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2017

Annual Report



Eau Claire City-County
Health Department

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Strategic Plan 2017-2021

Mission

Promoting health and safety for all Eau Claire communities

Guiding Principles

Prevention - Promotion of health and prevention of disease, injury and disability is critical in saving lives and money

Health Equity - Everyone should have equal opportunity to be healthy

Collaboration - People working together provide the best solutions

Quality - Efficiency and effectiveness is critical in programs and services

Data Informed – Collection and analysis of data guides decisions

Evidence Based – Building and utilizing evidence and promising practices in programs and services

Ethical Practice – Acting with the highest standards of professional practice

Goals

Goal 1: Increase utilization of program and population data

Rationale – Accurate, timely and relevant data has been consistently identified as crucial to planning, decision-making and effective communication. Considerable work has been done to identify areas to improve information management and identify data to support our performance management system, our community partners and coalitions, and future priorities and planning.

Goal 2: Invest in a strong workforce and infrastructure

Rationale – Our workforce is our greatest asset. We are committed to retaining and recruiting an expert team and providing them with the necessary tools and environment to provide service and program excellence. We will strategically prioritize resources to meet our current and future needs for training, professional development and working conditions.

Goal 3: Engage the community in collaborative efforts to improve health and safety

Rationale – In order to address challenging community health issues we need to provide a community leadership role in mobilizing community action, particularly in priorities identified by Eau Claire Community Health Assessment. These community partnerships are critical in identifying and addressing complex health issues and building shared priorities. We will continue our existing work, along with exploring new and innovative ways, to engage with the community and policy makers to address health priorities and social determinants of health. We will specifically focus on the need to strategically address health equity concerns in our community.

Goal 4: Develop long-term fiscal and operational strategies supporting innovation and sustainability

Rationale: In order to reach our vision and to be mission-focused in our work, we need a department that has a strong operational infrastructure. Both short and long-range fiscal and organizational planning are vital to maintaining the necessary levels of programs and services. Innovation and improvement in our internal operations (Department policies and practices) and external operations (how we provide our programs and services) will assure a strategic and strong foundation for the future. We will strive to create an environment where staff at all levels are encouraged to find creative opportunities for the department to grow.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I am happy to share the 2017 Eau Claire City-County Health Department Annual Report Summary – 2017 was an exciting year.

This year the health department had a specific focus on making sure that we are providing essential public health services as defined by national standards in an efficient and high quality way. This focus led us to work on meeting National Public Health Accreditation standards – a rigorous peer-review process that resulted in the awarding of national accreditation status. We are one of only 15 departments in Wisconsin that have achieved this status. This honor could not have happened without the daily efforts of an amazing staff, the leadership of the Board of Health, and partnerships that exist with countless partners across the community and state. All Eau Claire residents should be proud that they live in a community that has a nationally accredited health department and that we continue to strive to meet the needs of all that live, work, learn, vacation, play, and spend time here.

We also focused on some particularly critical public health issues in 2017. These included:

- Drug misuse including opioids, meth, and alcohol
- Unsafe and unhealthy housing
- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Mental health and need for prevention

None of these topics are easy to solve and they all take a strong collaborative approach. We anticipate that all will continue to be a focus of the work of the department along with the many other core services we provide related to maternal child health, environmental health sciences, regulation and licensing, reproductive health, community health promotion, and communicable disease.

Thank you for continued support of the work we do to promote health and safety for all Eau Claire communities. I encourage you to let me know how we can continue to improve the work we do at the health department. Please contact me at 715.839.4721 or elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us

Respectfully,



Director/Health Officer ECCCHD

BOARD OF HEALTH
As of December 31, 2017

Merey Price, RN, President – Joint City County Appointment
Elizabeth Spencer, RD, Vice President – City Appointment, Community Representative

Jennifer Eddy, MD – City Appointment
Jerry Wilkie – County Board Member
Donald Bodeau, MD – County Appointment

Blair Johnson, DDS, MS – County Appointment
Kathy Mitchell – City Council Member
Joan Berlin – County Appointment

PERSONNEL
As of December 2017

Elizabeth Giese, Director/Health Officer RN, MSPH
+Part-Time

Administration

Janice Vinopal, MBA, CMA, Budget Specialist
Tegan Ruland, Manager of Internal Operations
+Cindy Birtzer, Office Associate
Kris Bohlinger, Program Office Spec.
Gina Holt, Medical Office Associate
+Joan Klimek, Medical Office Associate
+Alicia Traut, Office Associate
Cathi Tynismaa, Office Associate

Community Health Education

Cortney Draxler, BS, CHES, Health Education Supervisor
Audrey Boerner, MS, Public Health Educator
+Trish Chmelik, Program Assistant
+Rachael Manning, BS, Public Health Educator
Peggy O'Halloran, MPH, Project Evaluator
Carleigh Olson, MPH, CHES Public Health Educator
Gina Schemenauer, BS, CHES, Public Health Educator
Brenda Scheurer, MS, Project Director
+Deb Tackmann, BS, MEPSD, Youth Advocacy Advisor

Emergency Preparedness Specialist

Kelli Engen, BSN, RN

Environmental Health

Shane Sanderson, MS, JD, REHS, Director of Environmental Health & Laboratory
KT Gallagher, BS, REHS, Environmental Health Supervisor
Tristin Christopher, REHS
+Dalton Gillen
+Jennifer Hanson, BS
Iris Lang, BS, REHS
Elizabeth Paulson, BS, REHS
Daniel Peterson, BS, RS
Valerie Reiter, BS, RS
Phil Schumacher, BS, REHS
Alyssa Streveler, BS, REHS
Tate Zurbuchen, BS, RS

Health Benefits Specialist

+TJ Atkins

Hmong Interpreter

+May Her, Bilingual Health Aide

Laboratory

Susan Arndt, AAS, MLT (ASCP), Microbiologist
Savannah Bergman, BS, Chemist/Microbiologist
+Arianna Giorgi
+Zoe Papalia-Beatty
Ted Johnson, BS, Chemist

Public Health Aide

+Bhenni Johnson

Public Health Nursing

+Paulette Magur, BSN, RN, Public Health Nursing Supervisor
Denise Wirth, BSN, RN, Public Health Nursing Supervisor
+Jill Bauer, BSN, RN
+Kay Bogumill, BSN, RNC
Rebecca Gorski, BSN, RN
Allison Gosbin, BSN, RN
Hannah Harter, BSN, RN
Janel Hebert, BSN, RN
+Melyssa Heintz, MSN, FNP-BC, APNP, Nurse Practitioner
Abby Hinz, BSN, RN
Ellen Jacobs, MSN, RN
+Rebecca Knutson, BSN, RN
Jacqueline Krumenauer, BSN, RN
+Jennifer Price, BSN, RN
Tammy Raeder, BSN, RN
+Patricia Reis, BSN, RN
Chelsalyn Smith, BSN, RN
+Beverly Anna Walden, BSN, RN

Public Health Nutrition

ElizaBeth Draeger, RDN, CD, CBE, Public Health Nutrition Supervisor
+ Claudia Cater, MS, RD, CD, CLE
+Jenny Eckardt, WIC Clerk
+Gail Feltz, WIC Clerk
Ruth Kilness, RD, CD, CLC,
+Susan Krahn, MS, RD, CD, CLC
+Anna Rekow, WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor
+Lori Reynolds, WIC Clerk
+Alexis Tuma, MS, RD, CD, CLE

Spanish Interpreters

+Alice Hampton, Bilingual Interpreter
+Maria Carmen Moran Castilla, Bilingual Interpreter

The image features a stylized background with three overlapping curved shapes. At the bottom is a teal shape, above it is a light green shape, and at the top is a yellow shape. The shapes curve upwards from left to right, creating a sense of growth or upward movement.

Emergency Preparedness

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

The Health Department collaborated with a broad range of county and state partners to assure that Eau Claire is prepared to respond to public health emergencies. In 2017, federal public health emergency preparedness dollars supported emergency planning and exercising.

Accomplishments for 2017 included:

- Six meetings of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Committee for Eau Claire were held to plan for and respond to public health emergencies.
- Developed a Health Dept. specific Incident Management Team which meets quarterly to assess department capacity for exercising, responding, and recovery of emergencies that have an impact on community’s health and safety.
- The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Specialist and the County Emergency Manager coordinated a table top exercise with community partners to meet new Center for Medicaid requirements.
- Followed up on 19 environmental and 29 communicable disease public health emergencies.
- Conducted six exercises with community partners to prepare for emergencies.
- Member and participant of the Northwest Wisconsin Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition, meetings and exercises. (Formally known as, Northwest Wisconsin Regional Healthcare Coalition)
- Worked to close gaps in the Public Health Emergency Plan related to cyber-attacks by attending Disaster Ready Chippewa Valley’s spring meeting on cyber security. Cyber-attacks were identified as a priority for our health department and community in the 2016 hazard vulnerability assessment (HVA).
- Exercised Eau Claire County’s Mass Clinic Plans relative to multi-vaccine distribution for adolescents in 7 schools within 4 weeks.

- Table 1. Influenza, Tetanus, and Meningococcal and the total number of immunizations given

Influenza	Tdap	Mening	Totals
454	58	83	609

- Table 2. Age of client breakdown

Column1	2017
Average Age	11.0
Max Age	47.0
Min Age	1.0
Median Age	11.5

- The Medical Reserve Corps collaborated with the Fight Against Hunger (FAH) Coalition and the Eau Claire Area School District-Early Learning Center at Prairie Ridge to build an educational garden.
- Collaborated with Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Eau Claire and the Dementia Coalition to become a dementia friendly community.
 - Partnered with UW-EC nursing students to engage students to coordinate ADRC’s Language Enriched Exercise Plus Socialization (LEEPS) program with patients living with dementia.
 - UW-EC students created dementia friendly tool-kits for the Sacred Heart Emergency Department.



Public Health
Nursing & Nutrition

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

ADULT HEALTH PROGRAM

Adult Health Maintenance

Adult Health Maintenance Clinics are held in the rural areas of the county where health care is not easily accessible. The public health nurse provides teaching and counseling about illness, diet and medication as well as positive health practices and preventive care. Specific tests include blood pressure and pulse, blood sugar readings and weight.

**ADULT HEALTH MAINTENANCE CLINIC CLIENTS, VISITS AND REFERRALS BY CLINIC SITE
January through December 2017**

Clinic Site	# Served	# of Visits	# of Referrals
Augusta	29	147	0
Fairchild	10	48	0
TOTAL	39	195	0

Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP)

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Public Health administers the WWWP. In previous years, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department was a contracted local coordinating agency for only Eau Claire County. As of July 1, 2015, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department has been contracted to be a multi-jurisdiction coordinating agency for 8 counties: Eau Claire, Chippewa, Dunn, Jackson, Pepin, Pierce, St. Croix and Trempealeau.

WWWP pays for certain screenings, diagnostic tests and patient education services related to some of the most common health concerns of women. Eligibility standards focus on women must be age 45-64 years, have no or limited health insurance benefits and meet income guidelines (at or below 250% of federal poverty level). Women ages 35-44 years with breast symptoms may also qualify for breast screenings. The public health nurse coordinator provides public education, distributes outreach materials to medical providers and to women, works with providers to meet program guidelines and provides educational materials to women enrolled in the program. Case management services included helping women access providers, educating on services offered, monitoring normal/abnormal screening results and referring to community resources. The Affordable Care Act and changes to Badger Care eligibility, both which cover cervical cancer screenings and mammograms have impacted the number of women served by this program in recent years.

WWWP SCREENING ACTIVITY: 2016 - 17

	7/1/2016-6/30/2017 8 Covered Counties
Total Enrolled	47
Total Cervical Cancer Screenings	12
Total Breast Cancer Screenings	37
Total Mammograms	32
Total Mammograms aged 50-64 yrs.	22
Percentage of Mammograms aged 50-64 yrs. (goal 75%)	68%

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROGRAM

School Illness-Related Absenteeism Surveillance

An absenteeism surveillance program is conducted by the City-County Health Department each year to monitor for upper respiratory influenza-like activity as well as gastrointestinal illnesses. Absentee checks begin in October and end in May of each year.

E-mails are sent to the schools on Wednesday mornings for Tuesday absentees. The absentees to be reported include half and full day illnesses only. Absentees for doctor appointments, deer hunting, field trips, etc., are not counted. After the numbers are collected, the absentees are recorded and absentee rates are calculated.

The schools surveyed in 2016-2017 were Sherman, Roosevelt, Meadowview, Sam Davey, Northwoods and Lakeshore Elementary Schools; South, DeLong, and Northstar Middle Schools; Memorial, Regis and North High Schools. Altoona, Augusta and Fall Creek reported absentees to the Health Department for all grades.

**AVERAGE MONTHLY ABSENTEE RATES FOR STUDENTS
October 2016 through May 2017**

Enrollment	OCT	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR	APR	MAY	TOTAL
Elementary 3577	1.56	2.11	3.03	2.78	2.58	2.38	2.16	1.91	2.31
Middle 3026	1.55	2.12	2.19	2.80	3.57	2.40	2.58	2.03	2.40
High 4132	2.31	2.51	3.80	2.63	4.08	2.50	2.34	2.26	2.67

The peak of absenteeism during the 2016-2017 school year was in the week of February 7, 2017 in all schools surveyed. The absenteeism survey proves to be helpful in determining when to acquire nose and throat cultures to isolate and identify the type of "flu-like" illnesses circulating in the Eau Claire community. This information combined with data collected from Urgent Care Centers and Hospital Emergency Department proves useful also to medical clinics and nursing homes so proper precautions can be followed with patients to reduce further spread.

HIV Testing & Counseling Services

Nurses offer HIV testing and counseling as a service of the Reproductive Health Clinic.

HIV Testing Services: 2017

Type of Service	Number Served
Pre/Post-test Counseling	47
Total # of HIV Tests Provided	47

HIV Partner Services 2017

Total Cases Assigned in the 14 county coverage area	19
Eau Claire	4
Dunn	3
Polk	2
Barron	2
Clark	2
St. Croix	2
Pierce	2
Douglas	1
Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Pepin, Rusk, Washburn	0

Communicable Disease Epidemiology

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE Case Reports

	2017 TOTAL	2016 TOTAL
Arboviral Disease	12	1
Babesiosis	6	5
Blastomycosis	0	2
Campylobacter	40	17
Chlamydia	507	481
Cryptosporidium	20	23
Cyclosporiasis	1	0
E. Coli pathogenic Shiga toxin-producing/Enteropathogenic*/Enterotoxigenic/Enteroinvasive	17/80/9/1	8/28/3/0
Ehrlichiosis-Anaplasmosis Phagocytophilum/Chaffeensis/Ewingii/Undetermined	25/4/0/4	30/0/0/3
Giardia	14	6
Gonorrhea	64	31
Haemophilus Influenzae	2	0
Hepatitis A – acute	1	0
Hepatitis B – acute/chronic /unknown	0/5/0	0/8/0
Hepatitis C – acute/chronic	1/38	2/82
Histoplasmosis	3	0
Influenza, Seasonal (Hospitalized Cases)	89	40
Kawasaki Disease	1	0
Legionella	0	0
Lyme Disease	62	61
Measles	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	0	0
Mumps	0	0
Mycobacterial Disease (Non-Tuberculosis)	19	13
Parapertussis	2	2
Pertussis (Whooping Cough) – confirmed/probable/suspect	4/0/3	16/1/7
Salmonella	22	21
Shigella	4	0
Streptococcal Invasive Disease – Group A/Group B/Other	2/12/4	6/13/0
Streptococcus Pneumoniae Invasive Disease	4	6
Syphilis	11	4
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy	1	0
Tuberculosis	0	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	8	3
Vibriosis	2	0
Yersiniosis	1	1
	2017 TOTAL	2016 TOTAL

*Many labs changed to using a multi-disease panel for testing enteric diseases rather than individual tests. The new testing panel identifies Enteropathogenic E.coli so it was found when it may have been previously missed.

Immunization Program

NUMBER IMMUNIZED AT HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLINICS BY LOCATION January through December 2017

Eau Claire Health Dept. Clinics	Augusta	Special Clinics (Adolescent Clinics)	Chippewa Valley Free Clinic	Total
344	151	455	45	995

DOSES OF VACCINE ADMINISTERED IN CLINICS: 2017

Vaccine	Total Doses
DTaP = Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular, Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	37
DTaP/Polio/HB = Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Polio, Hepatitis B	27
DTaP/Hib/Polio=Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Haemophilus, Influenza type B, Polio	48
DTap/Polio = Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Polio	18
HA = Hepatitis A	39
HB = Hepatitis B	Total 38 (18 by contract)
Hep A/Hep B = Hepatitis A /and Hepatitis B	7
Hib = Haemophilus influenza type B	27
HPV = Human papillomavirus	81
Influenza Vaccine	665
IPV = Poliomyelitis (Inactivated Polio Vaccine)	11
MCV ₄ = Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine	104
MMR = Measles, Mumps, Rubella (German Measles)	53
MenB = Meningococcal Group B	8
PCV ₁₃ = Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine	72
Pneumonia (PPSV23) = Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine	12
Rota Teq = Rotavirus Vaccine	17
Td = Tetanus, Diphtheria (adult)	46
Tdap = Combined Tetanus, Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis	184
Varicella = Chicken Pox	38
Total	1532

The number of doses exceeds the number of attendees because some receive more than one dose.

Chippewa Valley Free Clinic Satellite Adult Immunization Clinic

To increase adult immunization rates, the nursing staff supervises operation of a satellite adult immunization program at the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic. In 2017, the clinic administered 52 vaccinations to 45 adult clinic patients who would not otherwise have had access to immunization.

Influenza Immunization

The 2017 quadrivalent vaccine strains administered were A/Michigan/45//2015 (H1N1) pdm09-like, A/Hong Kong/4801/2014 (H3N2)-like virus, B/Brisbane/60/2008-like (Victoria lineage), B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (Yamagata lineage). A table of the “2017 Influenza Immunization Clinics” follows:

Clinic Location	Total Immunizations
Altoona - St Mary's	32
Juvenile Detention Center	1
Chippewa Valley Free Clinic	18
Augusta Senior Ctr.	50
Fairchild	10
Fall Creek	13
Adolescent School Clinics	423
Health Department Immunization Clinics	109
Homebound	9
TOTAL ADMINISTERED	665
TOTAL BILLED TO MEDICARE	125

The Health Department again also facilitated the work of local health care providers on the “Get the Shot” committee, coordinating influenza immunization efforts in the community.

Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Screening and Treatment Services

STI SCREENING SUMMARY: 2017

	Male	Female	2017 Total	2016 Total 2009 Total	2015 Totals
Gonorrhea					
# Screened	89	68	158	77	115
# Positive	12	7	19	4	9
Chlamydia					
# Screened	192	368	562	356	542
# Positive	25	41	67	52	66

NUMBER OF EAU CLAIRE CO. STI CASES BY TYPE, AGE AND GENDER: 2017

Age	Gonorrhea		Chlamydia		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Unknown
10-14 years	0	0	0	4	0
15-19 years	3	5	18	76	0
20-24 years	9	13	70	155	1
25-29 years	9	5	40	73	0
30-34 years	5	7	16	18	0
35 and older	6	2	20	15	0
Total	32	32	164	341	2

Tuberculin Skin Testing

TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTING FOR COMMUNITY RESIDENTS JANUARY – DECEMBER 2017	
Number of Tests with Negative Results, 0mm	468
Number of Tests with Positive Results, 1-9mm	1
Number of Tests with Positive Results 10 or over	3
Number of Tests Not Read	2
TOTAL Tests Administered	474

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROGRAM

In 2017, the reproductive health needs of 636 women and men were met by the Family Planning Clinic. Goals of the clinic are to reduce unintended pregnancies and decrease sexually transmitted infections in the Eau Claire area. 214 pregnancy tests and 754 STI (chlamydia, gonorrhea, herpes or syphilis) tests were done in 2017. Some of the additionally activities done by clinic staff include:

- Celebrated 40 years of reproductive health clinic services to the Eau Claire Community in January.
- Initiated colposcopy training for our newest Nurse Practitioner in order to continue providing colposcopy services to the women in Eau Claire and surrounding counties in Western Wisconsin who have an abnormal pap test result indicating the need for this follow-up.
- One of 6 clinics chosen to be part of the first Wisconsin replication of the University of Michigan's Adolescent Champion Model with the goal of developing adolescent medical homes and bridging the gap between best practice and common practice for providers serving adolescents.
- Received a Get Yourself Tested (GYT) Initiative grant through Health Care Education and Training (HCET) to increase public awareness of the importance of STI testing, and to provide confidential, convenient, discreet, low cost STI testing and treatment.
- Staffed booths at Phoenix Park's Summer Music Nights to increase visibility of the clinic and distribute educational material on clinic services.
- Partnered with Chippewa County Health Department to staff a booth at County Fest for the distribution of information on STI prevention and clinic services.
- Partnered with the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) to provide on-site educational sessions, STI testing and treatment and birth control to the adolescents they serve.
- Partnered with McKinley Charter School to provide on-site educational sessions, STI testing and treatment and birth control to the adolescents they serve.
- Collaborated with AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) on outreach events including the distribution of safe sex kits to some area bars, HIV testing at Scooters Bar and McKinley Charter School.
- Joined the EC Chamber of Commerce gift bag distribution reaching over 2300 incoming UWEC freshmen and transfer students during orientation week with information on our clinic services.
- Worked with a Community Health Liaison through Wisconsin Health Corp Health Corp and an Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Intern to increase our outreach capacity.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM

Health Benefits Counseling

Health benefits counseling included providing information, enrollment, referral and follow-up services for health department clients. With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), additional efforts were dedicated for access to care outreach by providing awareness and education to internal staff and the broad community about health care changes with BadgerCare Plus and the federal Health Insurance Marketplace and participation in a local ACA coalition.

Oral Health Program

The Health Department collaborates with hygienists through North Lakes Community Clinic to provide preventive health services for underserved children.

The *Superior Smiles* school-based dental project targeted kindergarten to 8th grade students in 20 Eau Claire County elementary schools. Total services provided were-

- 2347 children received chairside oral health education
- 702 child received dental sealants
- 1729 children received two fluoride varnish applications
- 303 children in need of dental care
- 81 children in need received dental care

In May 2017 North Lakes Community Clinic contracted with the Health Department to provide oral health education and fluoride varnish treatments to pregnant women and their children in our WIC clinic. Total services provided were –

- 801 received oral health education
- 491 received Fluoride varnish applications

The *Early Childhood Cavity Prevention Program* included the fluoride varnish program to children enrolled at the Prairie Ridge Early Learning School and 9 community sites. Services provided were:

- 1038 children received oral examinations.
- 269 children received one fluoride varnish application.
- 254 children received two fluoride varnish applications.
- 236 children received three fluoride varnish applications.
- 107 children needed treatment.
- 21 children in need received treatment.

The *Headstart Cavity Prevention Program* was offered at 6 sites in Eau Claire County Western Dairyland's Head Start Program. Services offered included oral examinations, education, fluoride varnish applications a total of 3 times during the school year and dental care referral for any dental problems identified. Services provided were –

- 346 children received preventive oral health education and oral examinations.
- 319 children received at least 2 fluoride varnish applications.
- 22 children needed dental treatment.
- 18 children in need received dental treatment.

Prenatal Care Coordination Benefit Services

The Health Department continues as a Medicaid-certified provider of the Prenatal Care Coordination benefit services. Through this benefit services are provided to pregnant women at high risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes and their newborns during the first two months of life. There are two programs that the Health Department offers that utilize this benefit, Healthy Beginnings+ and Nurse Family Partnership. Dieticians and nurses provided 329 risk assessments to determine program eligibility. Nurses made prenatal care coordination visits to 129 women in 2017. Program evaluation demonstrates that nursing interventions produced positive outcomes.

Nurse-Family Partnership®

Nurse-Family Partnership®, a maternal and child health program, helps low-income, first-time moms with the support they need to become confident parents and strong women, and ultimately, give their babies the best possible start in life.

Public health nurses are the backbone of Nurse-Family Partnership’s success. Because of their specialized knowledge, the nurses who deliver this program establish trusted relationships with young, at-risk mothers by providing home visits that are designed around three goals: a healthy pregnancy and delivery, baby’s good health and development, and the woman’s vision and goals for her future. We are in a consortium (Western Wisconsin Nurse-Family Partnership Consortium) which includes Chippewa and Dunn Counties. Collaboration is an important part of the success of Nurse-Family Partnership in each of the counties.

Women voluntarily enroll as early as possible and one of our trusted, respected, and compassionate public health nurses visits her from pregnancy until her baby turns 2-years old. Nurse-Family Partnership changes the lives of our most vulnerable citizens, and thereby creates a better, safer, and stronger community, not just for today but for generations to come.

In 2017, 2.5 public health nurses served 63 women and 41 babies in Eau Claire with 723 visits.

- Breastfeeding initiation rate (EC & Chippewa): 83%
- Client Retention in pregnancy (EC & Chippewa): 71%
- Babies born at a Healthy weight (more than 2500grams/5.5#) (EC & Chippewa): 83%
- Age of clients served (EC & Chippewa): 70% range from 15-24 years

<u>Race: (EC & Chippewa)</u>	2017	Overall 2015-2107
Black/African American	7%	6%
White	72%	70%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2%	3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0%	4%
Multiracial	10%	10%
Declined/Missing Data	9%	7%

<u>Ethnicity: (EC & Chippewa)</u>	2017	Overall 2015-2017
Non-Hispanic	81%	86%
Hispanic	11%	9%
Declined/Missing Data	8%	5%

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING ACTIVITY SUMMARY
JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017**

Public health nurses are a valuable resource for health information and guidance for the community. During 2017, nurses made over 2,000 visits to Eau Claire County individuals and families.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING VISITS BY PROGRAM		ADMISSIONS AND READMISSIONS BY REFERRAL SOURCE	
<u>Program</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Referral Source</u>	<u>Number</u>
Adult Health	129	Private Physician	5
Communicable Disease	66	Mayo Clinic Health System	19
Lead Poisoning Prevention	23	Sacred Heart Hospital	23
Maternal & Child Health	821	Out of County Hospitals	10
Healthy Beginnings + Nurse Family Partnership	284	WIC Program	76
	<u>722</u>	Family/Friend/Self	4
		State Agencies	3
		Social Service Agencies	4
TOTAL	2,045	HMO Provider	8
		Nursing Homes	0
		School	1
		Other	23
		Unknown	<u>145</u>
		TOTAL	321

Nurses provided case management services in addition to visits. This involves planning, organizing, coordinating and monitoring the services and resources needed to respond to a client’s health needs. Nurses also provided educational presentations to community groups concerning Communicable Disease, Adult Health, Maternal Child Health and other public health topics.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING PROJECTS

Child Death Review Team

A Nursing and Nutrition Supervisor participates in the countywide Child Death Review Team. With the goal of preventing future deaths, Eau Claire County team members from health, human services, law enforcement and higher education organizations met quarterly to (a) review deaths of persons under age 24 years, (b) uncover risk factors and circumstances influencing the death and (c) assure targeted prevention activities. In 2017, the team reviewed 16 children’s deaths in Eau Claire County. The Water Safety Task Force has continued working on education and prevention efforts related to drowning in Eau Claire County. The Safe Sleep Task Force for Eau Claire County has trained community agencies on safe sleep best practice recommendations. Pack ‘n Plays were also distributed to families who do not have a safe sleep option.

Flu Shot Collaboration

The Health Department again facilitated the work of local health care providers on the “Get the Shot” committee, coordinating influenza immunization efforts in the community and redistributing vaccine to providers in need. 2017’s focus was 20-40 year olds with a campaign modality of print ads in Volume One.

The partnership agreement was updated and signed, partners contributed funds and developed and carried out a collaborative flu vaccination promotional campaign.

Maternal Child Health

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Title V Block Grant guidance centered around federal changes in National Performance Measures and requirements to address 6 population domains with emphasis on accountability and family engagement. Wisconsin's MCH Priorities, Performance Measures and Strategies were all identified through a needs assessment.

- Nurses continued with the Safe Sleep objective which includes coordinating the *Safe Sleep Task Force for Eau Claire County* who's charge is training on implementing safe sleep practices with community groups, childcare providers and health systems. This task force has successfully applied for three grants to provide safe sleep options for those that can't afford it.
- Nurses participate in community collaboration by providing QPR training to adolescents.

First Breath Program

The public health nursing staff participates in the First Breath program, which is through the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation. Staff enrolled 27 clients in the program, offering resources and support to help women remain tobacco-free during pregnancy.

My Baby and Me Program

The public health nursing staff participates in My Baby and Me program, which is a program offered through the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation. Through My Baby and Me, 67 women enrolled in Prenatal Care Coordination were screened for alcohol use during pregnancy. Of those 67 clients, 23 clients were referred to My Baby and Me and received individual counseling sessions, support, and resources in order to remain alcohol-free throughout their pregnancy.

Newborn Heart, Hearing and Blood Screening

A public health nurse continued newborn hearing and heart screening via blood oxygen sensor for newborns delivered at home and not otherwise screened, such as rural Amish. The instruments and training are provided by the Newborn Hearing Screening and the Wisconsin SHINE (Screening Hearts In NEwborns) projects of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. 64 Newborn Hearing Screenings were completed and 64 blood specimens were collected for newborn screening throughout the year. 100% of the specimens were received by the State Lab of Hygiene within the target 4 days after collection. These services meet an otherwise unmet need for families that lack other access to recommended newborn screening.

Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP)

Utilizing public health strategies and partnerships, staff taught CDSMP workshops to working-age and rural populations in Eau Claire County in partnership with the Healthy Communities Chronic Disease Action Team, the Aging and Disability Resource Center, Mayo Clinic Health System and the YMCA. Seventeen people in these 2 workshops learned techniques to take control of their chronic conditions.

BRAIN Team

The Brain Research Awareness and Integration Network (BRAIN) Team offered its annual BRAIN Conference in April. A public health nursing supervisor co-chairs the BRAIN team and provided conference planning leadership. The conference entitled "Overcoming Trauma: strategies for the Journey" was attended by 201 area professionals and community members and was very well received. Proceeds were donated to the Family Resource Center for Eau Claire County and the BRAIN Team for continued parenting education.

Healthy Communities Action Teams

Designated public health nurses served on Healthy Communities Action Teams providing planning input,

technical support and public health tools to assure successful strategic planning, implementation and outcome evaluation for the following teams:

- Oral Health Action Team continued supporting the Healthy Smiles for Mom and Baby campaign by hosting a continuing education event for the local dental hygienist association around the current standards for dental treatment throughout pregnancy, providing resources and education on oral health and pregnancy to all local healthcare providers and co-hosting an event with Children’s Health Alliance of Wisconsin to bring together medical and dental professionals to talk about oral health care during pregnancy. They continued work to inform parents and community about getting kids to the dentist by age one by updating and redistributing the list of dental providers that accept patients under age one, as well as those who accept BadgerCare/MA, and partnering with Smiles for Eau Claire County and dental hygiene students to distribute over 260 books and resources to parents of three and four year olds at Head Start Orientation Day. While survey data collected showed that over 80% of children had seen a dentist (216 of 260 children), it also showed the barriers others faced in getting their children to the dentist. They also continued to partner with Eau Claire County WIC to distribute an educational packet (tooth brushing board book and dental home by age one list) aimed at providing information to parents about the importance of oral health for young children. This packet is now routinely given to WIC families at their 12-month check-up visit. Over 40 families received this packet in 2017.
- Healthy Relationships Action Team continued implementing the Safe Dates program. Since fall of 2016, over 244 youth have received at least one session of Safe Dates. (167 youth in 2017) Over 75% of youth stated they learned about positive, healthy relationships from the program. Safe Dates is an evidence-based program to prevent or intervene in teen dating abuse. It teaches teens what an unhealthy vs. a healthy relationship looks like and gives them the skills to help someone in an abusive relationship. Read below what a youth had to say about the program. The team was also accepted into Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute Coach Program which offers three-years of coaching and technical assistance to continue strengthening skills and implementing policy, systems and environmental changes that will improve health in Wisconsin communities. The team promoted two campaigns through the local high schools and community to define what love and consent means to them. They also released “Fran’s Story”— A story of how Eau Claire County community partners work together to support healthy relationships. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUgB8e-9XG4>
- Mental Health Action Team organized multiple awareness activities throughout the year. In May, for Mental Health Awareness Month, several team members and supporters of the team gathered on a busy intersection of Eau Claire and received LIVE broadcasting for both local news stations for the first annual Mental Health Awareness Flash Mob. The goal of the flash mob was to make a visual statement to the community to help end stigma related to mental health. The team also participated in the #BeThe1To campaign with a YouTube video that featured people within the community of differing backgrounds telling how they will #BeThe1To start conversations to help someone who may be contemplating suicide. The video was shared on Facebook and reached over 5,000 people, had nearly 2,000 views, 85 “likes”, 34 “loves”, 15 comments, and 43 shares. The team was also present for the annual Out of the Darkness Walk which had over 1,000 participants and raised over \$43,000 for suicide awareness and prevention. Public Health Nurses and trained volunteers continued to expand the Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) suicide prevention trainings to reach an additional 540 adults and over 570 adolescents in our community.
- High-Risk Drinking Prevention Action Team has been working diligently to impact alcohol policy locally. In particular, the group has been working to create awareness and support around an impaired server ordinance that would require servers to maintain a blood alcohol concentration under .04 while serving patrons. The group participated in a number of activities to create support for this ordinance including talking with city council members, doing TV interviews, writing letters to the editor and providing community presentations. They also published a letter to the editor in opposition to a legislative initiative to lower Wisconsin drinking age to 18, completed two televised interviews on high-

risk alcohol use, and presented on the public health impact of high risk drinking and participated in the Neighborhood Safety Walk in the Water Street area that was supported by UW-Eau Claire. In addition, they organized an awareness campaign, “The Cost of Alcohol”, to raise awareness about the how personal behaviors affect individual and community health and conducted compliance checks at summer music festivals to ensure that sales were made to underage buyers. This past year, the festivals reached 100% compliance in preventing underage drinking sales.

- Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team continued to work on initiatives around worksite wellness, built environment, and healthy food retail. A food systems subgroup continued a partnership with Chippewa County’s Challenge Chippewa and Dunn County’s Eat Well Dunn County coalitions. Through engagement with state healthTIDE partners, they brought FNV (Fruits and Veggies), a social marketing campaign, to the Chippewa Valley. The team also received a healthy food retail grant to and worked with 5 small food stores located in low-income census tracts to improve accessibility to healthy food options. A worksite wellness subgroup continued their partnership with the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce to offer four Workplace Wellness Learning Circles to Eau Claire Chamber members with over 100 participants. A built environment subgroup assisted in completion of the Cannery District Health Impact Assessment to understand how to best incorporate health in the process for developing and planning the spaces where we live, work, and play. Lastly, this action team met their goals and objectives related to increasing the number of individuals connected to evidence-based programs to prevent/improve chronic conditions.

PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION PROGRAM

To continue to address the many unmet needs and opportunities for community nutrition education in Eau Claire City-County, the Public Health Nutrition Program is staffed by five Registered Dietitian-Nutritionists. Activities included the following:

- Provided 60+ nutrition consultations for families receiving public health nursing services as well as community members.
- Provided community nutrition education through the news media via 13 articles written for print media and ten television interviews.
- Provided telephone consultation and 49 nutrition presentations to citizen groups and community organizations seeking nutrition guidance.
- Continued participation in local and state nutrition initiatives:
 1. Served on Hunger Prevention Coalition of Eau Claire;
 2. Served on Eau Claire Area School District Head Start Health Advisory and Policy Committees;
 3. Served on Western Dairyland Head Start Health Advisory Committee;
 4. Served on Northwestern Wisconsin Breastfeeding Network;
 5. Served on Healthy Communities Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team;
 6. Served on Eau Claire County Child Death Review Team;
 7. Served as UW-Stout Dietetic Intern Preceptor and Field Experience/Practicum Supervisor;
 8. Served on UW-Stout Dietetic Internship Program Advisory Committee and UW-Stout Graduate Program Advisory Committee;
 9. Served on the Health Department Sunny Connections Team; and
 10. Served on Healthy Health Department Worksite Wellness Team.
- A grant from Share Our Strength brought Cooking Matters at the Store to Eau Claire. In 2017, 73 low-income families participated in hands-on grocery store tours and gained strategies for purchasing more fruits and vegetables on a budget. Tours were led in partnership with Eau Claire County UW-Extension FoodWise.

- Continued the Kids Ride Safe Project for a ninth year.
- DHS C-Store Coalition Retail Grant: In 2017, the Healthy Food Marketing Collaboration worked closely with small convenience stores with the goal of increasing the healthy food availability in those neighborhoods. Five stores in the Chippewa Valley, all located in low-income census tracts, participated in the project. Coalition members met with store owners to complete healthy retail assessments and develop strategies to stock and sell more fruits and vegetables. This project continues in 2018 with an additional grant that will focus on evaluation of 2017 efforts and expanding to rural stores.

Nutrition Intervention for Children Enrolled in Head Start

Through a partnership with the Eau Claire Area School District, health department registered dietitians completed nutrition assessments for 114 children enrolled in the district’s Head Start Program for low income, preschool-aged children. Staff assessed height, weight and blood hemoglobin and conducted blood lead tests when needed. Dietitians met with each child’s parent/guardian and teacher and set mutually agreed upon nutrition goals that teachers and parents will work toward during the year. This nutrition intervention promotes healthy nutrition for growth and development among these children at high-risk.

Community Nutrition- Projects

The WIC program, in partnership with the Eau Claire Area School District Head Start and EC4T Early Learning Programs, offered a Family Safety Night event that promoted safety in all areas of life. A Registered Dietitian provided a session for parents on food safety.

The City-County Health Department’s Public Health Nutrition program partners with the Eau Claire Area School District Head Start and EC4T Early Learning Program’s Fight Against Hunger coalition. A registered dietitian attends monthly meetings and provides the group with evidence-based nutrition education resources for their family education garden, on-site food pantry, crockpot cooking project, and summer food delivery program. This registered dietitian, along with the Fight Against Hunger Coalition, hosted a Harvest Event with approximately 100 people in attendance and introduced families to the garden. The City-County Health Department worked with Eau Claire County Extension to offer nutrition education at this event.

The City-County Health Department’s Public Health Nutrition program partners with the Family Resource Center for Eau Claire County to offer nutrition-focused parent education classes. During these classes, parents are offered practical nutrition tips and recipes for feeding their family healthy foods. In 2016, a hands-on class allowed children to help prepare a healthy snack and learn about fruits and vegetables while reading a story. Parents took away tips for helping their child learn about nutrition and healthy recipes.

A Public Health Dietitian/Nutritionist partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentors in Motion to host a nutrition event where 28 attendees engaged in hands-on activities to learn about healthy cooking and reading food labels.

Healthy Food Marketing Collaborative

With leadership from a public health nutritionist and health educator, Eau Claire Healthy Communities partnered with neighboring Dunn and Chippewa counties (collectively known as the Chippewa Valley) to form a tri-county coalition called the “Healthy Food Marketing Collaborative.” The group recognized the counties have obesity as a common health priority and residents frequently cross county borders to shop. In 2017, the collaborative took action as a pilot site for the FNV (fruit and vegetable) Wisconsin marketing campaign. This social marketing campaign is an initiative from a statewide group called ‘healthTIDE’ and targets low-income millennials with messages to change attitudes towards healthy eating. The campaign continues in our community in 2018 and can be found in retail, on billboards and digital media. FNV Wisconsin is being implemented as part of a broader effort to build healthier food retail environments across the state.

Dietetic Internship Programs

Public Health Nutrition staff continued to serve as a public health nutrition site for accredited Dietetic Internship programs. Three masters-prepared students from the University of Wisconsin-Stout Dietetic Internship Program interned at the Department in 2017.

The dietetic interns work closely with the public health nutritionists and the public health nutrition support staff to provide nutrition services to the community. Faculty from Dietetic Internship Programs do not accompany these interns to the Health Department so the public health nutritionists are responsible for teaching and supervising their work within the department and serving as their public health rotation preceptor.

The dietetic interns have a 4-6 week internship rotation. They begin the rotation with observational experience of the WIC program with a public health nutritionist. This is designed to provide an opportunity to increase their understanding of the WIC program and the role public health nutritionists have within the WIC program. In the second week of their rotation, the dietetic interns begin co-counseling with the public health nutritionist and then advance to counseling independently. Additionally, during the internship rotation, dietetic interns work closely with the public health nutritionists engaging in planning, developing and delivering nutrition education in various community settings.

Dietetic interns also gain observational experience with public health nurses and environmental health staff. Interns work with the media as well as attend meetings relevant to public health nutrition. Partnership with Dietetic Internship programs has allowed the public health nutritionists to share their nutrition expertise while giving the Health Department the opportunity to work on additional projects with student involvement.

A Health Department registered dietitian contributes to the University of Wisconsin-Stout dietetics program by offering presentations to undergraduate courses. In 2017, one presentation was given in the Community Nutrition and Dietetics as a Profession course and two nutrition presentations were given to the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Additionally, a registered dietitian sits on the University's Nutritional Sciences graduate program advisory committee, dietetic internship program advisory committee and serves as a field experience supervisor.

Centers for Disease Control Public Health Associate Program

In 2016, Public Health Nutrition staff submitted an application for the ECCCHD to become a host site for the Public Health Associate Program (PHAP). PHAP is a competitive, two-year, paid training program with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. PHAP associates are assigned to public health agencies to work alongside other professionals across a variety of public health settings. The department was chosen as a host site. In fall of 2016, a Public Health Associate began work at the ECCCHD with a focus on obesity prevention and food insecurity. In mid-2017 our Associate moved out of state and we were unable to fill the spot with another Associate. Plans are to submit an application in 2018 for the next round of PHAP assignments.

SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

Nurses continued to provide public health services for students and staff in 38 public, private and parochial schools in Eau Claire County. Public health responsibilities include the following:

- Consultation, health counseling and referral for students in need of department services, including public health nursing home visiting and clinic services, Prenatal Care Coordination and WIC.
- Consultation about communicable disease and policy for excluding ill children.
- Surveillance of student and staff illness absentee rates and follow-up of rates outside normal threshold.
- Consultation regarding student immunizations/compliance with Wisconsin Student Immunization Law.

- Organize health screening activities, train volunteers and school staff to conduct hearing, vision and scoliosis screening programs; and provide follow-up on significant findings.
- Organize fluoride mouth rinse programs in participating schools.
- Conduct population health initiatives in partnership with school nurses and staff to promote positive health impacts for school-aged children in Eau Claire County.
- Conducted Adolescent Health Clinics in the 7 middle schools in Eau Claire County providing influenza, adolescent immunizations and scoliosis screenings.

School-Based Vision Screening: 2016-17

2016-2017	
Total Enrolled in Grades Screened	2,669
Total Number Screened	2,566
Total in Other Grades Screened	14
Total Number Rescreened	207
Number Already Wearing Corrective Lenses	231
Total Number Referred for Eye Exam	190
Total Number Obtaining Corrective Lenses	74
Total Number Examined but not Needing Corrective Lenses	27
Total Recommended for Special Seating or Optional Corrective Lenses	2
Number Under Care for Previously Known Problem	38
Number Whose Parents Chose not to Have Eye Exam	29
Number Lost to Follow-up or Moved	20

Hearing Screening Program: 2016-17 School Year

Hearing screening was provided in Eau Claire city and county schools for children in kindergarten and first grade. The initial screening was done by UWEC Audiology students and volunteers recruited by the school health chairmen. Children with deviations from normal were retested by trained technicians. After the second testing, audiograms indicating apparent hearing problems were evaluated and recommendations were made for further testing or medical evaluation. Children needing a medical examination were referred to their primary physician.

Hearing Screening

2016-2017	
Total Enrolled in Grades Screened	1,864
Number of Children Screened, Includes New Students in all Grades	1,782
Number Rescreened by Technician	417
Number Referred for Further Evaluation	19
Number Under Care for Existing Problem	1
Children Evaluated by Personal Physician	6
Treatment Recommended	3
Received Hearing Aid	0
Preferential Seating	1
No Treatment Recommended	1
Moved From Area	1
Chose Not to Follow-up	6

**SUMMARY OF IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN
BY SCHOOL AS REPORTED BY THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, FALL 2017**

School	Kindergarten Enrollment	Immunizations Complete #	Immunizations Complete %	Immunizations		Waiver	No Record On File
				In Process	Behind Schedule		
Altoona	125	113	90%	0	6	6	0
Augusta	35	34	97%	0	0	1	0
Crestview Academy	18	13	72%	0	0	5	0
Fall Creek	65	59	91%	4	2	0	0
Flynn	40	37	93%	0	3	0	0
Immaculate Conception	31	26	84%	1	1	3	0
Lakeshore	74	65	88%	0	2	6	1
Locust Lane	42	40	95%	0	0	2	0
Longfellow	44	40	91%	0	0	4	0
Manz	82	77	94%	0	2	3	0
Meadowview	71	63	89%	0	5	3	0
Messiah Lutheran	15	11	73%	0	0	4	0
Montessori Charter	48	39	81%	0	0	9	0
Northwoods	60	56	93%	0	1	3	0
Putnam Heights	59	56	95%	0	0	3	0
Robbins	73	68	93%	0	0	5	0
Roosevelt	44	43	98%	0	0	1	0
St. James the Greater	17	14	82%	0	0	3	0
St. Mark's Lutheran	9	8	89%	0	0	1	0
St. Mary's Grade School	16	13	81%	0	0	2	0
Sam Davey	46	44	96%	0	0	2	0
Sherman	80	68	85%	0	11	1	0
Total	1094	987	90%	6	33	67	1

UWEC AND OTHER NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM COLLABORATIONS

Partnerships with nursing education are expanding to meet the changing needs of students and to build the public health workforce. Public health nurses continue to provide clinical practicum experiences for baccalaureate, masters and doctoral preparing nursing students, and medical students from UW-EC College of Nursing and Health Sciences, the University of Wisconsin Green Bay Nursing Program, Viterbo University, Grand Canyon University, Rutgers University, University of Wisconsin- Oshkosh, and University of Wisconsin-Madison.

In 2017, 22 nursing students and one medical student worked side by side with public health nurses on real-world projects that provided broad-based experiences in promoting population health.

Throughout the year students collaborated with public health nurses on a variety of projects and clinical experiences. One master's degree nursing student worked with the Medical Reserve Corp and a second master's degree student's project focused on Healthcare Associated Infections. There were two doctoral nursing students that had hands-on clinical experiences with the Nurse Practitioner in the Family Planning Clinic. The medical student completed a presentation on sexual health and maintaining health at the Juvenile Detention center.

In Spring 2017, there were two groups of four nursing students from UWEC, one student from UWO, and one student from UWGB. A summary of projects these students contributed to include

- A UWO student's project included creation of a policy and procedure for utilization of a general anxiety screening tool for pregnant and postpartum clients and worked on a breastfeeding policy for the Health Department
- The student from UWGB worked with the Oral Health Action team to complete a dental provider survey
- Four UWEC students worked with Amped Health to finalize and collect responses on Adolescent Friendly Health Care Survey with Eau Claire County providers, began a partnership with ECASD Life Without Limits program and presented on Adolescent Friendly Health Care for the UW Family Medicine residents and faculty
- Four UWEC students collaborated with the Dementia Care Specialist from the Eau Claire Aging and Disability Resource center, participated in Language Enriched Exercise Plus Socialization (LEEPS) program providing services to a community member with dementia, participated in Memory Cafes and Caregiver Support Groups with community members, and created a dementia friendly video for training business.

Over the summer, there were two students from Viterbo and 1 student from UW Oshkosh. The two students had shadow/observation based clinical experiences. The student from UW Oshkosh collaborated on the Augusta HPV Awareness grant which involved gathering outreach materials and education, creating an interactive display for the event, and presenting HPV education to a group of students. In addition, the student worked on educational materials for prenatal and postpartum clients.

In Fall 2017, nine students from UWEC and 1 student from UW Oshkosh focused on three different projects.

- A group of five UWEC nursing students worked with Amped Health to complete administering the Adolescent Friendly Health Care Survey with Eau Claire County providers and then presented the findings to residents, faculty and staff with UW Family Medicine/Prevea Clinic. Based on the results they created an infographic handout and begin planning a training event for adolescent providers. They also provided educational experiences for a group of youth from ECASD Life Without Limits.
- A second group of four UWEC nursing students collaborated with the Dementia Care Specialist from the Eau Claire Aging and Disability Resource center. They interviewed a panel of people suffering from dementia to create an informational video on how a person could live well with dementia. They also

built a therapy kit to be used as a resource at Sacred Heart Hospital in the Emergency Department for people in more severe or end-stages of dementia.

- The student from UW Oshkosh worked on a project for the Health Department's Lead Program. As a part of her project she updated the blood lead protocols for Nursing, Environmental Health, and WIC. She then presented this information to lead program staff.

Throughout the year, public health nursing staff and managers participate in student education in the classroom as well. Presentations are provided at UWEC and CVTC on a variety of topics including communicable disease control, perspectives on the role of the public health nurse, nursing leadership, political advocacy and public health emergency preparedness.

Along with the students, nursing faculty members participate in community service projects and offer their expertise on topics such as research, evidence-based practice and literature resources. Collaboration with our nurse colleagues in education is a vital component of public health nursing as a learning profession.

WIC PROGRAM

WIC Program Participation

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC Program) in Eau Claire County was funded to serve 1,771 participants per month during 2017. An average of 1,649 participants was served each month during 2017.

The Eau Claire City-County WIC Program serves pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to the age of five years. A total of 2,727 individuals participated in the WIC Program during this past year. Please see the following chart for WIC participation during 2017. The WIC Program serves as an adjunct to health care during critical times of growth and development by providing participants with nutritious supplemental foods, nutrition and health education, and referrals to area physicians, public health nurses and other community services.

An Eau Claire City or County woman, infant or child who meets the income eligibility requirements of the WIC Program is seen at a WIC clinic in Eau Claire or Augusta. Applicants are screened to determine if they have a health or nutritional need which will qualify them for the program. Height, weight and hemoglobin are measured for each potential participant along with an assessment of dietary and other health risks.

WIC provides supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition education and counseling that are based on assessment findings as well as needs verbalized by participants. Along with nutrition education, WIC participants are able to purchase specific foods that are designed to supplement their diets with nutrients that benefit WIC's target population. Participants utilize the WIC EBT system to make their purchases. This is an electronic system that replaces paper food checks or vouchers with a card for food benefit issuance and redemption at authorized WIC grocery stores.

WIC foods include infant cereal, iron-fortified adult cereal, vitamin-C rich fruit or vegetable juice, eggs, milk, cheese, yogurt, peanut butter, dried and canned beans/peas, canned fish, soy based beverages, fruits and vegetables, baby foods, whole wheat bread and other whole grain options.

WIC recognizes and promotes breastfeeding as the optimal source of nutrition for infants. For women who do not fully breastfeed, WIC provides iron fortified infant formula. Special infant formulas and medical foods may be provided when prescribed by a physician for a specified medical condition.

WIC PARTICIPATION DURING 2017

Participant Type	Number	% of Caseload
Pregnant Women	170	6%
Breastfeeding Women	218	8%
Postpartum Women	363	13%
Infants	555	21%
Children Age 1 – 355 Age 2 – 306 Age 3 – 303 Age 4 – 457	1,421	52%
Yearly Total = 2,727 unduplicated participants		

WIC PARTICIPATION DURING 2017

Race	% of Caseload
Asian	16%
Black	9%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0%
White	73%
Total	100%

Ethnicity	% of Caseload
Hispanic or Latino Origin (a)	8%
Not Hispanic or Latino Origin (a)	92%
Total	100%

(a) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.

Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

The WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program continued in Eau Claire County during the summer of 2017. This program provides participants in the WIC Program with vouchers to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs at authorized Farmers' Markets and Farm Stands throughout Wisconsin. The goal of the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program is to provide fresh, unprepared, locally grown fruits and vegetables to WIC participants and to expand the awareness, use of and sales at farmers' markets. Participants receive a list of locations, dates and times that local area Farmers' Markets and Farm Stands will be open. Participants receive a list of locations, dates and times that local area Farmers' Markets and Farm Stands will be open. Markets in Eau Claire County included Phoenix Park, Festival Foods and Gordy's County Market. Farm Stands in Eau Claire County included Hillview Farm, McIlquham Orchard, Avenue Orchard and Fall Creek Farm Stand. Each WIC family received \$25.00 in market vouchers for the summer which they could use to purchase fruits, vegetables or herbs at authorized Farmers' Markets or Farm Stands. A total of 963 families received these coupons through the WIC Program during the summer of 2017.

Farmers' Market Nutrition Education Project – Veggin' Out

The City-County Health Department's WIC nutrition program continued its successful Veggin' Out cooking demonstrations at area farmers' markets. Education targeted WIC families but was open to all community visitors to the farmers' markets located in Phoenix Park and at Festival Foods. In 2017, UW-Stout field experience students in the UW-Stout Dietetics program staffed the demonstration tables and offered healthy food samples, recipes and other nutrition education. The team of seven students had over 2,800 contacts with community members, including 88 families using the WIC program. This is planned to continue as an annual offering. A public health nutritionist and program evaluator began collecting data on the Veggin' Out Program's reach and impact.

Nutrition Education

WIC participants are certified for period of up to one year. Individual nutrition counseling is provided by a the Public health nutritionist who is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist at each appointment. Nutrition counseling is based on the participant's needs and includes anticipatory counseling as needed. Participants are also offered and encouraged to engage in nutrition education opportunities during their certification period. Public health nutritionists offer a variety of nutrition education opportunities for learning throughout their certification period that meet their needs and interests. The types of opportunities offered in 2017 included:

1. One-on-one sessions with a registered dietitian
2. WICHealth.org: Self-paced online learning modules with a variety of infant, child, maternal, and family health and nutrition topics
3. Flip charts: Self-paced learning activities that clients can complete in the WIC waiting room
4. Head Start Family Cooking Events: A fun evening of reading and cooking offered to all families in our community
5. Grocery store tours: A 1-hour tour focused on buying healthy food on a budget that takes place at local grocery stores
6. Veggin' Out at the Farmers Market: Interactive cooking demonstrations where clients receive food samples, recipes, and tips for shopping at a farmers' market
7. Breastfeeding classes

MyWIC app

The MyWIC app is designed for families enrolled in the Wisconsin Women, Infants, and Children Program to view eWIC benefit balances, find WIC-approved foods, locate authorized grocery stores and pharmacies and see upcoming WIC appointments. The MyWIC app successfully rolled out in 2016 and continued to be improved upon throughout 2017.

Fit Families

Received a competitive Fit Families grant from USDA SNAP-Ed in late 2016, and began implementing the program in 2017. Fit Families is a successful behavior change program targeting primarily low-income families of 2-4 year old children. Three registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) took on the role of 'Fit Families Coaches' and engaged in monthly coaching with 59 families to support them in making healthy changes in fruit/vegetable consumption, sweetened beverage consumption, screen time, and physical activity. In addition to individual approaches, Fit Families incorporates organizational, community, and public health approaches to create healthy supportive environments. A RDN/public health nutritionist working with Fit Families in Eau Claire integrates key messages with community partnerships and began developing a worksite wellness policy for ECCCHD.to help achieve healthy supportive environments.

WIC Grocery Stores and Pharmacies

Eau Claire grocery stores and pharmacies continue to be an important partner in the WIC Program, as they redeem drafts and electronic benefits according to state and federal regulations. A total of **\$1,111,209** was redeemed in Eau Claire County during 2017 with eWIC benefits. Please see the following chart for food dollars redeemed at area grocery stores and pharmacies. The WIC Program appreciates the continued support of the area vendors. The combination of nutritious supplemental foods and nutrition education within the WIC Program continues to have a positive impact on the health of children.

WIC FOOD DOLLARS REDEEMED AT VENDORS IN EAU CLAIRE COUNTY January 1 – December 31, 2017

Vendor Name	Dollars Redeemed
Ameridental Food Store	\$ 25,080
Festival Foods, Birch Street	\$ 6,206
Festival Foods, Mall Drive	\$ 105,159
Festival Foods, N. Clairemont Ave	\$ 5,105
Gordy's County Market, Augusta (Closed 2017)	\$ 11,845
Gordy's County Market, Birch Street (Closed 2017)	\$ 64,346
Gordy's County Market, W. Clairemont Ave (Closed 2017)	\$ 26,290
Gordy's County Market, N. Clairemont Ave (Closed 2017)	\$ 64,069
Gordy's County Market, Hamilton Avenue (Closed 2017)	\$ 21,170
Great Lakes Fresh Market, Augusta	\$ 1,958
Loriental Store	\$ 14,820
Target	\$ 65,628
Walgreens – Clairemont Avenue	\$ 7,403
Walgreens – Hastings Way	\$ 28,732
Walmart	\$498,772
Woodmans Food Market	\$164,626
TOTAL	\$1,111,209

WIC Outreach

Health Educators continue to work with the WIC Director to promote the WIC Program throughout Eau Claire County. The following avenues were utilized in 2017 for WIC outreach:

- Distributed outreach materials to: Eau Claire Area School Districts and Early Learning Programs; healthcare systems; and to local businesses, non-profits and organizations located in Eau Claire, Altoona, Fall Creek, Augusta and Fairchild.
- Participated in community outreach events such as: McKinley Charter School Teen Parent Night, Breakfast in the Valley, Altoona Childhood Development Days and Phoenix Park Music Night.
- Coordinated print ads in EC4T Newsletter, Family Times, Chippewa Valley Family, Senior Review, City of Eau Claire Newsletter, Leader Telegram Supplement and Child Care Directory.
- Coordinated regular Facebook posts promoting the WIC program and breastfeeding.

WIC Projects

Breastfeeding Education and Support: The American Academy of Pediatrics has identified breastfeeding as the ideal method of feeding and nurturing infants; and has recognized breastfeeding as primary in achieving optimal infant and child health, growth and development. The WIC Program continues to promote breastfeeding as best for baby, best for mom. In its sixth year, the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program continues to reach women with relevant breastfeeding information and support. In 2017, 326 women had contact with the Peer Counselor.

All of the registered dietitians have received certifications in breastfeeding (Certified Breastfeeding Educator, Certified Lactation Counselor, Certified Lactation Educator). All WIC staff (registered dietitians and support staff) are aware that they each have an important role in promoting, protecting and supporting breastfeeding.

“Feeding Your New Baby: A Very Personal Choice” Class: The WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor and Breastfeeding Coordinator developed this class for pregnant women to prepare for baby’s arrival. The class encourages breastfeeding through education and connection with resources for support. In 2017, 89 pregnant WIC participants plus their support people attended the class. Promotion efforts include flyers at medical clinics, mailed invitations to women due to deliver soon, telephone calls, referrals by staff providing Prenatal Care Coordination and notices published in the Family Times and Volume One. Class participants report increased knowledge and increased likelihood they will breastfeed following the class.

Coffective: Coffective is an initiative in which hospitals and the WIC Program work together to achieve the shared goal of helping every new mom and baby get off to a good start. Coffective aims to improve breastfeeding rates by achieving three main goals:

- Preparing WIC mothers to receive evidence based care by providing consistent messaging prenatally.
- Implementing evidence based practices in the hospital.
- Increasing utilization of community support services such as WIC.

WIC and health care providers participating in Coffective use pictures as tools to help teach and prepare a mother and her family for baby’s arrival. Expecting families can download a Mobile App to help prepare for the hospital, build their care team and communicate their wishes. All education materials and training are based on the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative.

Coffective enhances continuity of care for WIC moms, provides on-going breastfeeding support, connects mothers to resources in the community, and helps each mom meet her own breastfeeding goals.

Healthy Beginnings + (Prenatal Care Coordination): All pregnant women certified for the WIC Program (who are eligible for Medical Assistance) are assessed for enrollment into the Healthy Beginnings (Prenatal Care Coordination Program). Based upon the needs identified, women are then offered the option to enrolling in this home visiting program. Women who enroll receive nursing services in the home and nutrition counseling in the WIC office. The public health dietitians completed a total of 322 risk assessments as well as 101 follow-up nutrition therapy sessions in 2017.

Lead Screening: Blood lead screening was offered to children at ages one and two years in the WIC Program. A total of 673 children received blood lead screening from their physician or the WIC Program. 505 (75%) of the screenings were completed in the WIC Program during 2017.

Kids Ride Safe Project: The WIC program continued the Kids Ride Safe project for a ninth year. In 2017, 33 seats were distributed to families in need who would otherwise be unable to access car seats for the safety of their infants.

The graphic features a white background with a large, curved yellow shape on the right side. Below this, there are two overlapping curved shapes: a light green one on top and a teal one on the bottom. The teal shape contains the text "Community Health Education" in white, sans-serif font.

Community Health Education

COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION

The focus of Community Health Education has been to develop partnerships with community agencies; provide leadership, collaboration and support for variety of community and departmental projects; build coalition capacity; analyze and report on community health data; research best practice; assist with grant writing; provide community outreach relating to local health issues and assist health department staff with presenting data and health information to the public. Community Health Education staff was involved in the following accomplishments:

Mental Health Matters

Community partners in both Chippewa and Eau Claire counties received funding from the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin (AHW) endowment for a project entitled *Mental Health Matters: Promoting Resilience for Chippewa Valley Youth*. The Health Department serves as a fiscal agent and brings community partners together to move beyond single-focus interventions driven by individual agencies, to strategic transformation of policy and systems changes. The community coalition hopes to both decrease rates of youth depression and increase resiliency. In doing so, they expect long-term decreases in adolescent substance abuse, reduced rates of self-harm and suicide, improved school attendance, and improved data regarding protective factors, such as social support for adolescents. The specific goals of the grant are to:

- Increase the capacity of the youth-serving workforce across sectors to build protective factors and resilience for Eau Claire and Chippewa county youth.
- Build staff skills to contribute to positive school climates and youth social-emotional skills.
- Create policy and change practice to improve youth mental health and resilience through use of a systematic, sustainable approach to data-driven decision-making.

Eau Claire Healthy Communities

Community Health Educators provided leadership and support to the Healthy Communities Council and action teams: sharing health data, prioritizing health needs, compiling and analyzing data for the community health improvement plan, developing action teams goals and objectives, researching evidence-based strategies and best practices, providing tools and facilitation skills to advance the planning process, completing the annual report and writing grants.

Community Health Educators provided leadership for the *Eau Claire Healthy Communities Celebration and Healthy Eau Claire Legislative Events*. Over 75 community members attended the 4th Annual Eau Claire Healthy Communities Celebration and learned more about the action teams' success in the areas of Chronic Disease Prevention, High-Risk Drinking Prevention, Mental Health, Oral Health Promotion and Healthy Relationship Promotion. Dr. Kenneth Adler and Fight Against Hunger Project were honored Thursday (April 27th) as Healthy Communities Champions for their efforts to make Eau Claire County a healthier place in which to live. The late John Stedman was given an Award of Excellence to honor his work as a community organizer Julie Swanson facilitated an interactive session on How Communities Can Leverage the Power of Story—engaging attendees to think about 'what stories we should be telling' in our community. Healthy Communities and the Board of Health made it a priority to have a continued focus on advocacy and policy work through the creation of the Healthy Eau Claire Task Force. On April 27th, 2017 the task force held the 4th annual Healthy Eau Claire Legislative event where participants discussed what we - policymakers and community organizations - could do to increase prevention of mental health issues Eau Claire County. It was a great conversation that will help continue to build relationships with legislators.

The Legislative Task Force organized the first Fall Healthy Eau Claire Legislative Event, which was hosted on Friday, December 15th 2017. Conversation at the event was focused on what we - policymakers and community organizations - could do together to focus on prevention of opioid use Eau Claire County. This was a very

challenging topic to tackle in a short meeting, but there was a lot of great discussion. While there were many conflicting schedules which is understandable this time of year, it was great to have people together.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention in Eau Claire County

The Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (Alliance) works to improve the lives of children, youth and adults by mobilizing communities to prevent and treat alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse in Eau Claire County. The Alliance, formed in 2002, has the following six prevention and treatment priorities: 1) underage drinking – 12-17 year olds; 2) underage drinking – 18-20 year olds; 3) high-risk drinking – 18-25 year olds; 4) tobacco use; 5) other drug use (prescription drug misuse and marijuana use); and 6) early intervention and treatment. The Alliance website can be found at www.getinvolvedASAP.org.

Four grant sources support the Alliance in reducing alcohol and other drug use among youth in Eau Claire County and building its capacity to do so. Four part-time positions, Health Education Supervisor, Coalition Facilitator, Youth Advocacy Advisor and Program Assistant, are supported by these grants. The City-County Health Department and the Eau Claire Area School District serve as the grant fiscal agents.

An survey of Eau Claire County youth conducted by the Alliance every 2-3 years, measures alcohol, tobacco and other drug use as well as contributing factors among 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students. The countywide survey was initiated in 2001 to evaluate prevention efforts and identify emerging trends. Comparisons of outcome measures in the 2015-2016 report to the 2004 report indicate the following:

- Fewer high school students report using alcohol, tobacco products and marijuana;
- More high school students report marijuana is not harmful to their health;
- Fewer high school students report alcohol, tobacco & marijuana is easy to get; and
- More high school students report their parents feel it is not wrong for them to use marijuana.

The fall More Kids Drug Free campaign focused on increasing awareness of prescription drug misuse and opioid abuse and promotion of the bi-annual Drug Take Back Day event. A campaign planning team was organized to help develop campaign messages, serve as media spokespeople, and help distribute campaign materials – five coalition members from four different community sectors met four times with coalition staff to plan the campaign. The team utilized several of the WI Dose of Reality materials and created some materials of their own (door hangers, magnets, flyers for youth athletic events). Campaign materials were distributed to more than 40 community agencies, businesses and pharmacies, schools (including CVTC and UWEC).

Youth Advocates – Four SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) members from each high school are selected to represent their group on the Eau Claire County Youth Advisory Board (YAB). YAB, coordinated by the Alliance Youth Advisor, meets monthly to assess training needs, plan the annual SADD training and develop ways to convey prevention messages to their peers. YAB plans activisms (activities done by youth prevention activists) for their school SADD groups to conduct.

Nearly 60 students and advisors attended the annual SADD Training sponsored by the Alliance in October. There were 7 guest speakers and workshop presenters this year. Students were empowered with the knowledge and skills they need to become advocates for change Topics of included: Tobacco, marijuana, QPR, Safe Dates, Inattentive/distracted driving, advocacy 101, and a RX: Take Back. Youth learned from speakers about how availability, acceptance and attractiveness contribute to the problems of underage drinking and prescription drug misuse. They also developed skills on how to get messages to their peers through activisms. At the training a social media challenge for the SADD chapters was launched. This challenge aimed to get creative in sharing prevention messages around prescript drug abuse and help promote safe use, safe storage and safe disposal. Students had an opportunity to compete with other SADD chapters across the county to win prizes for the messages they created and shared on social media. A total of 9 social media posts were entered.

The Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign was conducted for the 8th year throughout Eau Claire County to relay why underage drinking is a serious health, safety and legal issue.

Kids grow up in a culture surrounded by people drinking alcohol responsibly and irresponsibly. Music, advertising and social media contain many images and ideas about alcohol. When they don't hear from their parents, kids draw their own conclusions, and sometimes those conclusions are not accurate. Kids need their parent's help to interpret what they see. They also need to hear from parents that underage drinking is not okay, or again, without that message, may draw their own inaccurate conclusion. Parents are the number one reason why kids choose not to drink, and parents need to exercise that influence.

This year's campaign included local businesses. Parents who Host Lose the Most materials were included as grocery bag inserts at Gordy's supermarket and 1 local Culvers restaurant promoted the campaign through stickers, signs and table tents.

Online Youth Risk Behavior Survey

In November, all our Eau Claire County middle and high schools administered the OYRBS to collect data on youth risk behaviors. This is the first year we have administered the OYRBS in Eau Claire County schools. For many years we used the PRIDE Questionnaire to collect the required core measure data. Our strong relationships and partnership with Eau Claire county schools made this a successful transition to using a new survey. The survey results will be analyzed and shared with the community in 2018.

The Parents Connecting Network was initiated in 2011 to connect parents and keep teens safe by creating a directory of members. When parents hear that their kids are going to a friend's home, they can call to confirm details, supervision and that it will be alcohol free. Many parents do not realize youth are getting alcohol from their home or drinking alcohol on their property. Together, parents can reduce the chances of this happening. Youth report that they drink most often at home or a friend's home.

Over 950 families have joined the Eau Claire County Parents Connecting Directory by committing to not allow anyone under age 21 to drink alcohol in their home or on their property. In collaboration with schools, recruitment materials were provided to parents of all six Eau Claire County high schools, approximately 4,600 households, to encourage participation in the network in 2017. Families are also provided with information about underage drinking and steps to prevent it in the home, as well as prescription drug misuse and disposal.

PFS grant

A one year, \$50,000 grant was awarded to the Eau Claire City-County Health Department as the fiscal agent for the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention. This is the second year we have received this grant. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services applied for and received this competitive Strategic Prevention Framework funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to prevent prescription drug misuse. The grant will began on 10/1/17 and ends 9/30/18. The overall target of this initiative is to build and sustain substance abuse prevention coalitions and decrease prescription drug misuse and abuse among persons aged 12-25. The overall target of this initiative is to build and sustain substance abuse prevention coalitions and decrease prescription drug misuse and abuse among persons aged 12-25. Eau Claire County was identified as a community of high need through an extensive analysis of available data, by the state of Wisconsin. Based on the analysis, substance abuse prevention coalitions in 14 counties were eligible to apply for funding to support strategies for reducing prescription drug abuse. This grant will build on the Alliance's current DFC action plan which focuses on reducing alcohol use and prescription drug misuse. In addition, the work plan of this grant includes:

- Implementation of Dose of Reality materials through a community education and/or media campaign.
- Supporting prescription (Rx) drug security, collection and disposal.

- Working with and providing resources to support law enforcement Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training.

Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Check Programs

Alcohol Compliance Checks were initiated by the Eau Claire City-County Health Department in 2004 in accordance with Wisconsin laws prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages to underage people. In partnership with our six law enforcement agencies, trained teams of four (2 adults and 2 buyers) investigate establishments that hold a license to sell or serve alcohol in Eau Claire County. Underage buyers are 18-20 years old for alcohol compliance checks (CCs). Checks are conducted randomly throughout the year.

Buyers carry their actual ID during the CC process and present it when requested. Servers and sellers do an excellent job asking for IDs but do a poor job of accurately checking IDs. In 2017, 95.2% of the establishments checked did not sell alcohol to an underage buyer, complying with the law. 4.8% of establishments were not compliant and sold to an underage buyer.

Community Festivals Program – The Eau Claire City-County Health Department first conducted compliance checks at Country Jam in 2006 and the initial compliance check rate was only 33%. The Alliance has worked with Country Jam organizers along with the Sheriff’s Department to decrease youth access to alcohol at the event over the past seven years. Ten changes have been made to improve the policy and practices around underage drinking prevention. Expanded education of staff and volunteers, increased signage, improved processes and new policies adopted by Country Jam have had significant impact in preventing sales to underage buyers. Starting in 2015 this partnership also worked with the new Eau Claire festival around underage drinking prevention and continued in 2016. In 2017, for the first time, both festivals had 100% compliance check rate.

Tobacco Compliance Checks were initiated by the Eau Claire City-County Health Department in 2002 in accordance with Wisconsin laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to underage people. In partnership with our six law enforcement agencies, trained teams of four (2 adults and 2 buyers) investigate establishments that hold a license to sell tobacco products in Eau Claire County. Underage buyers are 16-17 years old who try to purchase tobacco products.

Checks are conducted randomly throughout the year through the Wisconsin Wins Program. Checks are conducted to ensure that store employees request and verify the IDs of youth attempting to buy tobacco products and that they refuse sales to persons under age 18. In 2017, 93.5% of the establishments checked did not sell tobacco to an underage buyer, complying with the law. Six and a half percent (6.5%) of establishments were not compliant and sold to an underage buyer.

Four media outreach and five public outreach activities were accomplished in 2017, including newsletter articles, press releases, media interviews, thank you’s to compliant establishments and educational information to noncompliant establishments.



Environmental Health/Lab

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND CERTIFIED PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

Environmental Health/Laboratory Programs:

- Food Protection
- Environmental Communicable Disease Investigations
- Housing and Property Maintenance and Hygiene
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
- Environmental and Recreational Sanitation
- Drinking Water Protection
- Air Quality Protection
- Human Health Hazards and Solid Waste
- Private Onsite Wastewater Disposal
- Radiation Protection and Emergency Preparedness
- Rodent, Insect, Rabies and Vector Control

Overarching Environmental Health Goals/Objectives:

- Assure protection from the spread of communicable diseases through food, water and rodents/insects.
- Assure that the public is provided housing that is safe and adequate for the protection of the public's health, safety and general welfare.
- Assure that the public is provided a safe water supply that is protected from organic and inorganic chemical contamination.
- Assure the proper treatment and disposal of wastewater to prevent human health hazards, water pollution, drinking water contamination and the spread of communicable diseases.
- Assure protection from injury and disease at facilities such as schools, beaches, pools, body art facilities, campgrounds, lodging facilities, massage therapy facilities and manufactured home communities.
- Assure proper storage, collection, transportation and disposal of solid waste to protect health and safety.
- Assure protection from radiation and radioactive materials, devices and products.
- Assure that children live in lead-safe environments.
- To reduce the exposure to air contaminants.

FOOD PROTECTION

Purpose/Goals: (1) To assure that the public is adequately provided with food that is safe, clean, wholesome and sanitary and (2) To assure that the public is protected from the unnecessary spread of communicable diseases through food.

Program Description: Administer state and local regulations governing food service facilities. Conduct inspections of food service establishments and require correction of violations. Collect and test food samples to assess for food contamination using standard plate count (SPC) and coliform, which directly correlate with sanitation deficiencies. Conduct epidemiological investigations of suspected and confirmed foodborne illness cases and outbreaks. Provide consultation and information to the public and food service workers on food safety.

Food Service Inspection Program

State agent agreements require annual inspections of licensed establishments; additionally, the department's inspection frequency policy is based on a risk assessment. Risk assessments link the number of critical violations to the frequency of inspection. Critical violations are defined in the Wisconsin Food Code as "those most likely to result in foodborne illness." Inspections are conducted using an inspection form that separates

violations into critical and non-critical categories. This allows the inspection report to be used as an effective tool that focuses the establishment operator on correcting problems within the establishment that are more likely to cause human illness or food contamination. Re-inspections are conducted to confirm that all critical violations have been corrected. If critical violations still remain after the initial two re-inspections, a fee is assessed for each additional re-inspection required to ensure compliance.

Education of food service establishment staff is an important factor in achieving compliance with the Wisconsin Food Code. At least one employee of the food service establishment must be certified in food service sanitation. Courses are offered through the Wisconsin Restaurant Association and the Tavern League of Wisconsin. Those individuals who pass the course examination are then able to obtain certification through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Restaurants/Taverns/Vending Machines

As an agent of the Wisconsin DHS, the department conducts inspections of licensed food service establishments (restaurants, temporary restaurants and vending machines). Food program staff routinely inspect temporary restaurants at special events throughout the year. The majority of the events take place during the months of summer and early fall. Some events include Country Jam, Taste of the Valley, Festival in the Pines, International Fall Festival, Hmong New Year and many other smaller venues. Application forms are sent to the temporary restaurant operators and consultations are frequently given prior to the events. Temporary restaurants are inspected for compliance with the Wisconsin Food Code with an emphasis placed on critical violations.

Restaurant/Tavern/Temporary Food/Vending Licenses and Inspections			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Number of Licensed Restaurants/Taverns	318	378	324
Routine Inspections - Restaurant/Tavern	553	608	600
Reinspections - Restaurant/Tavern	129	216	244
Complaints - Restaurant/Tavern	49	52	40
New/Change of Ownership Restaurant/Tavern Licenses	37	48	36
Temporary Restaurant Licenses Issued	88	65	230
Temporary Restaurant Inspections (inc. reinspections)	153	133	130
Vending Machine Vendors	1	1	1
Vending Machine Inspections	63	76	79
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	934	1,085	1,093
Total Number of Licensed Facilities (all types):	406	444	565

Retail Food

As an agent of DATCP, the Department conducts routine annual inspections of licensed retail food establishments, e.g., grocery stores, convenience stores, coffee shops, etc. These establishments are routinely inspected once annually and more frequently as needed. Re-inspections are conducted to obtain compliance with cited critical violations. Samples of ground beef, cold cuts, deli foods and swabs of food preparation equipment are collected at regular intervals by environmental health staff, providing a comprehensive evaluation of sanitary conditions in processing retail food establishments. These results are summarized in the “Laboratory Food and Beverage Sampling Program” section of this report.

Retail Food Licenses and Inspections			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Number of Active Licenses	152	151	153
Active Processing Licenses	125	126	130
Active Non-Processing Licenses	27	25	23
Routine Inspections	123	169	189
Reinspections	40	37	66
New/Change of Ownership Retail Food Licenses	27	13	17
Discontinuation of Operation	n/a	1	5
Retail Food Complaints	11	64	48
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	201	270	303

Foodborne Illness Risk Factors and Good Retail Practices Violations Summary

The Health Department strives for continued improvement of violations within licensed facilities. Unfortunately, restaurant and tavern staff turnover and management changes result in a continuous cycle of education and repeat violations. Some activities our department has developed to reduce the number of critical violations include numerous educational and enforcement activities such as an annual “Food Facts Newsletter,” refrigeration temperature logs, risk control plans, enforcement letters and citations.

Foodborne Illness Risk Factors Violations Summary			
	Violation Numbers		
Violation Category	2017	2016	2015
Demonstration of Knowledge	86	93	119
Employee Health	4	17	19
Good Hygienic Practices	10	22	26
Preventing Contamination from Hands	192	285	258
Approved Source	16	20	21
Protecting from Contamination	252	362	384
Time/Temperature Control	319	533	461
Consumer Advisory	17	16	12
Highly Susceptible Populations	0	1	1
Chemicals	101	157	116
Conformance with Approved Procedures	8	11	6
Total Violations:	1005	1517	1423
Total Inspections:	941	1193	1101
Average Violations/Inspection:	1.1	1.3	2.3

Good Retail Practices Violations Summary (does not include retail inspections)			
	Violation Numbers		
Violation Category	2017	2016	2015
Safe Food and Water	0	0	0
Food Temperature Control	176	772	407
Food Protection	155	429	472
Proper Use of Utensils	51	384	136
Utensils and Equipment	464	1643	459
Physical Facilities	405	2328	646
Total Violations:	1251	5556	2120
Total Inspections:	926	1085	674
Average Violations/Inspection:	1.35	5.12	3.15

School Food Program

The Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998 requires annual mandatory health inspections of all school food service facilities participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast Programs. This federal law requires a state or local governmental agency responsible for food safety to conduct the inspections annually through Section III of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004. Congress decided that beginning July 1, 2005, each school participating in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Programs must obtain at least two safety inspections each school year. In addition, schools must post, in a publicly visible location, a report on the most recent food safety inspection and provide a copy of the food safety inspection report to the public upon request.

Schools participating in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Programs are required to comply with a HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) system established by the Secretary of Agriculture. Several HACCP training sessions have been offered jointly through DHFS and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) throughout the state. The majority of the school districts have developed or are in the process of developing their HACCP programs. Additional staff time was spent advising school staff in HACCP implementation.

Inspections are conducted at public and private elementary, middle and high schools in Eau Claire County. All public and private schools that participate in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast programs are inspected twice a year, and non-participants are inspected annually. The entire facility is evaluated for general safety and maintenance. Private wells and septic systems are also inspected for rural schools. Violations are noted on the inspection sheets and copies are sent to the school administration for each school building. Consultation takes place at the time of the inspection to ensure that potentially hazardous conditions are understood and corrected.

School Food Service			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Number of Schools	32	34	36
Routine Inspections	64	68	68
Reinspections	0	2	2
Investigations	0	0	0
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	64	70	70

Laboratory Food and Beverage Sampling Program

Food samples and food preparation surface swabs are periodically collected from food/beverage service establishments within the City and County of Eau Claire for laboratory analysis using standard plate count (SPC) and coliform testing. The results are used to help identify possible sanitation deficiencies in these establishments. If results indicate sanitation deficiencies, an environmental health specialist works with the establishment and the operators to identify problems and to correct any deficiencies.

Bacteria standards have been adopted as part of state and local regulations for ice cream products, milk products, ground meat and ice. These products are sampled and tested on a periodic basis to assess compliance with these standards. Failure to meet the bacteria standards can result in an order from the Health Department that requires sale of the product to be discontinued. Establishments with deficiencies receive evaluations and recommendations by Health Department environmental health specialists regarding storage, handling, temperature maintenance, cleaning, sanitizing and rotation of products exceeding bacteria standards. Bacteria standards have not been adopted for restaurant foods, cold cuts, sandwiches, deli products, sodas or food/preparation surface swabs. Bacteria counts for these products are used as a guideline to indicate possible sanitary deficiencies. Environmental health staff will conduct on-site evaluations where test results indicate sanitary deficiencies may exist.

In addition to sampling and analyzing food samples in our local certified public health laboratory, the department also collects retail food equipment swab samples under the DATCP Agent Agreement. These samples are shipped to the Bureau of Laboratory Services in Madison, Wisconsin and are routinely tested for the presence of *Listeria monocytogenes*.

Sample Type: Cold Cut, Retail Deli Foods and Sandwiches			
Coliform Guideline (500 CFU)			
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2017	4	0	0.00%
2016	35	1	2.86%
2015	111	14	12.61%

Sample Type: Hamburger Samples						
SPC Standard (4,000,000 CFU)				Coliform Standard (2,000 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2017	16	2	12.50%	16	3	18.75%
2016	31	2	6.45%	31	4	12.90%
2015	46	3	6.52%	46	10	21.74%

Sample Type: Food/Preparation Surface Swabs						
SPC Guideline (100 CFU)				Coliform Guideline (10 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2017	597	160	26.81%	589	46	7.81%
2016	399	78	19.55%	387	21	5.43%
2015	91	22	24.18%	96	8	8.33%

Sample Type: Milk Dispensers

Year	SPC Standard (20,000 CFU)			Coliform Standard (10 CFU)		
	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2017	28	1	3.58%	28	1	3.58%
2016	31	1	3.23%	31	1	3.23%
2015	56	4	7.14%	56	2	3.57%

Sample Type: Frozen Yogurt, Soft Freeze, Ice Cream, and Premixes						
Year	SPC Standard (100,000 CFU)			Coliform Standard (50 CFU)		
	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2017	373	25	6.71%	443	40	9.03%
2016	418	38	9.09%	518	75	14.48%
2015	622	55	8.84%	805	110	13.66%

Sample Type: Pasteurized Milk (Retail Stores)						
Year	SPC Standard (20,000 CFU)			Coliform Standard (10 CFU)		
	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2017	243	14	5.77%	242	4	1.66%
2016	174	4	2.30%	174	1	0.57%
2015	175	5	2.86%	175	1	0.57%

Sample Type: Retail Bottled Water			
Year	Total # Samples	Colilert (Present/Absent)	
		# Present	% Present
2017	7	0	0.00%
2016	6	0	0.00%
2015	3	0	0.00%

Sample Type: Cottage Cheese, Dips, Sour Cream (Cultured)			
Year	Total # Samples	Coliform Standard (10 CFU)	
		# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2017	1	0	0.00%
2016	16	0	0.00%
2015	8	0	0.00%

*Note: The percent of samples exceeding bacteria standards or guidelines in the following tables can be biased to a higher percent by the number of repeat samples tested to achieve correction of a specific problem. All samples are measured in colony-forming units (CFU).

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE INVESTIGATIONS

Communicable Disease Committee

New in 2008, this committee was formed as a result of the Department's 2007-09 Strategic Plan. The committee worked on establishing a system for inter-office communication, follow-up and review of communicable diseases that crossover nursing and environmental health. Environmental Health staff investigate confirmed cases of reported communicable diseases that have an environmental health component.

Foodborne Illness Investigations

Environmental Health Specialists respond to reports of suspected foodborne illness in the community on a routine basis. An extensive food history is taken, and all suspect locations are investigated (if licensed by the department). Consultation is also provided to complainants that have general concerns regarding foodborne illness.

Foodborne Illness Activities			
	2017	2016	2015
Foodborne Illness - Investigations	21	20	2
Foodborne Illness - Reports of Illness	21	20	2
Foodborne Illness real or suspected outbreaks	0	0	1

HOUSING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & HYGIENE

Purpose/Goals: To assure that the public is provided housing that is safe and adequate for the protection of the public's health, safety and general welfare.

Program Description: Administer the City of Eau Claire, Altoona, Augusta, Fall Creek, Fairchild, Town of Seymour, and Town of Union Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Codes. Enforce provisions of the County Sanitary Code that address health hazards created by unsanitary or unsafe housing conditions. Administer and enforce the State of Wisconsin manufactured home community rules as an agent of the state. Conduct inspections, re-inspections and investigations in response to complaints or other agency referrals. Conduct a proactive Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program in an area of the City of Eau Claire as defined by the Community Development Block Grant target area. Provide assessment of community housing conditions. License and conduct annual inspections of rooming houses (dwelling units with more than four unrelated occupants). Conduct collaborative investigations, inspections and activities with other City and County agencies regarding community housing issues.

Housing Code Enforcement

The Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code is an Eau Claire City Ordinance and has also been adopted by Altoona, Augusta, Fall Creek, Fairchild, and the Townships of Seymour and Union. It is used as an enforcement tool in annual inspections of licensed rooming houses, inspections of other properties on a complaint basis and for the Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program (IHCCP). The code is also used as a guideline on inspections for City Housing Assistance Programs, the County Department of Human Services (referrals regarding sanitary conditions and neglect cases), and for inspections of houses in areas of the county which do not have a housing code. Follow-up inspections and re-inspections are conducted to achieve compliance with the code.

Human Services Investigations

Joint investigations are conducted in conjunction with the Eau Claire County Department of Human Services. These investigations are often more complex, dealing with such issues as unsanitary living conditions, health

and safety concerns for children and elderly persons, economic problems as well as housing code violations. Resolution of these cases often involves working with landlords, family members and staff from both agencies.

Interagency Agreement for the Investigation of Dangerous Living Conditions

Dangerous living conditions are those in the home environment which are hazardous, unsanitary or situations where the competency of an individual is such that occupants' lives are seriously threatened. An interagency agreement for the investigation of dangerous living conditions was signed by seven City of Eau Claire and County agencies in 1993. The agencies signing the agreement are the City Police Department, City Fire Department, City Community Development Department, City Attorney's Office, County Department of Human Services, Corporation Counsel's Office and the City-County Health Department. The purpose of the interagency agreement is to establish a protocol and team for appropriate city and county agencies to collectively address those problems in a timely and coordinated manner. This team approach has proven beneficial to solving multi-disciplinary and complex housing related problems.

Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program (IHCCP)

This program involves a systematic housing inspection effort in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Target Areas in the City of Eau Claire. Exterior conditions of individual properties within the strategy areas are surveyed block by block to determine properties needing a complete inspection. An exterior housing survey was conducted during 2015 to re-evaluate housing conditions within the target area. Each dwelling was rated according to the number of structural defect points (areas of deterioration) noted on the exterior of that property.

The program design continues to be effective in identification of the more significantly deteriorated dwellings in Eau Claire by using an objective means to assess the property conditions. The inspections have identified many significant interior health and safety hazards, have improved block conditions due to exterior maintenance and have helped to eliminate insect and rodent harborage by enforcement of proper garbage storage and disposal. A continued policy to first notify the owner of a property of a pending inspection and then to establish a joint inspection appointment is felt to be a major factor in the small number of Housing Advisory Board appeals. Conducting inspections with the property owner present reduces confusion of required corrections and also increases effective use of staff time. Issuing citations in instances of non-compliance is done in an effort to achieve improved compliance within reasonable time periods.

Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program – Field Activity Summary		2017	2016	2015
A. CDBG Funds: Primarily used to cover 50%-80% of the 1.0 FTE dedicated to the program plus mileage/supplies/etc.		\$95,400	\$71,200	\$62,000
B. Inspections:				
	1. Dwellings Inspected	103	128	118
	a. Renter-occupied	88	113	124
	b. Owner-occupied	12	14	12
	c. Owner and renter occupied	3	1	3
	2. Dwelling Units contained in dwellings	111	162	145
	3. Total Inspections	537	508	667
	a. Initial Inspections	103	128	118
	b. Reinspections to assess compliance	434	380	549
	4. Complain Investigations (specific problems – not complete inspections)	47	20	65
	C. Enforcement Actions:			
1. Compliance Orders Issued	109	65	96	
2. Citations Issued	52	31	20	

Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program – Field Activity Summary		2017	2016	2015
	3. Housing Advisory Board Hearings	0	1	1
	4. Inspection Warrants	1	1	1
	5. Dwelling Units placarded as unfit for habitation	8	2	10
D. Total Program Inspections (1980-2017):				
	1. Total Number Inspected	4577	4474	4411
	2. Houses Brought into Compliance	4387	4278	4213
	3. Houses in Process	190	196	198

Housing Activities Summary (*Includes IHCCP)			
	2017	2016	2015
Complaint Inspections/Investigations	229	186	165
Complaint Reinspections	402	336	457
IHCCP Inspections and Investigations	103	128	183
IHCCP Reinspections	434	380	549
Housing Advisory Board Meetings*	1	1	2
Dwelling Units Placarded as Unfit *for Occupancy	46	16	20
Total Housing Consultations*	1428	1335	1567
Citations Issued *	66	44	40
Total Inspections and Reinspections*	1168	1101	1579

Manufactured Home Communities

Manufactured Home Communities in Eau Claire County are licensed and inspected as an agent of the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and the Board of Health Manufactured Home Community regulation. Additional investigations of problems or violations are also conducted on a complaint basis. Manufactured Home Communities served by drinking water wells are required by the safe drinking water regulations to have their water tested by a certified laboratory on a monthly basis, these results are reported in the Drinking Water and Certified Laboratory sections of this report.

Manufactured Home Communities			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Number of Licensed Establishments	17	17	17
Total Number of Licensed Sites	1477	1477	1477
Routine Inspections	17	17	17
Reinspections	7	11	18
Investigations	9	15	9
Total Inspections (includes all types):	33	43	44

Purpose/Goals: To protect children in Eau Claire County from lead poisoning.

Program Description: Conduct lead hazard assessments of homes where children with lead poisoning reside. Assure that children with elevated blood lead levels receive ongoing medical follow-up and testing as recommended. Provide lead hazard assessment upon request of families with young children living in high-risk homes for the presence of lead hazards. Educate the public on reducing and managing potential lead hazards. Collect and test environmental samples for lead. Assure that high-risk children served in the WIC Program have a documented blood lead test. Provide consultation and literature on how to safely eliminate lead hazards.

General Lead Investigations

Environmental Health Specialists receive special training and certification for lead investigation and enforcement. An X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) lead paint analyzer is used during the home evaluations to determine the presence and quantity of lead in a painted or varnished surface. Environmental health staff investigate and provide consultation and literature on how to safely eliminate lead hazards within or outside the home.

XRF Lead Investigations		
2017	2016	2015
4	7	4

Elevated Blood-Lead Investigations

Public Health nurses provide case management and teaching to the families of children with elevated blood lead levels. In 2013, the Centers for Disease Control recommendation changed from 15 micrograms per deciliter to 5 micrograms per deciliter. Depending upon the findings of case management, children may be referred to Environmental Health staff for investigation and evaluation of the home environment. Lead abatement orders are issued during these investigations if significant lead hazards are identified.

Elevated Blood-Lead Investigations			
	2017	2016	2015
Public Health Nurse-Childhood Lead Cases	6	14	11
Referrals to Environmental Health (Home Evaluations)	5	7	4
Lead Abatement Orders	2	2	2

Environmental samples are also obtained to help determine the source of the lead in the children’s bodies. These environmental samples include paint chips, soil and surface wipes. In 2014, the department entered into an agreement to contract investigation services to Buffalo county.

Lead Samples Collected		
2017	2016	2015
11	5	60

ENVIRONMENTAL AND RECREATIONAL SANITATION

Purpose/Goals: To assure that the public is adequately protected from injury or the spread of disease when using or occupying facilities such as schools, beaches, pools, body art facilities, campgrounds, lodging facilities and massage therapy facilities.

Program Description: License and inspect for overall safety and sanitary conditions and enforce state and local regulations governing these facilities. Collect and test drinking water, pool, and beach samples to assess for contamination and require corrective measures when unsafe levels of contaminants are identified. Provide consultation to facility operators and the public on preventing health and safety hazards when operating or using these facilities.

Public Facility Regulation

The County and City of Eau Claire have adopted rules which establish minimum sanitary standards for the operation of various public facilities. Below are the facilities regulated and inspected under these City and County regulations:

Adult-oriented Bookstores: Eau Claire has one adult oriented bookstore which is inspected annually by the Health Department. Inspections of these facilities include toilet rooms, physical maintenance and other sanitation maintenance concerns.

Tattoo/Body Piercing Facilities: Tattoo and Body Piercing facilities are licensed and inspected in the City and County of Eau Claire through City and County Ordinance. These facilities must be licensed and inspected at least annually by the Health Department. The State of Wisconsin also has rules for these facilities and license requirements for the artists. As an agent of the State of Wisconsin, the Health Department enforces these rules, which address both the physical facilities and artist’s methods and practices.

Tattoo and Body Piercing establishments must test their sterilization equipment on a minimum monthly basis, unless they have obtained a “variance” from the State of Wisconsin, Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) to utilize only pre-sterile, single-use disposable equipment. Currently, ten establishments have obtained the variance from DSPS.

Body Art Facilities		
2017	2016	2015
18	17	18

One option for testing is using the local health department laboratory. Establishments can submit spore tests to the Health Department Laboratory for testing to verify that their sterilization process is adequate.

Spore Ampule Tests								
2017			2016			2015		
Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total
37	0	37	57	0	57	73	1	74

Hotels and Motels

Lodging facilities such as Hotels, Motels, Tourist Rooming houses and Bed & Breakfast establishments in Eau Claire County are licensed and inspected as an agent of the Wisconsin DHS and the Board of Health Hotel/Motel regulation. The Eau Claire City-County Board of Health Regulations allow for serving a full service breakfast at the licensed bed and breakfast establishments. The operator or manager must pass a certified food handlers course as stated in the Wisconsin Food Code. At this time all of the bed and breakfast establishments have chosen to serve a full service breakfast.

Hotels/Motels/Lodging			
	2017	2016	2015

Total Number of Licensed Establishments	54	48	42
Routine Inspections/Preinspections	43	55	47
Reinspections	11	21	32
Complaints	10	8	6
Consultations	20	22	53
Total Inspections (includes all types):	64	84	85

Parks and Campgrounds

Campgrounds and educational camps in Eau Claire County are licensed and inspected as an agent of the Wisconsin DHS and the Board of Health pools and recreational facility regulation. All public parks, campgrounds, beaches and recreational areas are inspected before the season gets underway. The department also licenses and inspects special event campgrounds. Water samples are collected in May and again in July from wells at all public parks and campgrounds, and tested in the Health Department Laboratory for bacteria and nitrates.

Campgrounds and Recreational Camps			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Number of Campgrounds	13	13	13
Total Number of Educational Camps	2	2	2
Special Event Campground Inspections	5	7	5
Routine Inspections	18	16	20
Reinspections	1	1	1
Investigations	1	0	0
Consultations	8	11	15
Total Inspections (includes all types):	24	24	26

Recreational Waters

Swimming Pools: Monthly water quality and cleanliness inspections were made at all swimming pools located at schools, motels, private clubs, and apartment and condominium complexes. Inspections, re-inspections and investigations are conducted with regard to pool equipment and any significant water quality problems.

Swimming Pools/Water Attractions			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Number of Licensed Features	57	56	56
Routine Inspections	56	65	57
Reinspections	23	14	17
Complaints	23	26	1
Consultations	23	16	50
Total Inspections (includes all types):	82	105	75

Beach Closures			
	2017	2016	2015

Beaches – Water Quality

Weekly water quality and cleanliness inspections are made at Big Falls, Lake Altoona, Riverview Park, Coon Fork, and Lake Eau Claire from May through August. Other popular swimming locations, such as beaches along the Eau Claire River and Half Moon Beach are also sampled on a weekly basis. A level of 235 *E. coli* bacteria per 100 ml of water is used as the limit for considering a beach water sample as unsafe.

Big Falls	5	4	6
Lake Altoona	3	4	1
Riverview Park	3	0	4
Half Moon Lake	4	1	3
Coon Fork	2	0	1
Lake Eau Claire	2	2	0
Total Closures	19	11	15

Swimming Pools and Beach Laboratory Sampling

Eau Claire City and County whirlpools and therapy pools are sampled monthly. Beaches are sampled weekly during the summer months for water quality and cleanliness. The following table summarizes the recreational water samples analyzed by the laboratory for Eau Claire County. Additionally,

Recreation Water Samples – Bacteriological Summary				
		2017	2016	2015
Pools	Pseudomonas Satisfactory	237	228	347
	Pseudomonas Unsatisfactory	5	7	8
	% Unsatisfactory	2%	3%	2%
Beaches	E Coli Satisfactory	292	426	427
	E Coli Unsatisfactory	89	100	108
	% Unsatisfactory	23%	19%	20%

samples are analyzed for beaches in Chippewa, and Clark Counties. Out-of-county data is contained in the “Certified Public Health Laboratory” section of this report.

Noise

Noise investigations of commercial or public properties are periodically conducted by the department at the request of a complainant.

DRINKING WATER PROTECTION

Purpose/Goals: To assure that the public is provided a safe water supply that is protected from organic and inorganic chemical contamination and communicable diseases.

Program Description: Promote the testing of private water wells for contaminants, review and issue well permits to assure proper location of new wells, require abandonment of unused wells and conduct inspections of existing wells to assess their risk of being or becoming contaminated. Provide consultation and work with the public to correct their drinking water problems and on measures they can take to prevent contamination of their well. Provide drinking water testing for contaminants such as fecal coliform bacteria, organic chemicals, nitrates, pesticides, lead and copper. Conduct epidemiological investigations of suspected and confirmed waterborne illness cases and outbreaks. Participate with the County Groundwater Advisory Committee to implement groundwater protection initiatives.

Municipal Drinking Water Supplies

The Health Department collects municipal water samples to test for coliform bacteria and residual chlorine from Altoona, Augusta, Fairchild and Fall Creek. These samples are collected twice a month from various locations in each municipality as required by the safe drinking water law.

Eau Claire County Bacteriological Tests of Municipal Water				
		2017	2016	2015
Distribution Systems	Negative	171	169	170
	Positive	1	0	0
	% Positive	0.6%	0.00%	0.00%
Wells	Negative	56	57	59
	Positive	0	0	1
	% Positive	0.00%	0.00%	2.0%
Residual Chlorine Samples		196	196	190
Residual Chlorine Tests				
- Free Available		586	587	567
- Combined Available				
- Total Residual				

Private Drinking Water Supplies

The Eau Claire County Sanitary Code requires that all premises intended for human occupancy shall be provided with an adequate supply of water that is safe and acceptable to drink. Water samples are collected upon request and wells are evaluated at the time of the sampling. Recommendations are made by environmental health specialists to correct unsafe water supplies.

Eau Claire County Private Well Coliform Tests				
		2017	2016	2015
Negative		455	506	515
Positive		105	118	121
% Positive		23%	19%	19%

Eau Claire County Private Well E Coli Tests				
		2017	2016	2015
Negative		105	115	119
Positive		0	3	1
% Positive		0%	3%	1%

As a result of Eau Claire’s geology, private wells consistently struggle to get safe water without treatment of modification. Safe water remains a focus of the lab and inspection team.

Eau Claire County Private Well Nitrate Samples Analyzed				
		2017	2016	2015
Total Samples not Exceeding Standard		441	462	417
Total Samples Exceeding Standard		41	35	24
% Exceeding Standard		9.3%	7%	5%

Newborn Infants Program

A grant for the testing of private water supplies serving families with newborn infants for arsenic, fluoride, lead, and copper was discontinued by the State Division of Public Health in 2012. Free testing for these contaminants, as well as Bacteria and Nitrate, were still offered to families with newborn infants.

Newborn Infants Program							
		2017		2016		2015	
Letters Sent To Families		156		184		151	
Families Participating (%)		38	23%	43	23%	39	26%

Follow up action by department staff was initiated whenever a test result showed contamination beyond the maximum contaminant level (MCL) set forth in the Wisconsin Safe Drinking Water Code. A summary of the newborn water testing results is shown in the following table.

Newborn Water Testing Results		
Parameter Tested	Number of Samples	Number of Samples
	2017	Exceeding MCL
Copper	37	5
Lead	38	0
Total Coliform (bacteria)	41	11
Nitrate	38	1
Fluoride	33	0

Wisconsin Well Code

The Health Department administers portions of the Wisconsin Well Code through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources County Well Delegation program. The Health Department currently participates in Delegation Levels 1 and 5. Level 1 is concerned with private well location and includes issuing permits and inspecting new wells for proper separation distance from contamination sources, adequate casing height and proper seals. Level 5 involves abandonment of wells either taken out of service or not in use. Wells not abandoned, or abandoned improperly, can provide a direct conduit to the groundwater from the ground surface and potentially pollute the groundwater.

The department’s lab also offers testing on new wells and well water after the pump is installed to ensure the supply is safe for consumption.

New Well Samples - Laboratory Analyses			
Coliform Tests			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Samples	76	77	136
Positive	9	5	18
% Positive	12%	6%	13%
Nitrate Tests			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Samples	73	75	131
# Exceeding Standard	6	4	12
% Exceeding Standard	8%	5%	9%

Pump Work Samples - Laboratory Analyses			
Coliform Tests			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Samples	258	287	84
Positive	46	57	15
% Positive	18%	20%	18%
Nitrate Tests			

	2017	2016	2015
Total Samples	215	249	76
# Exceeding Standard	31	40	8
% Exceeding Standard	14%	16%	11%
Arsenic Tests			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Samples	213	247	74
# Exceeding Standard	1	3	1
% Exceeding Standard	0.5%	1%	1%

Well Location Permit Program Activity Summary			
	2017	2016	2015
Consultations - (Levels 1, 3 & 5 combined)	218	170	244
Total no. Permits Issued	143	131	144
-New Well Permits Issued	126	98	110
-Replacement Well Permits Issued	15	31	31
-Reconstruction Permits	2	2	3
Completed Inspections	156	152	117
Installations – Non-complying	1	0	2
Wells Requiring Abandonment	15	29	29
Orders Issued	15	28	30

Level 3 - Inspection of Existing Systems Activity Summary			
	2017	2016	2015
Consultations (existing private and transient non-community)	133	148	53
Inspections/Investigations – Private	6	17	26
Inspections – Non-community	25	29	20
Installations – Non-complying	0	0	4
Orders/Directives Issued	2	2	4
Completed Well Abandonments (City and County)	32	16	2

Other Public Water Supplies

In addition to Delegation Levels 1 and 5, the Health Department entered into a Level 3 County Delegation agreement with the DNR in 1989. This agreement gives the Health Department authority to administer the portions of the Wisconsin well code that govern existing private wells and Transient Non-Community water systems. Transient non-community water systems are individual water supply systems that serve facilities such as restaurants, motels, campgrounds and service stations. Transient non-community systems must be sampled for bacteria and nitrate annually. Action is initiated when problems with water safety or the condition of the system are encountered. Facilities with bacteriologically unsafe results are required to discontinue use of their water for drinking and food preparation until corrective actions were taken and follow-up samples test safe.

Transient Non-Community Well Bacteria Tests
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	2017	2016	2015
Coliform Negative	132	102	138
Coliform Positive	1514	15	10
% Coliform Positive	11%	13%	7%
E Coli Positive	0	1	0
% E Coli Positive	0%	1%	0%

Transient Non-Community Well Nitrate Tests			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Samples not Exceeding Standard	90	85	83
Total Samples Exceeding Standard	5	5	3
% Exceeding Standard	6%	6%	3%

Other Community Well Coliform Tests			
	2017	2016	2015
Negative	83	78	35
Positive	2	1	1
% Positive	2%	1%	3%

Other Community Well E Coli Tests			
	2017	2016	2015
Negative	0	79	1
Positive	0	0	0
% Positive	0%	0%	0%

Other Community Well Nitrate Tests			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Samples not Exceeding Standard	8	10	9
Total Samples Exceeding Standard	0	0	0
% Exceeding Standard	0%	0%	0%

AIR QUALITY PROTECTION

Purpose/Goals: (1) To reduce the incidence of illness and death from diseases related to or aggravated by exposure to air contaminants and (2) To assure air quality that is aesthetically acceptable and enjoyable in Eau Claire County.

Program Description: Investigate air pollution complaints and enforce applicable state and county air quality regulations. Conduct community air monitoring to sample and test for air contaminants as well as to assess changes in air quality. Respond to concerns that poor indoor air quality is causing health problems to the occupants. Guidance is provided on how to correct indoor air quality problems.

Regulations

The Department is responsible for enforcement of the County Air Pollution Ordinance, which adopts the Department of Natural Resources regulations by reference.

Incinerator Licensing and Inspection

The county regulations require licensing of all incinerators. These are licensed and inspected by the Health Department for operational and maintenance violations.

Air Pollution Inspections and Investigations		
	2017	2016
Asbestos-related Consultations	13	11
Asbestos-related Investigations	1	1
Mold-related Consultations	24	42
Mold-related Investigations	8	21
Indoor Air Consultations - Other	16	25
Indoor Air Investigations - Other	11	11
Ambient Air Consultations	8	25
Ambient Air Investigations	1	13

Indoor Air Pollution

Residences and public buildings or places of employment are investigated for the presence of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, soot, mold, mercury, sewer gas, fumes, odors or other indoor air pollutants as a result of complaints received. In 2017, there were 32 residences investigated for indoor air pollution.

HUMAN HEALTH HAZARDS AND SOLID WASTE

Purpose/Goals: To assure conditions are not created which present human health hazards and that solid waste is stored, collected, transported and disposed in a manner which does not create health, safety or aesthetic problems.

Program Description: Enforce state, city and county rules by conducting assessments and responding to complaints regarding human health hazards and requiring corrective measures be taken. Implement community initiatives and enforce local regulations to better assure proper handling, storage and disposal of solid waste.

Human Health Hazard/Public Health Nuisance Complaints

Wisconsin Statute 254 defines human health hazard as a substance, activity or condition that is known to have the potential to cause acute or chronic illness or death if exposure to the substance, activity or condition is not abated. Wisconsin Statute 251.05 requires the local health department to investigate and abate human health hazards. Additionally, Eau Claire County Ordinance s. 8.12.075 and City of Eau Claire Ordinance chapter 9.36 and s. 8.32.230 outline local guidelines for the prevention and regulation of human health hazards and public nuisances. Several of these situations also align with the growing number of human services referral, hoarding, and dangerous living condition investigations reported in the Housing section of this report.

Solid Waste

The Health Department is responsible for the enforcement of municipal and county ordinances relating to proper storage, collection and disposal of solid wastes in the county. The below table (Solid Waste Activities) summarizes the solid waste complaints received and investigated. Substantiated complaints relating to improper storage, collection or disposal of garbage and trash on private and public property are issued orders and further regulated, as needed, with enforcement actions to achieve compliance.

Garbage Truck Licensing and Inspection

All garbage trucks are licensed by the cities of Altoona, August and Eau Claire as well as by the county of Eau Claire. An Environmental Health Specialist conducts annual inspections on each truck licensed in the referenced jurisdictions.

Seven-Mile Creek Landfill

The Health Department holds a seat on the Seven-Mile Landfill Standing Committee which meets quarterly to review, discuss and monitor the construction and operation of the facility. An Environmental Health Specialist conducts quarterly inspections and a report is provided to and discussed at the committee meetings.

Solid Waste Inspections			
	2017	2016	2015
Garbage Truck Haulers	7	7	7
Garbage Trucks (licensed)	94	97	91
Garbage Truck Inspections/Reinspections	94	96	95
Garbage Truck Investigations	0	2	0
Solid Waste Inspections/Investigations	195	285	402
Solid Waste Reinspections	243	214	113
Landfill Inspections	4	4	4
Total Inspections (all types):	536	601	614

Neighborhood Clean-up Programs

Door hangers were developed that demonstrate the code requirements regarding the City of Eau Claire curbside garbage pickup. Door hangers were left at properties during the investigation of complaints.

University Move-Out Events

A serious problem of large amounts of refuse placed at curbside and not removed in a timely manner during the spring student move out resulted in the development of the annual ‘Spring Move Out’ and ‘Pack It Up, Pass It On’ campaigns. These venues provide a convenient location for tenants to bring furniture and other reusable items that can be donated to charitable organizations. Interfaith Hospitality and Hope Gospel Mission typically provide the volunteers and trucks to collect the usable furniture items. These annual events are very successful and provide a large amount of usable furniture to charitable organizations. In 2017 they took 4.5 truckloads full of donations and captured 11.33 tons of garbage that did not have to be picked up curbside. The success of this project is largely due to the cooperation and active participation of student representatives from the University Student Senate and Environmental Public Health Club, as well as the garbage haulers involved.

Purpose/Goals: (1) To assure the proper treatment and disposal of wastewater from residences or buildings that require private onsite waste disposal and (2) To prevent human health hazards, water pollution, drinking water contamination and the spread of communicable diseases.

Program Description: Administer the County Sanitary Code. Review plans and issue permits for construction of private onsite wastewater and treatment systems (POWTS). Conduct inspections for all newly installed POWTS and enforce correction of failing systems. Review Wisconsin Fund applications from county residents for state funding to replace their failing sewage systems. Administer and enforce a state required maintenance program for all POWTS installed in Eau Claire County and/or within the city limits of Eau Claire.

A POWTS is also known as a sanitary or septic system. Its function is to collect household wastewater in a septic tank where biological processes digest solids and physical processes remove fats, oils, greases and indigestible solids. Effluent (wastewater) exits the tank through a filter that removes suspended solids to an absorption system where it is discharged to the soil where microorganisms are removed and the clarified effluent percolates back into the groundwater. Some properties lack the necessary physical characteristics to allow for this type of system, therefore, on a case-by-case basis, are approved to have a holding tank installed.

Construction of New/Replacement Systems

The Eau Claire County Sanitary Ordinance designates that the Health Department review “Soil and Site Evaluation” reports, plans for proposed private on-site wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) and issue permits for POWTS construction. Inspection and approval by the Health Department is required prior to backfilling or use. The Health Department applied for and received approval to review plans for mounds, at-grade and in-ground pressure sewage systems in 2001. Previously the plans for these systems had to be submitted to the State Department of Commerce for review. As an agent for the Department of Commerce, the Health Department is able to provide quick service for the public.

Wisconsin Fund

Eau Claire County began participating in the Wisconsin Fund Program in January of 1991. This program, which is funded by the State, provides grant dollars to repair failing sanitary systems. The objective of the program is to protect surface water and groundwater from sewage waste contamination.

Wisconsin Fund			
	2017	2016	2015
Applications Processed	2	4	3
Yearly Grant Dollar Allotment	\$12,200	\$11,136	\$13,263
Total Systems Repaired (Since 1991)	518	516	512
Total Grant Dollars Allotted (Since 1991)	\$1,601,503	\$1,589,303	\$1,578,167

Audits/Evaluations

An annual audit of the POWTS program was conducted to check for compliance with the provisions of Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 383, regulating POWTS design, construction and maintenance. The audit critiqued administrative procedures, sanitary permit data, POWTS maintenance and permit application reviews. The audit concluded that the program complied with statutory requirements.

Activity Summary – On-Site Waste Disposal Program			
	2017	2016	2015

Permits Issued and Plan Review			
Plan Approvals for At-Grades, Mounds, and In-Ground Pressure Systems	87	82	61
Commercial Conventional Plan Approvals	3	2	0
State Sanitary Permits Issued	217	190	162
County Privy Permits Issued	6	2	8
County Reconnection Permits Issued	8	10	11
Non-Pressure Inground – New			
Non-Pressure Inground – New	67	54	47
Non-Pressure Inground – Replacement	50	43	40
At-Grades – New	15	10	6
At-Grades – Replacement	5	4	2
Mounds – New	45	39	35
Mounds – Replacement	23	21	21
In-Ground Pressure – Other New	0	0	0
In-Ground Pressure – Replacement	2	0	0
Holding Tanks – New	5	1	3
Holding Tanks – Replacement	1	2	3
TOTAL SYSTEMS INSTALLED	191	174	157
Other POWTS Activities			
POWTS Inspections	405	438	293
Reconnection/Privy Inspections	4	10	15
Soil On-site Inspections	40	50	34
Sewage System Complaint Inspections	21	7	8
Legal Orders	10	4	13
Wisconsin Fund Grants	1	4	3
Plat and Certified Survey Map Approvals	57	44	33
Consultations	1280	1612	1188

POWTS Maintenance Program

This program has been developed in order to maintain compliance with laws requiring the Health Department to obtain and keep records of the maintenance of different types of POWTS. The Wisconsin State Legislature adopted Act 347 on April 14, 2006. This legislation created s.145.20(5) stats., which establishes the requirements for a private sewage system maintenance program. Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 383.52 applies the maintenance program to all private sewage systems. These state laws require the maintenance program to be administered by the local governmental unit responsible for the regulation of private sewage systems. This governmental unit is the Health Department in Eau Claire County. In May of 2007, the Eau Claire County Sanitary Code was revised to comply with new state laws regarding private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS).

Section 8.12.220 of the Eau Claire County Health and Safety Ordinance requires that all POWTS be subject to a maintenance program. Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 383 requires that the local ‘governmental’ unit, in this case the Health Department, notify all property owners of the POWTS maintenance requirements and follow up with non-compliance. The program is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of all POWTS installed in Eau Claire County as well as developing and/or providing maintenance and operation information for property owners. Funding for the program is generated through a special charge for the private

treatment system, labeled SC Sewage, on the property tax bill. The creation of a new position whose responsibility includes the POWTS Maintenance Program has allowed allocation of more time to enforcement efforts.

POWTS Maintenance Program Activities			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Program Consultations (In-Office)	942	957	1049
Consultations/System Verifications (On-Site Visits)	34	29	48
Compliance Investigations (On-Site Visits)	355	351	432
Batch Mailings (informational and maintenance notices)	26	26	26
Total maintenance reminder/warning notices sent (All system types)	4667	4721	5590

Maintenance Reports and Compliance

Septic Tank Maintenance

SPS 383 requires homeowners to maintain their septic systems by regularly having maintenance performed. Every three years homeowners are sent a notice from the Health Department to achieve compliance. These notices are signed by a licensed Master Plumber or certified septic tank pumper and returned to the Health Department.

Septic Tanks						
	2017		2016		2015	
Reports Due	2813		2905		3284	
Reports Filed (%)	2594	92%	2698	93%	3090	94%

Holding Tank Maintenance

Eau Claire County Sanitary Ordinance 8.12.240 requires holding tank owners to submit quarterly pumping reports that specify the amounts pumped, the dates of pumping, the name of the pumper, and the disposal location.

Holding Tanks						
	2017		2016		2015	
Total Holding Tanks	291		288		283	
Compliant System Reporting (%)	258	89%	248	86%	235	83%

Pretreatment Unit Maintenance

Owners of sanitary systems that include a pretreatment component are required to provide annual reports of inspection by a licensed maintainer. Follow-up with non-reporting property owners is ongoing. Prior to 2008, notification and follow-up activity had been limited.

Pretreatment Units						
	2017		2016		2015	
Total Pretreatment Units	36		36		36	
Reports filed (%)	28	78%	26	72%	28	78%

Groundwater Surveillance and Testing

Groundwater contamination is a continuing concern to area residents. Health Department staff participates as a technical resource, for the Eau Claire County Board-appointed Groundwater Advisory Committee. The committee developed a groundwater management plan for Eau Claire County, published in 1994 and adopted by the County Board 1995. Activities associated with the development of the plan were the inventory of potential pollution sources; environmental assessment which included maps depicting groundwater depth and flow,

directions, soil attenuation and depth to bedrock; a summary of existing groundwater management controls and groundwater protection recommendations. In 1999, revision of the county sub-division ordinance was conducted, focusing on reducing the impact of up gradient contamination sources on private wells within proposed subdivisions and the impact of sanitary systems within the subdivision on wells. A groundwater protection section in the County Subdivision Ordinance was adopted by the County Board in December 1999.

A wellhead protection ordinance for municipal water supplies was adopted by Eau Claire County in 2001. For this ordinance to take effect in a municipality, that local governmental entity must adopt its own wellhead protection ordinance to control activities within the recharge area within its boundaries and request the County Planning and Development Department to create a Groundwater Protection District for the recharge area outside the municipal boundaries. The Eau Claire County Groundwater Committee promoted and authorized expenditures to identify recharge areas for each municipal well and inventory potential contamination sources in the identified areas. Fairchild, Augusta, Altoona, and Fall Creek have now adopted this ordinance.

RADIATION PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Purpose/Goals: To provide a public health system and workforce that: (1) prevents unnecessary exposure to radon from naturally occurring sources, (2) are capable of delivering essential public health services during routine and emergency operations, (3) provide rapid communication, analysis and interpretation of health data, and timely access to accurate public health information, and (4) monitor health events to identify changes or patterns and to investigate underlying causes and factors to help detect and respond to public health threats and emergencies.

Program Description: Administer the Regional Radon Information Center for a seven-county area. Provide technical consultation on testing for radon and how to mitigate it when levels are above the standard. Participate in the state radiological response program as a trained radiological emergency response team to prevent and protect from any unnecessary exposure to radiation from the transportation, use or disposal of radioactive materials or radiation producing devices and products. Collaborate with appropriate first responders, County Emergency Management Coordinator, health care providers and other appropriate partners to address potential natural disasters, bio-terrorism response planning, chemical threats, and radiological preparation. Actively participate in developing bio-terrorism response planning with a 12 county/tribe jurisdiction consortium. Participate in local and regional training and planned tabletop and functional exercises with various bio-terrorism scenarios.

Radon

The USEPA grant to operate the West Central Wisconsin Radon Information Center was renewed for another year. This center provides radon information services for the following six counties: Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Eau Claire, Jackson and Trempealeau. This center also provided services, materials and consultation to Monroe County. The center provides assistance and resources to the local public health departments in these counties to aid in testing for the presence of radon and advice on mitigation (if radon is present at significant levels).

Data collected from radon testing in Eau Claire County dates back to 1988. The below table indicates the percentages of homes tested which are below the EPA recommended standard of 4.0 picocuries/liter (pCi/L), and those which are above. Homes with exceeding levels were given recommendations for further testing or mitigation depending upon the level of radon in their home.

Home Radon Levels			
	2017	2016	2015

% of radon levels less than 4.0 pCi/L	59%	63%	57%
% of radon levels greater than or equal to 4pCi/L	41%	37%	43%

Even though there are statistics for radon levels locally in the County, there is no way to predict what the level of radon will be in a home. The only way to know is to test. Mapping of results obtained thus far has identified some areas that appear to be at higher risk. A GIS map of both the City and County of Eau Claire has been developed. Furthermore, the department provides both short-term and long-term radon test kits for a fee. Homeowners who wish to test their own homes can purchase these kits at the Eau Claire City-County Health Department office located in the County Courthouse.

Radon Home Test Kits Sold/Analyzed			
	2017	2016	2015
Long Term Kit Sales	6	5	10
Short Term Kits Sales	243	278	225
% of Short Term Kits Analyzed	87%	76%	96%
Total Kits:	249	283	235

Radiation Protection

A Radiological Incident Response Plan has been developed by the State of Wisconsin to handle all radioactive emergencies at nuclear power plants in or near Wisconsin. The State of Wisconsin conducts the following activities: developing/conducting training statewide, local and utility emergency responders; procedure development; exercise scenario development; and participation in scheduled nuclear plant emergency preparedness exercises evaluated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The state developed radiological emergency response teams statewide, consisting of field team members in various locations throughout Wisconsin.

The local radiological emergency response team consists of three environmental health specialists. This team participated in a radiological response exercise at the Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant in 2017. Wisconsin State Field Team Training took place on May 16-18, 2017 in Onalaska, WI. This training maintains a statewide radiological field team presence and to exercise the State's radiological emergency response plan. Additionally, the Civil Support Team (CST), consisting of Army and Air National Guard personnel and area HazMat teams all train together at these exercises.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Environmental health staff members are trained in the incident command system (ICS) to serve as support staff or to serve in primary/secondary roles within incident command.

RODENT, INSECT, RABIES, AND VECTOR CONTROL

Purpose/Goals: (1) To assure that the public is protected from the spread of vectorborne diseases and (2) To assure that rabies does not occur in humans, dogs, cats or ferrets within Eau Claire County.

Program Description: Provide consultation and information to the public on eliminating or controlling rodents, insects and other animals capable of causing or transmitting disease to humans. Investigate and enforce state, city and county rules regarding insect, rodent and animal infestation problems of public health importance. Provide consultation and other resources to address vectorborne diseases. Partner with the Eau Claire City Police Department and County Humane Association to enforce city and county regulations on reported animal bites and pet quarantines. Advise the public and health care clinicians on appropriate measures to take when an individual is bitten by a domestic pet or a wild animal, and the appropriate preventive measures when following up on potential rabies cases. In cooperation with Eau Claire County veterinarians, conduct countywide rabies vaccination clinics for dogs, cats and ferrets every other year.

Program Activities

Rodent and vector control activities included responses to complaints on animals causing nuisances such as birds, mice, rats, bats, insects and skunks. Such responses include giving out information and recommendations on vector control, identification and control of insects, trapping nuisance animals and issuance of orders when necessary.

Live Traps

Environmental Health maintains a Live Trap for the trapping of skunks. Skunks are a high-risk animal for the transmission of the rabies virus. The trap is usually loaned to a property owner on a complaint basis. If a skunk is trapped, it is euthanized by Health Department staff.

West Nile Virus

Mosquito control is an important and basic public health function. The rapid spread of West Nile Virus (WNV) across the United States in the last ten years demonstrates the continuing need for mosquito control activities. Standing water is the primary source for breeding mosquitoes, specifically the culex species which is most likely to transmit WNV to humans. The Eau Claire City-County Health Department has worked on various educational, surveillance and control activities to help control the spread of WNV.

Surveillance/Investigation – Environmental Health staff will investigate complaints regarding mosquito-breeding areas or other high-risk locations.

Testing – Eau Claire County and statewide surveillance activities begin in May of each year. Each county is allowed to ship a maximum of one bird for testing to the USDA Wildlife Service. If a positive bird is identified, the State and County work together to issue a press release and educate the public.

Bed Bugs

The Health Department responds to bed bug infestation complaints in private homes, rentals, and public establishments. Even though bed bugs are not known to transmit disease, they are considered a pest of public health significance. The bites of bed bugs can cause severe allergic reactions, as with any other type of sensitivity to bug bites, as well as emotional distress to affected persons. Bed bugs are difficult to control due to their habits and resistance to pesticides. Therefore, when Health Department staff encounter an infestation, the services of a professional pest control operator are strongly recommended, along with other advice regarding prevention and control measures. There is no official tracking or reporting of infestations, but anecdotal evidence indicates the number of infestations is increasing and the State Health Department expects this trend to continue.

Animal Bites and Rabies Control

The Health Department is approved by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to administer a local rabies control program as required by Wis. Stats. 95.21(9)(b), and further outlined in Wis. Adm. Code ATCP 13.

Bites/Exposures

People reported bitten by or exposed to animals and animals reported bitten or exposed to a wild animal:

Bites/ Exposures			
	2017	2016	2015
Dog Bites	93	85	86
Cat Bites	34	50	26
Ferret Bites	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	29	32	44
Total Reported Bites/ Exposures:	156	167	156

Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)

PEP is initiated when people are exposed to animals/specimens that were either:

- Positive for rabies
- Too decomposed for testing
- Not available for testing
- Had Equivocal results

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Initiated				
2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
17	19	32	23	16

Immunization Information

During bite investigations, the current immunization status of the animal(s) involved in incidents are reviewed and recorded. These findings are used to help determine animal quarantine orders as well as animal and human treatment options.

Current Immunization Status – Current (animals involved in incidents)			
	2017	2016	2015
Dogs	73%	79%	60%
Cats	21%	30%	11%

Quarantine Information

Those animals with current rabies vaccination and that do not exhibit symptoms of rabies may be quarantined (confined) at home, but are required to be examined by a licensed veterinarian within 24 hours of receiving a quarantine notice and again on the 10th day after the date of the bite. A cooperative effort exists between the Municipal Police, the County Humane Officers and the Department to carry out this program.

- Domestic pets exposed to wild animals that tested positive for rabies or wild animals that are not available for testing require special quarantine.
- Immunized pets are placed under a 60-day quarantine.
- Unimmunized pets are either euthanized or put into a 180-day quarantine.

Quarantine Information			
	2017	2016	2015
Veterinarian/Home Quarantines (Unimmunized)	28	38	57
Veterinarian/Home Quarantines (Immunized)	68	72	55

Rabies Testing Information

The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WLSH) conducted testing for the rabies virus on animals/specimens shipped to the WLSH as follows:

Rabies Testing Information			
	2017	2016	2015
Total Animals Sent to WSHL	42	56	44
Total Testing Positive for Rabies	0	1	0

CERTIFIED PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

The Certified Public Health laboratory is comprised of a microbiological and chemistry division that conduct microbiological and chemical analyses on a variety of substances, e.g., water, dairy products, food, utensils, air, that affect public health. Sampling and analysis is conducted to ensure sample acceptability and compliance with public health and environmental standards for public health and welfare. The Health Department laboratory services not only Eau Claire County, but also many surrounding counties as well, both public and private businesses (e.g., well drilling companies, health departments). Eau Claire County sampling results and program-related laboratory activities have been inserted into the following sections of this report wherever applicable and appropriate:

- Food Protection
- Housing (Lead Prevention)
- Drinking Water Protection
- Private Onsite Wastewater Disposal
- Rodent, Insect, Rabies and Vector Control
- Air Quality Protection
- Environmental and Recreational Sanitation data contained in this section of the report is cumulative data for all laboratory services, both local (Eau Claire County) and non-local.

Total Laboratory Samples and Analyses			
	2017	2016	2015
Microbiological Examinations	13,974	18,875	18,973
Total Chemical Samples	1972	2364	2291
-Total Chemical Analyses	8581	11,351	8513
Total Analyses:	24,527	30,226	27,486

Colilert/Colisure

These test methods are used for the simultaneous detection and confirmation of total coliforms and E coli in drinking water. All non-coliforms are suppressed giving faster and more specific results in 22 hours or less with Colilert. Colisure is a test suitable for water samples containing high iron content and suppresses all non-coliforms, giving results in 24 – 48 hours.

Pseudalert

This test method was started in 2012 and is used for the detection of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in therapy pools and whirlpools. It provides results in 24-28 hours.

Food Testing

See Food Protection Section

Chemistry Division

The laboratory receives samples such as water, soil, paint, and swabs in response to customer requests and to support environmental health field investigations. The following table demonstrates the types of samples and the number of analyses performed.

Organic Chemical Testing

Samples are analyzed for up to 59 separate volatile organic chemicals (VOC's) using the laboratory's gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer (GC/MS). Testing continued on private wells around the former city landfill in the Town of Union.

Heavy Metal Analysis

Heavy metals are conducted utilizing the laboratory's atomic absorption spectrophotometer (AAS). Examples of heavy metals tested on this instrument are lead, copper, chromium, arsenic, cadmium, iron and zinc. Samples tested included drinking water from municipalities, private wells, dust swabs, and paint.

Nitrate Samples

Water samples (public and private) are tested in the chemistry lab to determine nitrate-nitrogen levels. A nitrate reading exceeding 10 ppm can be potentially dangerous to newborn infants, pregnant women and cattle.

The image features a white background with three curved, overlapping bands of color. The top band is yellow, the middle band is light green, and the bottom band is teal. The teal band is the largest and contains the text.

Financial Statements

Eau Claire City-County Health Department				
Revenue and Expense Summary Report				
For year ending December 31, 2017				
	Revised Budget	YTD Actual	Available Budget	PCT Used
Revenues:				
Health Department Revenue				
Taxes	\$1,804,300	\$1,804,000	(\$300)	100.0%
Intrgov Revenue	\$1,246,400	\$1,334,986	\$88,586	107.1%
Licenses & Permits	\$618,900	\$662,541	\$43,641	107.1%
Charges for Services	\$153,400	\$128,917	(\$24,483)	84.0%
Charges Serv-Intrgov	\$1,568,600	\$1,591,654	\$23,054	101.5%
Misc. Revenue	\$489,700	\$478,666	(\$11,034)	97.7%
Other Finance Source	\$92,200	\$92,194	(\$6)	100.0%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$0	\$400	\$400	n/a
Total Health Department Revenue	\$5,973,500	\$6,093,358	\$119,858	102.0%
Expenses:				
Health-Administration				
Personnel	\$658,100	\$632,296	\$25,804	96.1%
Contractual Services	\$179,100	\$173,646	\$5,454	97.0%
Utilities	\$9,100	\$7,520	\$1,580	82.6%
Fixed Charges	\$22,000	\$14,548	\$7,452	66.1%
Supplies	\$19,900	\$11,469	\$8,431	57.6%
Other Financing Uses	\$29,500	\$29,503	(\$3)	100.0%
Total Health-Administration	\$917,700	\$868,982	\$48,718	94.7%
Health Education				
Personnel	\$164,300	\$149,687	\$14,613	91.1%
Contractual Services	\$9,400	\$4,743	\$4,657	50.5%
Supplies	\$1,300	\$940	\$360	72.3%
Total Health Education	\$175,000	\$155,370	\$19,630	88.8%
Health Nursing				
Personnel	\$1,561,800	\$1,454,849	\$106,951	93.2%
Contractual Services	\$84,200	\$86,178	(\$1,978)	102.3%
Utilities	\$8,700	\$8,444	\$256	97.1%
Fixed Charges	\$200	\$0	\$200	0.0%
Supplies	\$95,000	\$76,717	\$18,283	80.8%
Total Health Nursing	\$1,749,900	\$1,626,188	\$123,712	92.9%

Health Environmental Health				
Personnel	\$1,168,300	\$1,130,491	\$37,809	96.8%
Contractual Services	\$30,300	\$27,592	\$2,708	91.1%
Utilities	\$8,900	\$8,421	\$479	94.6%
Fixed Charges	\$600	\$580	\$20	96.7%
Supplies	\$58,800	\$58,175	\$625	98.9%
Capital Purchases	\$57,000	\$55,342	\$1,658	97.1%
Total Health Environmental Health	\$1,323,900	\$1,280,601	\$43,299	96.7%
Health Grant Programs				
Personnel	\$1,502,300	\$1,447,449	\$54,851	96.3%
Contractual Services	\$218,300	\$212,882	\$5,418	97.5%
Utilities	\$5,700	\$12,651	(\$6,951)	221.9%
Fixed Charges	\$0	\$20	(\$20)	n/a
Supplies	\$80,700	\$104,426	(\$23,726)	129.4%
Contrib & Other Pymt	\$0	\$933	(\$933)	n/a
Total Health Grant Programs	\$1,807,000	\$1,778,361	\$28,639	98.4%
Total Expenses	\$5,973,500	\$5,709,502	\$263,998	95.6%
Total Revenue Over / (Under) expenses	\$0	\$383,856	(\$383,856)	

Fluoride Mouthrinse Program

Augusta and Altoona public schools continued to participate in the fluoride mouthrinse program this year. The purpose of the program is to reduce dental caries by topical application of fluoride.

The Health Department provides the fluoride and other supplies funded by a grant from the Division of Public Health. School personnel and parent volunteers administer the mouthrinse in consultation with the public health nurse serving the school.

Fluoride Mouthrinse Program Participation: 2017

School	# of children
Augusta Elementary School	154 children in grade 1 through grade 5
Pedersen Elementary School – Altoona	327 children in grade 1 through grade 3