



PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Memorandum for: Louisville Metro Board of Health

From: Connie Mendel, Interim Chief Health Strategist

Subject: July Director's Report - Trends and Insights from 6/1/23 - 6/30/23

- **Prenatal lead testing pilot project.** The pilot launching in July is a collaboration of LMPHW's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and Laboratory, March of Dimes, Family Health Centers (FHC), and the University of Louisville School of Public Health and Information Sciences. Lead testing will become a standard practice at initial prenatal visits at all FHC OBGYN offices, with the goals of creating an evidence base for routine testing of all pregnant people and protecting children from lead exposure during pregnancy and breastfeeding.
- **Emergency preparedness digital library.** The new [digital library](#) on our website offers information on a variety of preparedness topics to help people plan and prepare for public health emergencies. All posted materials have been translated into the 10 most common languages spoken in Louisville Metro, one of their many efforts to operationalize equity.
- **Laboratory recertification.** LMPHW's Lab passed its recent compliance inspection with exemplary reviews. Specifically, the Lab was commended for its level of documentation and commitment to quality. This is a biannual requirement to certify compliance with the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA).
- **Senior Medicare Patrol grant renewal and expansion.** [Senior Medicare Patrol](#) (SMP) was awarded funds through 2028 to continue managing the statewide program to help Medicare beneficiaries as well as their families and caregivers who have questions about billing issues or believe they may be a victim of healthcare fraud or scams. The new grant will focus on strengthening volunteer and program management and evaluating the efficacy of diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. SMP also received an increase of \$50,000 for this fiscal year to expand resources for Medicare beneficiaries and sub-grantees.



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- **Operating budget.** Metro Council approved an amended version of the mayor's proposed fiscal year 24 budget. LMPHW is waiting to receive a complete breakdown to confirm department impacts. Some services previously funded by the American Rescue Plan ended on 6/30.
- **Immunization clinic extended hours.** Starting 7/11/23 the [Newburg Clinic](#) will offer additional appointments after normal operating times to create more patient care access. The clinic will be open on Tuesdays until 7:00 pm for the next six weeks to help kids get caught up on [recommended vaccines](#) during back-to-school season.
- **Harm Reduction Outreach Services location changes.** As of 7/15/23 services will no longer be offered at the Social Practice Lab location. Starting 7/24/23 operations at the Gray Street location will increase to five days a week to help meet the needs of participants. Services will continue to be available at nine additional [locations in the community](#).



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