



ADAMS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

RESOLUTION APPROVING POLICY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY PURSUANT TO ADAMS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT POLICY REGARDING ENGAGEMENT IN POLICY AT FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

Resolution No. 2024-003

WHEREAS, Pursuant to C.R.S. §25-1-506, local public health agencies, including Adams County Health Department (“ACHD”), have the duty to advise their Board of Health on public policy issues necessary to protect public health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to C.R.S. §25-1-508, Boards of Health, including the Adams County Board of Health, have the duty to develop and promote the public policies needed to secure the conditions necessary for a healthy community, and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to 6 C.C.R. 1014-7, such public health policies must be aimed at eliminating health disparities, reducing death and disability, preventing chronic diseases and injuries, promoting behavioral health, addressing the root causes of poor health outcomes, advancing health equity, and improving environmental quality and health outcomes for all people; and

WHEREAS, On November 16, 2023, pursuant to said statutes and regulations, the Adams County Board of Health approved Resolution No. 2023-003, Adopting Internal Policy Regarding Adams County Health Department Engagement in Policy at Federal, State, and Local Levels of Government; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to this ACHD Policy, ACHD staff have requested Board of Health approval to develop a proposed policy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Adams County Board of Health approves the following policy engagement activity to improve community health and advance health equity for residents of Adams County:

Policy Engagement Activity:

The Development of State Legislation to Increase Required Syphilis Screening During the Prenatal Period in Colorado.

Rationale for Policy Engagement Activity:

1. Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection that is passed along by direct contact with a syphilis sore during sex. If untreated, syphilis progresses to severe infection of the brain, eyes, and other body organs.
2. Congenital syphilis occurs when a mother with syphilis passes the infection to the fetus during pregnancy and can cause miscarriage, stillbirth, severe congenital abnormalities, and death.
3. Colorado has experienced a 900% increase in congenital syphilis cases since 2017 with indications that rates are continuing to rise.

4. Adams County has the third highest syphilis rate among Colorado counties behind only Pueblo and Denver counties.
5. Syphilis, and congenital syphilis, is completely preventable and avoidable if it is caught early through screening and treated with antibiotics.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Gilliam	_____	Aye
Keiling	_____	Aye
Lindemann	_____	Aye
Mahnke	_____	Aye
Winkler	_____	Aye

Board of Health Members

ADOPTED, this 21st day of March, 2024.



Dr. Sheela Mahnke, President
Adams County Board of Health