

DECEMBER 2025



Loup Basin
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Monthly Report

SYDNEY ESTES, COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Clinical

OUT OF FACILITY CLINICS



In December 2025, Loup Basin Public Health District conducted several vaccine clinics across the region, including locations in St. Paul, Loup City, Broken Bow School, and Community Memorial Health Center (CMHC). In-house vaccine appointments for the public were also held, and staff completed the annual "You Call the Shots" training on immunization storage, handling, and viral and bacterial vaccination education.

VACCINE STORAGE & MANAGEMENT

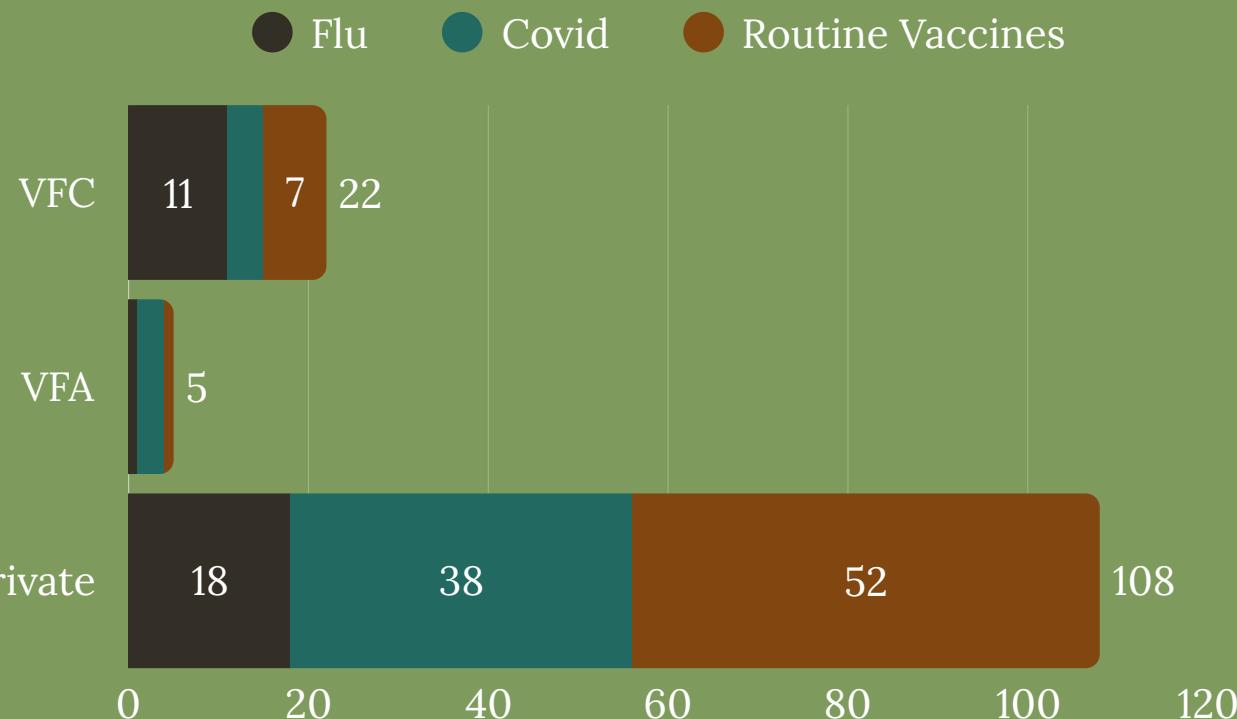
Following an extended power outage in Burwell, a temperature excursion was identified on vaccine fridges and freezers. Clinical staff, Amanda, Danielle and Sarah, responded promptly, coordinating with manufacturers and the DHHS Vaccination Program, and confirmed that no vaccines were compromised.

Several system failures contributed to the excursion, which have since been corrected: Nebraska Generator addressed the generator failure and Hamilton resolved connectivity issues with temperature monitors.



December '25

Clinical



In December, LBPHD administered a total of 135 vaccinations. This included 22 doses through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, 5 doses through the Vaccines for Adults (VFA) program, and 108 privately funded vaccinations, reflecting continued utilization of immunization services across all age groups.

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

During December, disease surveillance identified four schools experiencing outbreaks with over 10% absenteeism due to reported illness. One long-term care facility was identified as being in a COVID-19 outbreak, and one animal exposure incident (bite or non-bite) was reported. In addition, DHHS Respiratory Dashboard data showed an increase in COVID-19 and RSV activity across the region.



Grant Updates



RADON

With January designated as Radon Awareness Month, December was spent planning social media content for the upcoming awareness campaign, as well as coordinating a raffle for an at-home radon test kit.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

During this reporting period, efforts focused on securing and coordinating funding to support youth mental health initiatives planned for the upcoming year. Sydney and Amanda worked closely with partnering hospitals to align funding commitments, clarify roles, and begin foundational planning for program implementation. These collaborative efforts are setting the stage for program setup and service delivery in the new year, ensuring readiness to meet identified youth mental health needs across the service area.

OPIOID

Shelby continued to meet regularly with the school opioid prevention speaker to review and refine presentation content. To date, four schools within the jurisdiction have agreed to host the opioid presentations, with sessions planned for January and February.



Grant Updates

December '25

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Perinatal:
a period of
time before
and after
giving birth

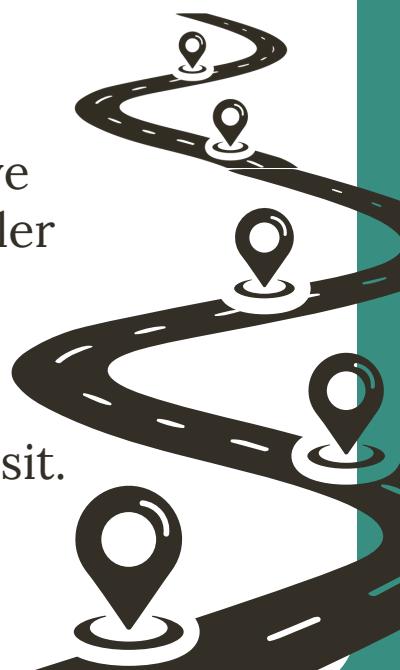


Approval was received for a budget revision allowing LBPHD to use grant funds for staff training in perinatal mental health. This training will strengthen staff capacity to recognize signs and symptoms of perinatal mental health concerns and respond appropriately. Upon completion, LBPHD will receive the “Blue Dot Safe Spot” designation, recognizing the department as a trusted resource for perinatal mental health support.

HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE PUBLIC INFORMATION & EDUCATION MINI GRANT

Social media campaigns in December focused on older driver safety, buzzed and impaired driving awareness, and winter weather driving preparedness. Additionally, two local schools have been confirmed to host national speaker Cara Filler in April through funding provided by this grant. Additional schools have expressed interest.

LBPHD is currently awaiting approval of a grant budget revision to add an additional day to the visit. This would allow the presentation to reach two additional schools within the district.



Social Media Reach

Our highest-viewed post last month—a COVID-19 alert about rising cases in our counties—reached 5,328 views. We exceeded our monthly engagement goals, hitting 125% of our Instagram target and 127% of our Facebook goal. Meeting these goals shows our messages are effectively reaching the community and keeping the public informed about important health issues.

Highest viewed post
Dec 12th
5,328 views



INSTAGRAM

312/250 viewers

125%
OF GOAL MET



FACEBOOK

7.8k/6.2k viewers

127%
OF GOAL MET



Healthy Families

Over the past month, the Healthy Families program has continued to grow and deepen its impact within the community. We increased our caseload to 29 families, reflecting steady program growth. Our newest Family Support Specialist, Amy Klein, is progressing through her required trainings and onboarding, further strengthening our team's capacity. We continued distributing support items such as child beds, strollers, car seats etc., to enrolled families and delivered food boxes to families ahead of Christmas to provide additional seasonal support. Partnership development remained a focus, with ongoing efforts to build and strengthen relationships with DHHS and Sixpence. These activities support our commitment to meeting families' immediate needs while expanding long-term collaborative opportunities.



family

December '25

Administrative Progress

ACCREDITATION

This month, we finalized all remaining accreditation documentation and successfully submitted all ten domain documents to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) on December 4. We are now awaiting PHAB's review and feedback and will address any requested revisions by reopening and resubmitting documents within the required 45-day timeframe.



SAMS RENEWAL

The annual SAM.gov renewal was completed, including coordination with the IRS to update the department's address information. Maintaining an active SAM.gov registration is required for LBPHD to accept and manage federal funding.

NEW HIRE

Interviews were conducted to replace Kelsey Salpas in the ERC position. Darren Balderson has accepted the position and will start January 20th.

Administrative Progress

NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (NPERS) AUDIT

An audit was requested by the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems (NPERS) for fiscal year 2025. All required payroll records, contribution reports, and supporting documentation were compiled and submitted to NPERS in a timely manner. This audit helps ensure employee retirement contributions and employer match amounts are accurate and in compliance with state requirements.



CYBERSECURITY

LBPHD staff continue to work as needed with Hamilton to address findings identified in the internal vulnerability assessment related to cybersecurity.



Wellable Wellness

2025

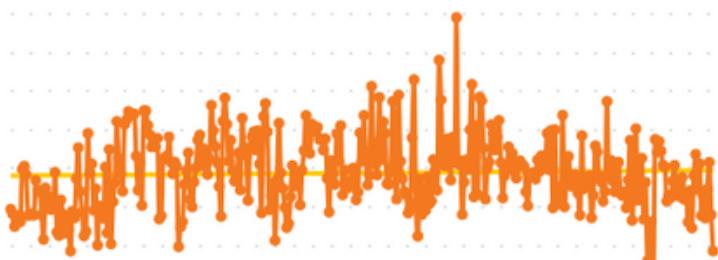
Loup Basin staff demonstrated 100% engagement in the voluntary employee wellness program, Wellable.

Throughout 2025, staff collectively contributed to group wellness metrics through consistent activity tracking and shared participation. This engagement reflects an organizational culture that values wellness, balance, and connection, while supporting individual health goals and strengthening teamwork and morale.

Staff participation in Wellable continues to be a positive component of Loup Basin's employee benefits and workplace well-being efforts.

Wellable is an employee benefit that supports overall health and well-being while allowing flexibility in participation. Staff may engage at a level that fits their individual needs by logging steps, nutrition, and exercise, as well as participating in special monthly activities and occasional group challenges.

Daily Wellable Point Summary



January 1, 2025

December 31, 2025



December '25

Wellable Wellness

Comparing growth in 2025

2024 steps: 23,440,546

2025 steps: 35,525,9610

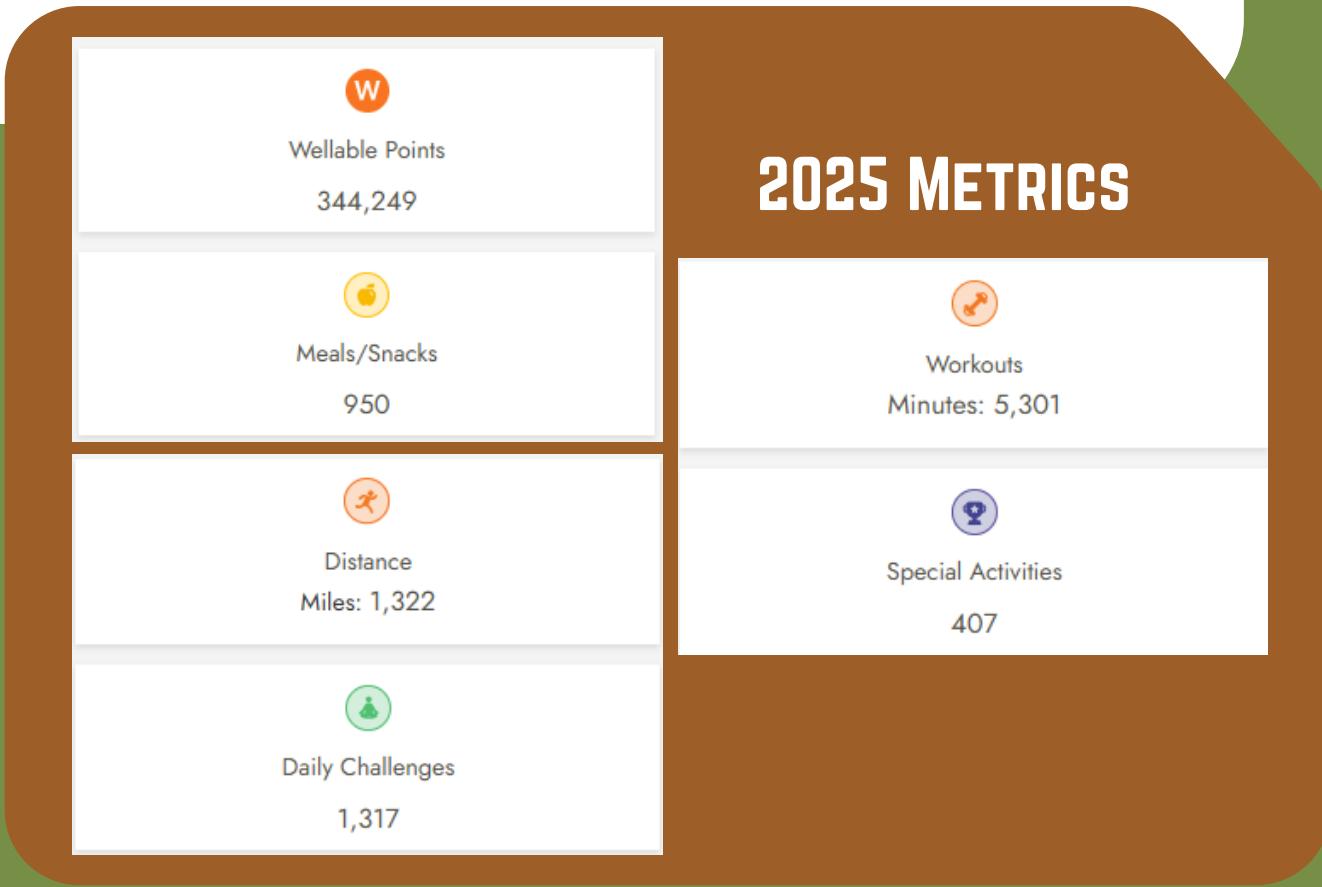
2024 nutrition: 275,350 points

2025 nutrition: 770,400 points



2024 total logged: 2,444,581 points

2025 total logged: 4,295,218 points



Thank you for
taking the time
to read our
monthly report!



**LBPHD is proud of what
we do for our communities
across our district counties.**

CONTACT US

Loup Basin Public Health Department
327 N 8th Ave, Burwell, NE 68823
308-346-5795

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CURIOUS FOR MORE? EMAIL INFO@LBPHD.NE.GOV

