

# APPLETON HEALTH DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT July-September 2017

## Executive Summary

*The Health Department's day-to-day activities for the second quarter of 2017 are enumerated in the attached report. The Department continues to work toward fulfilling the goals of our Department, keeping in mind the belief statements that support and enhance our mission statement.*

### ***“Plays a vital role assessing and assuring the health needs and trade practices in the community”***

August 12, Weights and Measures Specialist, Kevin Grosskreutz, inspected the Appleton Downtown, Inc. Farm Market. Of the 121 vendors inspected, there were two with unapproved scales and four with labeling issues. The overall compliance was very high. Weights and Measures met with vendors in May for the annual vendor information meeting which provides information regarding recent changes in policies. The meeting, which is mandatory to participate in the Farm Market, provides a great foundation for high compliance throughout the Farm Market's summer duration.

Environmentalists Michelle Roberts, RS and Steve Kihl, RS, also had a busy summer working with the Farm Markets. They have had numerous consultations with vendors that were added to the markets after the annual spring training session was held. They also inspected the vendor booths at both Wednesday and Saturday markets.

September 30, City Sealer Eric Maggio conducted Weights and Measures inspections at the 2017 Oktoberfest celebration. There were 27 vendors inspected for Weights and Measures compliance of product labeling and trade practice regulations. Booths selling various items such as prepacked retail food products, herbal soaps and honey products were inspected. These items must be fully labeled and sold either by weight or measure, depending on product type. There were three violations found. The City of Appleton holds 2 mandatory vendor training meetings which provide information relating to trade practices, product labeling, method of sale, and scale information prior to the event.

The Environmental Health section also provided inspections. This year, there were 98 food stand inspections and 7 re-inspections conducted by the Appleton Health Department during License to Cruise and Oktoberfest. Eight food stand inspections were conducted at License to Cruise. Ninety non-profit food stand inspections were conducted at Oktoberfest. Of the 98 stands that were inspected this year, 80 food stands had *no violations* at the times of the inspection (81%). There were a total of 20 violations recorded at 15 food stands during Oktoberfest and 4 violations found at 3 food stands at License to Cruise.

***“Provides services to protect and promote the health and well-being of the citizen and consumer”***

Public health nursing staff worked with World Relief Fox Valley and various partners in the Appleton community to welcome 12 refugees during the months of July, August and September of 2017.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Breastfeeding Walk, hosted by the Breastfeeding Alliance Network of Northeast Wisconsin, took place on August 5. The walk started at First United Methodist Church in Appleton. Public health nurses Jess Moyle and Becky Lindberg recognized the Appleton Childcare Centers who achieved Breastfeeding Friendly designation, and there 118 participants at the walk.

***“Communicates with the public on health and consumer related issues”***

July 27, Health Office Kurt Eggebrecht presented to Medical College of Wisconsin medical students at the DePere campus. He spoke on how public health at the state and local level interface with medical providers during communicable disease investigations.

August 28, Public Health Nurse Kathleen Sprangers, RN, presented on Immunizations at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center—Appleton’s Mommy and Me group. 13 moms and their babies were in attendance.

September 8, The University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute: School of Medicine and Public Health held an event at the UW Menasha campus titled “Community Health in the Fox Valley: How are Local Groups Sharing what they Know?” Health Officer Eggebrecht, who serves on the UW Population Health Advisory Board, assisted with program planning and speaker selection. The panel included local and state representatives.

***“Provides services in a cost effective and efficient manner”***

September 11, Appleton Health Department participated in the “140” On-Site Review with the State Department of Health. In addition to department staff, Board of Health members Vered Meltzer, Sally Mielke and Cathy Spears attended. Numerous other community key stakeholders also attended to provide examples of collaborative work. The Wisconsin State Legislature directs the State Department of Health Services to review local health departments every 5 years to determine required services for Level I, II and III local health departments. Chapter DHS 140 specifies the required services for each level. The required services include surveillance, investigation, control and prevention of communicable disease, other disease prevention, health promotion and human health hazard control. There are 86 local health departments in Wisconsin. Currently, 3 are Level I, 50 are Level II and 33 are Level III departments in Wisconsin. Appleton’s review demonstrated a maintenance of Level III, the most comprehensive level of service.

***“Develops and evaluates departmental programs, policies and procedures based on community needs and collaborate with community agencies and providers to assess those needs and ensure high quality services”***

The Environmental Health State license year runs from July 1 through June 30. This year, Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes, RS, made a courtesy contact with all 21 establishments on our late fee list, notifying them that they are delinquent in paying for the Health License by the deadline of June 30. After this date, establishments owe a late fee of \$95.00 on or before July 14 in order to remain open for business. Mirkes also made courtesy contacts to the 7 establishments that were on the Finance HOLD list. This year, no establishments were closed on July 15 for operating without a valid license.

On August 10, the City of Menasha Health Department and the City of Appleton Health Department worked together on a real world emergency. The freezers that hold vaccine in Menasha went down. Menasha acted by enacting their emergency plan. That plan included storing the vaccine at the Appleton Health Department. The event was noted by both health officers as successful, due in part to an exercise conducted the week prior. Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane wrote the After Action Report and submitted it to the state.

Daniel Kane also hosted a Public Health Preparedness Partnership meeting in Appleton on August 15. The meeting offered a chance to go over the new 5 year agreement with the CDC and the contract objectives associated with that grant. It was also a chance for Daniel to lay out his vision of a new public health emergency plan. It was met with full support by the group.

The Appleton Health Department Immunization Program completed the required Vaccines for Children Program Site Visit on August 22. No compliance issues were found during the audit.

August 28, several department directors, including Dean Gazza, Paula Vandehey, Ronald McDonald, Karen Harkness and Kurt Eggebrecht participated in The Legacy Community Alliance for Health Project: Health in all Policies. This initiative is sponsored and supported by The League of Wisconsin Municipalities, Wisconsin Counties Association, UW Extension, UW Population Health and Wisconsin Legacy Communities.

This quarter, Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen and Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht assisted Colton Wiesner, a second year medical student from Medical College of Wisconsin, with the development of a physician survey on Lyme's Disease in Northeast Wisconsin. This survey has been sent throughout Northeast Wisconsin.

***“Professional staff works together as a cohesive team by cooperating, communicating and supporting each other to achieve departmental and individual goals”***

This quarter, staff participated in several training opportunities including:

August 8, Public health Nurses Sue Larson and Becky Lindberg attended the quarterly consultation with the State Refugee Program at Oshkosh West High School.

August 10 and 11, Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen, Environmental Health Supervisor Tim Mirkes and Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht participated in the Incident Command System (ICS) 300 Level Course.

August 24, Public Health Nurse Jess Moyle attended the Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition Annual Summit in Marshfield, Wisconsin. The theme of the 2017 Summit was “Stronger Together”.

September 5 and 6, Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen, Environmental Health Supervisor Tim Mirkes, City Sealer Eric Maggio and Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht participated in the Incident Command System (ICS) 400 Level Course.

September 19, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane participated in an ingestion exercise related to an emergency at Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant. The exercise presented a scenario in which the plant had somehow released nuclear radiation. Daniel coordinated with Calumet County Emergency Management on the scenario. Key factors that were looked at were evacuation routes, food contamination and general security of affected areas.

September 27, Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen attended the Northeast Region Wisconsin Immunization Registry user group meeting in Fond du Lac.

September 28, Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen attended the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene meeting in Kimberly.

This quarter, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane became a member of the State “Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plans Workgroup”. This workgroup’s main focus is to update current emergency plans and documents used by public health agencies in emergencies. Daniel’s goal is to have a public health emergency plan for the City of Appleton that is the most current, best aligned with State partners and contains today’s best practices.

***Encourages the individual to share the responsibility for their health and the health of their family”***

August 28, an awards celebration was held at Green Gecko for moms and kids who participated in the Bike Bingo event sponsored by the Health Department this summer. This was a collaborative project with The Wisconsin Bike Federation. The goals were to educate on bike safety and to encourage moms with young children to participate in Saturday group rides. Local retailers donated gifts to those who complete the bingo card.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Eggebrecht, M.Ed., MCHES  
Health Officer