



2018 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*



Health Unit Staff: From left, Kathy Munsey, RN, Health Officer, Renee Peters, Birth to 3/Children's Community Options Program Coordinator, Melanie Simpkins, RN, MPH, Health Educator, Shari Krause, Public Health Program Specialist, Kari Schneider, RN, PHN, Julia McCarroll, MS, CHES, Health Educator, Allison McCormick, Environmental Health Specialist, and our new Public Health Nurse, Rachel Prellwitz, RN.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Executive Summary

Implementing the **Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)**, was a key project in 2018. The CHIP, which was completed in December 2017 with five other counties, including Adams, Marquette, Juneau, Waupaca and Waushara and make up the Central Wisconsin Healthcare Partnership (CWHP) was definitely a focus area for the group. The overarching goal for our CHIP was to improve Health Equity. In other words, we need to look at the social and economic factors that influence health. Our CWHP history positioned us so we could apply for grant funds to impact this. I took the lead on this project and Family Health La Clinica agreed to be the fiscal agent if we were successful in our application to improve health equity. Much to our delight, we were one of five projects chosen by the WI Partnership Program to receive \$300,000 over the next 4 years. We are trying to infuse Health Equity into every one of our programs. The grant included hiring a Community Health Engagement Coordinator to work with the six health educators in the CWHP region to first of all assess where we are at with regards to having communities that provide fair opportunities for all to be as healthy as they can be. The WI Partnership is providing training and technical assistance and the six counties have made great strides in impacting the health priorities of mental health, substance abuse and chronic diseases. This work will continue into 2019 and beyond and we are very excited to have so many bright minds tackling these issues. As you read this report, you will see that public health includes WIC, dental services, communicable disease follow-up, immunization services, new baby visits, environmental investigations, beach safety, opioid and substance abuse, employee wellness, safe homes, lead investigations and much more. We have partner collaborations that involve, transportation, sexual assault prevention, emergency preparedness, children's wellness/safety, all in an effort to improve the health of Green Lake County. We embrace the challenge.



WI Partnership Program Grant awardees, include Kathy Munsey, 2nd from right in front row representing Green Lake County Public Health and the Central WI Health Partnership. The other awardees included the “Common Wealth Development”, “The Foundation for Black Women’s Wellness”, “Milwaukee Inner-City Congregations Allies for Hope (MICAH)”, and “Rebalanced-Life Wellness Association”. Each organization received a \$300,000 grant to be used over the next 4 years.

Our 2018 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 2018, along with previous year comparables.

Frequency of Reported Diseases in Green Lake County	2015	2016	2017	2018
Campylobacteriosis	2	13	4	16
Chlamydia	47	43	46	46
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	7
Cryptosporidiosis	2	7	2	2
E-Coli	3	2	8	25
Ehrlichiosis	5	3	5	1
Giardiasis	-	5	2	2
Gonorrhea	2	1	3	6
Hepatitis B	1	2	-	0
Hepatitis C	16	15	12	4
Influenza (hospitalized)	6	2	14	19
Legionellosis	-	-	-	1
Lyme Disease	20	14	20	9
Measles (Rubeola)	1	-	-	1*
Mycobacterium (non-tuberculosis)	5	1	4	4
Pertussis (whooping cough)	-	2	2	4
Salmonellosis	5	5	3	4
Invasive Strep Disease	4	8	3	2
Tuberculosis	-	1	-	0
Latent TB infection	1	2	2	3
TOTAL	124	130	134	156
*Suspect Case-was negative				

Public Health Preparedness

We completed a new Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plan and updated policies and contacts and emergency forms to be ready for disasters. In 2018, we participated in a full-scale exercise called Dark Skies which entailed a tornado hitting much of the state and included a long-term power outage. We assisted with the regional shelter that was set up in Winnebago County.

We also provided training to our chronically mentally ill and our elderly on being prepared for emergencies and were able to distribute emergency “Go Kits” after receiving grant funds for this project.



TRIAD member receives “Emergency Go Kit”

Immunizations for Children and Adults

We continue to have monthly immunization clinics in Green Lake and with funding from the state for communicable disease prevention, we were able to buy Vericor coolers. These coolers allow us to transport vaccine to outlying areas and maintain the proper temperature. We are piloting a home visitation project with Rachel Prellwitz and Shari Krause to provide immunizations to the Amish community. This started in the fall and letters went out to 150 families and the first clinic she gave 32 vaccines and the second clinic she gave 27 vaccines. This project is an example of how we are improving Health Equity by outreaching to our most vulnerable populations and providing them an opportunity to improve health. Over 1080 vaccines were administered to 885 people in 2018, including flu shots.

Dental

We contracted with Carrie Knurowski, Dental Hygienist to provide services to 187 Head Start and



school children for cleanings and for 354 kids for sealants with the Seal A Smile Program. She also made referrals for additional care for 136 children.

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. A new electronic medical record provided by the state in 2018 allows us to track not only children with elevated blood lead levels, but also the homes they currently and previously lived in. This will be very useful in tracking problem housing. Children with a lead level of 5 or greater are provided with follow-up and consultation by Kari Schneider, Public Health Nurse.

2018 Blood Lead Testing

Total Number of Tests: 138
Children <5 ug/dl = 123
Children >5 ug/dl = 13
Children >10ug/dl=2
Home assessments = 2

Mother, Child and Family

There were 181 births in Green Lake County in 2018 compared to 212 in 2017 and 213 births in 2016. We had no births to girls under age 18, compared to 4 last year. We also had 10 babies that were considered “low birth weight” (weighing less than 5lbs, 8oz), compared to 18 last year. In 2017, the percentage of women who smoked during pregnancy was 24%, but that improved to 18% in 2018. Three of the 33 women who reported smoking during their pregnancy had low birth weight babies. Eight infants were transferred to Neonatal Intensive Care Units compared to 14 in 2017. 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. A training was also done to clinic staff at local offices to help decrease the rate of women who smoke during pregnancy. Of the 181 births, 19 had abnormal conditions and one was 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 Princeton School District 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. Another goal is car seat safety and Rachel Prellwitz is certified to do car seat checks and completed 9 checks in 2018.

Nutrition WIC

WIC is the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children. In Green Lake County, WIC helped 112 income-eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, 88 infants and 217 children ages 1-4. 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 is also a Lactation Consultant. The State of WI contracts with Family Health La Clinica in Wautoma to provide WIC services to Green Lake County. They added Crossroads in Green Lake as a new WIC vendor and established a mommy and me support group in Berlin. 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.

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 with parental permission.

In 2018, 36 new children were referred to the program. Referrals came from a number of sources including: physician (20), family member (6), social worker (5), Public Health nurse (1), daycares (2) and other Birth to 3 Programs (2). Ten new children were enrolled in the Program during the calendar year with three children still in the process of determining eligibility. Eleven children were found to be developing within age appropriate levels through a screening or did not meet eligibility through an evaluation. Eleven families did not follow through with a screen or evaluation/were not interested in the program and one child moved out of county before an initial meeting. The total number of children served through an Individualized Family Service Plan in 2018 was 25. In addition to those with significant developmental delays, there were several children with specific diagnoses including: mild cerebral palsy, Spina Bifida, Autism, Club Feet, Hydrocephalus, Trisomy 18 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 and Hannah Lehocky provided Speech and Language therapy via a contract with 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 **2018**, 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, UMOS (United Migrant Opportunity Services, Inc.) and Advocap-Head Start.

During the year, Renee also collaborated 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 2018, 7 children received CCOP funding for a variety of goods and services. The Program was able to fund respite/mentoring, conference registration related to a diagnosis, social skills group, individualized recreational opportunities, therapeutic equipment, sensory materials, and medical supplies not covered by insurance.

Tri-County Environmental Health

Tri-County Environmental Health 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. One home cost over \$2,400 to adequately clean in order to get a realtor in to put the house up for sale after the person was placed in a safe apartment. In another instance, over \$14,000 was allocated by the county for clean-up. The owner did pay for the clean-up and the owner decided to put the property up for sale as they were unable to care for it. We also had to work with landlords to improve standards in multi-unit housing dwellings.

Environmental Issues Addressed

Animal Bites—40
Well Water Concerns—2
Housing Inspection Cases—24
Nuisance/Other—9
Radon Test Kits Given Out—52 (40 returned)
Water Kits Distributed—60



We did have a change in our Tri-County Environmental Health Staff. Mary Robl, is the supervisor, Allison McCormick serves Green Lake County and Jessica Jungenberg who is new, serves Marquette County. For the 2017-18 season, there were 236 inspections in Green Lake County, 34 Pre-inspections, 13 re-inspections and 9 Follow-up inspections.



Rachel Prellwitz and Julia McCarroll assist the health officer with posting a beach due to high levels of blue-green algae. This lasted much of the summer. Another beach was posted due to high levels of E. Coli for a week.

Coalition Membership and Community Involvement

Staff members are involved in over 40 coalitions, workgroups and committees. Some of the newer groups we are associated with include the Community Health Action Team, which is working on mentoring more children to build on resilient behaviors and add positive influences in their lives, School Wellness Committees and The WI Women's Health Foundation. Others include the Tri-County Plain Communities Public Health Coalition, which addresses health, and safety concerns with our health inequities in our community. Other groups include the Birth to 3 Networking group, Family Resource Council, Local Emergency Planning Committee, NE WI Alliance for Wisconsin Youth, Head Start Health Advisory Committee, 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.

Worksite Wellness/Employee Health Program

Melanie Simpkins, RN, MPH coordinates the outreach activities including a health fair, individual health screenings, lunch and learns, chair yoga, Healthy Monday Tips, challenges, walking contests, financial wellness programs and much more. Group Health Trust provides the funds to help keep our employees happier, healthier and more productive with the wellness activities we share.



The Health Unit coordinates the Employee Wellness Health Fair. Several topics were covered such as, healthy aging, healthy recreation with a free bike helmet give-away, financial wellness, healthy beverages, oral health, building healthy relationships, and information related to opioid and other drug abuse.



Rachel Prellwitz shows a “teens bedroom” with the many places a teen may hide drugs or alcohol along with items that may indicate your child is using drugs or alcohol.

Opioid Prevention Activities

As a member of the Alliance for WI Youth (AWY) we were able to secure funds to do prevention activities to reduce youth access to drugs and alcohol. See CHIP update for specific numbers.



Kathy Munsey and Julia McCarroll distribute lock boxes to folks at the Senior Picnic in 2018. Many seniors stated they were concerned about grandchildren taking drugs out of their prescription bottles. The lock boxes will prevent that as it limits accessibility.

Community Contacts & Education

Public Health staff made contact with nearly 7000 community members in 2018 and did 72 education sessions to 994 individuals. These sessions covered a variety of topics including car safety, opioid misuse, ticks, smoking, chronic disease prevention, healthy aging and more.

PROGRAMS	CONTACTS
Prevention	49
Adult Health	156
Birth to 3	665
CLTS/CCOP	319
Community Health	317
Immunization	1027
Lead	33
Worksite Wellness	900
Public Health	1134
Maternal Child	1941
Dental	134
Preparedness	207
Other	8
TOTAL	6890



Green Lake County Health Department

2018 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REPORT



Central Wisconsin Health Partnership
"Wellness with health in mind"

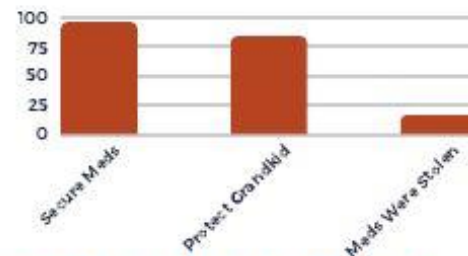
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS PRIORITY AREA

- Grant funding received through Alliance for Wisconsin Youth to Fight Opioid Epidemic.
- Lock boxes distributed at various community events.
- Drug deactivation kits distributed to home bound residents through Meals on Wheels.
- Community Awareness event about opioids held at Berlin High School.
- Alcohol Management Toolkit created to help reduce binge and underage drinking at community events.
- Over 30 individuals trained on Narcan administration in two training sessions hosted by the Health Department.

MENTAL HEALTH PRIORITY AREA

- In partnership from the Aging and Disability Resource Center and local schools, the Health Department participated in the national #BeTheTo campaign to prevent suicide deaths.
- Worked with Thedacare Community Health Action Team to develop a mentoring program at the Boys and Girls Club.
- Conducted 32 health education sessions on a variety of health topics for Behavioral Health Clients living with mental illness or substance use disorders.

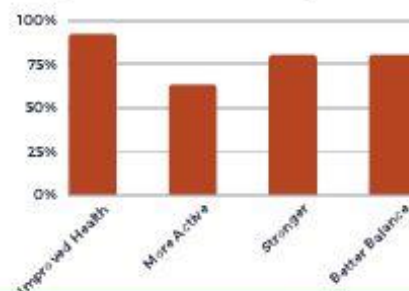
Why Residents Feel Locking Up Medication is Important



CHRONIC DISEASE PRIORITY AREA

- Partnered with Aging and Disability Resource Center to host a 6-week Living Well with Chronic Conditions Class.
- Two Strong Women Classes were hosted in Partnership with a local business.
- Two childcare centers were re-certified as being Breastfeeding Friendly.
- Worked with Princeton School District to become Breastfeeding Friendly. A \$250 mini grant was awarded to the school to improve their lactation space.
- Wrote for and received a \$3,000 grant to improve health education in Princeton School District.

Self Reported Outcomes from Strong Women Program



1,184

People reached through a Social Marketing Campaign aimed at preventing suicide.

30

Women who attended two different Strong Women Classes, a strength training class for older adults.

208

Number of prescription lock boxes given out to help prevent misuse of Opioids in Green Lake County.

