

APPLETON HEALTH DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT January – March 2017

Executive Summary

The Health Department's day-to-day activities for the first 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”

February 18, Weights and Measures Specialist Keith Verhagen made an unannounced visit to the Saturday Indoor Winter Farm Market at the City Center. There were total of 20 booths. A total of 1,875 items were inspected with only 1 small labeling violation found. Maintaining a strong presence at the market as well as holding yearly Farm Market meetings and scale tests ensures an accurate commercial transaction for the consumer.

March 6, Weights and Measures Specialist Keith Verhagen performed a reinspection of a local gas station (Appleton Citgo, 1717 W. College Ave., Appleton, WI 54914). He detected major violations which revealed 6 pricing errors (5 overcharges) in a 25 item sample. As the National Price Verification Code tolerance is + or – 2%, the 24% overall error rate found in this inspection is a violation, and indicated problems with the store's price control system. A warning letter was sent and a reinspection was conducted in April.

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

February 8, Michelle Roberts, RS, and Steve Kihl, RS, conducted lead clearance testing at a dwelling located on North Clark Street. Lead abatement orders were issued in December, due to a child residing there with an elevated blood lead level. They learned that the work was not conducted by a Certified Lead Abatement contractor, as was ordered. The clearance testing showed there was still a lead hazard present so orders were reissued. The work was still not completed by the March 8 deadline. A citation was issued to the owner for failure to comply with a lead abatement order. Since then inspection work was performed by abatement contractor and clearance testing demonstrated that lead paint is no longer a risk for the child.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services contracts with a vendor called Intermedix which invites all states who utilize a volunteer management system (WEAVER) to participate in an annual exercise. This year's exercise called Autumn Charge VII occurred on February 8th & 9th. This exercise provided our department management team the opportunity to use our skills and knowledge of the WEAVER system to respond to a scenario.

February 14, our Northeast Public Health Preparedness Consortia conducted a table top exercise focusing on radiological materials. The scenario included community partners such as hospitals/healthcare workers, school administrators, radiological experts and 5 local public health agencies. The exercise was led by Ethan Kroll of our Appleton Fire/Hazmat team. The evaluations were positive and reflected that exposure to radiation is a health risk which has low probability but high potential for community impact.

Public health nursing staff worked with World Relief Fox Valley and various partners in the Appleton community to welcome 3 new refugees during the months of January, February and March of 2017. Staff review medical records, assist with finding a medical home and provide other services as deemed appropriate.

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

January 30, Public Health Nurse Kathleen Sprangers, RN, presented at the ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Appleton Mom and Me class. The topics were childhood lead poisoning prevention and immunizations. Six moms and their babies attended.

March 8, Public Health Nurses Becky Lindberg, RN, and Jess Moyle, RN, presented a summary of Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare at the HEART family childcare meeting. The meeting was held at Childcare Resource and Referral in Kimberly, and there were 12 people in attendance.

In coordination with the Fox Valley Family Medicine Residency Program, this quarter, two resident Physicians met with Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes, RS, to learn about the Environmental Health responsibilities at the Health Department. By providing this in-service, Resident Physicians gain awareness of rabies follow-up, food safety and food borne illness investigation as it relates to their practice, as well as other areas where the environmental section can be a resource.

March 16, Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht presented to a group of Appleton residents who were participating in the Citizens Academy. The focus of the presentation was the historical evolution of public health system both locally and within our state. Using current events, Eggebrecht demonstrated how clinicians, laboratory services and infectious disease investigation and control takes place on a daily basis.

“Provides services in a cost effective and efficient manner”

February 21, Public Health Nurses Becky Lindberg, RN, and Jess Moyle, RN, provided Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare training to staff at YMCA Child Learning Center in Appleton. 36 people completed the training.

February 28, Kathleen Sprangers, RN, provided training on lead poisoning prevention to nursing staff. The training included a demonstration on the use of the lead cleaning kits. 7 public health nurses were in attendance.

March 4, Becky Lindberg, RN, and Jess Moyle, RN, presented a summary of Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare at the Family Childcare Conference. The conference was held at Childcare Resource and Referral in Kimberly, and there were 35 providers in attendance.

March 28, Public Health Nursing Supervisor Sonja Jensen, RN, presented on Bloodborne Pathogens and Clinical Lab Packaging at the all-staff meeting. All 17 health department staff members completed the annual training.

In March, Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes, RS, provided annual respirator fit testing to the Health Department staff. The annual fit testing is conducted, not only for preparedness planning, but also assures respirators are being correctly fitted to provide effective protection from contaminants such as TB and asbestos.

“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”

February 10, Public Health Nurses Sue Larson, RN, Becky Lindberg, RN, and Sonja Jensen, RN, along with Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht attended the joint refugee resettlement team meeting in Oshkosh at the Coughlin Center. The topic of focus was mental health.

This quarter, Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht served as a volunteer judge for the selection of the Celebrating Our Volunteers Health Care Award. ThedaCare and Acension/Ministry co-sponsor this \$5,000 award which was presented at the Community of Volunteers gala May 2, 2017.

March 31, Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes, RS, and Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht met with six of the A Co. 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion soldiers as they improve their readiness and fulfil this mission of performing the core tasks of Civil Information Management, Population and Resource Control and Support to Civil Administration.

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

March 27, we welcomed a new staff member, Daniel Kane, to assume the role of Public Health Preparedness Coordinator. Dan will support the efforts of the cities of Appleton and Menasha and the counties of Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara.

This quarter staff completed training on a variety of topics including:

January 19, City Sealer Eric Maggio attended the Weights and Measures Policy and Procedure training held in Madison, WI. Local City Sealers and State Inspectors attended the meeting with State Management. The meeting provided information regarding recent changes in policies as well as the yearly schedule for training and state surveys.

February 14, all public health nursing staff, Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht, and Administrative Assistant Britney Stobbe successfully completed the refresher course for Basic Life Support Provider CPR training. The training was provided by City of Appleton Fire Department staff.

February 21, Public Health Nurses Jess Moyle, RN, Ashley Rankin, RN, and Trish Schuldes, RN, attended the Northeast Region Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) meeting at the Menasha Library.

February 23, Kris Eiden, RN, attended the Fox Cities Housing Coalition/ NAMI Mental Illness training at Fox Valley Technical College. Breakout sessions included the topic areas of: Recovery from Addiction, Being Trauma Informed, and Traumatic Brain Injury.

March 2, Ashley Rankin, RN, and Trish Schuldes, RN, attended the First Breath/Perinatal Statewide meeting in Rothschild. This event was sponsored by the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation.

March 8 & 9, Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes, RS, attended the 50th Governor’s Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland Security. The conference attracted more than 400 representatives from fire, law enforcement, emergency management, local health departments and other first responder agencies.

March 9-10, Becky Lindberg, RN, and Jess Moyle, RN, attended the annual Wisconsin Association of Lactation Consultants conference at the Best Western Premier in Oshkosh.

March 20, Sonja Jensen, RN, attended the Northeast Region Community of Practice which focused on Public Health Performance Management. It was held at Miron Construction in Neenah.

March 28, Kris Eiden, RN, attended a training at Fox Valley Technical College about the Adult Basic Education/Career and College Readiness Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Eggebrecht, M.Ed., MCHES
Health Officer