



Health MILESTONES 2005

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Get Active Utah!

January 1, 2005 - Check Your Health (UDOH, IHC, KUTV partnership) and the Utah Summer Games, along with Associated Foods and the Utah AARP as event sponsors, began the "Get Active, Utah!" Fitness Challenge on January 1, 2005. The goal is to reach thousands of Utahns who are trying to make a lifestyle change and offer them an incentive to achieve their goal. The Challenge appears to be a hit. Since its start, over 1,500 people - an average of about 25 people per day - have signed up to take the Challenge at www.utahwalks.org. Over 500,000 miles have been logged, and participants have requested over 500 Nutrition and Activity Trackers from Check Your Health.

EMS Designates Logan Regional Hospital as a Level III Trauma Center

January 1, 2005 - The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Trauma Program has designated Logan Regional Hospital in Cache County as the first Level III Trauma Center in the state.

Registry of Stillbirth Events (ROSE) Ready for Use Statewide

January 2, 2005 - Doctors can now register and submit stillbirths to the Office of Vital Records and Statistics (OVRs) online using the new Web based stillbirth program, ROSE. Since January 2000, birth registration in Utah has been completed electronically making birth registration a paperless system. OVRs staff are currently working on a web based death registration system.

CHIP Unveils Spanish TV Ad

January 10, 2005 - For the first time, the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) reached out to Spanish-speaking audiences using a Spanish TV ad. The ad, promoting CHIP open enrollment, aired on Univision through January 24, 2005.

Office of Health Care Statistics Provides Summary Report to U.S. Congress

January 18, 2005 - The Office of Health Care Statistics' (OHCS) report to the CMS Office of Legislation contained a comprehensive summary of Primary Care Network (PCN) evaluations conducted by the office as of January 2005. OHCS has conducted (or co-sponsored) at least eight separate evaluations of PCN, helping provide policymakers with important information about the health of PCN enrollees. CMS provided the summary report to the Congressional Research Service in response to a Congressional inquiry during former-Governor Michael Leavitt's confirmation hearings in Washington D.C. A copy of the report can be found at: <http://health.utah.gov/hda/report/summaryEvaluations.pdf>

Utah Pregnancy Data Book Published

January 2005 - The Utah Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) program has published their first data book using 2000-2001 PRAMS data. PRAMS is an ongoing, population-based, risk factor surveillance system designed to identify and monitor selected maternal experiences and behaviors that occur before, during and after pregnancy as well as the

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

child's early infancy experience. The publication details 39 maternal child health indicators from the PRAMS questionnaire and is available online at:

<http://health.utah.gov/rhp/pdf/PRAMS%20Data%20Book.pdf>

CHIP has Covered 80,000 Utah Kids

February 1, 2005 – Since it began in 1998, Utah Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) has provided health insurance for more than 80,000 Utah kids. CHIP covers well-child exams, immunizations, doctor visits, hospital and emergency care, dental care and prescriptions.

Utah Department of Health begins Management Training Program

February 15, 2005 - The UDOH, Training and Education Center began a management training program in February of 2005. The Program will consist of 12 classes over the next two years for all UDOH managers and supervisors. The training includes topics such as personnel and business management. The goals of this series are to increase knowledge of and ability to apply UDOH policies and procedures, improve understanding of management roles and responsibilities and to enhance leadership and management skills. Since inception, 230 UDOH managers received training every 8 weeks and will continue to do so over the next 24 months.

Utah Goes Red to Educate Women about Heart Disease and Stroke

February 2005 - The Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program and ten of its 12 local health department partners distribute 4,000 red dress pins and generated nearly one million media impressions during February's Go Red for Women/Wear Red Day activities. Events included holding luncheons to educate women about their special risk for heart disease and stroke; distributing a fact sheet about Utah women, heart disease, and stroke at health fairs, community events, and worksites; offering heart health related screenings and encouraging women to wear red to raise awareness.

Legislature Expands CHIP

March 2, 2005 – The Utah State Legislature appropriated 3.3 million additional dollars to the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). This funding will allow CHIP to cover an additional 12,000 children, increasing the average enrollment to 40,000 children.

Second Annual Stroke Symposium Convenes in Salt Lake City

March 5, 2005 - The Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program hosted the Second Annual Stroke Symposium in Utah on March 5, 2005 in Salt Lake City. Among those in attendance were neurologists, emergency room doctors, ER nurse managers, medical directors, family practice physicians, EMS personnel and cardiologists. This meeting brought together personnel to discuss ways to improve the care of stroke patients in our community.

Mental Health Prescription Program Improving Health Care for Utah Medicaid Recipients

March 15, 2005 - A UDOH program is making a difference for Utahns with mental health problems. Over the past 12 months, the UDOH's Behavioral Pharmacy Management Program (BPMP) has reviewed Medicaid mental health pharmacy claims for drugs to treat mental health conditions. BPMP has worked with hundreds of providers each month and has decreased unnecessary mental health prescriptions for both adults and children.

External Quality Review Organization Contract Established

March 23, 2005 - Health Services Advisory Group, Inc., an external quality review organization (EQRO), has signed and returned a three-year contract with the Division of Health Care

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

Financing (DHCF). Once the contract is fully executed, DHCF will be in compliance with the Federal regulation, 42 CFR 438 Subpart E, that requires states to contract with an EQRO to conduct annual review activities of Medicaid's two physical health plans and nine Prepaid Mental Health Plans.

Office of Vital Records and Statistics Turns 100

March 9, 2005 - Utah has been recording births and deaths for 100 years. The Office of Vital Records and Statistics (OVRs) marked its 100-year anniversary with a celebration at the UDOH. The celebration highlighted changes in vital records over the past hundred years as well as the impact that statistical information collected by vital records has had at both a local and national level. The Office also presented a Heritage Birth Certificate, signed by Governor Jon M. Huntsman Jr. to some Utah residents who, like Vital Records, reached centenarian status this year.

Utah Diabetes Practice Recommendations (UDPR) Released

March 29, 2005 – The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP) has published recommendations detailing the diagnosis and treatment of gestational diabetes and the management of pre-existing diabetes during pregnancy. The UDPR is part of an ongoing effort to improve the care of individuals with diabetes, minimize the risk of diabetes complications and reduce risk factors for development of diabetes. The UDPR contain algorithms for testing, diagnosing and treating diabetes to targets during pregnancy, recommendations for follow-up and resources for diabetes education. The UDPR is available on the Web at: www.health.utah.gov/diabetes.

IBIS Query System Workbook Created

March 2005 - An IBIS Query System Workbook has been made to help users navigate the system to get what they need. The Utah Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS-PH) Web site is designed to provide quick and easy access to information for informed public health policy development and decision-making. It provides important information on the population characteristics, health status, health determinants, and health care systems in Utah. The IBIS Query System allows users to query public health data sets directly. The workbook is available on the Web at: <http://health.utah.gov/ibisq/workbook.pdf>

UDOH Bureau of EMS Awards Grant Money to Utah EMS Providers

March 2005 - The UDOH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services recently awarded for FY2006 a total of \$1,673,723 in grant money to Utah emergency medical service providers. \$800,000 of the grant money was awarded in per capita grants; \$873,723 awarded in competitive grants and there will be \$20,000 of grant money set aside for emergency interim grants.

Dog Bite Alert

April 7, 2005 - The Utah Department of Health issued a warning about a health threat rarely talked about in Utah – dog bites. UDOH data show that every year more than 1,900 Utahns are attacked by dogs and hurt seriously enough to need emergency room treatment, and 10 of those victims are hospitalized. Nearly one in five victims is an infant or child age nine or younger. The Department urged parents to talk with their children about how to behave around dogs to prevent injury.

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

Public Invited to Enjoy A Breath of Fresh Air at the Second Annual Smoke-Free Salt Lake City Day

April 8th, 2005 - The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) invited the public to go downtown for a breath of fresh air as they embarked on a tour of smoke-free establishments with Mayor Rocky Anderson. Mayor Anderson once again declared April 8 as Smoke-Free Salt Lake City Day. Community partners included KUTV Channel 2, Gastronomy, The Red Door, Circle Lounge, The Tavernacle, W Lounge and Sahara Construction.

Utah Department of Health Introduces Extension of “I Did It!” Campaign

April 11th, 2005 - Quitting smoking isn't easy. And it's particularly difficult without a support system to help you through those tough times, the little moments when a minor temptation may bring back a bad habit. Three new 30-second TV spots, that began airing on April 11, feature people who are contemplating quitting smoking but struggling with the decision. These people are seen receiving encouragement from others who hand them written messages that read, “I did it. You can, too.”

Utah SAFE KIDS Week 2005

April 29, 2005 - The Utah SAFE KIDS Coalition called on Utah parents to get rid of dangerous children's items like old cribs, playpens and baby walkers. The theme of SAFE KIDS Week 2005 was “Follow the Leader - Safety Begins With You.” Utah coalitions urged parents to check their homes for cribs and playpens that can trap and strangle children, wheeled baby walkers that can tumble down stairs and many other items that can be deadly for children.

New Data Available on Utahns who Lacked Health Insurance Coverage

April 2005 - The Office of Public Health Assessment has release numbers from the Utah Health Status Survey on Utahns without health insurance. The data was released just in time for a Health Insurance Summit that was sponsored by the UDOH. This data can be found at: <http://health.utah.gov/oph/publications/EstNumPercentUninsured.pdf>

Health Status Survey Brief: Chronic Medical Conditions

April 2005 - The first “Brief” style report from the now ongoing Utah Health Status Survey data collection has been published. The Brief contained data on Utahns suffering from chronic diseases such as diabetes, arthritis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and asthma. The publication can be found on the Web at: http://health.utah.gov/oph/publications/hssbriefs/HSS_Brief_ChronicMedCond.pdf

EMS Week Celebrated - Lifesaving Emergency Medical Professionals Honored

May 15-21, 2005 – Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr. honored the state's finest EMS professionals during the 2005 EMS Awards Ceremony that was held in conjunction with the celebration of National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week 2005. The EMS professionals were recognized for their outstanding service and contributions along with welcoming the patients and their families whose lives were influenced by the lifesaving actions of the award recipients.

The TRUTH Advertising Contest Recognizes 52 Utah Youth for Creative Anti-tobacco Ads

May 20, 2005 - The winners of the eighth annual TRUTH from Youth Anti-tobacco Advertising Contest were announced during an awards ceremony at The Gateway Union Pacific Depot on May 20, 2005. Fifty-two Utah youth received recognition, awards and cash prizes for their

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

original ads. More than 6,483 youth participated this year in the statewide advertising contest presented by the Utah Department of Health (UDOH).

Check Your Health Winners Recognized

May 31, 2005 - Check Your Health and the Utah Summer Games congratulated the winners for the 2005 Get Active Utah! Fitness Challenge. Awards were handed out at the Utah Summer Games Opening Ceremonies on June 16, 2005.

The winners include:

- Communities:
 - Large city - West Valley City
 - Medium city - Cedar City
 - Small city - Price
- School - Heber Valley Elementary
- Group - SUU Education
- Individual - Wendy Busenbark - Roosevelt, Utah
- 100-mile walkers - 609
- Total miles logged January 1 to May 31, 2005 = 2,062,633
- 2175 total participants signed up between January 1 and April 30, 2005.

Special recognition was extended to the Girl Scouts of Utah, whose 77 participants logged 17,215 miles – four times their goal of walking round trip from Salt Lake City to Savannah, GA, or 4,250 miles.

Spot the Tot Child Safety Campaign Launched

May 2005 - The UDOH Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) joined forces with Primary Children's Medical Center to develop the "Spot the Tot" child safety campaign. Alarmed by an increase in the number of children hurt and killed when run over in driveways and parking lots, the agencies launched the program in early May. Spot the Tot encourages drivers to check around their vehicles for young children before pulling out of a driveway or parking space.

Health Status by Race and Ethnicity Report Published

May 2005 - The Health Status by Race and Ethnicity report portrays important health disparities by race and ethnicity. The report is intended to serve as a guide for UDOH programs, Utah's Ethnic Health Advisory Committee, and others with an interest in reducing health disparities, so that they may make evidence-based decisions on their priorities and future activities aimed at improving health status in Utah populations. The report can be found on the Web at: <http://health.utah.gov/oph/publications/raceeth05/RaceEth05.htm>

Utah Public Health Laboratory Assists The CDC

May 2005 - In response to an increase in infections at the Clearfield Job Corps, The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) launched a study to determine the carrier rates of infection in members of the Job Corps student body. The Public Health Laboratory, the Office of Epidemiology, and the Davis County Health Department participated, culturing and screening over 600 students for neisseria meningitidis. A follow-up comparison was done on over 100 students at the Weber Basin Job Corps. This event received local media coverage and the results of the study will be published in *Morbidity and Mortality*, a publication of CDC.

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

New Baby Your Baby Health keepsake Hits the Streets

June 1, 2005 - The "New" Baby Your Baby Health Keepsake, with introduction letters from Mrs. Huntsman and Dr. Sundwall, hit the streets June 1. The Keepsake's fresh, new look and information for parents on pregnancy and child care for the first 6 years of life makes it a popular title. The keepsake is given to all pregnant women in Utah free of charge.

Report on Aging in Utah Released by Bureau of Health Promotion

June 7, 2005 – The Bureau of Health Promotion released the report, “Aging and Health in Utah: Implications for Public Health.” The report focuses on chronic diseases, leading causes of death, access to health care, and health-related quality of life issues, among Utahns age 55 and over. The report also includes recommendations to meet the challenges of this growing population. Available on the Web at: http://health.utah.gov/cfhs/bhp/Aging_Report_April05.pdf

Office of Vital Records and Statistics Increases Electronic Birth Records

June 9, 2005 - Births occurring in 1956 have been keyed by the Vital Records data entry staff and are now available for issuance. Birth records now available in electronic format include 1956-1969, and 1975 to present. In addition, Utah county births from 1882-1955, 1960-1961 and 1970-1974 are available.

Bike Law Enforcers Take to Utah Roads to Educate Riders and Motorists

June 9, 2005 - The UDOH has launched a pilot project to teach motorists and bicyclists how to “share the road” safely. Partnering with the Utah Departments of Transportation and Public Safety, UDOH secured grant funds to pay police officers overtime to patrol Utah streets looking for drivers and cyclists who break the law. Each year some 900 Utah cyclists are badly injured and six are killed in crashes with motor vehicles. For the years 1994-2003, Utah ranked highest in the nation for bicyclist deaths.

2004 Health Status Survey Data added to IBIS Query System

June 2005 - The Utah Health Status Survey provides information on a variety of topics related to health status and health care access at statewide and health district levels. The IBIS Query System allows users to query public health data sets directly. Utah Health Status Survey information is intended primarily for public health program managers, administrators, and other health care professionals in the public and private health care sectors, and may also be of interest to anyone wishing to inform themselves on the current health status of Utahns. Access to the new HSS data can be found on the Web at:

http://ibis.health.utah.gov/Query?request=SHOW_SELECTION&name=hss/HSSSelection

Race/Ethnicity Measures Added to Population Estimates on the IBIS Query System

June 2005 - Population estimates are needed to calculate rates for measures of health. Providing population estimates by race and ethnicity will allow IBIS users to further examine the health status among racial and ethnic minorities. Access to the population query module can be found on the Web at:

http://ibis.health.utah.gov/Query?request=SHOW_SELECTION&name=pop/PopSelection

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

2003 PRAMS Data Added to IBIS Query System

June 2005 - PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) is a survey of new mothers asking about their pregnancy and new baby. The IBIS Query System allows users to query public health data sets directly. PRAMS provides data not available from other sources about pregnancy and the first few months after birth. The information can be used to help improve the health of Utah mothers and infants, develop health programs and policies, help health care workers improve care, and make better use of health resources. Access to the new PRAMS data can be found on the Web at:

http://ibis.health.utah.gov/Query?request=SHOW_SELECTION&name=prams/PRAMSSelection

2004 BRFSS Data Added to IBIS Query System

June 2005 - The BRFSS collects uniform, state-specific data on preventive health practices and risk behaviors that are linked to chronic diseases, injuries, and preventable infectious diseases in the adult population. The IBIS Query System allows users to query public health data sets directly. BRFSS data reflect health behaviors determining individual and population risk of major disease, such as heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes. Access to the new BRFSS data can be found on the Web at:

http://ibis.health.utah.gov/Query?request=SHOW_SELECTION&name=brfss/BRFSSSelection

Asthma Pediatric Provider Resource Guide Created

July 1, 2005 – A practical asthma resource guide for providers was created. Tools include practice guidelines, patient education materials, information on clinical assessment, treatment, related issue and problems, frequently asked questions, and ICD-9 codes. The guide was created in partnership with the Utah Collaborative Medical Home Project and is housed at <http://www.medhomeportal.org>. The guide is the first of several asthma-audience specific resource guides planned for providers.

First Time in Three Years, CHIP Opens for Extended Enrollment

July 1, 2005 – For the first time since 2002, the Utah State Legislature provided additional funds to open Utah’s Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for a longer, more sustainable period. The increased funding allows an average of 40,000 Utah children to be insured through CHIP, putting a dent in Utah children’s uninsured population of 66,800.

Health Data Committee Releases “Prescription Drug Usage in Utah, 2003” Report

July 2005 – The Utah Health Data Committee released a landmark report, “Prescription Drug Usage in Utah, 2003,” to help improve the health of Utahns by making sure prescription drugs are used appropriately. The report was based on pharmacy claims of nearly one million Utah residents, voluntarily submitted by four major health plans. Implemented as part of a statewide initiative, the claims data establishes a statewide baseline of prescription drug use in 10 important areas, seven of which are related to chronic diseases like diabetes and asthma, and three focused on the use of antibiotics, generic drugs, and pain medications. A copy of the report can be found at <http://health.utah.gov/hda/pharmacy/RxIndicators2003.pdf>

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

New Fetal Mortality Data Added to IBIS Query System

July 2005 – Fetal death data has been added to the IBIS-Q query system. Data are obtained from the Utah Fetal Death Certificate database. The UDOH, Office of Vital Records and Statistics, maintains the database. Fetal death certificates are required to be filed with the State Registrar of Vital Statistics for all stillbirths that are 21 weeks gestation or greater.

UDOH Prepares for Changes to Medicare Part D

July-September 2005 – The Bureau of Eligibility Services informed enrollees of both Medicaid and Medicare of changes to their pharmacy plan effective January 2006. Enhancements to PACMIS were finished to assist workers in managing new Medicare enrollees. Health Care Financing trained community groups, elected officials, and UDOH employees in the new program.

Utah's Primary Care Network Receives National Attention

August 7, 2005 – Heidi Weaver, Program Manager of Primary Care Network (PCN), presented an overview of PCN at the National Academy for State Health Policy conference in Tennessee. Utah's PCN was featured for its one-of-a-kind waiver program that provides modest health insurance to low-income adults who otherwise are not covered by Medicaid.

Baby Your Baby Nominated for Emmy

August 19, 2005 - Baby Your Baby's "Healthy, Happy Babies" campaign was nominated for a Rocky Mountain Emmy. The Baby Your Baby program was among the top four finalists chosen to compete for this coveted award. The "Healthy, Happy Babies" campaign addresses the message of "Go before the 13th week; get 13 visits." The primary goal of the campaign is to encourage women of childbearing age to seek prenatal care early and often in pregnancy. A secondary goal is to educate the general public on the importance of prenatal care and the connection between healthy babies and happy babies.

Department of Health Creates Online Reminder Service for Children's Immunizations

August 22, 2005 – The Utah Immunization Program launched a new electronic immunization reminder service that will automatically remind enrolled parents when their children's immunizations are due. The immunization reminder service is an online, computer-based program that generates an e-mail message to enrolled parents describing which immunizations are recommended for children two months through one year of age. It is based on a child's birth date and is strictly voluntary. Parents can register at www.immunize-utah.org to receive email reminders about their children's vaccinations by providing a child's birth date and a current email address.

IBIS Wins a Silver Medal in the WWW Health Awards Competition

August 2005 – IBIS-PH won a silver medal at the World Wide Web Health awards. The program recognizes the best health-related Web sites for consumers and professionals. IBIS-PH provides information on the health status of Utahns, the state of the health care system, and Utah public health activities. You can access published reports, indicator profiles, and query health data directly at <http://ibis.health.utah.gov/>.

Asthma Fact Sheets Available in English and Spanish

September 1, 2005 – Handouts were designed to provide school nurses and pediatricians useful and accurate information for parents of children with asthma. Fact sheet titles include Asthma Facts, Myths and Facts, 10 Steps to Making Homes More Asthma Friendly, and Secondhand

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

Smoke and Asthma. Handouts are available on the Asthma Program Web site at <http://www.health.utah.gov/asthma/> in PDF format.

UCAN Promotes Prostate Cancer Awareness

September 6, 2005 – The Utah Cancer Action Network (UCAN) promoted September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month by publicizing the importance of early detection. Prostate cancer continues to be the second leading cause of cancer death among Utah men. During the month of September, a number of health care providers throughout the state offered free screening for prostate cancer. UCAN assisted their efforts by running the television and print prostate ads and promoting the free screenings on their Web site. During September, screening schedule flyers were downloaded more than 400 times from the UCAN Web site and the health resource line received more than 60 calls for more information.

UDOH Urges Drivers, Pedestrians to Be Safe in School Zones

September 7, 2005 - September is Green Ribbon Month, an annual safety initiative designed to reduce pedestrian deaths and injuries in Utah. UDOH data show that an average of 1,100 Utah pedestrians are struck by motor vehicles and 40 are killed every year. The Green Ribbon program asks drivers and walkers to sign safety pledge forms. Students promise to walk only on sidewalks whenever they're available, and to cross only at crosswalks and intersections. Drivers sign pledges and tie green ribbons on their cars, promising to drive five miles under posted speed limits in school zones and neighborhoods.

Utah Receives CDC Violence and Injury Prevention Funding

September 20, 2005 - The UDOH received a financial boost in its efforts to reduce the number of Utahns who die from violence and injury. The Department's Violence and Injury Prevention Program was awarded \$220,000 from the CDC to support its prevention efforts. The funding will help Utah strengthen programs and activities and enhance the state's injury tracking capabilities.

Asthma Hospitalization Report Released

September 25, 2005 – The descriptive analysis of 2003 Utah hospitalizations due to asthma highlights the cost impact of asthma hospitalizations. The report focuses on inpatient hospitalizations that resulted in a discharge and, as a result, do not include emergency room visits due to asthma. Data on hospitalizations were obtained from the Hospital Discharge Database housed at the UDOH.

Interagency Agreement Benefits Families with Children Birth to Age Three

September 30, 2005 - The UDOH Baby Watch Early Intervention Program (BWEIP) and the Utah Department of Human Services Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) signed an interagency agreement regarding screening for developmental delay for all children birth to age three under investigation of abuse and neglect. A joint training has been developed between the two agencies to train Child Protective Service workers in screening protocols and the process of referring infants and toddlers for Early Intervention services.

2004 SMART BRFSS Data Available

September 2005 – 2004 SMART (Selected Metropolitan/Micropolitan Area Risk Trends) data of an analysis of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) for the Salt Lake City, Ogden-Clearfield, and Provo-Orem statistical areas are available at www.cdc.gov/brfss. This special analysis has been underway at the CDC, starting with the 2002 data. Prevalence

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

estimates have been produced for Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Areas (MMSAs) throughout the country.

Utah Business Magazine Spotlights Director of the Office of Public Health Assessment

September 2005 - Lois Haggard, director of the Office of Public Health Assessment, was spotlighted in the September issue of Utah Business Magazine for her work in "collecting vast amounts of data, organizing it, analyzing it and presenting it in a palatable form that can be understood by all." Lois may be best known for her work on the nationally recognized system called IBIS-PH, Utah's indicator-based information system for public health.

Medicaid Helps Hurricane Katrina Evacuees

September 2005 - Medicaid helped evacuees from the affected area of Hurricane Katrina by providing medical coverage. Through federal executive order, Utah enrolled 805 people into Medicaid.

UDOH Awards Family Dental Plan Grant

September 2005 - The UDOH awarded \$45,000 to Family Dental Plan's (FDP) Community Partnered Mobile Dental Services (CPMDS). This award enables FDP to continue to provide future mobile dental services to residents of several rural Utah communities. The program produces measurable reductions in dental disease, especially in children. CPMDS equipment was recently used to provide dental services for Hurricane Katrina evacuees to Utah.

UDOH Emergency Medical Services Helps Hurricane Katrina Evacuees

September 2005 - The UDOH Bureau of EMS immediately activated its emergency response plan to assist Hurricane Katrina evacuees arriving in Utah. EMS mobilized and staffed the UDOH Emergency Control Center (ECC) 24/7, and coordinated the mobilization of Utah paramedics to New Orleans, in conjunction with implementing and mobilizing a triage medical assessment to all evacuees arriving by plane in Utah. EMS also assisted in the state Emergency Operations Center at Camp Williams by coordinating medical issues with hospital representatives and state agencies in mobilizing and operating the Camp Williams medical clinic for the evacuees.

Medicaid Managed Health Care Updates “Exploring Medicaid” Booklet

September 2005 – Medicaid Managed Health Care produces a booklet for Medicaid client education. The booklet, Exploring Medicaid, has been revised and combined into one book in English and one in Spanish for statewide use, from the English and Spanish Wasatch Front and rural booklets. This combination provides information to Medicaid clients on Medicaid benefits, how to properly use their Medicaid card as well as informing the client about their responsibilities. The new version of Exploring Medicaid is available at <http://health.utah.gov/medicaid/pdfs/explore.pdf>

2003-2004 Utah Health Status Survey Local Health District Overview Report Published

September 2005 - The Health Status Survey Local Health District Overview Report provides information on 18 health measures from the 2003–2004 Utah Health Status Survey, plus a section comparing age-adjusted and crude rates of these same 18 health measures. The measures represent most of the topics covered in the 2003–2004 survey. The report is available at http://health.utah.gov/oph/publications/2003hss/lhd/2003-4HSS_LHD_Overview.htm

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts Receive AEDs

September 2005 - The UDOH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services provided two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to the Great Salt Lake Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts of Utah. The two lifesaving AEDs will be placed at the Steiner Boy Scout Camp and Cloud Rim Girl Scout Camp. In addition, the UDOH has made AEDs available to rural communities through a federal grant program.

High School First-Responder Training Program Under Development

September 2005 - A new curriculum is being written for high school training programs. It will include training on preventing injury and illness, responding to emergencies, airway problems, breathing problems, circulatory problems, bleeding problems, cardiovascular shock, head and spine injuries, burn injuries, poisoning emergencies, and environmental emergencies. The Bureau entered into a memo of understanding with the State Office of Education to make the new curriculum available to all high schools through their health classes.

Chronic Disease Genomics Added to Utah State Genetics Plan

October 3, 2005 – The Chronic Disease Genomics Standing Committee of the Utah Genetics Advisory Committee (GAC) completed their work plan and presented it to the GAC for approval. The GAC strongly endorsed the proposed work plan, which will become a part of the Utah State Genetics Plan. The work plan focuses on genetic applications to chronic disease prevention.

Tobacco Prevention and Control Program Launches 2006 School Jamz with "The TRUTH Bash

October 8, 2005 - The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program partnered with local radio station U92 to invite Utah's middle, junior, and high school students to "The TRUTH Bash" to launch the 2006 School Jamz Competition. Youth were invited to "bash" tobacco by taking swings with sledgehammers and baseball bats at an old car painted with messaging about tobacco. School Jamz invites students to create, organize, and execute their own anti-tobacco activities.

UDOH Helps Apartments and Condos Go Smoke Free With New Online Guide

October 11, 2005 - The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program launched the Utah Smoke-Free Apartment and Condominium Guide, an online resource designed to promote smoke-free housing in Utah. The Utah Smoke-Free Apartment and Condominium Guide includes useful tools for managers and owners to help create smoke-free environments. The Web site also provides tenants with information about the health effects of secondhand smoke, ways to reduce exposure, tips on what one should know before renting, and how to resolve problems. The guide also contains a statewide directory of properties that provide smoke-free environments.

"Utah Clicks" Provides One-Stop Application Process for Utah Families

October 12, 2005 – Utahns wanting to apply for multiple state programs may now do so through the Internet using a new web-based system called "Utah Clicks." It is available online at www.utahclicks.org. This system allows an individual to complete one application form and then provides immediate feedback about which services the person, or their family, may be eligible for. Currently, a user can make application for Medicaid, Baby Your Baby, Baby Watch/Early Intervention, and Children with Special Health Care Needs programs. The application is forwarded electronically to the appropriate agency for completion of the process. In the future, Women, Infants and Children's Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) and the Children's

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

Health Insurance Program (CHIP) will be added to the system. Utah Clicks was developed by Utah State University's Early Intervention Research Institute under contract from UDOH and involved collaboration between the Division of Community and Family Health Services and the Division of Health Care Financing.

Providing Continuing Education Credits Is Now a Bureau Effort

October 13, 2005 - The Bureau of Health Promotion is now an approved provider of continuing education for nursing and dietetics. Prior to this date, the Diabetes Program has been the sole provider. Approval was obtained from the Utah Nurses Association and the Commission on Dietetic Registration. This change benefits the Bureau and its partners who serve the public by making professional development opportunities available for developing skills and competency in public health programs.

Department of Health Launches Flu Vaccine Locator for the 2005-06 Influenza Season

October 17, 2005 – The Utah Immunization Program launched a new online tool that allowed Utahns to search statewide for vaccine clinics by selecting the county and dates most convenient for them. The Flu Vaccine Locator was posted on the Immunization Program Web site through the peak of the flu season to provide helpful information such as vaccine costs, types of insurance accepted, such as Medicare or private insurances, ages served, and what other vaccines are available.

Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program Launches TV Ads

October 17, 2005— A series of three advertisements for the “Stroke: It’s a Time Bomb” Campaign was released for airing on Channels 2, 4, and 5 through May 2006. The ads urge viewers to learn the signs and symptoms of stroke and to call 9-1-1 the moment they recognize a stroke. In line with the campaign, UDOH also printed 7,000 stroke brochures with magnets on the bag with the signs of stroke. An actual hourglass with a brain and sand to pour through to demonstrate brain cells draining away during a stroke was produced to be used for health fairs.

Genetics Experts Meet with Utah Department of Health

October 25, 2005 – At the request of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) at the National Institutes of Health, a meeting was held with NHGRI, UDOH, and University of Utah leadership to discuss the Utah Health Family Tree project and other family health history related activities. The benefits of using family history to assess disease risk were also discussed. The NHGRI heartedly endorsed the Utah Health Family Tree project and UDOH family health history activities.

Diabetes Foot Care Launches Campaign

October 27, 2005 – The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP) kicked-off a foot care campaign targeting people with diabetes with a press event at the Salt Lake City Office of Scott Clark, DPM. The campaign included English television and Spanish radio and television PSAs, electronic billboard ads, newspaper ads, and a Web site link on KSL.com. Diabetes accounts for over 60 percent of non-traumatic lower extremity amputations in the United States. As a result of the campaign, the DPCP website www.health.utah.gov/diabetes/ received a 75-100 percent increase in Web hits and unique visitors.

Baby Your Baby Wins Awards

October 28, 2005 - The Baby Your Baby "Healthy Happy Babies" campaign won a "gold" award for Best Multi-faceted Public Service Campaign. The Baby Your Baby "Mind Your

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

Mouth" PSA for the Oral Health program won a "silver" award for Best Public Service Announcement.

Practice Guidelines for Hyperglycemia Management for Inpatients Available on the Web

October 2005 – The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program added Section 3 of the Utah Diabetes Practice Guidelines to its Web site. The guidelines are provided to help hospitals and nursing staff improve management of hyperglycemia in both diabetic patients as well as non-diabetic patients who experience stress-induced hyperglycemia. Patients who develop this condition suffer a mortality rate of up to 18 times that of non-hyperglycemic patients. The recommendations are available on the Utah Diabetes Prevention and Control Program Web site at www.health.utah.gov/diabetes/diabetespractice_recommendation/udpr.htm.

Utah Completes 2005 West Nile Virus Surveillance and Prevention Activities

October 2005 - From April-October 2005, the Bureau of Epidemiology coordinated surveillance and prevention activities for the 2005 West Nile virus (WNV) season. To date, 2005 was the most serious WNV season in Utah, with activity detected in mosquitoes, sentinel chickens, wild birds, horses, and/or humans in most areas of the state. Extensive coordinated prevention efforts conducted with Utah's 12 local health departments limited the impact of WNV on horses (through promoting vaccination) and humans (through promoting prevention strategies using billboards, radio ads, flyers, etc.) Collaboration with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, Utah Public Health Laboratory, Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Utah Mosquito Abatement Districts, and Utah's 12 local health departments allowed for efficient detection of activity and provided an opportunity to direct emphasis on prevention and control activities based on distribution of detected activity.

Epidemiology Implements Revised Influenza Surveillance System

October 2005 - The Bureau of Epidemiology implemented a revised influenza surveillance system to improve tracking and characterization of influenza activity in Utah. Reporting requirements changed from requiring report of all laboratory-confirmed influenza cases to requiring report of hospitalized cases and influenza-associated pediatric deaths only, decreasing the reporting burden on community providers while emphasizing report and investigation of the most severe cases. Emphasis was placed on requesting testing for these cases to allow for better characterization of circulating viruses. In addition, improvements in sentinel surveillance for influenza-like illness and student absenteeism were made. These modifications will continue to allow for a sustainable, comprehensive surveillance system that is less burdensome for providers.

Assistance for Persons with Bleeding Disorders Program Launched

October 2005 - The UDOH awarded the Utah Hemophilia Foundation \$250,000 in new grant funding in order to assist persons with bleeding disorders with the cost of obtaining hemophilia services or the cost of insurance premiums for coverage of hemophilia services. Utah State Representative David Litvack sponsored House Bill 33, Assistance for People with Bleeding Disorders, during the 2005 Legislative Session. The Utah Hemophilia Foundation expects to provide funding to up to 50 individuals who meet the criteria.

State Primary Care Grants Program Awards Funding

October 2005 - The Utah Department of Health has awarded local health agencies \$959,200 in grants to increase their capacity to provide primary health care to medically underserved individuals not eligible for CHIP, Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance or the Primary Care Network. Thirty projects were funded, of which 19 were rural.

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

Radio Campaign for Adults with Asthma

October-November 2005 – The Utah Asthma Task Force, in collaboration with the UDOH Asthma Program, began a radio campaign in October geared at adults. The radio ads were to reach adults living with asthma symptoms and teach that asthma can be controlled and symptoms reduced. The radio campaign will also run from March-May 2006. Materials and additional information are available at <http://www.health.utah.gov/asthma/adultproject.html>.

Health Plans Promote Use of Diabetes Self-Management Education

October 2005 - September 2006 – The Utah Diabetes Partnership, a cooperative quality improvement effort of six Utah health plans, HealthInsight and the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, began a 12-month effort to promote the use of diabetes self-management education (DSME) among their members with diabetes. An article was published in the November-December Utah Medical Association’s Bulletin emphasizing the benefits of DSME, with a perforated tear-out list of approved programs. DSME providers were surveyed to assess barriers, reimbursement, coding, teaching availability, staffing and outcomes measures. The health plans have collected claims data to assess the volume of patients receiving DSME in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the campaign. Health plans are also reviewing their internal policies regarding the DSME benefit to assess the barriers they impose that may impede patient access to this important diabetes management tool.

“Make Family Health History a Tradition” During the Holiday Season

November 1, 2005 – To promote the importance of knowing one’s family health history, the UDOH Chronic Disease Genomics Program teamed together with genealogists, genetic counselors, aging services, and other health professionals to launch the “Make Family Health History a Tradition” project over the Thanksgiving holiday. The public was invited to participate in free classes at the Family History Library and senior centers as well as order a free Family Health History Toolkit. Media promotion included TV and radio segments, newspaper and magazine articles, and Web site materials. More than 3,000 toolkits have been ordered.

Domestic Violence Claims a Life Every 21 Days

November 10, 2005 - Every 21 days, a Utah man or woman is murdered as the result of a domestic dispute. A UDOH report shows that, from 2000 to 2002, 53 adults were shot, stabbed, strangled, or beaten to death in connection with a current or past domestic relationship. Of the 53 victims, 34 were killed by current or former spouses or intimate partners, 8 were killed by other family members, 1 was an innocent bystander and 3 were killed by police called to intervene in a domestic dispute. The other 11 included parents, friends or unrelated third parties in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Utah Department of Health Addresses Utah’s Low Rates at Immunization Summit

November 22, 2005 - In response to Utah’s ranking at 49th in the nation for the number of two-year-olds fully immunized, an Immunization Summit was held under the direction of David N. Sundwall, MD, Executive Director of the UDOH. The Summit brought together public and private health care providers, health plan representatives, community agencies, and other stakeholders to make recommendations and discuss strategies to increase Utah’s low childhood immunization levels.

Primary Care Network Enrollment Opens After More Than a Year

November 28, 2005 - After waiting for more than a year, the Primary Care Network (PCN) opened for a two-week enrollment period ending December 9, 2005. This time, enrollment was

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

not limited to only parents. PCN opened its doors to all qualified adults age 19-64. Approximately 13,370 applications were processed during that time, bringing the total enrollment up to 17,225 adults.

Brochures Created to Encourage Utahns to Track Their Miles Walked on UtahWalks.org November 2005 - Approximately 5,000 Utah Walks brochures were designed and printed to explain the uses and benefits of utahwalks.org as well as offer a list of activities that are equivalent to one mile of walking. The brochures are distributed for secondary prevention efforts.

5 A Day Program Receives \$1 Million Dollars for Fruits and Veggies Snack Program November 2005— The Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program and its 5 A Day Association, in partnership with the State Office of Education (USOE), was granted \$1 million to be used in 25 of Utah's schools for a fruits and veggies snack pilot program. 5 A Day and USOE then began deciding which schools would receive the snacks. They must measure progress along the way in order to continue receiving grant monies.

Utah Public Health Outcome Measures Report Published November 2005 - The Utah Department of Health's Public Health Outcome Measures Report is intended to provide easy access to information about Utah's priority public health objectives. The online report format allows programs across the department to update the report as soon as new data and information become available. At the bottom of each page of the report, readers will find a date that indicates when the information was last updated. The report is available at <http://ibis.health.utah.gov/phom/introduction.html>

Utah Releases Pandemic Influenza Plan November 2005 - The Utah Pandemic Influenza Plan was released to partners and placed on the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) Web site. This document was prepared by the Pandemic Influenza Planning Committee, which included representation from the UDOH, Utah's 12 local Health departments, and several community organizations. The document describes the history and risks associated with pandemic influenza, goals of the plan, and activities expected for different phases of a pandemic, and also outlines next steps for the continued planning process.

Phase II of Hawthorne Health Study Begins December 1, 2005 – The Hawthorne Health Study Phase II officially started December 1, 2005 at Hawthorne Elementary in Salt Lake City School District. The second phase of the project is studying the effects of air quality on children's health by measuring indoor/outdoor air quality and conducting pulmonary testing on students. The study is expected to provide additional scientific support for air quality guidance released September 2004 to assist school administrators and parents in determining when it is better for children to be indoors.

Public Invited to Enjoy a Breath of Fresh Air at Smoke-Free Park City Day December 2, 2005 - The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program invited the public to Park City Main Street for a breath of fresh air as they embarked on a walking tour of smoke-free establishments with health experts, ex-smokers, and their families and friends. Several businesses went smoke free for part or all of the evening, and Park City Mayor Dana Williams declared December 2 as Smoke-Free Park City Day.

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

Utah Child Safety Coalition Named Best in United States

December 7, 2005 - Of the more than 300 state and local Safe Kids coalitions throughout the United States, Safe Kids Davis County was recognized as Coalition of the Year for 2005. Safe Kids Davis County was organized in 1995 with the goal of saving children's lives by reducing unintentional childhood injuries. The group's primary areas of focus are home and vehicle safety, drowning prevention and bicycle and skateboard injury prevention. Since the coalition's inception, the rate of injury hospitalizations among Utah children ages birth to 14 has fallen from 12 per 100,000 children to seven per 100,000.

UDOH Releases Small Area Obesity Maps

December 8, 2005 - Using four years of survey data, UDOH released maps detailing the obesity rates for designated small areas throughout the state. The findings reported extreme differences between one small area and another. When census data was used to evaluate the maps, only women with a college degree and age were statistically related to the differences between areas. UDOH related urban sprawl as a possible cause of areas such as American Fork being more obese than areas such as the Avenues and concluded that there was something else going on in these communities that should be looked at a bit closer.

Utah Shows Dramatic Improvement in Adequacy of Prenatal Care

December 12, 2005 - According to the United Health Foundation state rankings report, Utah has dramatically improved in the area of early and adequate prenatal care, moving from 49th to 24th place. The report indicates that 76.9 percent of women received adequate prenatal care in Utah based on birth certificate data, a 26 percent increase from the adequate rate (60.9 percent) in the 2004 report. The Baby Your Baby program has worked diligently to improve the rate, with the campaign reminding women to get their first prenatal visit before 13 weeks and have 13 visits during their pregnancy.

Health Care Statistics Releases Hospital Comparison Report and Consumer Web Site

December 13, 2005 - The Office of Health Care Statistics (OHCS) released two new tools to help consumers make the right health care choices for themselves and their families. The Utah Hospital Comparison Report for Maternity and Newborns compares Utah's hospitals in maternity care based on charges, quality and patient safety. A new consumer-friendly Web site, MyHealthCare in Utah, assists consumers with their health care decisions. OHCS expects to release several more hospital comparison reports in 2006, which will address areas such as heart conditions, common elective surgeries and pneumonia. Both tools can be accessed at <http://health.utah.gov/myhealthcare>.

Phoenix Alliance Launches Initiative by Putting a "Face" on the Effects of Tobacco Use

December 17, 2005 - The Phoenix Alliance, Utah's youth anti-tobacco advocacy group, silenced themselves by placing duct tape across their mouths to represent the hundreds of Utahns who are annually "silenced" or killed by a tobacco-related illness to kick-off the 2005-2006 Phoenix Alliance statewide initiative. The event showed the impact tobacco use has in the United States. During the event, youth changed numbers on a board every 72 seconds, representing the number of people who die every day from tobacco-related disease. Next to the board, the Phoenix Alliance invited the public to share their personal stories of people "missing" in their lives because of tobacco, or how tobacco use has negatively impacted their lives.

Utah Department of Health – 2005 Milestones

More Kids on CHIP Than Ever Before

December 31, 2005 - Enrollment numbers for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) reached an all time high of 34,043 children. CHIP enrollment is following expectations of steady growth since the program opened for extended enrollment in July 2005. Since that time, CHIP has given medical, mental, and dental services to an additional 13,731 children.

Summit Meeting of Utah's Safety Net Providers Held

December 2005 - The UDOH held the first of three planned meetings of Utah's Safety Net Providers. The first meeting included discussion on who the Safety Net Providers are, what underserved populations are being served by those providers, and a decision that the safety net providers will participate in a shared data collection effort over the coming year, to determine the extent of critical services being provided in the state, and where there may be gaps in these services.

Diabetes Education Manuals Released in Arabic and Portuguese

December 2005 - Ann Marie Brooks, a partner of the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program and certified diabetes educator, developed easy reading and culturally sensitive education manuals targeting ethnic populations. The release of these manuals brings the total number of languages for the manuals to 11. Education manuals were already available in English, Farsi, Korean, Russian, Samoan, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, Tongan, and Vietnamese. Visit <http://www.health.utah.gov/diabetes/resourcesmain/edmulticultmanuals.htm>