

# APPLETON HEALTH DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT July-September 2014

## Executive Summary

*The Health Department's day-to-day activities for the third quarter of 2014 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”***

A consumer complaint was received September 9th regarding an unlicensed commercial solicitor named Yanda's Distributing (door-to-door Kirby vacuum peddler). Police were called to the complainant's home to investigate high pressure sales tactics used. The complainant was approached by Yanda's Distributing employees on August 14, 2014. The complainant listened to the sales pitch and was not interested. Unfortunately, the unlicensed dealer would not take no for an answer and continued with high pressure sales tactics for three hours. The complainant signed the \$3,078.00 contract just to get them out of her house. City Sealer Maggio worked with the complainant to get the contract voided and the vacuum cleaner returned. Yanda's Distributing was given instructions to get a commercial solicitors license application if they would like to work in Appleton which they declined.

Weights and Measures Inspector Keith Verhagen conducted Weights and Measures inspections at the 2014 Octoberfest celebration held on September 27th. There were 38 vendors inspected for 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 need to be fully labeled and sold either by weight or measure, depending on the product type. There were no violations found this year. The City of Appleton holds two mandatory vendor information meetings which provide information relating to trade practices, product labeling, method of sale, and scale information, which has led to better understanding of requirements.

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

During the third quarter, one dog and four bats were shipped for rabies testing following contact or possible contact with humans. All results were negative for rabies.

Environmentalist Michelle Roberts conducted food stand inspections at the annual Art in the Park event on July 27th. No issues were found during the inspections.

In August, Michelle Roberts and Steve Kihl conducted a lead inspection at a home due to an elevated blood-lead level in a child living there. Orders were issued to the property owner to remediate the lead hazards with a lead certified contractor.

This year, there were 95 food stand inspections and two re-inspections conducted by the Health Department during License to Cruise and Oktoberfest. Four food stand inspections were conducted at License to Cruise. A total of 91 non-profit food stand inspections were conducted at Oktoberfest. Of the 95 stands that were inspected this year, 81 food stands had *no violations* at the time of the inspection (85%). There were a total of 16 violations recorded at 12 food stands during Oktoberfest and two violations found at two food stands at License to Cruise.

With this year's addition of a Wednesday Farm Market downtown, Environmentalists Michelle Roberts and Steve Kihl have had a busy quarter working with vendors. 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.

A swimming pool was constructed at Latitude 44 Apartment Homes, but the owner never notified the Health Department of this. Under State Codes, this is considered a public swimming pool and is required to be licensed. It was built to the State Code requirements and a Department of Safety and Professional Services final approval was issued. It had been operating since June 2014. Environmentalists Steve Kihl and Michelle Roberts inspected the pool on August 8th, upon learning of its existence and found eight health code violations. Correction orders were written.

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

Each year, the Oktoberfest organizers provide training to the participants of Oktoberfest. They require attendance at one of two scheduled vendor-training meetings in order to participate in the event. Health Department staff provides the food service training and Weights & Measures requirements. The Police and Fire departments, as well as the Chamber of Commerce personnel relay other important information to the vendors during these training meetings to keep the event safe. This year, there were over 250 people present at the training meetings.

During the third quarter of 2014, Appleton Health Department exceeded 300 fans or “likes” on our Facebook page. Appleton Health Department leverages social media by providing frequent updates on health and safety tips and other timely public health topics. During an emergency, social media messages can be delivered quickly to inform the public of situational information (i.e. location of emergency shelters). A YouTube channel has also been established by Appleton Health Department to connect with the public.

Public Health Nurse Jessica Moyle, R.N. gave a presentation about our Prenatal Care Coordination program to staff at Womankind Clinic in Appleton on July 8th.

A presentation on tuberculosis and other communicable diseases was given on July 29th to UW Health Residents by Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen, R.N. Twenty physician residents were in attendance at the UW Health Fox Valley clinic.

August 5th, Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht and Metro Drug Unit representative Brad Dunlap co-taught a session on Heroin at the Summer Health Institute held at Appleton North High School. This training was attended by middle and high school teachers, counselors and administrators.

September 24th, Health Officer Eggebrecht presented at the Poverty Matters Conference held at the Radisson Hotel. The focus of the presentation was on the Weight of the Fox Valley initiative and the link between body weight and food options of the poor.

Public Health Nurse Kathleen Sprangers, R.N. gave an educational presentation about lead poisoning prevention during the Mom and Me class at Appleton Medical Center on August 4th. Ten Moms and babies were in attendance. On September 29th, Kathleen gave a presentation to the Mom and Me class for an additional 14 Moms and Babies about the importance of immunizations for children and their families.

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

The State license year runs from July 1st through June 30th. Establishments that have not paid their license renewal fees on or before June 30th are subject to a late fee of \$90.00. This year, 34 establishments were required to pay the late fee, (25 in 2013 and 22 in 2012). The municipal ordinance also states “Establishments operating on July 15th without a proper license shall be ordered closed by the Health Officer.” Close orders were delivered to seven establishments of which four paid the required fees to remain open.

Every 5 years local health departments are required to demonstrate and document the services provided to their community based on State Statute requirements. This quarter we completed our department review and on-site visit resulting in a Level III standing based on level of programming and staff preparation. Level III is the highest attainable in Wisconsin.

***“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”***

This quarter Health Officer Eggebrecht served on the interview panel for the vacant City of Menasha Health Officer position.

This quarter the Fox Valley Community Health Coalition comprised of regional health departments and health care systems completed preparatory work for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey to be conducted from November to January. The results of this survey are used in the Leading Indicators for Excellence (LIFE) Study.

We continue to welcome refugees into the City of Appleton, with 12 arriving during this quarter. All twelve now have medical homes with area primary care providers and have completed refugee health screenings.

On July 22nd, Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht and Nursing Supervisor Sonja Jensen met with representatives from ThedaCare regarding refugee health screenings. The department is now working with four area healthcare entities—ThedaCare, Affinity, UW-Health and Partnership Community Health Center—to meet the health screening and primary care needs of refugees in accordance with the Refugee Health Screening Contract.

On September 25th, Preparedness Coordinator Jon Lee and Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht attended a Red Cross information session on Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC). During an emergency, the Red Cross has offered to coordinate a location near the disaster location known as a MARC. The MARC will be a convenient, single-point of entry location for community, non-profit, government, faith-based and private agencies to provide services to residents affected by the disaster. Examples of resources following emergencies that Appleton Health Department could provide include information on food safety (during power outage), combating mold in your home (following flood event) and offering tetanus shots following a tornado or other event with a significant amount of debris.

Public health nurses Becky Lindberg, R.N. and Jessica Moyle, R.N. are working with staff at the Childcare Resource and Referral Center on the Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare initiative.

Public Health nursing staff continued their collaboration with the Appleton Area School District's Birth to Five Program, presenting on a variety of health and injury prevention topics during play group sessions. During the months of July through September, education was provided to approximately 90 parents and children.

This quarter, Jessica Moyle, R.N. joined the City of Appleton's Health Smart Team. This team is charged with providing preventive health services to City employees.

***“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 learning opportunities including:

July 1st, public health nurses Tina Pelishek, R.N., Jessica Moyle, R.N. and Trish Schuldes, R.N. attended a refresher session for the First Breath (tobacco prevention and control) and My Baby and Me programs.

The Appleton Library's Outreach Program staff members met with Health Department nurses staff meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Library Outreach Program learned more about the services provided by public health nurses to better educate their home-based clients about public health services available and make referrals as appropriate to our nursing staff.

Public health nurses Becky Lindberg, R.N. and Jessica Moyle, R.N. attended a presentation by the Wood County Health Department on Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare Centers held at the Calumet County Health Department on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The 17th Annual Public Health Nursing Conference was held on August 5<sup>th</sup> in Stevens Point. Tina Pelishek, R.N. and Kris Eiden, R.N. attended the event which had the theme "Translating Community Needs."

On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families State Refugee Office held a quarterly update at Fox Valley Technical College. Sue Larson, R.N. and Sonja Jensen, R.N. were in attendance.

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, Becky Lindberg, R.N. and Tina Pelishek, R.N. attended a presentation sponsored by the Community Action for Healthy Living entitled, "E-Cigarettes – a Growing Concern". This was held at Christ the King Church in Appleton.

Becky Lindberg, R.N., Tina Pelishek, R.N. and Sonja Jensen, R.N. attended "Promoting Community Systems of Care to Foster Young Children's Social and Emotional Development" held at the Fox Banquet Hall in Appleton on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Eggebrecht, M.Ed., MCHES  
Health Officer