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Build a diverse and

Equity

# NEWSLETTER Assessment

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 # 3: Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it

## City of Appleton Board of Health: **Guiding Community Health**

The City of Appleton Board of Health is the policy-making, rule-making, and decision-making body for public health in Appleton. State statutes grant the Board authority to make local public health rules, set certain service fees, and influence daily Health Department operations.

The Board consists of the Mayor and seven appointed members, including two Common Council members, with efforts to appoint a registered nurse and physician. Meeting monthly, it oversees public health nursing, environmental health, consumer protection, community health, and emergency preparedness for Appleton residents.

The Board of Health's work centers on three goals: Assessment, Policy Development, and Assurance. Members assess current and future public health needs, learn about community health status, and stay informed on the Health Department's history, current work, and goals. They develop policy by reviewing statutes and local rules, preparing for and attending meetings, participating in open dialogue, and serving as a link between the community and the Health Department. Finally, the Board assures services, advocates for and informs the public, and anticipate trends affecting local health.

In achieving these three goals the Board of Health communicates effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it.

## How to Participate

### Attend Board of Health: In-Person, Watch Live, or Watch Later

The Board of Health meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 a.m. There are several ways to stay informed:



#### Attend in-person

Join us at City Hall in the 6th Floor Council Chambers for our monthly meetings. All meetings are open to the public, and agendas are published in advance.

#### Watch Live from anywhere

The Board of Health meetings are available via live stream for those who would like to follow proceedings in real time. Access the meeting from any location with an internet connection, no travel or parking required.

#### Watch Later or **Read Meeting Minutes**

Recordings of each Board of Health meeting are published for public viewing following the meeting. Meeting minutes, which summarize actions taken, recommendations made, and information presented, are also available online.

Find Meeting Details, Agendas, Minutes and Videos/Live Streams here:

City of Appleton - Board of Health

## Meet Cathy, Chairperson

Cathy Spears, Chairperson of the City of Appleton Board of Health, exemplifies distinguished service through a career spanning more than four decades in both the scientific and public sectors. Holding a degree in Microbiology and Public Health, she served as a medical technologist at the Mosaic Family Health (Residency Clinic) from 1982 until her retirement in 2021.

Her commitment to civic leadership began in 2004 with her election as an City of Appleton Alderperson, during which she first joined the Board of Health. From 2014 to 2020, she further contributed to the community as a member of the Outagamie County Board. In 2021, she was appointed Chairperson of the Board of Health, a position in which she continues to serve with dedication.

Under her leadership, the Board evaluates and advises on public health programs, formulates recommendations to the Common Council, and advances priorities which affect the social determinants of health such as walkability and the elimination of food deserts. Her work reflects the mission of the Board of Health, to protect the residents of Appleton through prevention, environmental safeguards, and advocacy.

Beyond her official duties, Cathy enjoys time on the water and cooking with fresh herbs cultivated in her own garden.

### Resources

Board of Health Calendar WI Statue about Board of Health

WI Department of Health Services Local Boards of Health













