



Arizona Department of Health Services

2011 Annual Report

Arizona Department of Health Services

Will Humble, Director

Published by

Arizona Department of Health Services

Office of the Director

150 N. 18th Avenue

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

This report is provided as required by ARS 36-137



Office of the Director

150 N. 18th Avenue, Suite 500
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-3247
(602) 542-1025
(602) 542-1062 FAX
azdhs.gov

JANICE K. BREWER, GOVERNOR
WILL HUMBLE, DIRECTOR

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Janice K. Brewer
Governor of Arizona
State Capitol
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

President Steve Pierce
Senate President
Arizona State Senate
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Speaker Andy Tobin
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Brewer, President Pierce, and Speaker Tobin:

In accordance with ARS 36-137, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the Arizona Department of Health Services for the year 2011.

Over the course of last year, the Department continued to work towards streamlining processes, innovating, and becoming a leader in public health nationwide. Our focus continues to be the health of Arizonans.

Rather than issue an annual report that merely summarizes other [agency reports](#), I want to focus on a few of the highlights and provide you with direct links on the ways we serve the citizens of Arizona throughout the year.

In 2011, the Arizona Department of Health Services had many accomplishments.

- Inspected hundreds of [Nursing Homes \(Long-term Care\)](#), [Assisted Living Facilities](#), [Medical Facilities](#), [Behavioral Health Providers](#), and [Child Care centers and homes](#) to make sure that folks are being treated right and have a safe environment.

- Continued the very popular [Empower Pack](#) program for child care centers and homes. Enrollment into this program is close to 90% of our child care licensees, and still growing.
- ADHS launched an important [regulatory reform initiative](#), providing streamlined administrative rules to allow for the integration of primary health and behavioral health services. This integration will allow the private sector the tools they will need to provide better services at reduced costs.
- ADHS spearheaded various long-term projects and advanced existing initiatives to integrate behavioral health and physical health, including the [Quarterly Health Initiatives](#), the At-Risk for Emergency Department Staff online training, and the first [local Forum on Integrated Healthcare](#). Additionally, we launched an [Integrated Physical and Behavioral Health website](#) with collaboration from different areas at ADHS and AHCCCS.
- With incredible internal and external partner collaboration, ADHS implemented the [Medical Marijuana Program](#) within 120 day mandate.
- By opening the new [Forensic Unit](#) at the [State Hospital](#), Arizona marked a new era in the care and treatment of patients.
- ADHS [completed rulemaking](#) for Child care Facility Licensing and Child care Group Homes concerning certification and the removal of requirements for Child care Group Home licensing renewals.
- ADHS launched the online Comprehensive Treatment Outcomes [Dashboard and Scorecard](#). It was developed using nationally-recognized measures and provides high-level performance data at the statewide and Geographic Service Area (GSA) level, as well as performance information broken out by children and adults
- [Vital Records](#) became self-funding in 2011. The Office of Vital Records no longer is dependent on state general funding but funds itself from the sale of birth and death certificates.
- The Food Safety and Environmental Services Program initiated [a program](#) and enrolled approximately [1000 residents](#) allowing them to produce non-potentially hazardous baked and confectionary products in their homes and to offer them for commercial sale within the state.
- Trained over 1,000 Arizonans from all walks of life on how to identify signs of possible mental illness and connect people with professional help through [Mental Health First Aid](#).
- Took our first steps towards Department [accreditation](#) and the creation of a new strategic map.

- More than 95% of Arizona's kindergarten students are fully immunized against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Hepatitis B, which meets or surpasses the [Healthy People 2020](#) objectives. Also, Arizona is one of the top performing states in the nation in adolescent immunizations. 88% of Arizona's Sixth grade students have received one dose of Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) and one dose of Meningococcal vaccine.
- The shooting of Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, as well as the killing of eight and wounding of 13, required a robust behavioral health response from the Tucson Regional Behavioral Health Authority which is the Community Partnership of Southern Arizona (CPSA). [ADHS was instrumental](#) in facilitating communications and fostering collaboration between ADHS/CPSA and SAMHSA, HHS and county emergency management.
- ADHS was able to [sustain an almost month long response](#) to the largest wildfire in Arizona history.
- Participated and played a vital role in Operation [Vigilant Guard](#), the largest nuclear detonation response exercise in the United States.
- Began work to develop a web-based EMT registration process to replace current hand-entry process. This will facilitate easier and timely registration and reduce downtime for EMT personnel who would have had to come to our offices to complete the registration process.
- ADHS implemented a [Baby Steps to Breastfeeding](#) initiative in partnership with the Arizona Perinatal Trust, American Academy of Pediatrics, Arizona Chapter, and American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists- Arizona Section positively impacting 90% of Arizona births.
- [Pediatric Prepared Emergency Care](#) was officially implemented after four years of stakeholder planning. This public/private partnership with Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics certifies emergency departments based on their capability of taking care of pediatric patients.

Here are the eight topics required by statute in the Annual Report.

- Each year, ADHS compiles the [Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics Report](#) with information on vital statistics and the health status of Arizona residents.
- In addition to the highlights previously outlined, the activities of the Department are chronicled on the [Director's blog](#).
- [County Public Health Departments](#) continue to serve a vital role in public health and had many accomplishments in 2011.
- ADHS monitors and tracks various [diseases](#) throughout the state.

- Public health expenditures by the [state](#) and [counties](#) add up to millions of dollars.
- [Obesity](#) remains the largest public health threat to Arizona.
- The [Arizona State Hospital](#) serves an important role for the Department and the State.
- The functions of CRS were [successfully transferred to AHCCCS](#) in 2011.

There is much more information available about the Department on our website at www.AZDHS.gov. Please feel free to explore the online content for each of our Divisions and the many programs that we provide for the people of Arizona.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Will Humble". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Will Humble
Director, ADHS