

The Mission of the Dunn County Health Department is to promote the health of all people in the community by working toward a safe and healthy environment, preventing disease and disability and promoting positive health practices.



2011 Annual Report

“Government cannot achieve the goals of HW2020 alone. Nonetheless, government has the responsibility to establish leadership and facilitate the achievement of the public health mission and vision. It takes the work of many to improve the health of all.” Margaret Schmelzer Director of Public Health Nursing & Health Policy- WI Division of Public Health

Wisconsin’s Health Plan; “Healthiest Wisconsin 2020: Everyone Living Better Longer” describes the essential elements of working toward optimal public health as; effective **policies** and health **systems**, healthy, safe and resilient communities, families and individuals, reduced disease, injury and disability leading toward the goals of improved health across the lifespan and health equity.

There are many opportunities for the health department, the public and policymakers to work toward optimal public health.

Our local Community Health Improvement Plan identified the following priorities:

- Physical Activity & Nutrition- Including the “Built” Environment
- Mental Health
- AODA
- Environment-Natural Resources & Sustainability

Dunn County Demographics

(Note: All 2010 data in parens)

Population- 43,857(42,968)

Births 2011- 438 (450)

(27 births to mothers age 19 and younger)

Deaths 2011- 305 (284)

The leading causes of death were diseases of the heart, malignant neoplasms (cancer) and cerebrovascular diseases (stroke.)

Individuals living below poverty- meaning not enough income to meet basic needs, food, housing, clothes and transportation.

(Federal poverty level for family of 4 is income @ \$10.75/hr or \$22,350/yr.)

Dunn 15.3% (15.2%)

State of WI 11.6% (10.5%)

Median household income:

Dunn \$48376. (\$47808.)

WI \$51,598. (\$49993.)

(County Health Rankings 2011 & US Census Bureau 2010/11, DHS health stats 2010)

Per capita funding DCHD

\$13.12 (\$12.19) local taxes

\$27.93 (\$30.08) total funding

The health department is funded by:

Local tax levy- \$575,489.

Grants including state aid- \$325,821.

Program generated revenue - \$323,828.

Public Health Staff Nurses

Debra Benoit, ADN, RN

Sheila Haugle, BSN, RN

Carolyn Kuether, BSN, NP

Elizabeth Mitchell, BSN, RN

Dianne Robertson, MSN, NP

Jo Ann Rucker BSN, RN

Linda Schindler, BSN, RN

Julie Wiensch, MSN, NP

Public Health Nutrition Staff

Ellen Blumer, RD

Holly Cseter, Dietetic Tech/Support staff

Zoua Yang, Public Health Tech/Support staff

Environmental Health

Keith Bergeson, BS, EHS, RS

Thomas Aarrestad, BA, MA, EH Tech

Support Staff

Joyce Hill, Environmental Health Sec II

Sifia Jevne, Fiscal Clerk I

Barbara Niemi-Arntzen Front Desk, Sec II

Joan O’Connell, Fiscal Clerk III

Jane Redig-Contracted Spanish Interpreter

Board of Health and Human Services

The Board of Health is defined in the Public Health Statute 251.03. The local board of health is required to assure that measures are taken to provide an environment in which individuals can be healthy. It consists of elected and appointed members. Appointed members are persons who demonstrate an interest in public health.

Elected Board Members:

Tom Quinn, Chair

Gary Seipel, Vice

Charlie Owen

Mary Solberg

Sheila Stori

Appointed Board Members:

Joyce Hopkins

Ed LaVenture

Sara Carstens

BOH Medical Advisors-Dr. Carrie Nelson ,
Dr. Brandon Parkhurst

HealthiestWI 2020-Health Focus Area

Infrastructure: Access to quality Health Services

Program Areas:

1. Public Health Multipurpose Clinics-walk-in and scheduled appointments for health screenings, health education and referrals.
2. Other referrals requiring follow-up-No data this year. (2215)
3. WWP-Wisconsin Well Women Program for uninsured or underinsured women ages 50-64 years, enrollment visits with a PHN result in access to pap tests and mammograms.

Number of women enrolled-**112**(108)

Number of women screened-112(82)

4. Prenatal Care Coordination Program- Women enrolled in Medical Assistance and assessed by the PHN are eligible for this program. The main goal is to improve birth outcomes. The PHNs are the link to early identification of pregnancy, individual support services, receiving early and continuous prenatal care, health and nutrition ed., referrals to community services and accessing and obtaining health and community services.

Number of PNCC clients-171-(165)
736(687visits)

5. Oral health care-In 2011 the health department provided education, screening and toothbrushes with visits for immunizations, the infant program holiday party and referrals for dental care to area dentists and RHDC.

Fluoride supplements: 301 (373)children.

Fluoride rinse program: 730 (733) **public school children.**

Partners in oral health programs-Rural Health Dental Clinic, Head Start, CVTC, area dental and medical providers, area schools.

Adequate, Appropriate & Safe Food & Nutrition

6. The **WIC program** (Women, Infants and Childhood Nutrition) provides nutrition education and breastfeeding support (**initiation rate 76.3%**) for Dunn County families as well as supplemental food vouchers to families at or below 185% poverty level.

Number of individuals served/mo -**844** (868)

Food dollars redeemed- \$531,744. (\$534,559)

Farmer's Market \$ redeemed **\$3968.** (\$3503.)

7. The Environmental Health Specialist and EH Tech Inspect and License Food Establishments and also worked more intensely with the Farmer's Market this year. We also inspect the vendors at the county fair and other events.

Retail Food Establishments **54**(54)

Full Service Restaurants **115**(109)

Limited Service Restaurants**11** (12)

Temporary Food Stands**43** (30)

Schools **17** (17)

Unhealthy Alcohol and Drug Use

1. Screening for AODA is completed with clients accessing services at the Health Department. Referrals to local services and agencies are made at the time of the visit.
2. The health department participates as a member of the Dunn County Partnership for Youth and Partners for Resilience-both coalitions address prevention efforts and healthy families.

Environmental and Occupational Health

Program areas:

1. Inspections for licensing of:

Campgrounds- **6** (6)

B&B- **2**(2)

Tattoo- **1**(1)

Camps- **2**(2)

Hotels and Motels- **7**(7)

Food & Bev **204**

Retail **68**

2. Rabies Control Program-Animal bite follow up and education. Rabies is a fatal disease.

Dog bites- **31**(28)

Cat bites- **11**(13)

Other- **8** (17)

3. Radon Information Center-Dunn County coordinates the program testing information and supplies for Dunn, St. Croix, Pierce, Barron and Sawyer Counties. Any elevated test results require follow-up by the Environmental Health Specialist in the county of the test.

Tests completed by homeowners-**290** (158)

Elevated tests-**127** (84)

Dunn County radon tests-**51** (36)

Dunn County tests: elevated-**20** (18)

3. Well Water and Surface Water Protection- We continue to partner with citizen groups, DNR and the zoning office to protect the groundwater and surface water. The health department offers information about private well water testing as well as test kits. Our website includes data about test results in Dunn County.

We have many public health partners in Environmental Health, including the

DNR and local environmental protection groups. We are dedicated to protecting our valuable natural resources within our scope of authority and as it directly relates to protecting the health of the public.

Private well tests **57** (64)

1. Lead Poisoning Prevention and Investigation- Families receive lead poisoning prevention screening, tests, and if any levels are elevated, a visit by the EHS and PHN to determine risks and remediation.

2. DNR contract for well sampling:

75 samples/16 well inspections- Dunn County facilities (non-transient community wells; i.e. churches, rural restaurants that serve to the public)

20 samples/4 well inspections-Pepin County facilities

3. Well Delegation 2011 Permits-**58**

Revenue: \$4350. (June-Dec.)

Number of children tested for lead:

Total-**376** (482) Dunn Co HD **131** (160)

Number of Lead Investigations **1** (2)

3. The Environmental Health Specialist provides community education for future food service managers, home builders, realtors and other individuals/groups.

4. Complaints by citizens re: well water, housing, mold, licensed facilities, hazardous waste-**67**(95)complaints were followed up and resolved by the EHS.

Reproductive and Sexual Health

Reproductive Health program-Two NPs and one part time support staff person provide services for Dunn County women of childbearing age, men seeking prevention/treatment services and help with medical assistance enrollment.

Women receiving Early Identification of Pregnancy program services (pregnancy testing) **254** (147)

Number of RH clients- Total-958(1141) unduplicated clients and a total of: **3014**(3588) visits.

1. Campus Violence Prevention project-funding restored in 2009. DCHD staff serves in an advisory committee role.
2. Sexual Assault Nurse Exams-8 (3 Dunn Co. Staff-5 RCMC staff) (8) Other SANE nurses have been trained by our staff to increase resources in Dunn County and surrounding counties, this was our last year providing staff for on call duty with the SANE program.
3. Community education-the nurses work with schools, agencies and parents, teaching about sexuality issues and resources.

- HIV/STD testing, education, treatment and contact investigation and treatment.

Our health department serves as a regional resource for Partner Counseling and Referral. HIV+ clients are contacted, their partners are contacted and tested. Education, resources and prevention information is provided to the clients. 5 HIV+ clients received this follow up in 2011. Partners collaborating in these programs include; The Bridge, Law Enforcement (City and County), UW-Stout, Marshfield Clinic & Red Cedar Medical Center, WI ARC and WI Department of Public Health.

Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention

Program areas:

- Car Seat Safety program-we provide car seat safety checks for families and have grant funding to provide education and car seats on a sliding fee schedule for donations. The new law has increased parent interest. Partners in this program effort include DOT, Law Enforcement (City and County), Red Cedar Medical Center and Head Start.

Number of seats provided –122 (220)

- Safe Kids Day –Health Department staff provide car seat safety checks and bike helmets.
- We collaborate with Dunn Co. Solid Waste, Lion’s club, Community Health Foundation and RCMC for safe medication and sharps disposal.
- WIC and public health/RH nutrition/diabetes prevention referrals, education and counseling. The prevalence of diabetes risk factors in Dunn County is 8.9% (6.5%) for all ages of adults.
- Our public health clinic is available for blood pressure screening and referral for citizens.

Mental Health

Program areas:

- Postpartum depression screening- all mothers, with children under the age of 1, presenting to the health department for services (immunization, family planning, etc.) are asked to complete a short screening tool. The PHN reviews the tool with them, and referral resources are provided. Postpartum visits include this risk assessment and referral program also.
- Perinatal depression screening-this is included in the PNCC and WIC programs.
- The Health Department has updated a brochure with mental health resources for Dunn County citizens. The resources are also posted on our website.

We work with DCHS, UW-Stout, RCMC, Marshfield Clinic, the HealthWatch mental

health coalition, schools and other partners to provide referrals for mental health services.

Tobacco Use and Exposure

Program areas-

- PHNs are trained in 5A’s assessment and motivational counseling. Eligible clients are screened using the 5 A’s assessment. The PHNs also present tobacco prevention programming at area schools.

Partners in programming; Wisconsin DPH, American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, School Districts, Red Cedar Medical Center, Marshfield Clinic, Arbor Place, Sheriff’s Dept.

Communicable Disease Prevention and Control

Program areas:

- WI Statute HFS 145 requires all reportable communicable diseases to be directed to the local public health agency for investigation, control and prevention of any spread among the population. The WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System-**WEDSS** is one resource although we rely on timely communication from providers.
- TB skin testing was provided for **718** persons. Confirmatory serum testing for TB infection (LTBI).In 2011 we provided blood testing for **12** (5) individuals. We coordinated LTBI (preventive) treatment for **19** (24) people.
- Vaccines for Children-In **2011-62%** (2010-69%) of Dunn County children under the age of 2 years were up to date with immunizations. This is an issue we are working on with area providers as we all recognize the influence of unscientific information regarding vaccinations. Many educated parents have not had lifetime experience with these preventable diseases. **In 2011 the WI Immunization program provided Dunn County Health Dept. 3,200 doses of vaccine with a value of \$138,375.90.**
- Influenza Vaccine-The availability of seasonal vaccine was good. We continue to encourage the population to be immunized against Vaccine Preventable Diseases. DCHD gave a total of **759** (776) adult flu shots and **323**(341) children’s flu shots in 2011.
- The Jail Health Program is a cooperative effort by the Health Department and the Sheriff’s Department. Inmates are a population identified by Public Health at high risk for communicable disease. Jail health visits include: set up of medications, treatments, TB and/or STD screening, and managing medical care.
- Health Screening at the House of Hope-Homeless individuals often need assistance accessing health care, and are identified as a population at risk for TB.

We work with the House of Hope to provide general health screening and referral services with newly arrived families and individuals. In 2011 we received **53** (48) referrals. Some follow up was by phone or in the office.

- We continue our partnership with the Aids Resource Center of WI to provide free condoms in Dunn County locations. **We have provided over 4000 free condoms through this partnership.**

The following table shows the number of cases of communicable diseases that have been reported to the health department over a three-year period. We receive reports from the WI State Lab of Hygiene, Marshfield Clinic, RCMC, UW-Stout, area hospitals, schools and citizens. We investigate all cases of reportable communicable disease.

Infection	2009	2010	2011
Blastomycosis	0	0	1
Campylobacter	14	10	10
Chlamydia	144	119	125
Cryptosporidium	8	5	5
E Coli (O157:h7)	1	0	0
STEC	1	0	2
Ehrlichiosis	1	11	21
Giardiasis	5	1	4
Gonorrhea	9	3	3
Hepatitis A	0	0	0
Hepatitis B	1	7	3
Hepatitis C	4	8	14
Histoplasmosis	0	0	1
HIV	4	2	1
Legionnaires’ disease	0	0	0
Lyme disease	93	139	109+
Meningitis-bacterial	0	0	0
Meningitis-viral	0	0	0
Pertussis	2	6	6
Salmonella	2	5	3
Shigellosis	0	0	0
Syphilis	0	1	0
Tuberculosis	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	1
Toxoplasmosis	0	0	2

Students

Dunn County Health Department continues to serve as a clinical site for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire School of Nursing. We provide a clinical practice area for senior nursing students in the baccalaureate program, and for students enrolled in the graduate nursing program. The WIC program provides field experiences for Nutrition students and serves as a preceptor site for the Dietetic Intern program at UW-Stout. The RH program staff provides SANE training for nurses. We also were able to provide one internship this summer for a PA student interested in communicable disease.

Looking toward the Future:



2012 SWOT Analysis

Strengths:

1. Community Coalitions
2. Health care providers that work as partners in prevention
3. Wisconsin Department of Health expert consultants
4. Supportive Board of Health and County Administration
5. Dedicated and flexible public health staff

Weaknesses:

1. Increased needs for linking to resources
2. Reduced resources available to community coalitions
3. Expectations of systems level work by state programs and need for family unit level work by population
4. Limited professional workforce available for part time work
5. Back up for staff absences

Opportunities:

1. Low immunization rates of children under age 2
2. High rate of teen pregnancy
3. High rate of chlamydia
4. Affordable Care Act should help families access care that were previously served through our health check program. We no longer have staff time dedicated to; SANE exams (we still do training), Child Alert Network nor Health Check exams.

Threats:

1. Diminished sense of community responsibility-risk of outbreak
2. Climate change-increased risk of disease related to floods, increased vector-borne illnesses and risks to adequate food supply
3. Decreased funding of public agencies; including health and education. (The health of a population is positively affected by improved education and public availability of resources; health care, healthful food, venues for activity that build community.)
4. Increased risk of chronic disease; asthma, diabetes, cardiovascular disease.
5. Injury and death related to alcohol use.

2011 Note from the Director

This has been a year of significant change for the health department. Many of our state contracts changed; the processes, the funds, the goals. Our leadership changed at the Division level and the structural changes at the state and regional levels have been constantly in flux. I commend all the staff for their responsiveness during the time of change and their willingness to continue to serve the citizens of Dunn County.

*There are several changes to note that are improvements to our health. Dunn County policy makers deserve credit for their vision in making these happen locally. **The Board of Health and Human Services Mission Statement: "We are the leadership that advocates for the health, safety and welfare of Dunn County"** is*

evident in the following policy decisions and improvements.

The rate of adults smoking in Dunn County has decreased from 23% to 16.7%.

There have been multiple "Safe Routes to Schools" established in Dunn County.

The Farmer's Market and Community Gardens have expanded. We have implemented the Private Water Systems Ordinance to increase protection of drinking water/groundwater.

Our grant requests have been successful in supporting not only health department technology needs but also community coalition resources; safe sharps disposal, safe medication disposal and suicide prevention training.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has recommended that "We need to stop thinking of health as something we get at the doctors' offices but instead as something that starts in our families, in our schools and workplaces, in our playgrounds and parks, and in the air we breathe and the water we drink. The more we see the problem of health this way, the more opportunities we have to improve it... It's time we expand the way we think about health to include how to keep it, not just how to get it back."

I'm very thankful to work in Dunn County with citizens, partnerships and policy makers that recognize opportunities to support the work of public health.

*Wendy MacDougall,
Director/Health Officer*