

WV Mentorship Participants

Jefferson County Health Department, WV

Background

State: WV

HD Population Size Served: >56,000

Number of Retail Food Establishments Inspected: 400

Retail Program Standards Met by Verification Audit/Working On: 2 (Standards 1 & 7)

Year Enrolled in the Retail Program Standards: 2018

NACCHO Mentorship Program Cohort(s): Cohorts 8 and 9

Version of Food Code: 2013

Pursuing Accreditation (Y/N?) If Y, have you achieved accreditation? No

Mission and Brief One Paragraph Background:

Our mission is to serve Jefferson County by assuring the safety of the food, water, and environment and by promoting good environmental health practices.

Jefferson County is a small rural county in the northern Shenandoah Valley on the periphery of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. In 2018, Jefferson County lost its entire environmental health staff. They have steadily been rebuilding their environmental health program, including their Retail Food Safety Program, since that time.

Role in Mentorship Program

- Cohort 8: Jefferson was mentored by Vineland, NJ and worked on their self-assessments and Standard 1 and 7.
- Cohort 9: Jefferson was mentored by Vineland, NJ and worked on components of all 9 standards.

Accomplishments in the Mentorship Program

Standard 1

- Verification audit of Standard 1 by Fairfax Co. completed

Standard 2

- All field staff completed the required ORA-U pre- and post-standardization courses
- EH Supervisor completed 8 inspections for certification as Standardization Officer by state; working to complete paperwork
- EH Supervisor plans to standardize our newest sanitarian when things return to normal; then the other 2 field staff
- Our EH Consultant completed the policy for Standard 2
- 3 field staff will attend the FD218 Risk-Based Inspections course later this year
- EH Supervisor will attend FD312 Special Processes course in August

Standard 3

- Staff meeting was held on 1/16 to implement variable frequency inspection and use of In/Out/NA/NO inspection form
- EH Consultant wrote five policies for Standard 3 and they have been adopted (This completes the policies needed to meet Standard 3)
- We will complete a new self-assessment of Standard 3 in August 2020

Standard 4

- EH Consultant wrote the required policy for Standard 4 and it has been adopted

Standard 5

- EH Consultant has begun work on the policies required for Standard 5. Three policies have been completed and adopted so far.
- The foodborne illness tabletop exercise scheduled for June has been postponed until November.

Standard 6

- The required policy for Standard 6 has been written by EH Consultant and adopted

Standard 7

- Verification audit of Standard 7 by Fairfax Co. completed
- Food Safety Advisory Council (FSAC) met on February 10; began planning foodborne illness tabletop exercise for later this year. The June FSAC meeting was being postponed until September.
- EH Consultant and Sanitarian Supervisor took the ServSafe exam so that they can begin teaching the ServSafe course locally next year in conjunction with the local Extension Service agent and the Director of School Nutrition for the county schools

Standard 8

- Request to put funding for an additional sanitarian in FY2020-21 budget was denied.
- EH Consultant will be retained for another year to help with the program standards (10.5 hours per week)

Standard 9

- Sanitarian Supervisor and EH Consultant received online training in the use of the online FDA risk factor inspection database.
- EH Consultant began first risk factor study inspections of schools in February. These inspections were suspended in March due to COVID-19. Other staff will perform these inspections next year after we resume unannounced inspections.

Lessons Learned/Tips

- Completing joint inspections and standardization inspections with new field staff has been hard for EH Supervisor to find time to accomplish in normal times; it has been impossible during COVID-19.
- Completing risk factor inspections is very time consuming in normal times. However, it has been impossible during COVID-19 because all our inspections are now scheduled (announced) inspections.
- Creating a Food Safety Advisory Council has given us a lot of good feedback from industry.
- We were able to have audits of two standards (1 & 7) done remotely by sending all the necessary documents via email. This was an efficient use of everyone's time. (Thank you, Fairfax County!)

Contact

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Link to food safety program website: <https://www.jchdvv.org/food-safety/>

Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department (WV)

Background

State: West Virginia

HD Population Size Served: 128,904

Number of Retail Food Establishments Inspected: 939

Retail Program Standards Met/Working On: 2, 4, 5, & 6

Enrolled in the Retail Program Standards: 2012

NACCHO Mentorship Program Cohort(s): 5

West Virginia's only Regional Health Department. The six-county region includes Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt and Wood Counties, with Wood housing administrative offices. Our WIC Department serves 9 counties.

The mission of the Mid- Ohio Valley Health Department is to do everything in our power to protect the health of the communities in Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt, and Wood counties. Like some other public agencies, we are charged to serve and protect.

Opportunities exist within the Health Department to volunteer, whether to help in times of crisis when many people will be needed to assure that the necessary drugs are delivered to the residents of our communities during a life-threatening disease outbreak, or just to help us with some of the day-to-day activities of trying to make our communities healthier. We are your Health Department! Environmental Health Staff: We have 10 Sanitarians, 5 which are registered including the Director working in the retail food regulatory program. All Sanitarians are generalists and work every program mandated by the State. We currently conduct three inspections per year of each retail food establishment, except vending which is done twice a year. The Sanitarians are Serv-Safe certified manager course instructors and proctors. We also have 2 full time office assistants in Wood County, and each outlying county has an office assistant which work a percentage of time for EH.

Our regulatory authority is derived from the West Virginia State Code Chapter 16. Our State has currently adopted the FDA 2005 Food Code, under WV 64CSR17, with minor changes.

Role in Mentorship Program

Mid-Ohio Valley participated in the NACCHO Retail Program Standards Mentorship program as a mentee in the fifth cohort. They were mentored by Fairfax County Health Department.

Lessons learned:

We needed a clearer picture of the risk factor study and received that through this program. We were able to complete Standard 4 and are working towards Standard 5 based on the information and guidance provided through this program.

Our agency is currently in the process of PHAB accreditation, and is using the crosswalk provided by both NACCHO and this program, to aid us in our documentation requirements. These two programs

complement each other and will help to strengthen our program and our agency to better serve our communities.

Contact:

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Monongalia County Health Department

Background

State: *West Virginia*

HD Population Size Served: *105,000*

Number of Retail Food Establishments Inspected: *850+*

Retail Program Standards Met by Verification Audit/Working On: *Self-assessment*

Year Enrolled in the Retail Program Standards: *2019*

NACCHO Mentorship Program Cohort(s): *Cohort 9*

Version of Food Code: *2013*

Pursuing Accreditation (Y/N?) If Y, have you achieved accreditation?) *Yes, pursuing accreditation. No, we haven't achieved accreditation.*

Monongalia County Health Department's mission is to protect our community, prevent disease and promote healthy living. We protect and promote public health through education, training, advocacy and provision of health services.

In order to promote and protect the public's health and ensure that the County's food supply is safe and sanitary, all persons that prepare and serve food to the public or sell packaged foods that require temperature control for safety are permitted and inspected by the Environmental Health Services Division of the Health Department.

Role in Mentorship Program

- **Mentee**
- Who were you paired with? **Washoe County Health District, Reno, Nevada**

Accomplishments in the Mentorship Program

- What Standard(s) did you work on and what did you accomplish? **Completed self-assessment to determine where our Retail Food program currently stands.**

Lessons Learned/Tips

- Time is essential to move forward with Standards.
- Adequate staff is needed to assist with process.
- Ask questions of Mentor. Chances are they have had the same challenges in the past.

Contact

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- **Link to food safety program website:** www.monchd.org/food-safety-training.html