



## APPLETON HEALTH DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT January 1-March 31, 2018

### Executive Summary

*The Health Department's day-to-day activities for the first quarter of 2018 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 17, 2018, Weights and Measures Specialist, Keith Verhagen, made an unannounced visit to the Saturday indoor winter Farm Market at the City Center. A total of 21 booths were examined. 1,268 items were inspected with only 2 minor labeling violations 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.

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

Registered Sanitarians, Michelle Roberts and Steve Kihl, conducted a third round of lead clearance testing at 323 East Spring St. The enclosed exterior porch failed the clearance test. The porch needs to be re-cleaned and tested again. This has been challenging due to the type of wood and contractor experience to remove the lead hazard.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Daniel Kane, began a quality improvement project involving the health department website. During an emergency, access to useful information is critical and therefore, it is essential that the department be able to disseminate that information in the best way possible. Therefore, the goal of the project is to make a more efficient, less cluttered, and overall more user-friendly experience for those who use the site.

This quarter, the newly formed City Interdepartmental Health in All Policies (HiAP) Team convened and began working on a transportation-focused action plan. Committee members include Kurt Eggebrecht, Dean Gazza, Karen Harkness, Ronald McDonald, Karen Nelson, and Paula Vandehey.

This quarter, Anna Westmark, Registered Dietitian, started an internship with our department. Her primary focus has been to work on a new healthy kid's menu project through the Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program. Through this project, she has collaborated with Wisconsin communities to survey children's menus from local restaurants to evaluate nutritional content using the Nutrition Environment Measurement Survey (NEMS). After analyzing the content of the menus, she plans to partner with restaurant owners to explore healthier food options for children.

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

January 15, Public Health Nurse Kathleen Sprangers, RN, presented at the ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Appleton Mom and Me class. The topics covered were childhood lead poisoning prevention and immunizations. 11 moms and their babies attended.

January 31, Health Officer Eggebrecht spoke at Lawrence University for students enrolled in the Environmental Studies course. The topic was the role that public health performs regarding communicable disease. The students were also interested in the recently passed Health in All Policies ordinance.

February 9, Public Health Nurse Becky Lindberg, RN, presented on the topic of “Hygiene” to students in five different classes at Horizon Elementary School. 87 students attended the presentation, which included instruction on proper hand hygiene and covering your cough/sneeze.

In coordination with the Mosaic Residency Program, this quarter, two resident physicians met with Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes 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 foodborne illness investigation as it relates to their practice, as well as other areas where the environmental section can be a resource.

March 22, Health Officer Eggebrecht presented at the City-sponsored Citizen's Academy. Eggebrecht shared the history of public health in Appleton, which provided an opportunity to also share the history of disease control and prevention, including disease reporting (vital statistics), sanitation and the benefits of immunizations.

***“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”***

January 16, Health Officer Eggebrecht presented the Health in All Policies ordinance at the Appleton Library Board. The Library Board then voted to adopt this ordinance.

January 18, the annual Weights and Measures Policy and Procedure training was 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. City Sealer Eric Maggio was a member of the Policies and Procedures Committee that oversaw and implemented the changes.

Public health nursing staff worked with World Relief Fox Valley and various partners in the Appleton community to welcome 6 refugees during the months of January, February and March.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane completed a new, revised version of the public health emergency plan. It is meant to cover all hazards and is user-friendly enough for both experienced and inexperienced users. Daniel was on the State workgroup that created the new structure for the plan. Daniel then built upon that framework to put together a plan that is more efficient and easy to use for all staff. The plan follows a new format that aligns with capabilities associated with public health preparedness. Daniel conducted a training for all staff to go over the new plan and how to use it.

This quarter, the Fox Valley Community Health Improvement Coalition continued work on our community health assessment. More than 1600 phone-based surveys have been completed in the tri-county area. This coalition includes four healthcare systems and five health departments. Health Officer Eggebrecht serves on this coalition.

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

In February, Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes 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.

February 27, Anna Westmark, Registered Dietitian, presented a “Lunch and Learn” to the City of Appleton staff on the misleading claims of FAD diets and the best practices when trying to lose weight.

March 20, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane conducted a training for department management level staff on the use of Web EOC. Web EOC is a web-based interface that allows for multiple agencies, departments and personnel to all work under one roof during a disaster. This system allows for timely, up-to-date information across many channels that provides situational awareness for all involved. Being able to access and use this software is essential, should a public health emergency happen in the community.

March 20, Anna Westmark, Registered Dietitian, presented a “Lunch and Learn” to the City of Appleton staff on vitamin and mineral supplements. During this presentation, she discussed the specific populations that may benefit from supplements and what to look for when selecting them.

March 27, Sonja Jensen, RN presented on Blood borne Pathogens and Clinical Lab Packaging at the department all-staff meeting. All 17 health department staff members completed the annual training.

*This quarter, staff participated in a variety of training opportunities, including:*

January 25, Ann Steele, RN and Kris Eiden, RN attended a presentation on Human Trafficking by the awareness group, 5 Stones. This was hosted by the Fox Cities Community Council and held at Goodwill in Menasha.

February 16, Becky Lindberg, RN and Sonja Jensen, RN attended the joint refugee resettlement team meeting at the Appleton Library.

February 21, Public Health Nurses Jess Moyle, Ashley Rankin and Trish Schuldes attended the Northeast Region PNCC meeting at the Menasha Library.

February 22, Sonja Jensen, RN attended the Fox Cities Housing Coalition/ NAMI Community Mental Health for Professionals Workshop at Fox Valley Technical College.

March 7 & 8, Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes, RS, attended the 2018 Governor's Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland Security. The theme for the conference was focused on disaster recovery.

March 8-9, Becky Lindberg, RN and Jess Moyle, RN attended the annual Wisconsin Association of Lactation Consultants conference Oshkosh Convention Center.

March 14, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane attended a training called "Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC)". This training was put on by the Red Cross, who typically will lead the effort to establish a Multi-Agency Resource Center during a disaster. These centers aim to bring multiple essential service providers from both public and private sectors all under one roof to provide assistance for those following a disaster. Examples of provided services include food/water distribution, public health information, insurance, debris removal, medicine resupply, rent assistance, etc. The training provided insight on how to establish a MARC and best practices for operating one in a community.

March 22, Kris Eiden, RN and Jess Moyle, RN attended a presentation about Compassion Fatigue. This was hosted by the Fox Cities Community Council and held at Goodwill in Menasha.

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

Public Health Nurses Sue Larson, Becky Lindberg, and Sonja Jensen attended the World Relief Open House and Dedication Ceremony at their new Appleton office location on March 22.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Eggebrecht, M.Ed., MCHES  
Health Officer