

APPLETON HEALTH DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT April-June 2013

Executive Summary

The Health Department's day-to-day activities for the second quarter of 2013 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”

May 1, 2013, based on previous errors, Keith Verhagen, Weights and Measures Specialist, conducted a third Price Scanning re-inspection of Office Max located at 2401 S. Kensington Dr. Keith detected major violations revealing 4 pricing errors, all overcharges in a 50 item sample. As the National Price Verification Code tolerance is + or – 2%, the 8% 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 to the store and a citation was issued. On June 4, 2013 a re-inspection was conducted and Office Max now passed with 0 errors.

Similarly, on May 21, 2013, Keith conducted a third Price Scanning re-inspection of Consumer Prescription Center located at 2310 W. College Ave. The reinspection revealed 0 pricing errors in a 50 item sample. Weights and Measures staff worked with store management during previous reinspections and a warning letter was sent to the store detailing steps to correct issues. Store staff and management were pleased with the outcome of all their hard work to correct the price scanning system and compliance was gained.

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

Environmental Health Supervisor Tim Mirkes conducted a courtesy inspection at the Boys and Girls Club food service kitchen at the request of the Food Manager. A few items were noted in need of correction but overall, they are doing a very good job regarding food safety and sanitation. Although the Boys and Girls Club is exempt from licensing, it is still important to assure safe meal delivery.

Tim Mirkes and Environmentalist Steve Kihl conducted food stand inspections at the annual Xavier Food Fair event held the first Sunday in May. Due to the number of food vendors the Health Department provides additional group training to the food service volunteers prior to the event. No major issues were found during the inspections.

This quarter, one bat was shipped for rabies testing. The result was negative.

May 1, 2013, Weights and Measures staff provided training for vendors of the Festival Foods Farm Market held at the store on Northland Avenue. A record number of vendors attended the meeting this year. Staff also tested 30 farm market vendors' scales as well as package and labeling approvals. The meeting which has become mandatory provides a great foundation for high compliance throughout the Farm Markets summer duration. Weights and Measures staff will monitor the farm market throughout the summer to ensure compliance.

May 29, 2013, Weights & Measures staff also provided training at the annual Appleton Downtown Farm Market vendor meeting held in the Library meeting room. City Sealer Maggio provided information regarding policies as well as going over the rules. Weights and Measures staff tested 28 farm market vendors' scales as well as package and labeling inspections. Staff will also monitor this farm market throughout the summer months.

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

This quarter staff provided several health education programs in the community including:

Public Health Nurses, Jess Moyle, R.N. and Ann Steele, R.N., presented on Lead Poisoning Prevention and Home Safety at the Fox Valley Apartment Association Trade Show on April 11th. Approximately 40 landlords/owners were in attendance.

Public Health Nurses, Becky Lindberg, R.N. and Jess Moyle, R.N. assisted at the Car Seat Recycle event held on April 20, at the Grand Chute Fire Department. This event was sponsored by the Fox Valley Safe Kids Coalition of which Appleton Health Department is a member. A total of 147 car seats were collected and recycled.

On April 25th, Becky Lindberg, R.N. presented on Safe to Sleep and Infant Safety for the Healthy Moms = Healthy Babies prenatal class at the Fox Cities Community Health Center. Two pregnant women and one expectant father attended.

April 26th, Health Officer Eggebrecht presented to students attending the Fox Valley Technical College studying law enforcement. The session was held at the Appleton Police Department on the topic of integrated Emergency Operation Plans.

Becky Lindberg, R.N. also presented at the Teen Parent Conference held at the Fox Valley Technical College on May 3rd about Safe to Sleep. There were 46 participants.

On May 15th, Becky Lindberg, R.N. participated in the Health and Wellness Fair at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley. There were approximately 160 participants and the topic was, “Rethink your Drink”, which educated school-aged children about the amount of sugar in popular drinks.

Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen, R.N., BSN, presented at Villa Phoenix on May 15th for nineteen clients and staff and learned about Diabetes Prevention and Management.

June 4th, Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht presented to participants of the Wisconsin Active Community Regional Workshop held at Miron Construction in Neenah.

“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”

This quarter the Appleton Health Department and partners from the North East Wisconsin (NEW) Public Health Preparedness Partnership began preparing for an April 11th, 2013 functional exercise. The scenario chosen for this exercise was an Ice Storm occurrence with widespread power outages. This exercise was planned to test our capabilities related to Emergency Operations Coordination, Emergency Public Information & Warning and Information sharing during an event. On April 10th, 2013 the City of Appleton Health Department responded to an actual Ice Storm event. The department connected with food establishments, healthcare organizations and the general public through the city Public Information Officer to disseminate safety information regarding long term power outages. The planning that went into the exercise, as well as lessons learned from a previous power outage in September of 2011 was helpful in responding to this event.

June 26th, Sonja Jensen, R.N. and Kathleen Sprangers, R.N. successfully completed the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) audit with the State Immunization Program. During the site visit, program representatives examined all aspects of the VFC program, from vaccine storage and handling to all components of program administration.

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

This quarter staff participated in several continuing education opportunities including:

In April of this quarter, we celebrated the career and retirement of Nurse Supervisor Kathy Stromberg and welcomed Sonja Jensen into this role. We have been fortunate to have such committed public health nurses serve in this role.

April 19th, Public Health Nurses Jess Moyle, R.N., Trish Schuldes, R.N. and Tina Pelishek, R.N. attended a Building Resiliency Training, (experiences of building resiliency of those who had adverse childhood experiences). The training was held in Wautoma and sponsored by the Tri-County Healthy Babies Coalition.

April 19th, Health Officer Eggebrecht attended the Wisconsin Health Education Network Conference where the topic of how the Affordable Care Act with its emphasis on prevention was explained.

April 30th, Health Officer Eggebrecht attended a day long “Train the Trainer” course on Quality Improvement. Creating a culture of quality improvement is a priority for the department.

On May 5th, 2013, Jon Lee, Preparedness Coordinator attended the Threat Liaison Officer (TLO) training in Waupaca. This training educated participants on the state fusion center, where threats to public safety and health are shared between municipal, state and federal agencies. Public health staff members were encouraged to attend this event and became qualified to receive regular updates from the fusion center regarding current and emerging threats in Wisconsin.

Public Health Nurse, Jess Moyle, R.N. attended the Certified Lactation Specialist Course held in Wausau May13 –17. She completed all the requirements and passed the exam, and is now a Certified Lactation Specialist.

Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Sonja Jensen, R.N., BSN represented the department at the regional Communities of Practice Workgroup. This group is interested in public health accreditation requirements, including performance management, and quality improvement.

May 22-23, Health Officer Kurt Eggebrecht, attended the combined annual conference of Wisconsin Public Health Association and the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Department and Boards. Eggebrecht currently serves on the Board of Directors for both organizations.

The Environmental staff, comprised of Tim Mirkes, Michelle Roberts and Steve Kihl, attended a Wisconsin Food Code training session May 28th, held at Fox Valley Technical College. The training focused on new revisions to the Food Code, which will become effective on September 1, 2013.

The HIV Partner Services annual meeting/training was held on May 30th at the Radisson hotel in Appleton. Public Health Nurses, Kris Eiden, R.N. and Ann Steele, R.N. attended this training.

June 19th, Public Health Nurses, Jess Moyle, R.N. and Tina Pelishek, R.N. received training on “Understanding Infant Adoption” held at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin-Neenah campus.

June 26th, Public Health Nurses, Trish Schuldes, R.N., Tina Pelishek, R.N. and Jess Moyle, R.N. participated in Prenatal Care Coordination training held at the Menasha Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Eggebrecht, M.Ed., MCHES
Health Officer