

Proclamation

“National Public Health Week” April 3-9, 2023

Whereas, on April 4, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approves a Proclamation supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week.

Whereas, the week of April 3-9, 2023, is National Public Health Week;

The theme for National Public Health Week in 2023 is “Centering and Celebrating Cultures in Health”;

Whereas, the goal of National Public Health Week in 2023 is to recognize the contributions of public health in—

- (1) improving the health of the people of the United States;
- (2) focusing on the specific needs of the nearly 520,000 residents and businesses in Adams County; and
- (3) achieving health equity;

Whereas, life expectancy in Adams County in 2021 was 79.4 years which was lower than the state of Colorado’s life expectance of 80.6 years. Non-Hispanic Black Adams County residents had the lowest life expectance in 2021 at 76.3 years

The top 5 leading causes of death for Adams County residents are (in order) heart disease, cancer, COVID-19, accidents and unintentional injury, and chronic lower respiratory disease;

Adams County’s diverse racial and ethnic groups continue to experience disparities in the burden of poverty, homelessness, illness and death, as compared with the entire Adams county population;

37.7% of all deaths in fatal car crashes resulted from impaired-driving crashes in Adams County in 2020;

Between 2014- 2019 the number of firearm injury deaths in Colorado was greater than the deaths from car crash, opioid overdose, HIV, and colon cancer. In 2020, there were 73 firearm related violent deaths in Adams County;

12% of all Adams County residents, and 17.3% of children were food insecure in Adams County in 2020. Retail food costs increased by 6.3% from 2020-2021;

In 2019, the suicide rate in Colorado was 22.5 per 100,000 people, which was the 5th highest rate in the country. In Adams County, suicide rates are highest in the American Indian and Alaskan Native communities at 58 per 100,000 people;

In 2021 14.7% of Adams County residents ages 5 and older were not able to get behavioral health care when they needed in with the last 12 months;

The Adams County infant mortality rate is 5.5 per 1,000 live births, which is higher than the state rate of 4.7. The Asian community in Adams had a rate of 7.5, followed by the Hispanic community with 6.5 per 1,000 live births from 2018-2020;

In 2019, 43% of students in Adams County used electronic smoking devices called ‘e-cigarettes’ or ‘vaping.’ 16% of Adams County students were in their homes while someone was smoking a tobacco product or e-cigarette for one or more days in the past week;

In 2020 the Environmental Protection Agency designated the Denver Metro Area/Front Range as a “serious” nonattainment area for ozone. The area will be reclassified as “severe” in 2022 due to high ozone levels recorded in 2020 and 2021;

Whereas, public health organizations use National Public Health Week to educate public policymakers and public health professionals on issues that are important to improving the health of the people of the United States. Voting helps shape the conditions in which people can be healthy, and good health is consistently positively associated with higher likelihood of voter participation;

Whereas, public health professionals help communities prevent, prepare for, mitigate, and recover from the impact of a full range of health threats, including—

- (1) disease outbreaks, such as the COVID–19 pandemic;
- (2) natural disasters, such as wildfires, flooding, and severe storms; and
- (3) other disasters, including disasters caused by human activity and public health emergencies;

Whereas, an increase in local public health spending contributes to a—

- (1) A decrease in infant deaths;
- (2) A decrease in deaths related to cardiovascular disease;
- (3) A decrease in deaths due to diabetes; and
- (4) A decrease in cancer-related deaths;

Whereas, vaccination is one of the most significant public health achievements in history and has resulted in substantial decreases in—

(1) the number of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths associated with vaccine-preventable diseases; and

(2) health care costs associated with vaccine-preventable diseases;

Whereas, public health professionals collaborate with partners outside of the health sector, including city planners, transportation officials, education officials, community-based organizations, and private sector businesses, recognizing that other sectors can influence health outcomes;

Whereas, in communities across the United States, individuals are changing the way they care for their health by avoiding tobacco use, eating healthier, increasing physical activity, and preventing unintentional injuries at home and in the workplace; and

Whereas, efforts to adequately support public health and the prevention of disease and injury can continue to transform a health system focused on treating illness into a health system focused on addressing health inequities preventing disease and injury and promoting wellness: Now, therefore, be it

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Board of Commissioners, of the County of Adams, State of Colorado

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week;

(2) recognizes the efforts of public health professionals National, States, Tribes, municipalities, local communities, and individuals in preventing inequitable health outcomes disease and injury;

(3) recognizes the role of public health in—

(A) preventing and responding to infectious disease outbreaks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic;

(B) mitigating short-term and long-term impacts of infectious disease outbreaks on the health and wellness of individuals in Adams County;

(C) addressing social and other determinants of health, including inequitable access to resources that perpetuate health disparities experienced by our communities of color and populations historically marginalized; and

(D) improving the overall health of individuals and communities in Adams County;

(4) encourages increased efforts and resources to—

(A) improve the health of individuals in Adams County; and

(B) *promote and protect the health of people of Adams County and the communities where they live, learn, work, and play;*

(i) providing greater opportunities for communities to improve their health and prevent disease and injury; and

(ii) strengthening the public health system and workforce in the county, and statewide; and

(5) encourages the people of Adams County to learn about the role of the public health system in improving health across the United States.

In witness whereof, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the county to be affixed April 4, 2023.