2015

Meet the Staff

Cochise Health and Social Services
Legacy Project
Compiled by Becky Holley
Cochise County and the Wild West; gun slinging cowboys and outlaws made all the rules here, even if it meant a deadly shootout.

It wasn’t until after the O.K. Corral gunfight that Cochise County created a county hospital to better serve its citizens who were suffering from gunshot wounds, measles or being run over by their wagon, just to name a few of the ailments from that era. From there, law and order started taming the west and the Health and Social Services department started to take form.

Today, the department is made up of roughly 75 employees, all of whom specialize in many aspects of health, prevention and well-being. While each person’s specific job may be unique, we work to provide a team spirit both within our divisions and across our department. Our organizational culture or “personality” has many characteristics. Some can be described as: caring, commitment, and community focused. All of our staff strives to help fulfill our mission, vision, goals and commitments to Cochise County residents. We are proud of our staff each and every day!
Cochise County Health and Social Services

Director

Mary Gomez (2011- present)

Mary is a third generation Arizona native, born and raised in Morenci, Az. She graduated from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor's degree in Nursing in 1977 and later earned a Master's Degree in Nursing Administration from University of Phoenix.

Mary has dedicated herself to improving the public health conditions within Cochise County for many years. She is an avid supporter of both physical and mental health for all.

Her positions have included Associate Director of Nursing at Benson Hospital, Clinical Instructor for the Nursing Department at Cochise College, Director of Nursing at Copper Queen Community Hospital, Director of Home and Community-Based Services and Director of Patient Care Services at Southeast Arizona Medical Center in Douglas, and then CEO of Copper Cities Physicians, a medical group with offices in Bisbee and Douglas.

Mary has worked for Cochise County since 2005 and is the Director of Cochise Health and Social Services. In this position, she is responsible for managing the Health Department and the Public Fiduciary's Office and the SEAGO Area Agency on Aging Case Management Program; she is also the Local Health Officer for Cochise County, Chairperson for the County Board of Health and serves on the Canyon Vista Medical Center’s Board of Directors. Mary has lived in Bisbee since 1981 with her husband, George, and her mother, Evelyn, who celebrated her 101st birthday in December of 2014!
Environmental Health

Environmental Health Director
Michael McGee, RS

Mike became director in 2008 with a two year hiatus from 2012 until 2014. He started his Environmental Health career in California in 1986.

Staff
Dan Debee, RS, Environmental Health Specialist
Natalie Johnson, Environmental Health Specialist Aide
Carl Hooper, Environmental Health Specialist Aide
Tim Wyatt, RS, Environmental Health Specialist

Administrative Services

Administrative Services Manager
Ray Falkenberg

Ray came to work with Cochise Health & Social Services in 2004, and has been the Administrative Services Manager ever since. He has offered the department his substantial financial expertise. Ray came to us from many years in the banking industry. He also serves as our department PIO for the Public Health & Emergency Preparedness Division.

Staff
Linda Greenwood- Account Technician
Maria Kennon- Payroll Technician
Donna Rothbauer- Vital Records Specialist
Jennifer Steiger – Program Coordinator, On Call

“My favorite on the job moments are when an establishment owner and I truly connect and I can see they are truly interested in food safety and they continue to strive for excellence.”
Jonathan "Dan" DeBee R.S.- Vector Control Specialist

“I can remember how extremely happy I was when I was offered the Accounting position with the Health Department! I swear it was one of the happiest days of my life! So here I am, 11 ½ years later and I STILL love my job! I work with some of the best people I have ever worked with, and I have been in the work force for 44 years...”
Linda Greenwood– Finance
Nursing & Community Health Services

**Nursing Director**
Bethany Hill, RN, BSN, MSN, MHA

Beth became the Director in May of 2014. Before that, she was the Willcox site nurse. She started that position in August of 2012.

**Staff**
Catherine Welch, RN, Asst. Director of Nurses, Public Health Nurse
Jeanette Brislan, RN, Public Health Nurse
Kathy Lacombe, LPN, Immunization Coordinator
Nicole Sanchez, RN, Public Health Nurse
Cindy Sawinski, RN, Public Health Nurse
Sara Davidson, RN, Public Health Nurse
Radi Ann Porter, RN, Public Health Nurse On Call, Accreditation Coordinator
Maria Mena, Administrative Coordinator
Renae Whitaker, Clerk
Edith Enriquez, Clerk
Roxanna Garza-Roffey, Clerk
Alejandra Molina-Barton, Clerk
Tammy Fimbres, Clerk
Jackie McElveya, On Call
Frankie Bednorz, On Call
Lynn Mauzy, On Call

Memorable Moment
“I am an Ambassador/ Volunteer Wish Grant with Make A Wish Foundation. I have been with Make a Wish since 2011. I am a Wish mom; my son Herschel had his wish Granted in 2002 to meet Actor/Rapper Will Smith. I mostly volunteer within Cochise County granting wishes for children with life threatening illnesses.”

Roxanna Garza-Roffey, Clerk

Fun Fact:
CHSS Nursing Staff has combined 257 years experience
Detention Medical

Detention Medical Director
Catherine Maddux, RN, MSN

Cathy has been an RN for 19 years. She worked the operating room to include being the manager, did trauma/critical care flight on a rotor wing, and she STILL works the Emergency Department at Copper Queen Community Hospital and Canyon Vista hospitals. She is a charge nurse at Canyon Vista Medical and has been the director at the jail for just a smidge over a year. She is currently finishing her Family Nurse Practitioner, and hopes to be practicing by November of this year.

In her free time, she loves to travel with her family. She has two sons, one of whom is a deputy for Cochise County Sheriff’s department.

Staff
Linda Collins, RN, Detention Nurse
Gina Florez, RN, Detention Nurse
Megan Kennedy, RN, Detention Nurse
Leslie Wolfe, Correctional Health Technician
Oralia Dagnino, Administrative Coordinator
Cynthia Jacobson-Pennick, Detention Nurse, On Call
Sarah Richardson, Correctional Health Technician
Brandi Taylor, LPN, Juvenile Detention Nurse
Shannon Garcia-Reibschieed, Correctional Health Technician, On Call
Alan McDonald, Behavioral Health Coordinator

"A jail can be a stressful place to work; staff can face life and death situations with clients on a regular basis. But we always seem to pull together as a team, and keep a good sense of humor to get through the rough days."

Alan McDonald - Detention Medical
Prevention Services

Prevention Services Director
Judith Gilligan, MSW

Judy joined CHSS in April 2011. The Prevention Services Director is responsible for program development, management and ongoing funding of a wide array of grant-funded prevention and health promotion programs including WIC, maternal & child health home visiting, tobacco and chronic disease prevention, teen pregnancy prevention and health policy in business.

Prevention Secretary
Cindy Morales

WIC Program Manager
Renee Cooper, MS, RDN

Staff
Maria Kennon, Payroll Technician/Health Educator
Christina Rivera, Health Educator
Suzie East, Lead Health Educator
Tara Murrieta, Health Educator
Luz Ayala, Health Educator
Ani Marrero, Health Educator
Kelsey Arzaga, Public Health Nutritionist
Rosa Morales, Health Educator
Rebecca Morales, Health Educator
Priscilla Lord, Health Educator
Dennis Crossley, RD, Public Health Dietician

“Just a smile and telling my young moms (16 yrs and Breastfeeding) what a good job they are doing and what a difference it will make on their child is a nice warm feeling that can last all day, no matter how hard your day has been. I love what I do.” Maria Kennon - WIC
Health Promotion

Health Promotion Manager
Suzanne Hagle

Staff
Jennifer Germain, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Health Educator
Becky Holley, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Health Educator
Jesus Duarte, Tobacco & Chronic Disease Prevention Health Educator
Roza Vickers, Tobacco & Chronic Disease Prevention Health Educator
Lee Itule-Klasen, Tobacco & Chronic Disease Prevention Health Educator
Ana Maria Flannigan, Active Adults Program Coordinator

“I live by Gandhi’s “Be the Change You Wish To See In The World,” and with that, persevere, work hard, touch lives, and make a difference for the better. That is what health promotion is about to me.”
Roza Vickers - Health Educator

“The students I work with throughout the county really keep me on my toes! The questions they come up with never cease to amaze me.”
Becky Holley - Health Educator

“I wasn’t going to come to work today, but then I remembered I had a workout appointment.”

I’ve been told this many times. The participants’ names will remain anonymous.

Ana Maria Flannigan - Active Adults
Health Start

Health Start Manager
Marilyn Godfrey

Staff
Letty Apparicio, Health Educator
Larae Swartz, Health Educator
Jeannette Cazares, Health Educator
Esther Valenzuela, Health Educator
Rayna Powell, Health Educator

Job Perks
“I am happy to work and see the difference that this wonderful program provides to many families, I am happy to see the children grow and I am amazed about all the things they can do and learn when you provide the education and the support!”
Esther Valenzuela- Health Start
Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Public Health Emergency Prep Director
Elizabeth Lueck, BS, M(ASCP)

Elizabeth has been with the county for 11.5 years. Born and raised in Bisbee, she left Cochise County to pursue a degree at the University of Arizona. She spent the next 20 years practicing Microbiology in Tucson, before heading back home.

Staff

Brian Oertel, Surveillance Spec.
Barbara Hill, Secretary, On Call
Lynn Hu, Administrative Analyst

“The exciting part of our jobs is that we never know what to expect when the phone rings. Just when you think that you have heard it all, a new call comes in. Our favorite quote in our program is, “E-coli Happens!””

Brian Oertel
Surveillance Specialist

Visit our Open House July 29, 2015 from 10am-1pm
Public Fiduciary/AAA

Public Fiduciary/AAA Director
Vicki Haviland, Public Fiduciary Officer

Vicki has been with the Public Fiduciary office for 16 years and in this position for 7 years. The Public Fiduciary office also oversees the Area Agency on Aging Division. The court appoints the Public Fiduciary for those persons or decedents’ estates in need of guardianship, conservatorship or administration and for whom there is no person or corporation qualified and willing to act in that capacity. The Area Agency on Aging case managers provide coordination of services for the elderly and disabled such as home delivered meals, housekeeping, personal care, respite for family caregivers, and assistance with community resources and entitlement programs eligibility.

Staff

Belvet Elsouhag, Deputy PF
Yolanda Thomas, Case Manager
Gloria Acuna, Case Manager
Seanna Riffle, Case Manager
Marla Tamez, Case Manager
Deborah Holliday, Case Manager
Rocky Tuttle, Property Manager
Cindy Rodriguez, Paralegal III
Elly Tyler, Account Clerk III
Steve Anderson, Case Manager Trainee
Rochelle Pones, Case Manager Trainee
Keturah McCleave, Case Manager
Marla Tamez, Case Manager

"Growing up in Cochise County, I have always wanted to serve my community, being part of the Cochise Health and Social Services has given me the opportunity to reach out to families who have lived in Cochise County for generations. Being able to give back to my community has been very fulfilling and for that I am grateful". Marla D. Tamez, Agency on Aging Case Manager