NEWSLETTER 10.2025 Assessment OF THE APPLETON PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Access to Services Birth Postcards Meet Allison

VISION: Health for all, together.

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

### Access to Services, Your Way

## 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 # 7: Assure an effective system that enables equitable access to the individual services and care needed to be healthy

The Appleton Health Department is committed to making it easier for residents to connect with the services and care they need to stay healthy.

A key step forward is the launch of new online forms, developed by our Administrative Support Specialist, Allison Hazlett. These forms allow residents to request services quickly and easily from their phone or computer. Current options include Parent and Child Health Services, Immunizations, Car Seat Fitting Station Appointments, and Tuberculin Skin Tests.

In addition to the forms, our city website, www.appletonwi.gov, is designed for both desktop and mobile use. Built-in browser accessibility tools, such as screen readers (text-to-speech), closed captions, adjustable text size, magnification, color contrast options, and language translation tools, make important public health information easier to access for everyone. Care is taken to ensure website content works seamlessly with these supports.

Other ways to connect remain available, including phone, email through the "Contact Us" form, and traditional mail. Together, these improvements make it easier for all Appleton residents to connect with the public health services they need.

# Reaching Families Early: Birth Postcards Are Back

The Appleton Health Department has reintroduced a simple but meaningful way to reach families with new babies—Birth Postcards.

This outreach effort was paused during COVID but has since been updated and improved. Now, families living within the Appleton

jurisdiction will receive a postcard within the first month after their baby is born. The message is simple: you are not alone, and our public health nurses are here to help.



The postcards highlight the many areas where our nurses can provide guidance and support:

- Postpartum care
- Parenting
- Child development
- Emotional wellbeing
- Feeding your baby
- Safety: car seats, safe sleep, lead exposure, immunization

Nurses also share information about how to connect with community resources, ensuring families have support tailored to their needs.



### Meet Allison

Allison Hazlett has served as an Administrative Support Specialist with the City of Appleton Health Department for the past six months. In her role, she works closely with public health nurses, providing key administrative support that helps ensure services run smoothly. From preparing client charts for vaccine clinics to creating marketing materials and maintaining online access to services and timely information, Allison's work supports both staff and the community.

She especially enjoys projects in the Public Health Nursing Division, where data is translated into meaningful action. Reflecting on her time so far, Allison shared that she was surprised to learn how much public health work happens behind the scenes to protect Appleton residents. "Every day is different, a new task, something that you haven't heard of or a new problem to take on," she said.

A lifelong Appleton resident, Allison is a mother of two boys and the wife of her high school sweetheart. Outside of work, she enjoys gardening, going for walks, reading, baking, and Zumba; activities that balance her busy professional and family life.

#### Resources

Board of Health Calendar
Public Health Nursing Services













