

Old Meets New, Holdrege NE



Photo by: Akaela Lieth



July
2024

The Archway, Kearney NE

River Platte, Kearney Co.



Photo by: Katie Mulligan

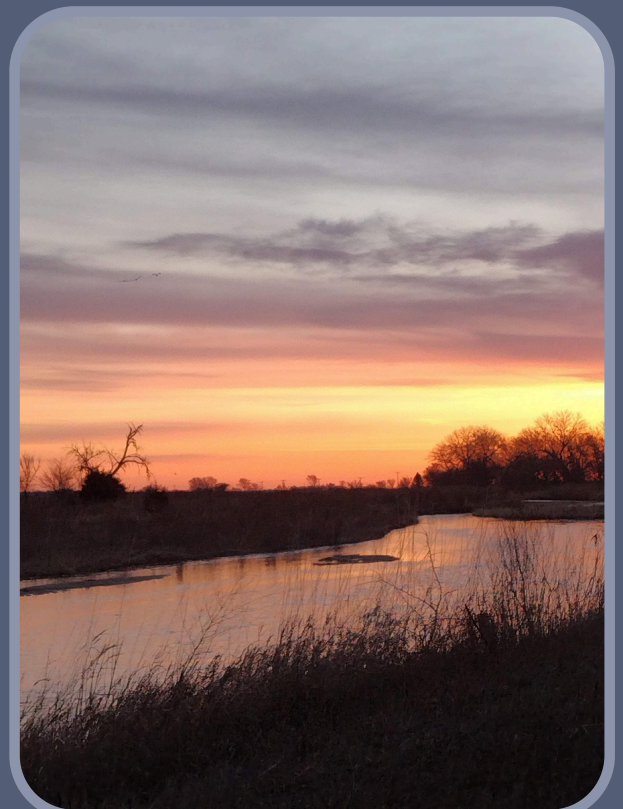
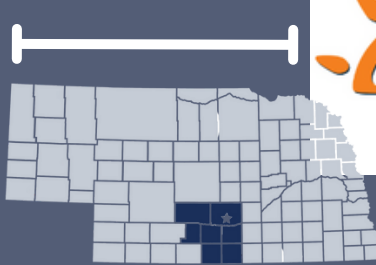


Photo by: Anonyms



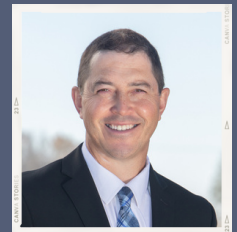
We Have YOUR Input!

Community Health Assessment

Two Rivers Public Health Department is releasing a comprehensive survey designed to gather valuable insights from our esteemed community members. The goal of this survey will be available to better understand and address the health needs in our community.

A community health assessment (CHA) is a systematic process used to evaluate the health needs, resources, and challenges within a specific community. The goal is to identify key health issues, understand the factors contributing to those issues, and develop strategies to address them. Two Rivers recently released a survey so community members could tell us in their own words what health concerns they have.

"Our community members' input is instrumental in our continuous pursuit of excellence, and we are immensely thankful for their participation in the survey," stated Jeremy Eschlman, Health Director. "Community feedback serves as the compass guiding our efforts to prioritize addressing the health needs of our community."



LifeSmiles at NACCHO

Jeremy Eschlman, Health Director, and Jacki Haley, Clinical Section Manager, attended the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) annual conference in Detroit. TRPHD was invited to present a poster on our LifeSmiles program, where we provided an overview of its purpose, implementation, and impact. TRPHD emphasized the unique aspects of our approach and highlighted how it stands out among the few similar programs offered by others.

LifeSmiles Dental Program: Early Intervention in Minority Populations

Who We Serve

County	Total Population	White/Non-Hispanic	Hispanic
Buffalo	50,084	42,108	7,976
Dawson	24,111	13,529	10,582
Franklin	2,889	2,741	148
Gosper	1,893	1,746	147
Harlan	3,073	2,907	166
Kearney	6,688	6,061	627
Phelps	8,968	8,140	828

What We Do: The dental team provide:

- Basic Screenings
- Dental Education
- Early Childhood Dental Starter kits
- Fluoride treatments
- Tooth sealants
- Silver Diamine Fluoride Treatments
- Dental Health Guidance for Parents of Newborns

Why We Do It:

- In Nebraska, 52 of 93 counties have a shortage of dental care facilities and at least 20 counties lack full-time dentists.
- The TRPHD district has 34 general dental clinics and 10 specialty clinics in 5 counties
 - Franklin and Gosper Counties do not have clinics
- Good oral health leads to better whole body health

How We Do It: Provide preventive dental services through:

- Preschools
- Head Start
- Schools
- WIC clinics

Educations go out over social Media in multiple languages.

Dental staff go onto local News/Radio stations to talk about dental health and the LifeSmiles Program!

Logos for NTV abc, NRG MEDIA, KUVR 1380 AM 96.9 FM, and Community Action of Mid-Nebaska are included.



Meet our new Employees

We recently welcomed Taylor Gomez as TRPHD's Community Health Section Manager. She was born and raised in Gibbon Nebraska where she fostered a love for her community and now raises her family there.

Taylor's experience as a Youth Case Manager at YRTC-Geneva, District 9 Juvenile Probation, and Boys Town as a Foster Care Consultant, has given her a unique perspective that will only help Two Rivers grow in its capacity to help those in our communities.

She has a passion for helping others and she saw how TRPHD does that and felt this would be a great fit for her. Taylor looks forward to helping people find resources, provide support to them, and being apart of a welcoming team.

Left: Alexia Klauz-Rohde, Right: Taylor Gomez



Alexia, better known as Lexi by her coworkers, Klauz-Rohde joins Two Rivers as a Community Health Worker. Her work as both a receptionist and an infant dental assistant at a pediatric dental office makes her qualified to work as our dental program's envoy.

Her interest in the dental field led her to Two Rivers. During Lexi's time at the pediatric office, she gained valuable experience and knowledge about the significance of oral hygiene for children and people of all ages. She strives to support families in need, engage with schools, and make dental appointments a positive experience for kids.

Given the current challenges with dental offices not accepting Medicaid or treating certain age groups, she is passionate about spreading awareness and improving access to dental care.

Join Our Team!

TRPHD.NE.GOV

WE ARE HIRING

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Find out more on our website!

Send in your application & resume to:

orders@trphd.ne.gov

Two Rivers Public Health Department wants you to join our team! We are looking for an Administrative Assistant, a pivotal role within an organization, responsible for supporting the smooth operation of office functions. This role involves a variety of tasks such as managing correspondence, scheduling meetings and appointments, maintaining filing systems, and handling phone calls. This role will serve as the first point of contact for clients and visitors, providing a professional and welcoming presence. Adaptability and problem-solving abilities are also important. Overall, this position is crucial for ensuring the day-to-day efficiency and effectiveness of an office environment.



Community Events

AMTRAK Ribbon Cutting in Holdrege

Amtrak celebrated completion of a \$5 million upgrade project at the George Holdrege station! Customers at Holdrege use concrete platforms adjacent to the historic 1910 Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad (CB&Q) depot, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Working with the city, Amtrak advanced a series of accessibility improvements. Updates included construction of platforms and crossings for boarding from both tracks in Holdrege. Work crews also installed a new, heated passenger shelter. Holdrege is listed among America's best small towns and is the county seat.



Nurse Compliance?



Two Rivers Public Health Department has received the Health Department Clinical Services Accreditation

The Compliance Team (TCT), a CMS-approved national healthcare accreditation organization, announced that Two River Public Health Department in Kearney, Nebraska has received Exemplary Provider status after completing TCT's Health Department Clinical Services Accreditation program. Completion of this accreditation program distinguishes the clinic for its exceptional in-patient care and quality improvement and identifies to the community it has demonstrated outstanding operational patient care practice and met or exceeded the highest standards of healthcare delivery.





Its County Fair Season!

Did you See us?

While everyone needs a little sun exposure to get that ever important Vitamin D, unprotected exposure can cause serious damage! Sunburns and excessive UV exposure can damage the skin in ways that can lead to skin cancer.

Stay Safe!

- Apply sunscreen and wear a hat.
- Wear closed toe shoes to protect your feet.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Wash your hands often, especially after petting or working with animals.
- Keep a close watch on children. Have children stay in one place, if lost.
- Don't board a ride that looks unsafe for any reason.
- Eat fair food at the fair. The hot temperatures allow germs to grow quickly.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Walk with others, especially after dark.

Food and Animal Safety!

- Don't eat or drink around animals, and keep food and drinks away from animal areas.
- Don't share your food with the animals, even if you think the food is part of the animal's regular diet. Animals should eat the food provided for them by the animal exhibit.
- Find where the handwashing stations are located.
- Wash your hands right after touching animals or anything in the areas where they live, roam, or eat.
- Wash your hands when you leave animal areas, even if you didn't touch the animals; hands should still be washed if you wore gloves.



What does the Health Department have to do with County Fairs?

Every year, many people get sick after visiting an animal exhibit. Children 5 years of age and younger, people with weakened immune systems, and adults over 65 years of age are more likely to get sick from the germs animals can carry, and should take extra precautions at animal exhibits.

Prevention is an important component of public health, and educating how best to avoid illnesses, especially those acquired at your local fair, is a key to staying healthy.



Fun Health Fact of the Month.



You may lose 3% of your body weight in fluids before you feel thirsty. Keep that in mind while your out and about in the Summer Heat!

