



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## 2014 Health Unit Annual Report

The mission of the Health Unit is to “Assure the health of Green Lake County by promoting and protecting health and preventing disease.”

### OUR VISION--

**GREEN LAKE COUNTY:  
HEALTHY PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT**



The Green Lake County Health Advisory Board received a Certificate of Designation from the WI Department of Health Services for meeting all requirements for a Level II Health Department. Board members include L to R: Katherine Vergos, Jean Kessler, Dr. Jeanne Lyke, Pat Brandstetter, Abbie Griswold, Kathy Munsey, Cindy Skipchak, (Chair) and Jack Meyers. Every Health Department is required by State Statute to be reviewed every five years to assure that they are in compliance with DHS 140.07(4). In addition to completing the 140 Review process, this Board introduced the “Health In All” policy which was passed by the Green Lake County Board on August 19, 2014. “Health In All” refers to the practice of taking an integrated approach to introduce health, well-being and equity considerations into the development and implementation of policies in non-health sectors. Ultimately we must work in partnership with others to explore opportunities for collaboration and innovation. What we do collectively can improve not only our county health ranking, but the health of all our citizens in Green Lake County.

### HEALTH UNIT STAFF

Kathy Munsey, RN, Health Officer/Health Unit Manager,  
Tracy Soda, PHN, Jeri Loewe, PHN, Judy Kasuboski, PHN, Renee Peters, Birth-3/Family Support,  
Jackie Westover, WWWP, Melanie Simpkins, RN, MPH, Health Educator,  
Ashley Rondorf, Environmental Health Specialist, Marilyn Voeltner, Volunteer

## Our 2014 Programs and Services:

### Disease Control and Prevention

Public Health Nurses are required by statute to follow up on acute and communicable diseases. Using the WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS) we are able to monitor trends and track outbreaks as they occur. Below are some of the diseases we followed in 2014, along with previous year comparables. We did have one person return from an area where there were cases of Ebola and we did need to do follow-up on this person for 21 days to assure the health and safety of the individual as well as the community.

Frequency of Reported Diseases in Green Lake County	2011	2012	2013	2014
Arboviral, West Nile Virus	1	-	-	-
Blastomycosis	-	-	-	1
Brucellosis	-	-	1	-
Campylobacteriosis	7	4	4	6
Chlamydia	33	38	41	42
Cryptosporidiosis	4	2	1	2
E-Coli (Shiga Toxin)	1	-	-	-
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis	1	2	1	1
Giardiasis	2	1	2	3
Gonorrhea	1	3	-	2
Hemorrhagic Fever, Ebola	-	-	-	1
Hib-Invasive	2	-	-	-
Hepatitis A	2	1	-	-
Hepatitis B	-	2	3	-
Hepatitis C	5	8	13	12
Influenza (hospitalized)	1	1	7	9
Legionellosis	1	-	-	1
Lyme Disease	16	18	39	28
Meningitis (bacterial)	1	-	-	-
Mycobacterium (non-tuberculosis)	3	3	2	-
Parapertussis	1	1	-	-
Pertussis (whooping cough)	2	21	10	2
Q Fever	-	-	-	1
Salmonellosis	1	3	7	4
Shigellosis	-	-	-	1
Invasive Strep Disease	4	1	1	2
Syphilis		2	-	-
Latent TB infection	4	2	-	3
Varicella	2	8	2	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>124</b>

### Public Health Preparedness

Our department works closely with Gary Podoll, Emergency Management Director, local law enforcement, fire departments, hospitals, nursing homes, Red Cross and more to assure that we are prepared for disasters. We completed an exercise to test our skills on responding to tornadoes across the county. We tested our surge capacity of our hospital and our fatality management capabilities were tested. Past exercises have not stretched the capacity of our county to deal with mass fatalities and the family assistance needs that accompany such an event. New players were included in the discussion of these needs and additional training needs were identified.

In past years we have tested out ability to deliver medications during an outbreak such as the HINI flu or in the event of a biological terrorist event such as smallpox release. In cases like this, we would access the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) to get medication and other needed supplies. We did need to access the SNS this winter due to the large number of flu cases and the lack of anti-virals available. We do surveillance of flu at our local long term care facilities and became aware of significant cases in residents and staff at 2 facilities and there was a shortage of Tamiflu. We contacted the SNS and received adequate doses to treat all affected staff at no cost to them. This treatment along with containment measures such as limiting visitors helped to stop the spread of the flu.



Pictured are Human Services Staff members who are being trained during a tornado functional exercise on how to set up a Family Assistance Center during a mass fatality incident. (March 2014)

## Immunizations for Children and Adults

Due to small numbers at our outlying immunization clinics, we determined in 2014 we will have all clinics in Green Lake, except for a clinic at Care 4U clinic in Dalton every other month to accommodate the large number of uninsured in that part of the county. This has proven to be an effective outreach strategy for immunizations. We continued to have flu clinics in all communities in the fall as usual and had a very good response to these clinics.

### Childhood Lead Testing

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

**The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention changed their definition of lead poisoning as a blood lead level of 5 or greater in May of 2012.** Children with a lead level of 5 or greater are provided with follow-up and consultation by a Public Health Nurse. Follow-up may include phone calls, home visits, consultation with the primary health care provider and a home lead risk assessment by the Health Department's Environmental Health Specialist. Of the 235 children tested, 16 had a level over 5, compared to 14 last year. Two children had levels over 20 and they are being case managed by Public Health and Environmental Health.

#### **2014 Blood Lead Testing**

Total Number of Tests: 235

Children <5 ug/dl = 230

Children >5 ug/dl = 16

Home assessments = 5

### Mother, Child and Family

**There were 195 births in Green Lake County in 2014, which is the same as 2013.** We had no births to girls under age 18, compared to 3 last year. We also had 11 babies that were considered "low birth weight" (weighing less than 5lbs, 8oz), compared to 1 last year. Over twenty-eight percent of women stated they had smoked during their pregnancy which is

up from 25% in 2013. Smoking during pregnancy is a leading cause of low birth weight babies and we had 19 or 9.9% of the babies born premature. This is an area that we continue to target by offering the First Breath program, a smoking cessation program for pregnant women at our WIC clinics. Nine infants were transferred to Neonatal Intensive Care Units. Our Family Resource Council continues to promote the **"Life Course Model"** as part of our Maternal Child Health grant. Through the Healthy Babies Coalition which is a partnership with Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara Counties, we sponsored a training to educated local providers and families on the Life Course Model and ACE's (Adverse childhood Experiences) with a special emphasis on opiate addiction in pregnant women and how it can effect a child's growth and development. Over 100 people attended the conference in April.

### Nutrition WIC

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

WIC helps income-eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, those who recently had a baby, and infants and children up to five years of age who are at health risk due to inadequate nutrition.

Green Lake County served over 500 clients in 2014. In addition breastfeeding education was available to all WIC clients. WIC provides a breastfeeding peer mentor which is an invaluable resource to new mothers. The State of WI contracts with Family Health La Clinica in Wautoma to provide WIC services to Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara counties. Each county then provides nurses and other staff for immunization services.

Jackie Westover and Judy Kasuboski attend all WIC clinics to provide immunizations, information and assist with signing families up for dental and immunization follow-up appointments.

### **Birth to 3**

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

In 2014, 45 new children were referred to the program compared to 48 in 2013. Referrals came from a number of sources including: physician, family member, social worker, WIC, UMOS, Public Health Nurses. Nineteen of those children received services through an Individualized Family Service Plan which brought the total number of children with plans in 2014 to 33 compared to 23 in 2013. In addition to a significant developmental delay in one or more areas of development, several children had specific diagnoses such as Down Syndrome, autism, DiGeorge Syndrome, Snip 1 Syndrome, hypotonia, lead poisoning, upper extremity malformation and delays related to injuries.

Renee Peters is the Program and Service Coordinator/Educator. Contracted services include: Jenny Hoffman, Occupational Therapist from Rehab Resources in Beaver Dam. Kristen Mertens provides Speech and Language therapy and comes from CHN in Berlin. Jody Streeter is a Physical Therapist from Rehab Arisces in Fond du Lac.

**Child Find** is an important component of Birth to 3, as we want to assure that all children that may be eligible for services are referred in a timely fashion. In 2014 our outreach consisted of:

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

**Brochures** – Brochures are available at our county WIC clinics as well as in the lobby of Health and Human Services and in the Public Health Unit. Brochures are also included in the New Parent Packet shared by our Public Health Nurses.

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

**Physician Mailings**--A physician mailing was sent to all area physicians including pediatricians, in Oshkosh and Fond du Lac as well as physicians who currently have children on our caseload. Included in this letter were updated brochures, the 2013 Referral Summary and referral forms.

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

### **Family Support Program**

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

In 2014, 12 children had a Family Support Plan written for a variety of goods and services. The Program was able to fund specialized equipment (adaptive stroller, car seat, sled and bicycle trailer), respite, disability related camps and conferences, transportation, nutritional supplements, individualized recreational opportunities, therapeutic materials and medical supplies not covered by insurance.

### **Tobacco Control and Prevention**

Green Lake County continues as a member of the "Five Counties for Tobacco Free Living," a coalition that includes the counties of Fond du Lac, Marquette, Waushara and Washington,

however, the tobacco compliance checks are now being done by Fond du Lac County and 4 retailers sold to minors in 2014.

### **Wisconsin Well Woman Program**

The Wisconsin Well Woman's Program provides mammograms, Pap tests, and other health screenings to help prevent Breast and Cervical Cancer. Women between the ages of 45-64 that are at or below 250% of the federal poverty limit and have no health insurance or are under insured are eligible to apply for the program. Jackie Westover, the WWWP Coordinator, helped 66 women get screening services in Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara Counties in 2014. This program was to end on June 30, 2014 as most women will be eligible for BadgerCare or insurance through the Affordable Care Act, but due to delays, it was extended and will actually end in June of 2015.

### **Healthy Teeth Healthy Lives Program**

The Dental clinic continued to grow strong through 2014. Clinics are held 2 times a month at our agency as well as summer outreach sites at the Boys & Girls Club and a UMOS Migrant Child Care Center in Berlin. Clients need to be on Medical Assistance or Badger Care or have no insurance– in which case a small grant received from Salvation Army is used to pay for the service. Carrie, the dental hygienist, provided 148 cleanings to children and 10 adults. If they need any additional work done, a referral is then made to Family Health La Clinica. We added Head Start as an outreach site in 2014 and Carrie was able to go to Prairie View Head Start to provide services for the children. Head Start staff was very happy with the convenience of having Carrie come to their site. We will continue to strategize on how to decrease “no shows” since this has been a problem. We have also outreached to local dentists to let them know of our service, since most do not take clients on Medical Assistance.

<b>Other Public Health Contacts for 2014</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Blood Pressure Checks	77
Breastfeeding Education	77
Cholesterol	33
Communicable Disease/TB Testing	468
Environmental Issues	12
General Health Promotion	146
Immunizations Given	1707
Immunization information	923
Infant & Child Health (WIC contacts)	2306
Lead Tests & Follow-up	279
Mental Health	27
Postpartum Visits/Contacts	209
Pregnancy Outreach	38
Prenatal Care Coordination	138
Reproductive Health/Pregnancy Tests	3
STD follow-up	70
Tobacco Education/First Breath	1
Wellness Checks	74
WI Well Women's Contacts	175
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6763</b>
<b>PRESENTATION ATTENDEES</b>	
Blood Borne Path Training	114
Child Development Days Berlin	25
Employee Wellness Fair	99
Healthy Babies Coalition Conference	100
Heroin Summit	1200
Lunch and Learns	79
Safety and Wellness to TRIAD	24
Preparedness to Our Day Group	35
Diabetes Fair	200
Provider/Partner Meeting	31
Puberty Class	12
Stress & Nutrition Presentations	82
Women's Health Events	190
Economic Development	10
County Board Health in All Policy	34
Department Head Health In All Policy	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>2261</b>

### **Coalition & Collaboration**

Partnerships are key in public health. We currently are involved in 11 different coalitions, some local, some regional and some statewide.

**Food Safety & Recreational**

**Licensing Program**

The Tri-County Health Consortium, consisting of Ashley Rondorf, Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) Green Lake, Jayme Shenk, Registered Sanitarian and Program Director, Marquette County and Mary Robl, EHS from Waushara County Health Department, are responsible for maintaining the Food Safety and Recreational Licensing Program. As agents of the state, this program licenses and inspects food facilities, swimming pools, hotel/motels, school food programs, campgrounds, kennels, recreational education camps, tattoo, body piercing, and bed and breakfast establishments. During 2014 there were approximately 800 inspections performed for these facilities of which 252 occurred in Green Lake County. Inspections are performed to ensure that facilities are in compliance with applicable regulations to promote health and safety for consumers.

Facility Type	Number of Inspections 2014	Total Number of Facilities
Restaurants and Retail Food	189	137
Campgrounds	13	13
Swimming Pools	22	22
Hotel/Motels	24	25
Summer Camps	3	3
Tattoo Shop	1	1

**Environmental Health**

Tri-County also deals with a wide variety of environmental issues that arise within the consortium. Investigations into nuisance complaints, housing issues, water quality issues and animal bites are some of the problems encountered. The Environmental Health division of the Health Department is responsible for enforcing the Health and Sanitation chapter of the Green Lake County ordinance to ensure that citizens are not exposed to hazardous conditions.

**Environmental Issues Addressed**

Animal Bites – 39
Free Water Test – 24
Housing Cases – 22
Nuisance/Other – 9

**Worksite Wellness/Employee Health Program**

The Health Unit runs the employee wellness program with funds provided by Group Health Trust. The initiatives are a method to help reduce healthcare costs by having healthier employees. This is accomplished in a variety of ways. In 2014 we had over 78 outreach activities including a health fair, individual health screenings, lunch and learns, Healthy Monday Tips, summer challenges, walking contests and more. Over \$5000 was given back to employees in the form of prizes, gift cards, gas cards and cash when they participated. We are very grateful to GHT for providing the funds to help keep our employees happier and healthier with the activities we share.



Tracy Soda explains healthy food choices to Sarah Guenther at the Employee Wellness Fair in May.

**The Green Lake County Wellness Coalition (GLCWC)**

took charge of completing the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) in 2013 and worked on implementing the plan in 2014. The coalitions three “Action Teams” were very busy looking at various ways to improve the health of Green Lake County. One of the 3 action teams, ***Mental Health/Substance Abuse*** decided their key issue was the increase in heroin and opiate abuse in the county. Members which include

Community Health Network, Agnesian, local schools, law enforcement and more, joined forces to sponsor a “Heroin Summit” which was held in October. A presentation was given to all 6-12<sup>th</sup> graders at Berlin High School and an evening session was held community members with over 500 people attending to hear the message. Many local organizations had tables set up in the commons to provide resources on counseling services, domestic abuse services and much more. The work will continue in 2015 as we continue to educate the community about this growing problem.

**The Rise Together team spoke to students and community members about how they beat their addiction to heroin.**



The second action team is the **Nutrition Team**. They looked at ways to make fresh produce more available to those using WIC & Senior Vouchers at local farm markets. Nutrition education classes for senior citizens and Boys & Girls club were provided as well as education to diabetics through the Diabetic Health Fair sponsored by CHN.



**Tracy Soda provides a nutrition class to seniors.**

The third action team is the **Physical Activity Team** and they worked hard on developing a presentation that can be taken to all municipalities to explain the benefits of having physical activity opportunities in their community. The presentation talked about “Health In All” and the use of green spaces, bike paths, sidewalks and dual use for schools. The team is planning to take the presentation to not only city councils, but also school boards in 2015. They also helped with the “Walk With Walker” event which is a program that WI first lady, Tonette Walker started to highlight local walking paths. She encouraged community members to enjoy the beauty of Wisconsin and use the local trails to improve health. The GLCWC promoted this event and over 60 people attended and hiked the Snake Creek Wetlands trail.



**WI first lady, Tonette Walker (center) joins Public Health Staff and over 60 community members to promote walking, the outdoors and the Snake Creek Wetlands trail in Green Lake.**

The Green Lake County Wellness Coalition meets monthly and is open to anyone interested in improving the health of Green Lake County. You can go to our website for information. It is: [www.glcwc.org](http://www.glcwc.org) .

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Munsey, RN, BSN, Green Lake County Health Unit Manager