



2017 Health Unit Annual Report

Mission:

The mission of the Green Lake County Health Department is to promote and protect health and prevent disease.

Vision:

We will become the leader in Public Health in Green Lake County promoting healthy people, thriving communities, and safe environments.

Core Values:

- *Prevention*
- *Professionalism*
- *Evidence-based Practices*
- *Collaboration*
- *Good Stewardship of All Resources*
- *Responsive*
- *Performance Improvement*
- *Health Equity*

December 31, 2017



Health Unit Staff: From left, Renee Peters, Birth to 3/ Children's Community Options Program Coordinator, Tracy Soda, PHN, who retired in December after 24 years of service, Kari Schneider, PHN, Shari Krause, Public Health Program Specialist, Julia McCarroll, Health Educator, Sydney Bancroft-Hart UWO Student, Front Left: Melanie Simpkins, RN, MPH, Health Educator and Accreditation Coordinator, Kathy Munsey, RN, Health Officer, Allison McCormick, Environmental Health Specialist



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Executive Summary

After completing our Community Health Assessment (CHA) in 2016 with five other counties, including Adams, Marquette, Juneau, Waupaca and Waushara, we collaborated to move into the next phase. The **Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)** was completed in December 2017 by these six counties who have been collaborating as the Central Wisconsin Healthcare Partnership (CWHP) since 2011. All six counties chose priority areas of mental health and substance abuse. Green Lake County also chose a third priority –chronic disease. The CHIP is a document with strategies to affect these issues. We also wanted to align with the State Health Plan, so we did include overarching priorities of Health Equity, Access to Care, Adverse Childhood Experiences and Community Collaboration. Please take time to read the entire Community Health Improvement Plan, which can be viewed by visiting www.co.green-lake.wi.us and clicking on the Health Unit link under departments.

The Health Advisory Board not only provided input on the CHIP, but also approved it for the next 5 years. The Board also continued to advocate for local funding for communicable disease prevention. This was eventually introduced into the state budget, and \$500,000 was appropriated to be distributed statewide for this cause.



Health Advisory Board members include Harley Reabe, Dr. Jeanne Lyke, Chairperson, Tammy Bending, Pat Brandstetter, Jean Kessler, Nancy Hoffman, Tami Schattschneider and Kathy Munsey with new Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

One of our biggest accomplishments was to complete the 140 Review, which is a state audit that determines if we are meeting all State Statute and Administrative Code requirements for a local health department. This process is completed every 5 years and we were presented a plaque for meeting the requirements of a Level II Health Department at the July County Board meeting.

Our 2017 Programs and Services

Disease Control and Prevention

Public Health is required by statute to follow up on acute and communicable diseases. Using the WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS), we are able to monitor trends and track outbreaks as they occur. Below are some of the diseases we followed in 2017, along with previous year comparables.

Frequency of Reported Diseases in Green Lake County	2014	2015	2016	2017
Arbovirus (West Nile Virus)			1	1
Blastomycosis	1	-	-	1
Campylobacteriosis	6	2	13	4
Chlamydia	42	47	43	46
Cryptosporidiosis	2	2	7	2
E-Coli	-	3	2	8
Ehrlichiosis	1	5	3	5
Giardiasis	3	-	5	2
Gonorrhea	2	2	1	3
Ebola Monitored Traveler	1	1	-	-
Histoplasmosis	-	-	1	-
Hepatitis B	-	1	2	-
Hepatitis C	12	16	15	12
Influenza (hospitalized)	9	6	2	14
Kawasaki Disease	-	-	-	1
Legionellosis	1	-	-	-
Lyme Disease	28	20	14	20
Measles (Rubeola)	-	1	-	-
Mycobacterium (non-tuberculosis)	-	5	1	4
Pertussis (whooping cough)	2	-	2	2
Plesiomonas Infection	-	-	-	1
Salmonellosis	4	5	5	3
Shigellosis	1	-	-	-
Invasive Strep Disease	2	4	8	3
Syphilis	-	1	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	1	-
Latent TB infection	3	1	2	2
Varicella	3	2	1	-
Vibriosis (Non Cholera)	-	-	1	-
TOTAL	124	124	130	134

Public Health Preparedness

We are an active member in the Region 6 Healthcare Coalition and attend monthly meetings

in addition to being active partners in the Local Emergency Planning Committee. We participated in several exercises working closely with Gary Podoll, Emergency Management Director, local law enforcement, our coroner, fire departments, hospitals, nursing homes, Red Cross and surrounding counties to test our ability to handle a variety of public health issues including: long-term power outage, radiation exposure, train derailment and much more. We also participated in a tabletop exercise at Fox Valley Tech with local partners related to a full-scale exercise to be held in 2018 called "Dark Skies. The train derailment exercise included our local Amish leadership and we had them practice how they would notify others and evacuate.



Tracy Soda, left works with Emergency Personnel on the Dark Skies tabletop exercise in Appleton.

Immunizations for Children and Adults

We continue to have monthly immunization clinics in Green Lake. We provide immunizations to children who are on Medical Assistance or BadgerCare or are uninsured and we provide flu shots for adults at various sites throughout the county during flu season. Over 1000 vaccines were administered in 2017.

Childhood Lead Testing

There is no safe level of lead in the human body; even very low levels of lead exposure can negatively affect health throughout the lifespan.

Children with a lead level of 5 or greater are provided with follow-up and consultation by a Public Health Nurse. Follow-up may include phone calls, home visits, consultation with the primary health care provider and a home lead risk assessment by the Health Department's Environmental Health Specialist. In 2017, 198 children were tested compared to 181 blood lead tests in 2016. Seventeen children had a level over 5, compared to 13 in 2016. Kari Schneider, Public Health Nurse and Environmental Health Staff have done the appropriate home visits and follow-up with families due to the elevated levels of blood lead. Other families receive phone calls, informational letters, and consultation.

2017 Blood Lead Testing

Total Number of Tests: 198
Children <5 ug/dl = 181
Children >5 ug/dl = 17
Home assessments = 5

Mother, Child and Family

There were 212 births in Green Lake County in 2017 compared to 213 in 2016 and 180 births in 2015. We had four births to girls under age 18, compared to 1 last year. We also had 18 babies that were considered "low birth weight" (weighing less than 5lbs, 8oz), compared to 13 last year. In 2017, the percentage of women who smoked during pregnancy was 24%, which is the same as last year. Four of the 52 women who reported smoking during their pregnancy had low birth weight babies. Fourteen infants were transferred to Neonatal Intensive Care Units compared to nine in 2016. This is an area that we continue to target by offering the First Breath program, a smoking cessation program for pregnant women at our WIC clinics. Of the 212 births, 25 had abnormal conditions and two were born with congenital anomalies.

As part of our MCH grant, we also worked with two day cares to maintain their designation of being

"Breastfeeding Friendly". This designation is given once an agency completes training for all staff as well as designating a breastfeeding room for moms. Berlin Community Day Care and Community Options Day Care in Green Lake have received the designation and we added Markesan Resident Home to the list this year of Breastfeeding Friendly worksites. Breastfeeding is proven to improve the mental health of infants and that is why we have prioritized it as part of our overall Maternal Child Health goals.



Miriam Ownby of Markesan Resident Home accepts a certificate from Julia McCarroll for completing the steps to becoming a Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite.

Nutrition WIC

WIC is the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

WIC helps income-eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, those who recently had a baby, and infants and children up to five years of age who are at health risk due to inadequate nutrition. Green Lake County served 141 families, which included 429 individuals in 2017. In addition, breastfeeding education was available to all WIC clients. WIC provides a breastfeeding peer mentor, which is an invaluable resource to new mothers. Kari Schneider also trained to be a Lactation Consultant. The State of WI contracts with Family Health La Clinica in Wautoma to provide WIC services to Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara counties. Kari Schneider and Shari

Krause attend all WIC clinics to provide immunizations, information, assist with signing families up for dental and immunization follow-up appointments as well as try and decrease smoking rates of moms by enrolling them in the First Breath Program. Kari was also able to work with the Federated Church to get diapers for families in need.



Shari Krause, center and Kari Schneider were happy to accept a donation from the Federated Church of Green Lake to help families in need of diapers.

Birth to 3

Birth to 3 is Wisconsin's early intervention program for families of infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities. The Green Lake County Health Unit has been designated by the county board to be the administrative agency in our county for this mandated program. The county is required to maintain a base level of funding for this program. Some families do have a cost share for services depending on their income. Medicaid and Private Insurance are billed for services when available and with parental permission.

In 2017, 34 new children were referred to the program. Referrals came from a number of sources including: physician, family member, social worker, WIC staff and other Birth to 3 Programs. Thirteen of those children received services through an Individualized Family Service Plan. Thirteen children were found to be developing within age appropriate levels through a screening or did not meet eligibility through an evaluation. Six families did not follow through with a screen or evaluation/were not interested. Two children are in the process of determining eligibility. These children along with those who had previously been in the program brought the total number of children served to 26 in 2017. In addition to those with significant developmental delays, there were several children with specific diagnoses including: William's Syndrome, significant prematurity, Maroteaux-Lamy Syndrome, Spina Bifida, Autism, Club Feet, Hydrocephalus and delays related to non-accidental injury.

Renee Peters is the Program and Service Coordinator/Educator. Contracted service providers included Tara McPeak, Occupational Therapist from NEW Rehab in New London. Kristen Mertens provides Speech and Language therapy and comes from Theda Care in Berlin. Jody Streeter is the Physical Therapist from Taylored Rehab in Fond du Lac.

Child Find is an important component of Birth to 3, as we want to assure that all children that may be eligible for services are referred in a timely fashion. In **2017**, our outreach consisted of:

Spring Child Development Days – We participated in our area school districts Child Development Day by providing an informational display with brochures and providing assistance as requested.

Interagency Agreements – Agreements are in place with each county school district and UMOS (United Migrant Opportunity Services, Inc.) and Advocap-Head Start.



Renee also collaborates as a committee member of the Head Start Health Advisory Committee, Green Lake County Family Resource Council and Healthy Babies Coalition of Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara Counties.

Children's Community Options Program (CCOP)

This program, formerly known as Family Support Program provides each county with a yearly allocation to support families who care for their disabled children in the home. The Program recognizes that meeting the needs of children who have severe disabilities may place hardships on a family's emotional, physical and financial resources. The Coordinator for this Program is Renee Peters.

In 2017, 8 children had a CCOP plan written for a variety of goods and services. The Program was able to fund respite, conference registration related to a diagnosis, social skills group, vehicle lift, individualized recreational opportunities, therapeutic equipment, sensory materials, and medical supplies not covered by insurance.

Tobacco Control and Prevention

Green Lake County continues as a member of the "Five Counties for Tobacco Free Living," a coalition that includes the counties of Fond du Lac, Marquette, Waushara and Washington. We are seeing a decrease in tobacco use for youths, however, the E-cigarettes and other smoking paraphernalia use continues to increase. One of the latest fads is using "Jules" which is a cartridge the size of a computer flash drive and can even be used discreetly in schools due to the small size. We continue to educate the schools and the community with press releases and educational displays at community events.

Healthy Teeth-Healthy Lives Program

The Dental clinic served 5 adults and 74 children. Sixteen were referred for additional services. These numbers are up slightly from 2016. Clinics are held 1- 2 times a month at our agency as well as summer

outreach sites at the Boys & Girls Club and at Head Start in Markesan and at schools. Clients need to be on Medical Assistance or Badger Care.

Food Safety & Recreational Licensing Program

The Tri-County Health Consortium, consisting of Allison McCormick, Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) Green Lake, Ann Robbe, EHS for Marquette County and Mary Robl, Registered Sanitarian, Program Director from Waushara County Health Department. They are responsible for maintaining the Food Safety and Recreational Licensing Program. As agents of the state, this program licenses and inspects food facilities, swimming pools, hotel/motels, school food programs, campgrounds, kennels, recreational education camps, tattoo, body piercing, and bed and breakfast establishments. During 2017 there were approximately 800 inspections performed in the Tri-County area. The 3 inspectors support each other to ensure that facilities are in compliance with applicable regulations to promote health and safety for consumers.

Facility Type in Green Lake County	Number of Inspections 2017	Total Number of Facilities
Restaurants and Retail Food	129	140
Campgrounds	14	16
Swimming Pools	14	17
Hotel/Motels/TRH	80*	117
Summer Camps	3	3
Tattoo Shop	0	0
Total—including pre-inspections & complaints	267	293

*TRH's Tourist Rooming Housing only need to be inspected every other year per state directive.

Environmental Health

Tri-County also deals with a wide variety of environmental issues that arise within the consortium. Investigations into nuisance complaints, housing issues, water quality issues and animal bites are some of the problems encountered. The Environmental Health division of the Health Department is responsible for enforcing the Health and Sanitation chapter of the Green Lake County ordinance to ensure that citizens are not exposed to hazardous conditions that could affect their health. We had an excessive number of hoarding complaints in houses and had to placard a number of homes, we assisted families, and individuals to find other options until the clean-up could be completed. We also had to placard another meth house, which had children living in it.

Below is an example of a house placarded for hoarding. It included excessive garbage and rotting food, animal waste, and broken utilities



Environmental Issues Addressed

Animal Bites—48
Well Water Concerns—3
Housing Inspection Cases—27
Meth House Placards--1
Nuisance/Other—5
Radon Test Kits Given Out—52
Water Kits Distributed—84
Also helped city of Berlin get a \$13,000 grant to continue water fluoridation in municipal water system as current system was failing.

2017 Public Health Program Contacts	Totals
Accreditation	124
Adult Health	61
Birth to 3	532
Children's Community Options	189
Bioterrorism/Preparedness	281
Coalition for Wellness & Needs Assess.	874
Dental	123
Immunization	1164
Lead Tests & Follow-up	54
Maternal Child Health	1962
Public Health	2577
Worksite Wellness	1113
Other	135
TOTAL	9189
PRESENTATIONS/EDUCATION CONTACTS	
Amish Newsletter Outreach Articles	14
Blood Borne Path Training	129
Behavioral Health Education	16
Communicable Disease	40
Employee Wellness Fair	232
Community Needs Assess & Improvement Plans	75
Drug Drop box & Opioids	24
Lunch and Learns	651
Emergency Preparedness	48
County Fair Display & Handouts	643
Grapevine	43
Health and Wellness	16
Hepatitis C Education	20
Nutrition Presentations	42
Tick-borne Illnesses	1081
Nursing Student Orientations	15
Worksite Wellness Outreach & Activities	14,977
County Board Presentations	85
Presentation to Theda Care Physicians	40
Princeton Public School Meetings	38
Real Happy Hour	111
Senior Nutrition Articles	5
Smoking and E-cigarettes	16
Student Education	93
Trick or Trunk at Boys & Girls on Dental	200
Total	18,654

Worksite Wellness/Employee Health Program

Melanie Simpkins, RN, MPH coordinates the employee wellness program using funds provided by Group Health Trust. In 2017, we had over 30 outreach activities including a health fair, individual health screenings, lunch and learns, Healthy Monday Tips, challenges, walking contests and more. 54 employees participated in 5 or more events. Sixty-five completed their annual physicals. Over \$5000 was given back to employees in the form of prizes, gift cards, gas cards and cash when they participated. We are very grateful to GHT for providing the funds to help keep our employees happier and healthier with the activities we share.



Melanie Simpkins who coordinates the Employee Wellness Program shares info with Denise Oft on chronic disease management, one of our health priorities in Green Lake County.

Coalition Membership and Community Involvement

The most important part of our work, is building relationships to affect change for the betterment of the health of our county. Staff members are involved in over 25 coalitions, workgroups and committees. Some of these include the Tri-County Plain Communities Public Health Coalition, which addresses health, and safety concerns with our Amish and Mennonite populations. Our membership with THRIVE is an effort to address health inequities in our community. We are involved in the Community Health Action Team, which is working on mentoring more children to

build on resilient behaviors and add positive influences in their lives. Other groups include the Birth to 3 Networking group, Family Resource Council, Green Lake County Wellness Coalition, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Loss Control, NE WI Alliance for Wisconsin Youth, Head Start Health Advisory Committee, Sexual Assault Response Team, Diabetes Advisory Board, the Immunization Coalition, Breastfeeding Alliance of NE WI Traffic Safety Committee and much more. The Health Department is charged with implementing our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and we could not do it without partners. It is imperative that we work with community members, businesses, and other county departments to help them understand our “Health in All” policy, which means that they will all look at the impact of health as they implement policies and that where we live, work and play really makes a difference in our health.

Recognition—Health Officer of the Year!



I was very honored and humbled to receive the **Health Officer of the Year** award at the 2017 WI Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB) conference with 400 of my peers present. I truly feel that it is a privilege to serve our community. It is nice to know that my years of serving on the WALHDAB board and Legislative Council, along with mentoring several new health officers and providing testimony at state and local hearing to improve health statewide did not go unnoticed. I was very pleased to accept the award on behalf of my dedicated staff without whom the award would not have been possible.

Submitted by Kathy Munsey, RN, Health Officer