

**Eau Claire City-County Board of Health  
Resolution 16-09**

**Resolution to Secure State Funding to  
Support Communicable Disease Control for Population Health**

- WHEREAS,** Wisconsin has no dedicated, stable federal and state funding sources for communicable disease control and prevention efforts; and
- WHEREAS,** Wisconsin statute and administrative rule designate required communicable disease prevention and control work; and
- WHEREAS,** Eau Claire County had over 900 reportable communicable disease cases in 2015 as compared to just over 500 in 2007; and
- WHEREAS,** A strong local public health infrastructure that responds to and controls communicable disease issues, but also prevents them is paramount to the health of all citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** Emerging and existing communicable diseases threaten health security, economies, and quality of life for all; and
- WHEREAS,** Communicable diseases such as ebola, H1N1, measles, HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis, influenza, measles, syphilis, gonorrhea, rabies, hepatitis, polio, and pertussis, can threaten the lives and well-being of Wisconsin residents; and
- WHEREAS,** Emerging and re-emerging threats such as ebola, H1N1, SARS, and measles threaten personal and community safety and require substantial resources to contain; and
- WHEREAS,** Bloodborne pathogens that cause long-term disease such as Hepatitis C are occurring at unprecedented rates – rates that are accelerating as a result of the opiate epidemic, and;
- WHEREAS,** Wisconsin local health department communicable disease programs protect residents by investigating and controlling communicable diseases, collecting data, educating the community about prevention and the importance of immunizations, and caring for those affected by these diseases; and
- WHEREAS,** local health departments have been successful in controlling communicable diseases through case-reporting and involvement of public health staff in-referral of exposed persons for screening and prevention services; and

**WHEREAS,** Evidence in the scientific literature indicates that partner notification services are not adequately assured in the absence of specific public health staff involvement; and

**WHEREAS,** Local health departments and the State of Wisconsin have demonstrated commitment, competence and success in assuring the confidentiality of persons with reported communicable disease for decades, including cases of AIDS; and

**WHEREAS,** Local health departments have placed a high priority on communicable disease control through work with individuals as well as community partners; and

**WHEREAS,** Communicable disease control is one of the ten essential functions of public health; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Eau Claire City-County Board of Health urges the state legislature to develop and enact bipartisan support for funding of comprehensive, sustainable, effective and evidence based communicable disease control and prevention for the public's health.

Approved by the Board of Health this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016.

**EAU CLAIRE CITY-COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

<u>Elizabeth Spencer</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Kathleen M. Mitchell</u>	<u>John J. Pabbe</u>
<u>Donald Skrus</u>	<u>Donald "Jerry" Wilkie</u>
<u>Mary Price</u>	<u>_____</u>