

APPLETON HEALTH DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT April – June 2017

Executive Summary

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

April 11, a reinspection of a local gas station (Appleton Citgo, 1717 W. College Ave., Appleton, WI 54914) by Keith Verhagen, Weights and Measures Specialist, detected major violations during the reinspection which revealed 10 pricing errors (4 overcharges) in a 25 item sample. As the National Price Verification Code tolerance is + or – 2%, the 40% overall error rate found in this inspection is a violation, and indicated problems with the store's price control system. This location has not shown any improvement from its January inspection and the March reinspection. A citation was issued along with another warning letter. A reinspection was to be conducted in May and the store removed its price scanning equipment and will enter all prices manually.

May 10, Weights and Measures staff presented at the annual Festival Foods Farm Market meeting held at the Festival Foods Store on Northland Ave. A record number of Vendors attended the meeting this year. Weights and Measures Specialists provided information regarding policies as well as the testing of 22 farm market vendors' scales. This mandatory meeting provides a great foundation for high compliance throughout the Farm Markets summer duration. Weights and Measures staff will monitor the farm market closely throughout the summer to ensure compliance.

May 31, Environmental Health Staff, City Sealer Eric Maggio and Weights & Measures Specialist Keith Verhagen presented at the annual Appleton Downtown Saturday Farm Market Vendor meeting held in the Library meeting room. City Sealer Maggio provided information regarding policies as well as going over farm market rules. Weights and Measures staff tested 26 farm market vendor's scales as well as package and labeling inspections. The meeting, which is mandatory, provides a foundation for high compliance throughout the Farm Markets summer duration. Weights and Measures staff will continue to monitor the farm market throughout the summer.

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

In April, the health department was part of the multi-state Seoul Hantavirus outbreak investigation. The Seoul virus is a rare type of Hantavirus carried by Norway rats and black rats. Since January of 2017, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services has worked with the CDC, Illinois Department of Health and various local health departments in this investigation. Trace-out investigations of clients who purchased rats from infected ratteries (breeding facilities) were performed by epidemiologists, and staff at local health departments. Appleton Public Health nursing staff assisted with this investigation, through follow-up and education with individuals who purchased rats from infected ratteries. Education was provided on symptoms of Hantavirus, testing opportunities for people and rats and ways to prevent exposure. People can get Hantavirus infections from having contact with infected rodents, or their urine and droppings.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane, facilitated a Northeast Wisconsin Preparedness Consortium meeting on April 13th, as part of their bi-monthly schedule. The meeting was both a chance to introduce Daniel to the Consortia and for Daniel to give an overview of the next grant year which will focus on community level preparedness and community level recovery for disasters.

Public Health Nurse Becky Lindberg, RN, provided TB skin testing for Appleton Fire Department employees in May. 70 screenings were completed.

Environmental Supervisor Tim Mirkes, RS, conducted a courtesy inspection at the Boys and Girls Club food service kitchen at the request of the Food Manager. No items were noted in need of correction. Although not required, the manager has become a Certified Food Manager. While the Boys and Girls Club is exempt from licensing, it is still important to assure safe meal delivery.

Tim Mirkes, RS, and Steve Kihl, RS, conducted food stand inspections at the annual Xavier Food Fair event held the first Sunday in May. No major issues were found during the inspections.

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

This quarter department staff provided a variety of presentation including:

April 24, Becky Lindberg, RN, presented on Safe Sleep to a Mom and Me class at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center – Appleton. 7 moms and their babies were in attendance.

May 1, Kathleen Sprangers, RN, presented to a Mom and Me class at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center. The topic was immunizations, and 7 moms and their babies attended.

May 8, Kathleen Sprangers, RN, and Sonja Jensen, RN, provided education on adult immunizations with a focus on HPV to clinic staff at Partnership Community Health Center. 13 clinic staff attended.

May 16, Sonja Jensen, RN, presented to staff at Faith Childcare. Educational topics included information on bloodborne pathogens and communicable diseases. 16 staff were in attendance.

May 22, Jess Moyle, RN, and Becky Lindberg, RN, trained the childcare provider/owner of Maggie's Family Daycare on the Ten Steps to Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Centers.

May 30, Jess Moyle, RN, and Becky Lindberg, RN, trained the childcare provider/owner of Amy's Kids Family Childcare on the Ten Steps to Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Centers.

June 13, Kathleen Sprangers, RN, presented on adult immunizations with a focus on HPV at Mosaic Family Health Center. 9 Family Practice Resident Doctors attended the presentation.

April 20, Health Office Eggebrecht moderated at the Wisconsin Health Education Network (WHEN) annual conference held in Middleton. The conference theme was Building a Culture of Health: Capacity, Collaboration and Community Connections.

“Provides services in a cost effective and efficient manner”

April 12, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane and Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht served as observers at a functional exercise held at Theda Care Hospital in Appleton. The exercise tested a flooding scenario, with multiple hospitals in the region having to coordinate a response. This offered the chance for the Health Department to not only offer feedback on the exercise, but it showed how the Health Department would be a key partner for the hospital in an emergency.

May 15, the Health Department staff welcomed State Representative Dave Murphy who represents the 56th Assembly District. The primary reason for the meeting was to discuss pending legislation that he supported AB 293 which would provide supplemental funding for communicable disease investigation and follow-up.

“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”

Public Health Nurse Jess Moyle, RN, as part of Safe Kids Fox Valley, participated in Car Seat Recycle Day at the Grand Chute Fire Department, on April 22. 378 old, expired, or damaged car seats were collected and recycled.

Two Family Childcare Centers in Appleton received Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare designation in the 2nd quarter of 2017. Big Hearts, Little Hands, and Amy's Kids Family Childcare both completed the Ten Steps to Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare after working with public health nurses Becky Lindberg and Jess Moyle.

Public health nursing staff worked with World Relief Fox Valley and various partners in the Appleton community to welcome 13 refugees during the months of April, May and June of 2017.

In coordination with Mosaic Family Health 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.

In April, Common Council passed a resolution to allow the keeping of up to four chickens and no roosters in the City limits. There were nine applicants. One of the applicants was denied after a neighbor objected and the Safety and Licensing Committee upheld the denial. In this quarter, seven pre-licensing inspections were conducted and seven permits were issued.

June 15th, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane prepared a full scale power outage exercise to test an emergency vaccination transfer from the Menasha Health Department to the Appleton Health Department. The exercise tested the ability of both agencies to properly track and maintain temperature levels of all vaccines over a 3 day period. By following current procedures, staff were able to identify an inventory issue as a place for improvement and the issue has since been corrected.

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

Public Health Nurse Kathleen Sprangers, RN, was selected as the 2017 Immunization Champion. The award is given by the Northeast WI Immunization Coalition annually to a person who demonstrates a strong commitment to increasing immunization levels through education, advocacy and leadership. Kathleen was nominated by her fellow Appleton Public Health Nurses, who stated she was truly a champion, demonstrated by her ability and passion to educate patients and families, and by acting as a resource to coworkers. Kathleen was presented with this award on April 26, 2017.

Public Health Nurse Kris Eiden, RN, as part of the City of Appleton Healthsmart Team, was involved with planning a Lunch and Learn to promote a Bicycle Benefits program. This program is for City of Appleton employees and their families; 10 people attended the session on May 31.

This quarter staff participated in several training opportunities including:

April 4-6, Public Health Nurse Ashley Rankin, RN, attended HIV Counseling, Testing and Referral Services Program Training at the Pyle Center in Madison. This was sponsored by the Wisconsin HIV Program.

April 24, Public Health Nurse Kathleen Sprangers, RN, attended the Wisconsin Immunization Program statewide Adult Immunization conference in Steven Point.

April 24-28, Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht and Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen, RN, attended the 2017 Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, Georgia. Kurt and Sonja were able to attend the conference thanks to a training scholarship provided from Wisconsin Department of Health Services. The theme of the conference was, "Forces of Change: Capabilities, Innovation, and Partnerships".

April 28, Public Health Nurse Becky Lindberg, RN, attended the Fox Cities CHAT Plunge, "Early Childhood: Kids in Crisis". This was sponsored by ThedaCare, and attendees travelled to various early childhood locations including the Building for Kids, Community Early Learning Center, Appleton Child Learning Center, and Childcare Resource and Referral.

May 1, the department welcomed Kevin Grosskreutz, Weights and Measures Specialist.

May 10, Public Health Nurses Ashley Rankin, RN, Jess Moyle, RN, and Trish Schuldes, RN, attended the First Breath Families First training in Appleton. This was sponsored by the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation.

May 16, all Public Health nursing staff attended a training in Appleton on HPV vaccination, with a focus on recent ACIP schedule changes for 9-14 year olds.

May 19, Public Health Nurses Sue Larson, RN, Becky Lindberg, RN, and Sonja Jensen, RN, attended the joint refugee resettlement team meeting in Neenah at the Public Library. The topic of focus was "Culture and Law".

May 23-25, Public Health Nurses Sonja Jensen, RN, and Jess Moyle, RN, along with Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht, attended the Wisconsin Public Health Association/Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards conference in Wisconsin Dells. The 2017 theme was: "Improving Health, Neighborhood by Neighborhood".

May 31, Public Health Nurses Kris Eiden, RN, Ashley Rankin, RN, and Ann Steele, RN, attended the annual HIV Partner Services training at the Scheig Center in Appleton.

June 6, Public Health Nurses Jess Moyle, RN, and Trish Schuldes, RN, attended the Northeast Region PNCC meeting at the Menasha Library. The Wisconsin Association for Perinatal Care and Wisconsin Health Literacy Council presented at the meeting.

June 13-14, Health Officer Eggebrecht attended a training sponsored by East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission called “Laying the Foundations for Complete Streets.” The workshop presenters were from Smart Growth America and National Complete Streets Coalition.

June 16, Directors Gazza, Harkness, Vandehey, McDonald and Eggebrecht joined colleges from other green tier legacy communities in Northeast Wisconsin for Health in all Policies training. This session was held in Sheboygan.

June 21-22, Public Health Preparedness Coordinator Daniel Kane attended a training in Milwaukee on Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER). The CASPER program is a tool that allows public health agencies to get an idea of the needs of the whole community as it relates to emergency preparedness.

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

Four dwellings were placarded as unfit for human habitation this quarter. Two remain placarded. Children under the age 18 were residents in all four dwellings. The Appleton Police Department and Outagamie Child protection were also involved in the investigations.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Eggebrecht, M.Ed., MCHES
Health Officer