



Public Health from the 1800s to Now

From Wild West to Striving for Best



Cochise County

Legacy Project

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THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

Gold, women, horses and gunshots; the Wild West lifestyle was strong in Southern Arizona.

In the days of mining in Bisbee and Tombstone, travelers visited these parts at their own risk. Settlers ran the risk of being robbed or killed out of greed, and, until 1884, there was nowhere they could go if they were accidentally run over by their wagon, shot in a dual, or just came down with the flu.

In December of 1884, a few years after the infamous O.K. Corral gun fight, the town of Tombstone decided to build the first county hospital. Doctor George Emory Goodfellow was named the first county physician and he was paid \$150/ month to take care of the town's people and those that traveled in from the more rural areas.

Sticking true to the western ways, he was up to his elbows in the blood of the many gunshot victims who showed up at his door.

Goodfellow's writings on the treatment of gunshot wounds drew national attention. He is thought to have been the first surgeon to remove an enlarged prostate and was considered the nation's first civilian trauma surgeon. He was a pioneer in sterile surgery and a leader in the movement for open-air treatment for tuberculosis, which became a big industry in the warm, dry Southwest.



Dr. George E. Goodfellow

also called the

"Gunfighter Surgeon"

Fun Facts

Dr. Goodfellow helped patch up the wounded from the famous O.K. Corral shootout in 1881. Three outlaws were killed and three lawmen were wounded that day.



THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

Doctor John E. Bacon took over as county physician in 1901.

Under his leadership, Cochise County's hospital attained a series of Excellence awards compared to all other Arizona hospitals.

The county hospital was among the first to obtain an X-Ray machine and the office had a lab that was ranked the best in Arizona.

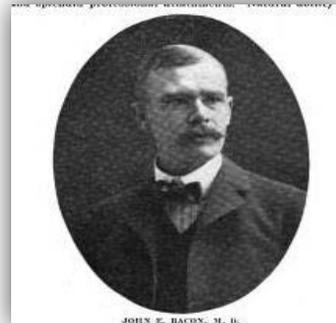
Dr. Bacon reportedly earned a \$50 gold bar for every patient under his care. He said the outlaws were his best customers and always made sure to pay him in full for every visit.

The First X-Ray
Machines used
after the discovery
of x-rays in 1895.



Sheriff Del Lewis met with Dr. Bacon and asked him to stop helping the outlaws, when Dr. Bacon famously replied, "My business is to take care of sick people."

After Dr. Bacon left in 1913, the county held an election and voted to move the county seat from Tombstone to Bisbee. The move happened in 1931 after the new courthouse was built.



Dr. John E. Bacon

Fun Facts

The fifty dollars in gold paid to doctors in the old west is more money than the average doctor makes today, averaging about \$7,000 per patient in today's standards. And if you didn't have the gold up front, the doctor would not treat you.



THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

1918 AZ was hard hit by the Spanish Flu (also called “The Scythe”) epidemic. Every health department in AZ, city, county and state, was soon overwhelmed with the ill and severely handicapped by the onslaught of the flu epidemic.

The Public Health Service did not require states to report influenza before September 27th. AZ first reported the presence of influenza on October 12th but the disease was undoubtedly present in the state before that date. The economy also suffered. By late October, reports indicated that mining productivity for the state was off as a result of the pandemic.

After peaking in early November, the disease slowly waned during the late fall and early winter. By the late spring, it had begun to disappear from the state.

Schools, churches, theaters and other public areas were also closed for three months.



Although people dutifully wore masks, these provided only a very limited protection against the influenza virus.

[Credit: Office of the Public Health Service Historian]

DEATHS FROM INFLUENZA AND PNEUMONIA DURING OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1918

County	Influenza			Pneumonia			Total Deaths		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Apache			20		22				42
Cochise	4	12	14	7	309	156	11	121	179
Cocoma	35	4	39	16	34	14			28
Gila	43	21	7	105	52	11	148	73	18
Graham	8	11	10	2	38				54
Greenlee	7	11	7	19	26	13	26	37	26
Maricopa	8	102	7	89	296	133	57	308	133
Mohave		13		6	27		6	39	6
Navajo		8	10		7	20		7	30
Pima		19	22	29	88	44	37	99	74
Pinal	2		1	47	7	15	49	7	12
Santa Cruz			14	4		8	4		22
Yavapai	24		5	43		66	67		72
Yuma	25	34	9	35	20	11	43	34	25
State	164	217	139	396	144	326	560	779	396
	Total—522			Total—1408			Total—2393		

County Flu and Pneumonia death records from 1918

Fun Facts

1919, The Venereal Disease Control program was started. Clinics were established in Phoenix and Douglas. Influenza is still an epidemic and the State Board of Health issued a circular to health officers of AZ regarding the best method of handling the flu epidemic. Pamphlets were available in plain language and recommended to teachers and parents. Literature included “Venereal diseases”, “Keep in Fighting Trim”, “Sex Education in the Home and High School”, “A Statewide Program for Sex Education”, “Save the Babies”, etc.



THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

1920 State Registrar installed a daily record of each infectious and reportable disease which showed geographic depictions and separate pages for each disease.



Counties reported daily.

Child Hygiene Division set forth to supplement the work of the Department of Vital Statistics to assure birth registration of all Arizonan born babies and prepared birth registration cards for each of them.

1938 Syphilis and Gonorrhea are identified as local public health problems.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET 1927-8.

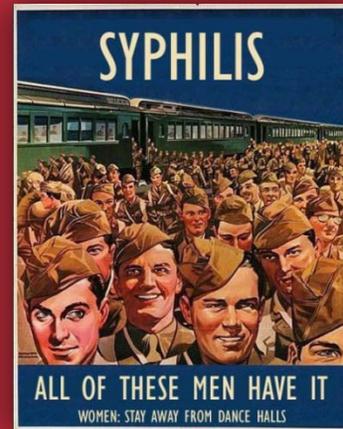
	APPROXIMATE 1926-7.	ESTIMATED 1926-7.	BUDGET 1927-8.
SALARY SUPPLEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH	\$1400.	\$1800.	\$1800.
RISERIE PERC WAGE.....	2150.	1200.	1200.
LABORATORY SERVICE.....	1380.	1260.	1260.
QUARANTINE & SANITATION.....	5000.	3000.	3000.
VITAL STATISTICS.....	850.	850.	850.
TOTAL.....	28680.	9320.	9320.
AMBULANCE.....		RISERIE.....	\$2500.

\$9,320

1927 Cochise County Health Dept. Budget: \$8,330

Fun Facts

1942 The Department implemented a program of venereal disease prevention and control during the past year.





THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

1944 Low public health salaries make it hard to recruit public health workers.

Rural counties have toughest time recruiting public health workers.

Group teaching of maternity health education is necessary as the number of nurses in public health dwindle.

Medical clinics open up in social service centers and well-baby checks are expanded.

The theme for the nations Child Health Day program was “A Birth Certificate for Every Baby Born in the U.S.A.”



Well baby exams expanded to all areas of the state.

Fun Facts

1952, 45 public health nurses make more than 52,000 home visits in Arizona's 14 counties. They were able to immunize more than 56,000 children and adults.



THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

1960 Dental public health program initiated.

Birth Control Pills were first approved for use. Within two years, 1.2 million women in the U.S. were using the Pill.



1962 The Bureau of Sanitation and Sanitary Engineering was renamed the Bureau of Environmental Health and included Public Health Engineering; they were concerned with water supply, pollution control, and engineering services and Environmental Sanitation.

Nursing uniforms
In 1960.



Cochise County Health Staff 1960

Fun Facts

1970 Immunizations were first required for school entry in Arizona.





THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

1974 Arizona applied and was one of the first three states to begin the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) to provide nutrition and breastfeeding education and referrals to health and social services for pregnant women, as well as infants and children up to age five.

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) was created by consolidating several agencies into a single department with a variety of responsibilities. These areas included maternal and child health programs, communicable disease control, laboratory services, environmental health, behavioral health services and other programs to protect the public health and safety.

Parent & Child visiting a WIC worker in 1974.



State Health Department resides in Phoenix



Fun Facts

1977, Child Health Indicator Program (CHIP) was piloted.

This is a software program that tracks the number of encounters a school nurse has with children on many topics. This program continues on today in the Office of Epidemiology.



THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

1996 Arizona smokers Hotline launched to offer free telephone counseling and “Quit” kits.

1998 Arizona’s Abstinence Education Program implemented.

2001 ADHS received funding from the CDC to prepare the state for all types of public health emergencies. Shortly after the September 11th attacks, preparedness funding in Arizona peaked at \$20,000,000 a year. CHSS worked with the state health department as well as hospitals and health centers to establish public health preparedness programs to prepare for bioterrorism attacks, pandemic influenza, and other health related emergencies.



10/2013 NETCOM/Greely Hall on Ft. Huachuca was the first recipient of the Cochise County Breastfeeding-Friendly Business of the Year Award. NETCOM uses guidelines for breastfeeding soldiers set by the U.S. Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine to provide their mothers with effective support and information.

Fun Facts

2013, In celebration of World Breastfeeding Week, an annual global event held during the first week of August, Cochise Health and Social Services sponsored its First Annual *Breastfeeding-Friendly Cochise County Business of the Year Award in 2013*. Awards are given to one or more breastfeeding-friendly businesses in Cochise County. All public and private employers in the county are eligible for consideration. First award went to Greely Hall on Fort Huachuca.



THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

2011 CHSS began participation in the statewide First Things First Program, to assist at risk pregnant women, and children up to the age of 5 with wellness and healthy development home visits. The program was very successful and closed down in June of 2015.

2014 CHSS entered into a partnership with the Cochise County Sheriff's Office and twelve local fire and police departments and hospitals to begin the County's first free medication disposal program. The County provided twelve medication disposal units county wide. To date the program has been very successful.

2015 CHSS implemented the first ever, free Sharps Disposal Program, county-wide for all residents. CHSS made sharps disposal available at all five clinic locations.

MedReturn
Units found around
Cochise County, 2014



Fun Facts

The Affordable Care Act is helping Arizona. In Arizona, 205,666 consumers selected or we automatically re-enrolled in quality, affordable health insurance coverage through the Marketplace as of Feb. 22, 2015. Nationwide, nearly 11.7 million consumers selected a plan or were automatically enrolled in Marketplace coverage.



THE WILD WEST AND HOW HEALTH WAS WON

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