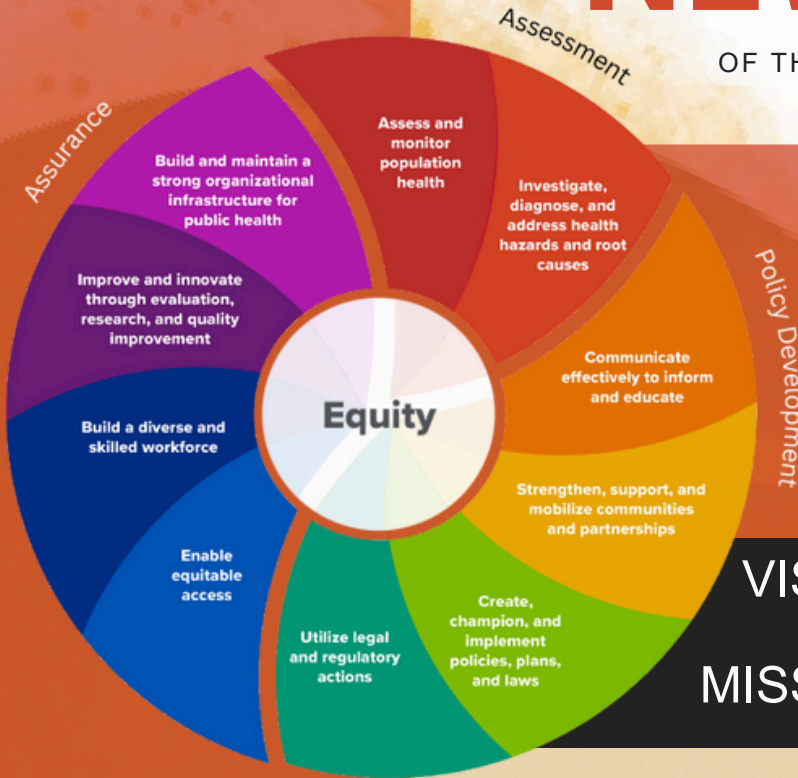


10.2024

PUBLIC HEALTH

NEWSLETTER

OF THE APPLETON PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



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VISION: Health for all, together.

MISSION: Facilitate equitable community wellbeing through education, health promotion, and response to public health needs.

10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Each month, the Appleton Health Department Newsletter features stories about how we are achieving each of the 10 Essential Public Health Services. This month, we focus on:

Essential Public Health Service #2 Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population.

NURSES ADDRESS PERTUSSIS

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is a bacterial infection that can affect all ages but is especially dangerous for infants and pregnant people. Pertussis differs from many other vaccine-preventable diseases because it remains present in a population, typically year-round. The early symptoms of Pertussis are similar to other respiratory illnesses and the infection is highly contagious. That is why Public Health Nurses jump into action when a cluster of suspected or confirmed Pertussis cases are found in our community.

Pertussis is a communicable disease which is reported to the Appleton Public Health Department. Appleton Public Health Nurses first conduct a case investigation. The public Health Nurse interviews the patient or their caregivers, which helps identify sources of infections and people around them that may be at risk for getting Pertussis. Next, Public Health Nurses will provide instructions for staying home and follow-up care for the patient and those who may have been exposed. Staying home for the recommended time and following a medical provider's treatment plan is essential because infected people can spread pertussis up to three weeks after the cough begins if they do not get treatment.

Finally, when a cluster of Pertussis cases or known exposure has occurred, Appleton's Public Health Nurses communicate possible exposure to the population affected. They give guidance about what to look for during an increased incidence of Pertussis infections and can answer questions of caregivers and parents, school and daycare staff, and medical office teams. Effective community awareness leads people to get tested and treated sooner, improving vaccination rates, and ending the contagious spread of Pertussis.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY PROGRAM & FIRE STATION 5



MEET AMANDA



Amanda Hatch, BSN, RN

Amanda started her career as a teacher, and now as a public health nurse, teaching remains a big part of how Amanda serves her clients today. Amanda returned to school to become a nurse because she felt called. "I enjoy spending time with my clients in a setting that is more comfortable for them than in a provider's office. I find they open up, and I am able to address needs they might not bring up at their doctor appointments." Amanda is most involved in the Appleton Health Department's Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC). PNCC guides mothers through what they can expect during pregnancy, connects them to healthcare services, and assists each client in accessing resources for their pregnancy and beyond.

When Amanda is not at work she loves spending time with her children and husband, Maddison, Elijah, and Nick and cooking and gardening.

As warm weather months come to a close the Appleton Public Health Nurses wrapped up the last 2024 Car Seat Fitting Station at Fire Station #5. During a car seat fitting appointment a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician inspects the resident's current car seat, adjusts the seat for each child based on age, height, weight, and the vehicle, and then teaches caregivers how to install the car seat and harness the child correctly for every ride. 4 out of 5 car seats are not used or installed properly so this hands-on learning can give parents the tools they need to protect children from preventable injury or death.

Road injuries are the leading cause of preventable deaths and injuries to children in the United States. Correctly installed and used child safety seats decrease the risk of fatal injury by 71%. The Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS) provides grant funding for the Appleton Health Department Child Passenger Safety Program to purchase car seats for families who cannot afford them with the goal that all child passengers are in the correct car seat. The training nurses received to become Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians allows them to select the right car seat for each family and prepare families for the changing safety needs as each child grows. For more information on child passenger safety visit: <https://www.nhtsa.gov/vehicle-safety/car-seats-and-booster-seats>

RESOURCES

[CDC-10 Essential Public Health Services -Full](#)



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



BOARD OF HEALTH CALENDAR