



**4/23/14 Board of Health Meeting**

**Agenda Item 4.f**

**Resolution on Federal Funding for Public Health**

**Whereas** the 2015 Federal budget process is actively being debated with implications for local and state public health funding and;

**Whereas** current House and Senate budget resolutions propose significant cuts in nondefense discretionary spending that will impact public health programs and services and;

**Whereas** the Affordable Care Act took an important first step toward addressing population health issues and;

**Whereas** supporting evidence-based public health prevention programs will result in healthier communities and reduced cost in treating disease;

**Whereas** the U.S. spends more on health care than any other country – twice the average of spent by other industrialized nations and the US ranks 24<sup>th</sup> out of 30 such nations in terms of life expectancy and;

**Whereas** only 3% of our national health care spending is focused on prevention and public health when 75% of our health care costs are related to preventable conditions and;

**Whereas** chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer and diabetes are responsible for millions of premature deaths each year and cause Americans to miss 2.5 billion days of work each year, resulting in lost productivity totaling more than \$1 trillion and;

**Whereas** childhood health problems linked to preventable environmental exposures such as lead poisoning and asthma cost the U.S. \$76.6 billion in 2008 and;

**Whereas** investing just \$10 per person per year in community based public health efforts could save the nation more than \$16 billion within 5 years and;

**Whereas** Wisconsin in 2014 is ranked as 46<sup>th</sup> in the nation for CDC funding and 48<sup>th</sup> in the nation for HRSA funding and 48<sup>th</sup> in the nation for state funding for public health and;

**Whereas** Eau Claire county residents have prioritized Mental Health, Substance Use prevention, and Chronic Disease as health areas to focus collaborative prevention efforts around;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the *Eau Claire City-County Health Department and Board of Health* support federal funding for prevention and public health efforts at the federal, state, and local level to assure population health improvement and will communicate this support to federal legislative and executive representatives.

Approved by the Board of Health this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2014.

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

Mery Price, President

**EAU CLAIRE CITY-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Elizabeth Giese, Director/Health Officer