

1. OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE

● Police Department

The Stamford Police Department is the sole law enforcement services provider for the City of Stamford Connecticut. Long recognized as one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the northeast, the Stamford Police Department continues to use a community based policing philosophy as the core of service to our community.

According to the latest data available, Stamford is the safest city in New England and the safest city in Connecticut by a significant margin.

Along with a community and family based approach to policing, we are integrating more technology driven applications and maintaining an aggressive crime fighting posture across all of our divisions and units.

For this fiscal year report I have included a breakdown of each of our unit's activities, any new programs or activities we are undertaking and a complete list of statistical metrics.

Community Outreach

One of our primary goals is to establish positive communication and build trust with the community we serve through innovative and interactive meetings and conversations. We try to keep these informal and in a social setting to foster better and more open communication. We strive to reach out to communities which in other cities are traditionally underserved.

The Community Outreach Program is advised and run by a diverse group of officers and supervisors from all divisions of the police department. The goal of the COP is to forge a more productive relationship with the communities we serve by better understanding the needs of those communities. Opening dialogue improves community members understanding of our procedures and processes, and the laws which we enforce. It also improves our officers' knowledge and understanding of the diverse community that we serve. Our goals can be achieved by providing opportunities for positive interaction and open and informal communication between our officers and our community. In the last year COP officers have undertaken the following:

Roundtable discussion at Trailblazers with approximately 15 at risk students. The conversations centered on the dangers of gang membership, ways to cope with recent police involved events on the national stage, and fostering better communication between teens and officers.

Senior assembly where officers met with 25 elderly citizens and gave advice on ways seniors could better protect themselves from scams, identity theft and senior abuse.

Building One Community talk with Children – COPS officers met with approximately 70 children regarding safety and building trust between kids and cops. The kids also met k9 officers and toured police vehicles.

National Book day – COP officers read to students at Springdale elementary school.

UCONN PEP Latino recycling – COP officers met with about 60 residents and discussed ways to better recycle and combat littering and followed up with a community cleanup.

Roundtable discussion at the YMCA – Discussion of community needs, police culture and building positive relationships.

Building One Forum – COP officers met with approximately 30 members from the Hispanic and Haitian communities. The discussion centered on strengthening the lines of communication and developing trust between the community and the police.

Early Childhood Fair at the JCC – COP officers met with representatives from several daycare facilities to promote and stress the importance of maintaining a safe and healthy lifestyle.

MLK March and gathering at the Yerwood center – COPS officers participated in and represented the PD in the annual MLK march and gathering.

Building One Discussion – COP officers conducted a follow up with members of the Hispanic and Haitian communities and stressed the steps that need to be taken if you are a crime victim or wish to report a crime.

Delta Nu Boule and the Boys in the Education Demonstration Project – Spoke with approximately 25 high school males regarding making good life choices, surrounding themselves with positive influences and stressing the importance of continuing education.

Shop with a Cop/Night of Bowling – COP officers participated in a Christmas shopping event in Milford where each officer was paired with a needy child and took that kid shopping, followed by a fun night of bowling.

Hero's Panel at Stillmeadow School – COP officers and fire and EMS personnel spoke with students about their jobs, career choices and the importance of staying in school.

Trunk a Treat – COP officers interacted with and distributed Halloween candy to more than 200 kids at the Yerwood center.

Hispanic Health Fair – officers manned a booth at the fair which promoted good dialogue with the Hispanic community and the importance of a safe and healthy lifestyle.

COP officers also participated in 3 Community “Speak Out” forums—one at the Yearwood center and two at the Government Center. These forums were organized by Mr. Barry woods in an effort to improve community relations between the police and the community and to attempt to address community concerns and problems. The 3 events drew about 150 people and the dialogue was spirited, open and honest.

This year marked the second year of our successful ‘Coffee with a Cop’ events. The mission of ‘Coffee with a Cop’ is to further break down barriers between officers and citizens by meeting in a comfortable environment over a cup of coffee. In a short time, citizens and officers got to know each other and discussed goals and solutions to address neighborhood concerns. These events were hosted by Starbucks on High ridge Road, Dunkin Donuts on East Main Street and the Islamic Cultural Center on Washington Boulevard.

In 2015 COP officers partnered with DOMUS to start a Boys Leadership Program. The purpose of the program is to identify and work with middle school aged boys to build strong character through team building programs and outreach events. Cop officers act as mentors to the young men and conduct weekly discussions/workshops. The main focus of the program is education but also offers the boys positive options/alternatives to coping with negative influences within the community or their families.

Officers also conducted a Coffee with a Cop event at National Night Out, appeared at dozens of fairs,, touch a trucks and school events. Officers and command Staff attend community and neighborhood events to talk about neighborhood concerns and offer crime safety tips. SPD officers also run the hugely successful Mighty Mite basketball program which has graduated nearly 20,000 players and cheerleaders and organize and run backpack and winter coat give donation events.

Our Girls Leadership Program seeks to have the same impact as the Boys Program. Several female officers work with a group of middle school girls to increase the girls' self-esteem, provide them with life and work skills and engage them in community based projects including volunteering to work in the department Graffiti Abatement program.

This is but a sampling of the community based work and spirit that the agency provides on a day in, day out basis to the people who live and work in our community.

Investigative Division

The Investigative division is comprised of the following units: Major Crimes, Property Crimes, Special Investigations Juvenile Offenses, Special Victims Unit, Property and Evidence, Crime Scene Unit, Digital Forensics, Narcotics and Organized Crime and the CrimeStopper Tip Line.

The division is responsible for investigations and follow ups for all serious criminal investigations. These include but are not limited to homicides, sexual assaults, robberies, assaults, burglaries, auto thefts, car break ins, larcenies, computer and white collar crimes, fraud, larcenies, crimes involving juveniles, crimes against the elderly, domestic violence, stalking, bank fraud, child pornography, narcotics, organized crime and firearms violations.

The Narcotics and Organized Crime Unit is one of the primary reasons why our crime rate remains among the lowest in the country and the region. This unit which has 8 Investigators and 2 Sergeants often prevents crimes such as shootings and robberies from happening and prevents gang re-emergence by using a vast network of intelligence sources both inside and outside the law enforcement world. In FY17/18 the NOC Unit made 530 arrests and seized over \$850,000 worth of narcotics and seized 28 illegal firearms. Many of the firearms were destined to be used in violent criminal acts and were only stopped by the 24/7 dedication of this unit. NOC officers also work with and collaborate with a multitude of local, state and federal agencies on regional issues and large scale operations. We continue to push back against the opioid epidemic that has struck New England with ferocity by actively pursuing traffickers in heroin, fentanyl and prescriptions both in city and elsewhere. This year we folded our FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force officer and Muslim Community Outreach into the NOC structure to better manage these resources and maximize our partnerships. **Muslim outreach has been one of our most successful and appreciated outreach** efforts, and we maintain a constant, open dialogue with these community partners.

The SPD CrimeStopper Tipline is a two year old venture that is a partnership between the Stamford Police Foundation, a not for profit 501(c)3 and the PD. A small group of detective and supervisory personnel were trained to receive tips on a 24/7 dedicated tip line, with the primary goal being the removal of illegal firearms from our streets. In FY 17/18 the line received 56 total calls on a variety of criminal matters. Of these, 13 involved firearms. These 13 tips led to 14 arrests and **the seizure of 14 illegal guns from our streets**. Rewards were given to the tipsters whose info resulted in an arrest and a firearm seizure. All tip money was provided by the Stamford Police Foundation, no city or agency funds were expended for these tips.

The investigation of crimes such as homicide, sexual assault, and assault is a deeply personal and difficult process that is also sometimes lengthy and labor intensive. Working with a minimal staffing level Major Crimes Unit officers investigated 2 homicides, 41 robberies, 33 sexual assaults, 22 firearms violations, 47 assaults, 65 DOA's, 10 suicides, 8 intimidation cases and 65 cases categorized as miscellaneous investigations. As the opioid crisis has swept the nation we have taken steps to stem the tide by employing new techniques such as opioid o.d. protocols which resulted in a manslaughter arrest of a convicted narcotics dealer. New initiatives such as these protocols have kept Stamford from being devastated by OD's as other communities have been.

The Property Crimes Unit is split into 2 separate units, Burglary and Financial crimes as the investigation of certain property offenses is highly specialized. The Burglary Unit concentrates on burglaries, arsons, motor

vehicle thefts, thefts of motor vehicle parts, and thefts from motor vehicles. The Financial Crimes Unit investigates computer crime, fraud, bank fraud, internet crimes, bad/forged checks and a variety of larcenies. During FY 17/18 we experienced a surge in the number of juveniles committing property crimes such as thefts from motor vehicles. The Unit arrested 31 juveniles this year, requiring collaboration with the Youth Bureau and Juvenile Courts. **The total number of car break-ins was down from 753 to 452, largely in part to the Unit identifying certain juveniles who would commit 30 or more breaks in one night.**

The burglary unit investigated 168 burglaries, 228 stolen cars (34 were unreturned rental cars), 452 thefts from vehicles and 4 arsons. Those reports led to the Unit conducted 359 investigations, a 32% increase in investigations from 16/17. These led to 75 warrants being applied for, 92 arrest warrants being served including 21 juveniles and 5 search warrants. The Unit made 105 arrests for a variety of property crimes.

The Financial Crimes Unit of BCI takes on cases involving white collar crimes as listed previously. We believe that this type of crime will become more prevalent as criminal use of technology increases while at the same time citizens ability to protect themselves diminishes. A key component of the Financial Crimes Unit is the ongoing relationships and task force commitments that we undertake. Chief among these are our membership in the IRS TF and the FBI Cyber Crime TF. We are also developing a strong relationship with the NYPD Financial Crimes Unit as we see a significant amount of activity coming from NYC. In addition to cases and investigations we continue to offer educational opportunities to the elderly and the community at large to reduce victimization. In the reporting period the unit made 40 arrests, executed 52 search warrants and prepared 42 arrest warrants.

The Digital Forensics Unit was created to handle the tremendous influx in cases, evidence and information that we receive from digital and electronic sources. The DFU handles cases such as child pornography and exploitation, any crime where digital evidence may exist and crimes committed using phones, computers and other electronic devices. This year the unit analyzed 86 electronic devices, analyzed 210 videos containing potential evidence of criminal activity and produce 3 publicly released DIVRT videos seeking public help in solving crimes. Phone analysis continues to be the highest demand as so much personal information is now stored and passed on through these devices. DFU sent both of the Unit's investigators to a two week long "Cellebrite" software class. This is one of the premier classes offered regarding cracking and examining phones. We continue to be heavily involved in the Technical Investigation Unit of Southwest CT. This task force increases our capabilities and resources in the field of examining and analyzing electronics and digital media.

Keeping our community and family oriented philosophy in mind, the Special Investigations Juvenile Offenses Unit plays a key role in our outreach and crime fighting efforts. The SIJO investigates all crimes involving juveniles as either offenders or victims. An important factor in our success is the involvement of our officers in programs that reach out to the most vulnerable and needy of the children and families in our community. We successfully administer Boys and Girls Leadership Programs, truancy, chronic absenteeism and at risk youth programs. Through these programs we offer mediation and conflict resolution skill building, teach life skills, provide mentoring and exposure to positive role models and options to the criminal justice system. In FY 17/18 the SIJO investigated 576 new cases, made 295 arrests, investigated **80 sexual assaults, referred 35 juveniles to the new Absenteeism Review Board which is available at all of our middle schools**, The SIJO also partners with DOMUS, SPS and the Mayors Juvenile Justice Reform Program, Cradle to Career, and other community based programs aimed at keeping our kids safe and preparing them to move on as adults.

The Special Victims Unit was the first of its kind in the state and is considered a model for other agencies. Working in close partnership with the Domestic Violence Crisis Center and the Victims Advocate the SVU handles domestic and intimate partner violence cases, stalking cases, hoarding complaints, assists with U-Visa applications and elder abuse incidents. The Unit not only handles the investigations and arrests but is also extensively involved with victims in the safety planning, after care counseling and follow ups **to DV**

incidents. In FY17/18 the Unit handled 298 cases, made 48 warrant arrests, prepared 76 arrest warrants, made 76 referrals to our partners at DVCC, made 65 home visits, handled 12 hoarding complaints and 4 elder abuse cases. The SVU also seized 13 firearms, 5 pistol permits and completed 35 U-Visa applications.

Patrol Division

The Patrol Division of the Stamford Police Department, as with all city police departments is the primary responder to all calls for service in the city. Patrol officers are first responders who are responsible for the majority of citizen contacts, visible patrol activities and incident responses. As we are a community based agency we believe that service is best delivered by dividing the city into districts commanded by a Patrol Captain who ensures delivery of police services in their respective districts. The Captains maintain contact with stakeholders in their districts by attending meetings, participating in the planning of large of events and by having regular contact with neighborhood and community based groups. Police services are delivered by rotating squads commanded by Lieutenants who oversee squads made up of Officers and Sergeants who are broken down into neighborhood patrol sectors so officers are familiar with each neighborhoods particular needs.

Officers from the Patrol Division are visible in every part of our city, whether it be attending countless community events or conducting school based or neighborhood patrols. FY 17/18 saw officers conduct 51,471 neighborhood patrols, and 6,513 school based patrols. School based patrols provide a visible uniform police presence at all schools in the city, public and private. They not only serve as a visible crime deterrent but foster positive relationships between students, parents, faculty and staff and the officers of the Police department. Neighborhood patrols are conducted at known hot spots, parks and open spaces and other areas that require a visible, attentive police presence.

The Patrol Division is comprised of the Uniform Patrol Officers, the Traffic Enforcement/Collision Accident Reconstruction Squad the Harbor Unit, the Training Division the Motorcycle Unit, and the Comprehensive OUI Initiative.

These units create and handle the significant majority of our citizen contacts, calls for service and incidents. For FY 17/18 the department as a whole generated 134,148 service calls.

The Traffic Enforcement Unit/CARS Squad is a lynchpin of the department's efforts to increase pedestrian and motor vehicle safety in the city. The Unit is made up of 1 Sergeant and 3 Patrol Officers who are all certified in OUI practices and procedures, high level collision reconstruction and investigation and other traffic, collision and motor vehicle related subject matter. The unit emphasizes targeted motor vehicle enforcement based on data, experience, and community complaints with primary goals of traffic calming and collision mitigation. In FY 17/18 the Unit issued 2,490 citations, investigated 6 fatalities from 6 crashes, conducted 17 investigations, executed 11 search and seizure warrants, served 7 arrest warrants and suspended 13 graduated driver's licenses. The Unit secured \$131,000 in grants for projects including E-Citation, Distracted Driving, Click It or Ticket Campaign, and the pilot nighttime enforcement campaign. Each of these programs were spearheaded by TEU officers. During FY 17/18 the TEU also conducted several touch a truck community events, instructed at MADD events and assisted with the Special Olympics Torch Run. TEU officers also taught at the Yonkers NY motorcycle school, POSTC, local high schools and school PTO's regarding mv law, graduated licensing, traffic safety, social responsibility and house party rules and assisted numerous outside agencies with investigations.

Comprehensive OUI Initiative

Each year the State of Connecticut provides municipalities with grant money to assist in our battle against drunk driving. These funds are used to support checkpoints and roaming OUI details. Last year we conducted 6 checkpoints in different areas of the city which netted 10 OUI offenders and seized 3 firearms along with quantities of various narcotics. The roaming patrols are assigned when officers are available to

work them on weekends. This year we ran 39 patrols which netted us 32 OUI offenders. Officers also noted a steep increase in drugged driving this year while conducting OUI roaming patrols. These patrols and checkpoints are another tool in our efforts to combat drunk and drugged driving. We also continue to urge the use of and educate our citizens on using alternative modes of transportation such as Uber and Lyft.

Motorcycle Unit

The SPD Motorcycle Unit is comprised of 15 Sergeants and patrol Officers who operate 8 Harley Davidson Electra Glide motorcycles. The unit is an important part of our traffic enforcement efforts and operates at all times when weather permits utilizing laser equipped radar units and monitoring traffic hot spots including school zones and school bus stops. MCU officers also ride steady posts and respond to calls for service as other patrol units would while on duty. The unit also actively participates in parades, funeral escorts, touch a truck and other community events, road races, Yerwood family Day and dignitary escorts. We frequently are asked by nearby towns for assistance as our motor unit is frequently cited for the performance and professionalism. Officers in the MCU are required to have a valid motorcycle license and pass an intensive training class that requires officers to master all aspects of operation.

Training Division

The Training Division is responsible for all in service officer training, recruit training, field training, roll call training and supplemental training for officers in specialized units. They are also the agencies primary liaison to POSTC, run the Citizens Police Academy and assist with multi agency training and exercises. In FY 17/18 the unit, which is staffed by 1 Captain and 2 Patrol Officers organized, ran and facilitated the following classes and initiatives:

Issued body worn cameras to all Patrol Officers and conducted training for the entire agency.

Held specialized training for supervisors on investigation of crimes motivated by bigotry and bias.

Conducted a week long Field training Officer Certification.

Completed classroom and roll call training for the Employee Assistance Program for supervisors and officers regarding proactivity in the caretaking of law enforcement officers following a rash of officer suicides in state.

Completed POST mandated in service training and review for 75 officers.

Conducted orientation for 17 new officers and assisted with coordinating field training program.

In house SPD instructors under the guidance of training staff taught several different courses of study at the Connecticut Police Academy.

Transferred 50 years of retired officers training record to electronic format.

Completed more than 400 Personnel/Training Orders.

Conducted role call training on a wide variety of topics.

Completed training and issued NARCAN to over 110 officers.

Provided safety training to SPD civilian police aides in areas of Blood and airborne pathogens, traffic control and tactical awareness.

Ran impaired driving and intoximeter certifications for officers and special officers.

The Firearms Unit of the Training Division saw an increase in both voluntary and mandatory firearms training this year, including training 18 new recruits. This year the Unit strived to increase firearms proficiency among patrol officers including offering midnight tour officers opportunities to train while they worked. To offer more less lethal options we are purchasing 3 40 mm less lethal multi launchers to

augment the single shot less lethal options officers already carry. Tasers are now mandatory for all new officers in another attempt to give more less-lethal options to our personnel. Range personnel have seen increased accuracy and performance using a .9mm sidearm as opposed to the current .45. We are proposing a changeover for the entire department at some point as this appears to be a superior firearm. The cost will be absorbed over a 5 year period as 9mm ammunition purchases will be several thousand dollars a year less.

The SPD Harbor Unit is a year round, all weather unit that is staffed by 1 Sergeant and 2 Patrol Officers utilizing 3 vessels with varying capabilities. In addition to patrol, interdiction and enforcement activities the Harbor Unit also engages in the following activities on a regular basis:

Monitor illegal oystering activities

Monitor boat ramps during season for safety violations and documentation.

Monitor public access areas around the harbor during the evening for trespassers and parking violations.

Assist Health Department with water sampling.

Check harbor for floating debris which presents a navigation hazard

Patrol Stamford Harbor, Westcott Cove, Dolphin Cove and Cove Island area for boating violations.

Assist with set up and security during fireworks show when applicable.

Provide security during HarborFest.

Respond to distress calls in Stamford and surrounding area.

Harbor Unit personnel also represent the PD at harbor Commission meetings, attend Bridgeport Port Area marine Group meetings and training, and semi- annually train with the USCG in search and rescue operations.

This year the Harbor Unit made 126 safety checks

Gave 152 verbal warnings to boaters

Wrote 28 infractions

Assisted 9 vessels in distress

Assisted 7 sinking vessels

Made 3 water rescues

Retrieved 3 runaway docks

Handled 3 illegal oyster incidents

Handled 34 additional marine related calls.

Documented 30 abandoned vessels.

Special Operations

Note: **All** Special Operations officers perform **other full time** duties with in the agency. Spec Ops is the secondary duty for all of these officers.

Our Special Operations Units are among the finest in the region and are often asked to train other agencies special operators. Because of their expertise and professionalism our special operations teams have been asked to train with the FBI HRT, the Navy SEALs, NYPD Hostage Negotiation, Southwest region SWAT and several other high profile units. Each of these units undergoes extensive specialized training, adheres to the highest physical standards and put all members through an exhaustive vetting, indoctrination and training regimen. In addition to the Special Response Team, Explosive and Ordinance Disposal, K9 and Hostage Negotiation we have added a Drone Unit to our cadre of special teams. This year the SRT took advantage of their continued and growing relationship with the FBI Hostage Rescue Team. The FBI HRT took the unusual step of coming here to train in Stamford and at our new training facility in Carmel NY (see below). The CSP SWAT Team also came to Carmel to train with Stamford SRT, along with Southwest Regional SWAT for purposes of interoperability.

Currently we have 17 SRT operators who are specially trained and equipped to handle a mission which includes hostage rescue, sniper/counter sniper operations, dignitary protection, high risk warrant services, security details, counter terror operations, and patrol assists. Our SRT has received extensive training from some of the world's best operators in weapons, tactics, close quarters battle, mechanical and explosive breaching, less lethal operations and interoperability with hostage negotiators, EOD teams, K9 teams and the Harbor Unit. **FY 17/18 saw the team activated 43 times**, up from 24 last year. The activations are broken down as follows: **16 high risk warrant executions, 5 hostage/barricaded** subjects, 8 patrol assists, 13 security details, and 1 special assignment. During these operations the SRT recovered 10 firearms. We have adhered to strict guidelines and protocols as to when the unit is deployed, such as when there is a significant risk to officers or civilians.

A new boost for us this year is the addition of the Paladin Center in Carmel NY as a training venue. The Paladin Center offers several locations that offer unique challenges for our Special Operations teams including modular, adjustable venues with both indoor and outdoor scenarios available.

The EOD or Bomb Squad, which is a regional asset continues to be progressive by establishing community partnerships and following through with community oriented explosive awareness training. This involves putting forth comprehensive training strategies for our officers and first responders in explosive recognition and safe responses to incidents. This training includes IED recognition, WMD training, personal protective equipment training, and explosive threat recognition. Through this training not only our EOD techs, but the department as a whole can proactively assist and teach the community about explosive threats and safety. Currently there are 6 EOD techs who are federally credentialed and have top secret government clearance.

Our EOD unit has provided training to almost every department in Region 1, the Connecticut Chiefs training at Yale University, the SW Regional SWAT Team and the Danbury SRT. The unit is also very active locally with public and private sector IED awareness teaching. The unit is very active at touch a truck, school and community demonstrations, BOE and YMCA fairs and other outreach initiatives. The explosive detection K9's are Labrador retrievers and they, along with EOD robots are always a huge hit at community events. K9's Pogo, Bram and Dobby and their handlers have had 6 successful gun/shell casing searches this year.

In FY 17/18 the EOD Unit was activated 291 times as follows: 37 presentations/demos, 130 callouts for explosive sweeps or unattended bags, 66 calls for suspicious packages/vehicles, military ordinance, explosive chemicals and commercial fireworks and 58 incidents for firearm/bullet/shell casing K9 searches. This year the unit was activated to respond to bomb threats at schools at a much higher rate than in previous years. These callouts are extremely labor intensive and are a draw on our resources. EOD techs responded to SHS, WHS, AITE, Roxbury, Trail Blazers, Stamford Academy, Staples HS, Fairfield HS, Norwalk HS and New Canaan HS. Private corporations are in need of more EOD services than in the past as they are experiencing more threats both internal and external.

The Hostage Negotiation Unit was deployed 5 times in FY 17/18. All 5 of the incidents were brought to successful conclusions. The HNT trains regularly and has a rotating standby list of 7 officers, 2 Sergeants and 1 Lieutenant who negotiate in two person teams at a minimum. This year 2 HNT supervisors travelled to New York to train with NYPD Hostage Negotiators for the second year in a row. This year the HNT began operating out of a new command truck which facilitates better communications regarding unit interoperability and with subjects/suspects at scene.

The Drone Unit was formed during the past year to take advantage of the many uses these tools provide. Drones provide significant advantages over other methods for searching for suspects, missing/endangered people and evidence. The DJI Maverick Pro and DJI Phantom3 drones that the unit uses now have an approximately 20 minute run time and have no night time capability. While both of these factors are negative operational issues, the drones have shown to be extremely positive in uses by the CARS Unit, SRT and Patrol. The drones' greatest value is in searching for suspects and people in areas

that are difficult or dangerous for officers and for taking photos for reconnaissance and at scenes. This year the drones were utilized 10 times, a number we will see increase as the agency becomes more familiar with the equipment and we purchase more advanced drones.

The K9 Unit has 5 dogs that are operational 5 in patrol in addition to the 3 K9 EOD dogs. We have 1 Lab who is narcotics trained, 3 Shepherds who are cross trained in narcotics detection and apprehension and a bloodhound who is trained in tracking. The unit currently has 2 officers who assist with training and perform decoy work. Per industry standard, all K9 teams train for 16 hours a month. The K9 unit trains regularly with SRT, EOD and HNT to increase interoperability between all of the special ops units.

SPD K9 is currently training Darien, Easton, New Canaan and Brookfield K9 units as we are recognized as one of the finest K9 units in the region. During FY 17/18 SPD K9 units were directly involved with 15 apprehensions with no bites. This highlights the influence of the dog's presence in de-escalating potentially dangerous situations, keeping both officers and suspects safe from additional harm. Also during this period K9 units successfully located firearms, narcotics, suspects and lost or missing people underscoring the value of this unit with such unique abilities. K9 units also participate in many community and school based events, performing demonstrations and letting the kids meet the officers and the dogs in a controlled setting which is always a huge hit.

K9 deployments during this period are as follows:

Total uses: 4,753

Tracking/area searches 61	Apprehensions: 15
Narcotics searches: 133	Patrol Assists: 571
SRT assists: 12 w/2 firearms recovered	NOC assists: 21
Assist other Agencies: 51	Alarms/Open doors: 165
Special Assignments: 4	Building searches: 37
Programmed Patrols: 1,095	MV Stops/Violations: 336
Suspicious People/Activity: 111	Demos/Fundraisers: 14

PD by the numbers

Calls for Service: 134,148	Arrests: 2,588
Motor Vehicle Stops: 19,983	Program Patrols: 51,471
School Patrols: 6,513	NOC Arrests: 530
SVU Cases: 298	Major Crimes Investigations: 283
Property Crimes Investigations: 359	SIJO Cases: 576
EOD Deployments: 291	K9 Deployments: 4,753
SRT Deployments: 43	HNT Deployments: 5
Gun Stopper Tips/Firearms seized: 56/14	

Programs/Outreach

Juvenile Review Board	School Absenteeism Review Board
Building One Community Partnership	Mayors Juvenile Justice Reform

St. Joseph's Parenting Collaborative	Community Outreach program (COP)
Coffee with a Cop	Anti-Graffiti Initiative (with Girls Leadership)
Truancy/At Risk Student Program	U.S. Secret Service Task Force
Boys and Girls Leadership	Hoarding Task Force
Senior Outreach Collaborative	Operation Safe House
CT Intelligence Center	National Reading Day
Shop with a Cop	UCONN PEP Latino Recycling
FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force	Sexual Assault Crisis Team
DV Lethality Assessment Team	IRS Task Force
Fairfield County Jewelry Alliance	Tech Investigations task Force of SW CT.
CSP Internet Crimes against Children	Yerwood Center Community Day
Muslim Community Outreach	Interfaith Council

Firearms Education Talks for gun control advocacy

● **Fire Department – City & Volunteer**

The Stamford Fire Department's mission is to protect the lives and property of all citizens of Stamford and guests in regards to Fire, Emergency Medical, Rescue & Disasters, Natural or manmade, through education, code enforcement & the response of highly trained Fire personnel. The department continues working toward full implementation of the changes to the fire service within the City put forth in the Charter Change of 2012. The Stamford Fire Department shall continue towards the enrichment of the safety and effectiveness of the City-wide fire protection system.

Grant Funding

In FY 2017-2018, the Department received or implemented all or part of the following grants to supplement our budget and increase our services to the City's residents:

- FY 2016 Regional Fire Training School \$22,000
- FY 2015 Port Security \$32,698.37 for sustainment of the Fire Boat program
- FY 2013 SAFER (Turn of River) \$1,569,866.39 for Firefighter hiring
- FY 2013 SAFER \$314,709.42
- FY 2017 Band 14 Spectrum Relocation Grant \$15,870

Line Division -The Line Division is the mitigation arm of the Stamford Fire Department is known as the "Line Division". The Line Division responded to the following lifesaving incidents:

Fire Department - Trends			
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Total number of calls responded to	10300	10374	11316
Total fires	415	398	416
Structure fires	54	54	61
Hazardous materials calls	734	657	1109
Rescue/EMS first responder calls	5766	5401	5879
False alarms	1821	1846	2097
Fire investigations	207	200	229
Fire marshal inspections (total)	2622	2616*	3283
Fire losses	\$4,164,538	\$3,432,250	\$2,372,300

* Retirement/Fire Marshal staffing transitions

The Stamford Fire Department serves the city, its residents and guests by being the lead emergency response agency to all manner of rescue incidents, with special operations units performing: SCUBA Rescue, Heavy Rescue, Motor Vehicle Extrication, High Angle Rescue and Confined Space Rescue. Additionally, the department now has 30 members trained in Mitigating Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents through FEMA. This summer there was an exponential increase in the number of calls for boating/waterway incidents and the SFD Marine Division played a much larger role than in years past. The department provides technician-level hazardous materials response services with the HAZMAT task force operating out of the South End fire station.

Fighting fires is only a portion of the lifesaving work our firefighters perform. On a daily basis firefighters respond to a wide array of incidents within the city. The highest percentage of calls to the Fire Department are Rescue / Emergency Medical incidents. Stamford Fire Department is the "EMT-Level First Responder" to all life threatening EMS calls in the city, and due to our proximity and our extensive training and expertise, many lives are saved annually. Due to the continuing national epidemic of opiate drug overdoses the Stamford Fire Department continues training in the use of the narcotic antagonist drug "NARCAN" which counteracts the effects of opioid drugs such as Fentanyl and Heroin. Since the completion of initial NARCAN training and Stamford's implementation of treatment protocols, Stamford firefighter/EMTs have administered this lifesaving drug, NARCAN, on numerous occasions saving multiple lives.

This fiscal year the department purchased and deployed six (6) more "LUCAS" Chest Compression Systems completing our deployment for city units. These devices assist rescuers in performing CPR and are known to improve outcomes for patients in cardiac arrest. The "LUCAS" devices have proven to be a valuable tool to the department.

In this fiscal year the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) were upgraded for all departments. This includes 185 SCBA units and 2 6,000 psi compressors. The old SCBAs had reached end of life and could not be upgraded any more. This new equipment is state of the art and should be in serve the firefighters for many years.

Volunteer Division-Fiscal year 2017-2018 has once again brought an increase in certified firefighters, also we are proud to report that the Stamford volunteer Division has developed an Officer Development Program (ODP) for the more senior and experienced members to provide better operations at emergency incidents. This program requires State Certification and qualifies the members to operate and command emergency operations and in addition it is also focused towards improved fire department administration and personnel management and stewardship of the Volunteer departments.

Training Delivered: Basic Fire Fighting Classes, Fire Fighter 1 and Fire Fighter 2

OFFICER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
 Fire Officer 2, Fire Officer 3, Incident safety Officer, Incident Command ICS 300, Rural Water Supply Operations and Sensitivity and Diversity Training

All this training was done at the Volunteer fire stations days and times which would most likely work for Volunteer members.

In 2014 the number of Certified Fire Fighters was 95. As of 2018 we now have 134 certified Fire Fighters. This is a 41% increase. The number of Certified Fire Officers is ever more impressive.

Volunteer Fire Membership						
2017/2018	Belltown	Glenbrook	Long Ridge	Springdale	Turn of River	Total Certified
Certified Firefighters	42	21	30	12	29	134

Volunteer Fire Incidents			
2017/2018	Incidents Responded	Total Incidents	Percentage
Belltown	432	432	100%
Glenbrook	252	424	59%
Long Ridge	654	667	98%
Springdale	218	723	30%
Turn of River	841	1994	42%

Training and Standards:

14 Members attended Fire Instructor certification and 44 Members attended Incident Command 300 training. All Volunteer fire stations are logging in-quarters staffing hours. OSHA compliant medical examinations were conducted throughout the volunteer system. Belltown Tower Ladder 45 now has the ability to respond City Wide during Working Fires. Stamford Volunteer units have participated in several large scale training evolutions to outside jurisdiction in order to increase Stamford's Mutual Aid capability.

Fire Marshal Division - The Fire Marshal Division is the risk reduction arm of the Fire Department. Responsibilities of this division include fire code enforcement in both new construction and existing structures. This includes plan reviews for new construction, fire code inspections, and testing of new fire safety systems such as fire sprinkler systems, standpipe systems, fire alarm systems, and smoke control systems. The fire inspection process requires research and investigation to obtain owner information utilizing various databases and often times requires extensive fire code research.

The Fire Marshal Division is also charged with conducting fire cause and origin investigations and arson investigations. These investigations often require collaboration with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in order to accurately determine the exact cause and correct determination of the fire be it accidental, undetermined, natural, or intentional. Investigations are often conducted working alongside private fire investigators and insurance company investigators. Investigations include the collection, preservation, and processing of evidence as well as obtaining administrative and criminal search warrants when applicable.

In addition, the Fire Marshal Division is tasked with Public Fire Education. Personnel from the Fire Marshal division visit schools, resident communities, area businesses and provide educational presentations and “talks” about Fire Prevention and Safety. Some of these educational presentations are conducted in Spanish to better serve the ever changing demographics of the citizens of Stamford. Each of the three main functions of the Fire Marshal Division, fire code enforcement, fire investigation, public fire education, serve a critical function. Both fire investigations and fire code enforcement provide valuable information about the types of fires and fire code violations commonly encountered in the city which help to develop fire prevention programs to target both issues.

	<i>Fire Marshal Division - Trends</i>					
	FY 17-18	FY 16-17	FY 15-16	FY 14-15	FY 13-14	FY 11-12
Fire Investigations	229	200	207	308	272	221
Fire Losses	2,786,290	3,432,250	4,164,538	3,334,362	4,142,178	3,709,901
Residential Insp.	670	725	703	1182	705	824
Smoke Alarm Installations	71	69				

Training Division – The Fire Department Training Division is responsible for all NFPA, OSHA, and ISO related training for all firefighting personnel within the Department. The Fire Department Administration views the Training Division as being an integral part of the Fire Services consolidation. Continuation of the analysis of the volunteer firefighter training records and the full integration of training records for the entire Department is ongoing.

The number below reflect the only the training conducted of career personnel:

<i>TRAINING DIVISION - TRENDS</i>					
Fiscal Year	FY 17-18	FY 16-17	FY 15-16	FY 14-15	FY 13-14
Classes	5326	5083	5431	5321	4215
Student Hours	37681	34811	38000	31226	25281

The Fire Department Training Division successfully completed EMT/EMR refresher training for 70 members during the past fiscal year. Regular scheduled training took place at the Company Officer level, both in station, and at the training facility on Magee Avenue. As a result of recent contract requirements, all Lieutenants have been certified to the Fire Officer I and Fire Instructor I level, all Captains are certified to the Fire Officer II level, and all Deputy Chiefs are certified to the Fire Officer III level.

In addition to the Officer training, all fire personnel continue to vigorously train on key proficiencies that allow them to maintain competencies in the wide range of services provided by the Fire Department.

Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training continues for all assigned career fire apparatus operators. The Training Division has also been providing this training to members of the Operations Department and Police Department.

Fire boat and maritime operations training has been assigned to personnel at Fire Station 4 in Shippan. Personnel from Station 4 have spent hundreds of hours training with the fire boat with several new operators trained and certified. The new operators will greatly enhance the Department's ability to respond to maritime related emergencies throughout the year.

Specialty and technical rescue skills continue to be a priority for the Department. 8 members recently completed a rescue SCUBA diver program and 20 members of the Department will be participating in a technical rescue training program at the Stamford Regional Fire School in the fall of 2018.

The Fire Department has been using online training platforms for several years. The Department presently has a contract with Fire Rescue Academy to provide online learning for Emergency Medical training and OSHA compliance related courses. Personnel are assigned new courses each month and access the training through computer work stations in all Fire Stations.

The Training Division is also responsible for the administration of the Stamford Regional Fire Training School. The Regional Fire School has been providing training to Stamford career and volunteer firefighters, as well as, firefighters from area Departments for more than a decade. Throughout the year, the school is used to conduct various fire and emergency service related training classes. The school has its own elevator rescue training simulator and elevator rescue training program that attracts students from as far away as Hawaii. The school has been used during the past year to provide joint training with the Stamford Police Department and also assist members of the Stamford CERT and Stamford Citizen's Public Safety Academy.

The Department continues to purchase an additional set of personal protective equipment (PPE) for all firefighters. The additional set will allow personnel to regularly clean and launder their PPE. With the present rate of delivery, all personnel will have been issued their second set of by the end of 2018 and well ahead of the June 2019 contract mandate.

Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance Division - The SFD Mechanical Division is responsible for the annual inspection, service, and repair of all Stamford Fire Department apparatus, equipment and support vehicles. This past year the Mechanical Division has again continued to expand the amount of services that we provide to the day to day operation of the fire department. The Mechanical Division makes every effort to do as much work in house as possible to reduce down time of fire apparatus and lifesaving firefighting equipment.

With the citywide SCBA replacement project in motion the Mechanical Division prepared fire apparatus citywide to properly house the new air packs. We are also home to a state of the art breathing air compressor and fill station where SCBA cylinders for firefighters citywide will be refilled.

Other tasks that are performed through the Mechanical Division are Annual Pump testing, Annual Ladder testing, Annual Fire Hose testing, Annual Flow testing of SCBA devices. Fire Hydrant purchasing, replacement and repairs are also the responsibility of the Mechanical Division, as is SCBA maintenance & small equipment repairs. The SFD Mechanical Division works closely with the line division, the fire marshals division, training division and volunteer companies to make sure that all of the equipment that the divisions utilize and rely on daily work as efficiently and safely as possible.

● **Stamford Emergency Medical Services (SEMS)**

SEMS' mission is to provide consistent, compassionate, high quality, pre-hospital paramedic service to the citizens and visitors of Stamford. SEMS continues fulfilling this mission to the City of Stamford as it has faithfully since May of 1992.

SEMS responded to 14,344 calls for medical assistance this year, a small increase from the previous year. Of those calls 6,562 required our highly trained paramedics to perform Advanced Life Support (ALS) interventions. This volume of calls requires SEMS to operate 5 ambulances during peak hours of the day to ensure quality patient care in accordance with our mission. SEMS responded to 93% of all calls within 8 minutes and SEMS has an average response time of 5.9 minutes to ALS calls. The increased utilization of EMD in the past few years has significantly reduced the number of “lights and sirens” responses, decreasing the risk to the public and SEMS personnel.

SEMS also provided medical coverage/support to all large-scale events in the City such as the balloon parade and Alive at Five. No matter the size or scope of the event we deployed additional resources without interruption to our day to day operations. When our services were required, SEMS rose to the occasion.

SEMS is an integral partner and provides leadership and excellent service to the City of Stamford on a continuing basis. This year SEMS continued its training program including Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) classes and providing American Heart Association classes to all Stamford Hospital Personnel. SEMS also worked closely with other first responders on improving plans for responding to mass casualty events including active shooter incidents. Finally, SEMS initiated a “Safety Step-Up” program to increase safety awareness in potentially hazardous situations (i.e. – pool safety, bicycle safety, allergies, etc.).

All of these services are performed with a full time staff of 46 people supported by per-diem employees and an active contingency of 25 volunteers.

SEMS - At a Glance	
Calls for medical assistance	14,344
Number of patients transported to hospital	10,842
- Number of advanced life support interventions	6,562
Percentage responded to within 8 minutes	93%
Average Code 3 ALS response time in minutes	5.9
Code 3 Responses (lights & sirens)	8075
Code 1 Responses (no lights & sirens)	6269

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Health Department

The Department of Health works to improve the health and safety of those who live and work in City of Stamford by applying the basic principles of health promotion and disease prevention through the programmatic activities undertaken by the department.

The Department’s Mission is to promote wellness and healthy lifestyles, prevent disease and injury, and proactively protect the health, safety, and well-being of the public and our city environment.

The Department’s Vision is to have healthy people living, learning, working, and playing in a safe, healthy, and culturally diverse community.

The Department’s Values are [iCARE]:

Innovation: We search for create solutions and manage resources wisely.

Collaboration: We use teamwork to achieve common goals and solve problems.

Accountability: We perform with integrity and respect.

Responsiveness: We achieve our mission by serving our customers and engaging our partners.

Excellence: We promote quality outcomes through learning and continuous performance improvement.

The State of Connecticut's General Statute 19a-207a requires that all health departments engage in the *Ten Essential Services (ES) of Public Health*. These 10 ES are grouped into these major areas:

- I. **Assessment**
 1. Monitor Health
 2. Diagnose & Investigate
- II. **Policy Development**
 3. Inform Educate & Empower
 4. Mobilize Community & Partnerships
- III. **Assurance**
 5. Develop Policies
 6. Enforce Laws
 7. Link to/Provide care
 8. Assure Competent Workforce
 9. Evaluate
 10. Research

Through its, mission, vision, and values, the Stamford Health Department aligns its activities with these ten essential services.

In fiscal year 2017-2018, 82 persons worked in the Stamford Health Department. With oversight being provided by the Director of Health with support from a part-time Medical Advisor. The Director reports to the Director of Public Safety Health and Welfare and the Health Commission. The department consists of three divisions, Environmental Inspections, Nursing and Dental, and Laboratory, as well as the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Public Health Education, Outreach, and Emergency Preparedness and Response Programs.

Environmental Inspections

The Environmental Inspections program addresses environmental issues that affect the health and safety of the public. These include but are not limited to issues related to housing, lead, mold, asthma, air pollution, food, daycare, bedbugs, pools, weights and measures, rodent, septic, permits, stagnant water, water pollution, noise, and general complaints. Through these activities, these program addresses essential services 3 to 6 and 8 to 9. In fiscal year 2017-2018, there were 5,439 inspections.

There was a 13% decrease in annual inspections as a result of the internal reorganization of resources to meet the new State Department of Public Health (DPH) proposed mandated Food and Drug Administration's Model Food Code inspectional program.

The number of complaints investigated decreased by nine percent as a result of the City of Stamford's initiative to streamline complaints to a central depository in which complaints are routed to the correct city department with responsibilities of enforcement.

The number of septic permits issued, increased by 380% due to the Building Department's View Permit module system that required all additions, alterations, demolitions, and repairs requests to be sent to the Health Department for review before the issuance of a building permit.

There was a 32% increase in housing violation notices compared to fiscal year 2016-2017. This increase in orders is due to the Division's collaboration with other city departments to educate the community about the proper housing codes that ensure a safe living environment. Of the 249 housing violations notices issued, 30.9% were related to illegal residential units.

A certificate of apartment occupancy (CAO) inspection relies on owners calling to indicate that their dwelling has been vacated, has been repaired or renovated, and is ready for inspection before a new tenant takes occupancy. As such, this type of inspection is based on the owner's knowledge of the regulation and willingness to comply. Therefore, only a marginal increase of 5% compared to fiscal year 2016-2017 was seen.

On October 1, 2017 the State of Connecticut under Public Act 17-93, required food establishments to be reclassified as part of the adoption of the Food and Drug Administration's food code. To comply with these requirements, Health Department reclassified the existing food establishments. In fiscal year 2017-2018 there was an 11.8% increase in the number of routine inspections conducted. These efforts have been achieved by establishing a core group of inspectors to have oversight and perform the majority of the food inspections thereby helping the Division to get closer to reaching the established benchmarks.

Radon Testing Program. In January 2017, the Health Department initiated the free Radon Testing program during the months of January to March. Each year, the Division offers home owners free radon kits that the owner deploys in his or her home to test the air for radon. The kits are returned to the Health Department where they are sent to a laboratory for testing. When the radon test results are equal to or higher than ≥ 4 pC/L; which is considered to be harmful, homeowners are given advice on how to remediate their homes. There was a 261.8% increase in testing requests compared to the previous year.

Mosquito Control Program. The Stamford Health Department Environmental Inspections Division inspects all reports of environmental areas and conditions that may potentially support the growth of mosquitoes. During the 2017-2018 fiscal year the program responded to 15 complaints involving mosquitoes and stagnant water. Whenever possible, inspectors take appropriate actions to eliminate mosquito breeding sites and prevent the development of adult mosquitos.

The creation of a Mosquito Control Program within the Environmental Inspections Division has enabled the inspectors to more effectively eliminate mosquitoes and the diseases carried by them.

The program engages in activities to increase community awareness through education on how to reduce mosquito exposures and mosquito breeding sites around commercial and home environments.

In an effort to suppress the development of adult mosquitoes through the elimination of mosquito larvae, the city's entire catch basin system is treated with a larvicidal product through the services of a contracted agent. Larviciding currently occurs three times per year, the plan is to increase the frequency to four times per year to maximize the efficacy of the larvicide.

Laboratory Division

The Laboratory provides supportive services to the Health Department's various divisions, conducts water testing, tick identification, facilitates animal rabies testing and tick testing for Lyme disease, and provides public health information to the citizens of Stamford. Through these activities, the Laboratory program supports essential services 1 to 3 and 6 to 8.

The rate of Lyme Disease positivity in ticks collected in Stamford that are submitted through the laboratory for testing has traditionally been similar to the overall rate in the State of Connecticut.

The number of bedbugs identified over the past five years has decreased since 2016. This is most likely due to changes in the State of Connecticut's House Bill No. 5335 and the Public Act No. 16-51, which became effective on October 1, 2016. This Act requires landlords to remediate bedbug problems. Based upon complaints reported to the Health Department, environmental inspectors will perform a home inspection on rental properties and if bedbugs are found, issue orders to the landlords for extermination.

Rabies testing is conducted on suspected rabid animals that have had either human or domesticated animal contact. The Laboratory, along with the city's Animal Control, ensures that animal specimens that need to be submitted for rabies testing are transported to the State Public Health Laboratory for testing. The Laboratory or Animal Control follows up with residents who have been exposed to an animal that tests positive for rabies to advise them to seek medical attention. The majority of rabid animals in Stamford for the past five years have been bats, this is consistent with state trends.

A laboratory technician is present at the sexually transmitted disease (STD) clinic to conduct rapid screening tests such as wet mounts, gram stains, and rapid plasma reagin (RPR) testing for syphilis. These tests assist the clinician in making real-time diagnoses and treatment decisions

The Laboratory's core activities relate to water testing. For a fee, municipal water testing for lead and copper, and well water testing for potability can be requested. City of Stamford Code of Ordinance 927 that expired December 31, 2017, required the Laboratory to offer well water testing for pesticide, arsenic, and uranium using an outside laboratory. Also for a fee, recreational water testing is available to the public. The Laboratory conducts biennial testing of school drinking water for lead and does beach water testing as is required by Connecticut General Statutes Chapter 98, Section 7-148.

Requests for well water testing related to the City Ordinance dropped by approximately 50% after the first two years and continued to steadily decline. This may have been a result of many homeowners having tested their wells privately. Well potability testing requests steadily climbed until fiscal year 2017-2018 when the number of requests decreased. Recreational and municipal water testing requests has remained relatively constant. The inability to increase testing through the city Laboratory may be multifactorial and related to concerns about confidentiality of test results, slower turnaround time compared to commercial laboratories, many homeowners having tested their wells at least once, and lack of knowledge about the need for periodic (approximately every two years) well water potability testing regardless of prior negative results.

Public Health Nursing and Dental Hygiene Services

The Public Health Nursing program consists of Community Nursing and School Nursing and in combination with the Dental Hygiene program support ES 1 to 10.

Community Nursing

Community nurses provide oversight to the Breath of Fresh Air Program, the Immunization Action Plan (IAP), the Cocoon Program, the Influenza Prevention Program, the Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Program, the Tuberculosis (TB) Program, the Well Child Program, the Pediatric Lead Prevention Program, Reportable Diseases, and Travel Clinic. Community Nurses participate in outbreak investigations and Public Health Emergency Response.

Breath of Fresh Air. The Breath of Fresh Air Program (Asthma Program) is a collaborative effort between the Environmental Inspections and Nursing Divisions that is offered free to parents of asthmatic children. The goal of the program is to reduce asthmatic attacks through education and environmental dust reduction. The program's activity decreased due to a dramatic decrease in funding. The Health Department is hoping to refocus its efforts and forge new partnerships in an effort to revitalize this essential program.

Immunization Action Program (IAP). The goals of IAP are to educate and inform the community about the importance of childhood immunizations, to educate health care providers about currently recommended immunization schedules and the importance of appropriately timed vaccine administrations, to ensure that vaccine providers store and handle vaccines appropriately to avoid compromising the vaccines' integrity, to ensure that all pediatric vaccines doses are reported to the Connecticut Immunization Registry and Tracking System (CIRTS), and to assess vaccine coverage rates in children at 24 months of age.

To accomplish these goals, the IAP Coordinator works closely with physicians' offices as well as with the local birthing centers to ensure that children are enrolled in CIRTS, their vaccines are given on schedule and reported to CIRTS. Other activities include conducting education events, hosting Advisory Council meetings that enlist input from stakeholders. Figure 10 below demonstrates the activities for the fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

The program has historically reported lower immunization coverage rates than the established benchmark that was mainly due to the rates being combined for the cities of Greenwich and Stamford. In an effort to improve the vaccination coverage rates for Stamford residents, in fiscal year 2017-2018, the Health Department requested that due to a lack of a formal agreement between the cities of Stamford and Greenwich, that the Connecticut Department of Public Health give the IAP responsibilities in each city to their respective Health Departments and that DPH also provide city-specific rates. To further aid in reaching the established benchmarks, an internal reorganization occurred that provided additional personnel support to the program by assigning a bi-lingual part-time outreach worker to the program and providing the IAP Coordinator with additional supervision and guidance from the Director of Nursing. In addition, DPH also provided temporary assistance to address the multi-year backlog. These combined efforts resulted in the vaccine coverage rates for Stamford residents exceeding the benchmark of 85% in 2017-2018. These additional support efforts if maintained are expected to help the program to maintain the positive trajectory.

Cocoon Program. The Cocoon Program provides free tetanus diphtheria and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine to any adult who has contact with an infant. The goal is to provide protection against pertussis infection that may be transmitted from the adult caregiver to the infant. The vaccine is provided for free by Sanofi Pasteur through a program sponsored by the State Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Until fiscal year 2016-2017 there has been a decrease in Cocoon program related vaccinations. This decrease may be attributed to several reasons such as; many sites that have pharmacy services now offer this vaccine, persons with insurance are getting the vaccine from their providers, and the hours of operation of the Henry Street Clinic not did facilitate good temporal access to the vaccine. Since the hours at the Henry Street Clinic were increased as of October 2017 we have seen a 52.6% increase in the number of Tdap vaccines given in fiscal year 2017-2018.

Influenza Prevention Program. The goal of the influenza prevention program is to increase the vaccination rates in the city, thereby increasing herd immunity. This will make the city better prepared to withstand the effects of an influenza pandemic. To help in achieving this goal, the Health Department provides influenza vaccine to all eligible persons ages three (3) years or older. The 2017-2018 annual Influenza "kick-off" campaign was held at the 137 Henry Street Clinic on October 2, 2017. Over the years, the Health Department has expanded its outreach activities in an effort to increase influenza vaccination coverage. These activities include targeting city employees, Board of Education employees, City of Stamford Boards of Finance and Representative Members, and members of the public. Most notably in 2017-2018 was the outreach to day laborers during which community nurses went out at 6 a.m. to provide vaccines to day laborers awaiting to be picked up. The city also participated in the Commissioner's Statewide Influenza Vaccination Clinics that aimed to increase influenza vaccination uptake in the face of several pediatric influenza-related deaths. Influenza vaccines are offered at the Henry Street Clinic throughout the entire influenza season from October until May.

In 2017-2018 the number of influenza vaccines administered increased by 41.8%, this was primarily due to the Commissioner's Statewide Influenza Clinics initiative. The number of vaccinations given at the clinic increased approximately 50% and may be a result of increased access due to the new clinic hours.

Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Program. The Stamford Health Department's STD Clinic is partially supported by a DPH grant that is funded through the Centers for Disease Control and prevention. The program provides comprehensive diagnostics, treatment, and counseling for the most common STDs including syphilis, gonorrhea, *Chlamydia* spp., *Trichomonas* spp., and Herpes viruses. The program assists with the identification of the sexual partners of persons diagnosed with a STD and offers prophylactic treatment when appropriate. Service is free of charge to anyone 13 years or older. Free HIV testing is also offered through the program and positive individuals are linked to care through partnership with Stamford CARES (Coalition for AIDS Resources, Education and Services) a Family Centers program. Free pregnancy testing is also offered, and women who are pregnant are referred to Optimus Health Care for prenatal care. Hepatitis A and B vaccines are provided by DPH and are offered free of charge to STD clinic patients. The rate of syphilis positivity has been increasing over the past five years. This is similar to what is being seen nationwide and may be result of changes in risk behaviors.

All persons who were diagnosed with a STD were treated in the clinic. The STD grant requires that clients are treated within seven (7) days of their initial visit. To ensure compliance, treatment is usually started empirically and is changed if needed based on the confirmatory diagnosis. For fiscal year 2017-2018 clients were treated on average the same day seen and all empiric diagnoses were concordant with the confirmatory diagnosis.

Tuberculosis (TB) Program. The Stamford Health Department has a primary responsibility for preventing and controlling the spread of TB. To meet this challenge successfully, the TB control program engages in a number of activities that include the following key components:

- Conducting overall planning and development of policy
- Identifying persons who have clinically active TB
- Managing persons who have or are suspected of having TB disease
- Providing directly observed therapy (DOT) to persons with active TB. DOT is a process during which the nurse observes the patient take his or her TB medications
- Identifying and assessing the contacts of persons who are identified with active communicable TB
- Identifying and managing persons infected with TB
- Providing laboratory and diagnostic services
- Providing education to staff, clients, and providers about the prevention, diagnosis, and control of TB.

The Stamford Health Department Adult TB Clinic services are conducted via a collaborative agreement between OPTIMUS Health Care, the Health Department, and Stamford Hospital's Pulmonary Division.

It is encouraging that to date the clinic has seen no cases of multidrug resistant (MDR) or extensively drug resistant (XDR) as these cases are complicated and take a long time to treat. The number of active communicable cases of TB has been declining and this is most likely a result of the Health Department's efforts to encourage providers to increase TB screening to facilitate early detection and treatment of TB cases. DOT remains the cornerstone of effective TB treatment but is a labor intensive process that requires many nursing interactions for each patient.

Well Child Clinic. The Stamford Well Child Clinic provides underinsured or uninsured children with physicals, vaccinations, medical screenings, social and psychological needs assessments, and if

necessary, referrals to specialists. Children are referred to the clinic by medical providers, school nurses, the Stamford Hospital, and other sources. Well Child Clinic visits are also used to educate families about child development, nutrition, sleep, safety, diseases, other health topics, and available community resources. Most recently, the clinic provided support to Puerto Rican families and children who were displaced by Hurricane Maria. The ultimate goal is to link children to a medical home to ensure continuity of care for the child. The clinic is an available resource for families who need physicals and vaccinations for the children to enter school. Vaccines are given for free to the Health Department from DPH via the Federal Vaccine for Children program.

Fiscal year 2017-2018 saw a 74.4% increase in the number of vaccines given through the Well Child Clinic and a 75% increase in the number of screenings. This is despite seeing 3.9% less children. These data suggest that more vaccines are being given per child ensuring that children are up-to-date on their required and recommended vaccinations and more comprehensive examinations are being conducted that allows early identification of medical problems.

Pediatric Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Pediatric lead surveillance is required by Connecticut General Statute §19a-110(d). In addition to the lead screenings that are conducted through the Well Child Clinic, Community nurses follow up on all reports of elevated pediatric blood lead levels (BLL) which is defined as a BLL >5 ug/dl. Nurses ensure that the child is appropriately monitored by his or her healthcare provider, that parents take their child for follow-up testing, that testing continues until the BLL normalizes, and when needed, by collaborating with Environmental Inspections Division, an environmental inspection is conducted of the child's home to identify and eliminate any potential environmental sources of lead.

In fiscal year 2017-2018, the community nurses investigated 95 elevated BLLs that were reported to the Health Department. Of these, 32 (33.7%) required an environmental inspection. Out of the 32 cases that required an environmental inspection, 24 (75.0%) were linked to properties that had lead paint in the structures, in five (15.6%) cases the lead exposure was linked to sources other than paint such as make up, jewelry, cooking utensils, an old painted wood pail, and powder used for religious purposes, and no lead source was identified three (9.4%) properties.

(Non- TB, STD, & HIV) Reportable Diseases Program. Under Connecticut General Statute Section 19a-2a and Section 19a-36-A2 the Commissioner of Health establishes a list of diseases and conditions that must be reported to DPH and to local health departments. Local health departments either investigate these cases independently or provide support to the DPH-lead investigations.

In fiscal year 2017-2018 the community nurses were involved in the investigation of 16 individual cases that included the following pathogens: *Clostridium botulinum*, *Ehrlichia* spp., *Escherichia coli*, *Giardia* spp., Hepatitis A virus, *Bordatella pertussis*, *Enterobius vermicularis*, *Salmonella* spp., *Sarcoptes scabiei*, *Streptococcus* spp., and *Yersinia* spp.

Staff were also involved in several outbreak investigations that often required support from the Nursing, Environmental Inspections, and Laboratory Divisions. These outbreaks investigations ranged in size from two (2) to 15 persons and were related to, *Campylobacter* spp. at a catered event; influenza infection at an Assisted Living facility; influenza infections at two (2) nursing homes; mumps linked to major sports entertainment company; multijurisdictional Hepatitis A virus outbreak that required providing Hepatitis A vaccination to Stamford residents who were exposed at a restaurant in Westchester County, NY; and an outbreak of *Escherichia coli* that was linked to a local Stamford restaurant.

Travel Clinic. The Travel Clinic provided vaccines to international travelers and educated travelers about safe travel habits related to food, water, and mosquitoes. The Stamford Health Department's Travel Clinic has for years charged the lowest fees in the Stamford region and the fee schedule has not reflected the true cost of the vaccines as well as the administrative costs. For these reasons as well as the fact that the

provision of travel-related vaccinations does not full-fill the true spirit of public health, the clinic will not be continued into fiscal year 2018-2019.

School Nursing Program

The School Nursing Program's goal is to ensure that only children who meet the health requirements for school entry are admitted into the school environment, thereby ensuring a safe and healthy learning environment. The program also ensures that children while attending school undergo mandated screenings and referrals that are designed for early detection and treatment of developmental problems.

School nurses provide physician-ordered medical interventions for children with medical needs. This is a critical component of the program given that there is an increasing trend to mainstream children with high medical acuity so that they enjoy a richer educational environment. Nurses also provide first aid, respond to emergencies, and review all required medical records for each child who is scheduled for a field trip to ensure that the child's health is not be compromised during the trip. Nurses educate families about various health-related topics to ensure healthy outcomes. The nurse also ensures that the appropriate state required health metrics are collected and reported to the State Department of Education to facilitate program planning. The School Nursing Program benefits from the oversight of the city's Medical Advisor and the city's Medical Consultant who work with the private clinicians to address medical questions, write select nursing orders, and review special medically-related requests.

School Dental Program

The Stamford Dental Program which is in its 90th year, provides a range of clinical dental and educational services. Proper oral health is important for proper childhood development. Good oral health is a key component of good nutrition as proper metabolism of food begins with proper mastication, children with oral health problems learn less either because they are unable to focus in class or they simply miss more school.

The dental hygienists provide oral health education in classrooms and conduct dental screenings for preschoolers, elementary, and middle school students. When an oral health issue is identified, the parents of students in whom oral health issues is identified are given referrals to community clinics, private dental providers, or the Stamford Department of Health Dental Clinics. Students sometimes required more than one visit to complete preventive and treatment services.

In 2001 the program initiated the dental sealant program that targets second graders. In 2016 the sealant program obtained a two-year grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health that allowed the expansion of the program to first, sixth, and seventh grades in qualified schools. These are schools in which 50% or more of the students are eligible for the free or reduced lunch program. The grant program was a part of the CDC Sealant Efficiency Assessment for Locals and States (*SEALS*) which is designed to capture, store, and analyze school sealant program data nationwide. Table 6 below details the five-year trends for the school dental program.

The percentage of children requiring dental care has been decreasing. This may be a result of the ongoing active outreach and oral health education conducted by the Health Department's Dental Hygiene program over the years. There has been a slight decrease in the number of children who receive their dental care through the Health Department's Clinic; this may be due to fact that more private practitioners are accepting HUSKY Medicaid, the option to obtain dental care at a Federally Qualified Health Clinic or through a School-based Health Center. The children who are served by the Health Department's Dental Program oftentimes are not eligible to participate in any other dental program and therefore, their only access to dental care is through the school dental hygiene program. Also, some family members report enjoying the convenience of having access to a school-based the program as it decreases barriers to access to care, i.e. transportation, time away from school and work.

Public Health Education and Outreach

In 2017, the public health education program activities were combined with the outreach workers' activities in an effort to provide a more robust public health education and outreach program. In addition, a Public Health Education and Outreach Taskforce was developed with representation from each division. Since January of 2017, the Health Department has been focused on centering its health education activities around a series of health awareness days to promote wellness and disease prevention while highlighting the programs and services available through the department. For fiscal year 2017-2018, the health department hosted 16 health events targeting specific health issues and the department's staff lent their expertise to a wide variety of community-based, state, and city-wide committees and partnerships.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Emergency preparedness involves mitigating, preparing, responding, and recovering from emergencies and disasters to lessen their impact. The city establishes an all-hazards approach to build community resiliency. The Stamford Health Department participates in the Region 1 Health Care Coalition for which the Director is a member of the Steering Committee.

Within the Health Department, Emergency Preparedness is a shared responsibility with an "All Hands on Deck" approach. During fiscal year 2017-2018 the Health Department adopted EverBridge as its Health Alert Network (HAN) system. In addition, rather than having one staff member responsible for the HAN, multiple staff members have been trained with various levels of responsibility thereby providing built in redundancy. This has proven to be a very efficient mechanism to alert and activate staff and volunteers.

Emergency Sheltering is a responsibility of the Health Department and Health Department staff responded to all three snow storms during 2017-2018 by staffing the Emergency Operating Center (EOC) and also assisting residents who needed sheltering when the roof of their apartment was damaged during a snow storm.

The Health Department through its Public Health Emergency Preparedness program in collaboration with Stamford Hospital and film Director Mary Shanahan obtained a National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) funded Medical Reserve Corps Challenge grant to address educational activities related towards opioid abuse prevention.

Women Infants and Children (WIC) Program

The federally funded WIC program serves low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, and infants and children up to five (5) years of age who are at nutritional risk. WIC provides food supplementation containing the essential nutrients often lacking in the diets of populations at nutritional risk, promotes breastfeeding, and provides infant formula and nutrition education. Through close ties with other community and departmental services, the WIC Program is able to assist participants in attaining other health and social services. Participants in the WIC program are also eligible to receive Farmer's Market Nutrition Program coupon booklets. The City of Stamford's WIC program provides oversight for the Stamford Regional WIC services. There is a decline in participation within the Stamford regional area and statewide. This decrease in WIC participation appears to be multi-factorial, and may be related to improved economic conditions; less poverty, decreased birth rate, and the administrative climate resulting in immigrants choosing not to pursue assistance.

The City of Stamford's WIC program surpassed the benchmark and the statewide average for percent of first trimester enrollment, representing a marked improvement compared to prior fiscal years. Other areas where Stamford WIC exceeded both benchmark and statewide average are maternal weight gain, breast feeding initiation and duration, and low birth weight of infants among WIC participants. However, the percent of anemic children, the percent of overweight, and the percent of obese children who are in the

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However, the percent of anemic children, the percent of overweight, and the percent of obese children who are in the Stamford WIC program did not meet the benchmarks, but performed similarly to the rest of the state. These factors may be multifactorial such as cultural and ethnic differences and having a large immigrant population.

Other Activities

The Health Department through the efforts of the Health Director and or the Medical Advisor reviewed and approved 36 noise waiver applications for fiscal year 2017- 2018, reviewed and approved death certificates provided funeral directors with non-contagion letters to permit the removal of bodies for burial outside of Stamford.
