

APPLETON HEALTH DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT October 1 – December 31, 2021

Executive Summary

The Health Department's day-to-day activities for the fourth quarter of 2021 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"

During the 4th Quarter, City Sealer Eric Maggio met with the nine contracted Consortium municipalities of Ashwaubenon, Berlin, Fox Crossing, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, New London, Ripon and Waupaca. The yearly meetings provide a chance to have face-to-face meetings about the program and answer any questions about the work we've done during the year. The municipalities were very happy with the work W&M has done and the partnership of sharing services. All work was completed at a high level and the program continues to be a successful partnership.

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

COVID-19 response was still the focus for public health emergency preparedness. Unfortunately, cases started to rise again at the end of July 2021. Testing and vaccination needs did rise at the start of the fourth quarter. Appleton Health Department opened a new testing site and opened a vaccination clinic to meet those needs of the public.

On September 21st, the new testing site opened, but with uncertainty regarding how long the support from the Wisconsin National Guard would last. Much of October the emergency management coordinator spent time finding alternative testing resources. A plan was developed to utilize temp agency employees and the health department would supply the testing kits and PPE. The state approved this plan and was going to support the site with the testing technical logistics. Then, the Wisconsin National Guard extended through the end of January of 2022. From September 21st through December 29th, the Wisconsin National Guard tested 4,270 individuals.

Vaccination continues to be the best defense against COVID-19. On September 30th, the Appleton Health Department opened another vaccination clinic on Thursdays and Fridays with Pfizer and Janssen vaccines available at the former Best Buy. In October when Moderna was approved for booster shots for ages 18 and older, the Health Department received and administered Moderna vaccine as well. Also in October, Pfizer vaccine was approved for ages 5 and older.

The health department team quickly organized special vaccination clinics for ages 5-11 at the former Best Buy location. Working closely with the Building for Kids Organization and the Multi-cultural Committee, additional activities were brought in for the children's vaccine clinics to create a welcoming atmosphere. Many of the children would forget they even received a vaccine due to the excitement of all the other fun activities awaiting them. The last day of the vaccination clinic was December 30th, 2021, conducting a total of 4,159 doses administered.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E Sepers, Jr, PhD, MPH

Health Officer