSLETTER

The Health Educator contributed to our quarterly newsletter, the “Englewood Health Watch”. The newsletter is printed for distribution throughout the community and posted on the city website. News regarding National Health Observances, COVID-19 updates, upcoming programs and successful programs is included. The newsletter helps to educate the public on health topics and inform them of where to seek important information.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



The Health Educator participated in a variety of health-related community events throughout the year to promote our services to the general public and create partnerships with local businesses and centers. The health education unit is continuously reaching out to schools, community events, churches, seniors and the general public to provide health education and promotional activities. Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the majority of events this year were virtual or involved minimal in-person contact.

This year's events included:

- Annual Flu Clinics
- Bergen Family Center's Harvest Festival
- COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics
- Denning Park Summer Jazz Concert
- Englewood Farmer's Market
- Juneteenth Festival
- National Night Out
- Spooky Skatetacula
- Sticker Shock
- Stigma Free Town Hall



- World AIDS Day

Topics Covered in 2022 included:

- Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Blood Pressure
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular disease
- COVID-19
- Diabetes
- Food Safety
- Hand Hygiene
- Influenza
- Mental Health
- Nutrition
- Obesity
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
- Skin Cancer
- Stress
- Summer Safety
- Vaccines
- Violence



STRENGTHENING LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH CAPACITY GRANTEES

For the state fiscal year of 2023 (7/1/22-6/30/23), the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) allocated \$29.9 million received in federal funding for sub-grants to support

county and local health departments for COVID-19 and other infectious disease response initiatives and prepare for future infectious disease events. The Englewood Health Department (EHD) received a portion of the allocated grant amount and hired a full-time Local Health Outreach Coordinator (LHOC) and a full-time Infectious Disease Preparedness Generalist (IDPG).



The Local Health Outreach Coordinator (LHOC) has been working with the Health Educator, the Health Department staff, and various community organizations to assess, mitigate and respond to populations disproportionately affected by the social and health impacts of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. This includes ensuring that these populations have access to testing and support services such as housing, primary medical care, insurance coverage, and unemployment compensation to allow them to quarantine effectively. The Infectious Disease Preparedness Generalist (IDPG) has been working with the Public Health Nurse, the Health Department staff, the NJDOH, and various community organizations to assist with outreach to populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and other infectious diseases through planning/vaccine logistics, testing, contact tracing, resolving laboratory reporting issues within the jurisdiction, and other COVID-19 and other infectious disease-related activities.



Some of the activities LHOC and/or IDPG were involved in included:

- Rapid Public Health Assessment
- Enhanced communication with Long term Care Facilities
- Enhanced partnership and collaboration with community organizations
- Assistance with the Communicable Disease Surveillance and Outbreak Response
- Health Department Communication: Weekly Communicable Disease Report for EHD staff, COVID-19 Public Service Announcement, and Monthly Health Department Newsletter
- Assistance to the Public Health Nurse with updating immunization records
- Assistance during EHD vaccine clinic events, Community outreach events, Food handlers courses, etc.

MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE

We reported last year that Municipal Alliance funding, provided by The Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction (GCADA), had been significantly reduced in Fiscal Year 2021. Funding will continue at this level at least through Fiscal Year 2023 (July 2022 – June 2023). All monies were allocated to youth programs. In the fall of 2022, Vaping Prevention presentations for high school students, as well as one for parents, were conducted.

In addition, several no fee programs were conducted – most via a virtual platform. The Center for Alcohol and Drug Resources and Bergen County Division of Mental Health

and Addiction Services were the providers of these programs. The Department's Health Educator organized this year's Sticker Shock program, which is designed to educate the public regarding the purchase of alcoholic beverages for underage persons.

STIGMA-FREE ENGLEWOOD



What does "Stigma Free" mean? The fear of stigma often keeps people who are struggling with mental illness from seeking the help they need. The intent of Stigma Free zones is to provide a non-judgmental space for these individuals. Englewood has participated in this initiative since 2015 with a committee dedicated to educating the community about all mental health and addiction issues and providing support for those in need of services. This

program is supported by the Municipal Alliance and by donations from the public.

After having been postponed three times due to COVID-19 restrictions, a town hall meeting was held in October at Dwight Morrow High School. The special guest speaker was Major League Baseball great, Darryl Strawberry. Darryl spoke of his recovery from alcohol and drug addiction as well as mental and physical health struggles. Prior to the commencement of the program, several agencies provided information/resource tables – Englewood



Health Department, Englewood Municipal Alliance, The Center for Alcohol and Drug Resources, The Defining Moment Foundation, Englewood Health (hospital), Bergen County Division of Mental Health and

Addiction Services, and Vantage Health System. There was a lengthy Q&A period following the presentation, and Darryl consented to photographs with members of the audience.



The Municipal Alliance is funded by The Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction (GCADA) with a 25% match from the City of Englewood. State funding is solely derived from Drug Enforcement and Demand Reduction (DEDR) fines, such as driving under the influence, and all Alliances experienced a drastic funding cut after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this cut, Englewood continued to provide services specific to alcohol and drug education and prevention. Programming was directed to adults as well as to the community's youth.

Activities included maintenance of the Alliance web page and social media posts, contributions to the Health Department's quarterly newsletter, Sticker Shock program outreach to establishments that sell alcoholic beverages, and "Speak Sobriety" virtual workshops/assemblies by Stephen Hill for students and parents.