

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.



2012 Annual Report

“The legislature finds that the provision of public health services in this state is a matter of statewide concern. In counties with a population of less than 500,000, the county health department shall serve all areas of the county...and provide at least...public health nursing services, surveillance, investigation, control and prevention of communicable disease, other disease prevention, health promotion and human health hazard control... and develop public health policies and procedures for the community.”

Chapter 251 of the Wisconsin Statutes

The Dunn County report of the Committee on Charities, November 12, 1935, organized a County Health Department. The first meeting was held December 6, 1935 and officers were organized, the second meeting was December 24, 1935 and applications were reviewed for the position of County Nurse. The primary work of the nurse included; an infant and maternal health program, prevention and control of communicable diseases, building up the health of school children, tuberculosis control and crippled children’s follow up program.

In 78 years, the primary work continues, benefited by advances in science and knowledge about disease process, antibiotics and anti-viral medications now available for treatment and new challenges in the areas of chronic disease and environmental health. The Health Department’s programs and services utilize evidence-based practices to improve public health. Different than providing individual services, we are in the business of community based prevention. Government policies combined with individual responsibility, afford opportunities to

improve the health for all people that live, work, learn and play in Dunn County.

The return on investment in public health is impressive. A \$52. investment in a child safety seat prevents \$2,200. in medical costs, resulting in a return of \$42. for every \$1. invested. A \$12. investment in a child’s bike helmet can prevent \$580. in medical costs, resulting in a return of \$48. for every \$1. invested. Routine childhood immunizations save 33,000 lives, \$9.9 million in direct health care costs and prevent 14 million cases of disease. The cost of providing dental care for children enrolled in Medicaid and living in communities without fluoridation is twice as high as for children who have fluoridated drinking water. All of these investment strategies benefit Dunn County.

HEALTHIEST WISCONSIN

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.

Our local Community Health Improvement Plan identified the following priorities:

- Physical Activity & Nutrition- Including the “Built” Environment
- Mental Health
- Alcohol & other Drug Abuse
- Environment-Natural Resources & Sustainability

This report is compiled and submitted to the State of Wisconsin Department of Health to satisfy the statutory requirement:

DHS 140.06 (2)(c) “a narrative which describes the progress and performance toward achieving the objectives identified as part of the community health assessment.”

2012 Annual Report Summary:

The health department provided leadership and resources resulting in a collaborative departmental report regarding proposed sand mines in Dunn County. We continue work with area veterinarians on animal bite follow up, which is more time consuming and less efficient with new hospital reporting rules and the elimination of a local animal control officer. We also work with area health care providers to assure expedited partner treatment for sexually transmitted infections. This is one way to reduce disease. Pertussis follow-up, prevention and containment was a significant issue with the statewide outbreak & county cases considered an outbreak also. Our internal staffing has improved with the jail health transitioning to Sheriff’s department staff instead of health department staff. We have spent a considerable amount of time with future space planning needs. We continue to assist the public in accessing health benefits through the new ACCESS web-based system for Medical Assistance programs. Public Health continues to have resource challenges as the sequestered funds at the federal level will affect public health allocations. The staff continues to fulfill the statutory requirements of a local public health department and link the citizens of Dunn County to existing services as well as serve on a variety of coalitions that have the potential to improve the health of the community.

Coalition Work in the Community:

- Partnership for Youth
- Partners for Resilience
- Mental Health Coalition
- Bicycle-Ped Advisory Committee

Emergency Food & Shelter Coalition
Community Violence Prevention Coalition

LEPC
Safe Kids/Chippewa Valley

Dunn County Demographics

(Note: All 2011 data in parens)

Population-43,971 (43,857)

Births 2012- 429 (438)

28 births to mothers age=<19

Deaths 2012- 302 (305)

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 @ \$23,050. /yr)

Dunn -15% (15.3%)

State of WI -13% (11.6%)

Median household income:

Dunn \$45, 878.(48,376.)

WI \$50,401. (51,598.)

Dunn County children- 19%

(County Health Rankings 2013 & US Census Bureau 2010/11, DHS health stats 2010/2010 Kids Count Data, Trust for America’s Health, Feb 2009, CDC.)

Per capita funding DCHD

\$12.42 (\$13.12) local taxes

\$29.26 (\$27.93) total funding

The Health Department is funded by:

Local tax levy- \$546,276.

Grants including state aids- \$320,330.

Program generated revenue - \$420,117.

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

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 II

Barbara Niemi-Arntzen Front Desk, Sec II

LeeAnn Wold-Fiscal Clerk I

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

Sarah Kennedy

Mary Solberg

Gary Stene

Appointed Board Members:

Sara Carstens, RN

Colleen Pember

Ed LaVenture

BOH Medical Advisors-Dr. Carrie Nelson ,

Dr. Jennifer Strong

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-**195.**
3. WWWP-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 screened-90** (112)
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.

5. **Number of PNCC clients-** 171(171) 720visits (736)
6. Oral health care-In 2012 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: 272 (301) children.
Fluoride rinse program: 707 (730) **public school children.**

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

Adequate, Appropriate & Safe Food & Nutrition

7. The **WIC program** (Women, Infants and Childhood Nutrition) provides nutrition education and breastfeeding support (**initiation rate 74.8%**) for Dunn County families as well as supplemental food vouchers to families at or below 185% poverty level.

Number of individuals served/mo -**829** (844)
Food dollars redeemed- **\$527,977** (\$531,744.)
Farmer's Market \$ redeemed **\$3589.** (\$3968.)

8. The Environmental Health Specialist and EH Tech Inspect and License Food Establishments and the Farmer's Market. We also inspect the vendors at the county fair and other events.

Retail Food Establishments **56** (54)
Full Service Restaurants **121** (115)
Limited Service Restaurants **8** (11)
Temporary Food Stands **43** (43)
Schools **16** (17)

Unhealthy Alcohol and Drug Use

1. AODA screening is one part of the assessment available to 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.
3. Immunizations for Hepatitis, screening for TB and HIV are also available to high risk adults.

Environmental and Occupational Health

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 **159** (204)
Retail **56** (68)
2. Rabies Control Program-Animal bite follow up and education. Rabies is a fatal disease.
Dog bites- **34** (31)
Cat bites- **14** (11)
Other- **12** (8)

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-**338**(290)
Elevated tests- **193** (127)

Dunn County radon tests- **94** (51)

Dunn County tests: elevated-**55** (20)

4. 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 **52** (57)

1. 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 2012 Permits-**91**(58)
Revenue: **\$6450.** (\$4350. June-Dec.)

4. 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.

Number of children tested for lead:
Total-**417** (376) Dunn Co HD **159** (131)
Number of Lead Investigations **1** (1)

5. The Environmental Health Specialist provides community education for future food service managers, home

builders, realtors and other individuals/groups.

6. Complaints by citizens re: well water, housing, mold, licensed facilities, hazardous waste-**86** (67) complaints were followed up and resolved by the EHS.
7. We contract with LaCrosse County to provide habitat surveillance for mosquito-borne disease and work on education about removal of standing water vessels (discarded tires.)

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-DCHD staff serves in an advisory committee role.
2. Sexual Assault Nurse Exams-4. Mayo-Menomonie is providing the staffing for this program.
3. Community education-the nurses work with schools, agencies and parents, teaching about sexuality issues and resources.
4. 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 2012. 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:

1. 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.

Number of seats provided -**122** (220)

2. Safe Kids Day -Health Department staff provide car seat safety checks and bike helmets.
3. We collaborate with Dunn Co. Solid Waste, Lion's club, Community Health

Foundation and RCMC for safe medication and sharps disposal.

4. 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.
5. Our public health clinic is available for blood pressure screening and referral.
6. We include Back to Sleep & Cover, Don't Smother information in our parent teaching for SIDS risk reduction.

Mental Health

Program areas:

1. 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.
2. Perinatal depression screening-this is included in the PNCC and WIC programs.
3. 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-

1. PHNs are trained in 5A's assessment and motivational counseling. Eligible clients are screened using the 5 A's assessment.

Partners in programming; Wisconsin DPH, American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, School Districts, Mayo-Menomonie, Marshfield Clinic, Arbor Place.

Communicable Disease Prevention and Control

Program areas:

1. 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 connects with CDC reporting and we also rely on timely communication from providers.
2. TB skin testing was provided for **718** persons. Confirmatory serum testing for TB infection (LTBI).In 2012we provided blood testing for **8(12)**

individuals. We coordinated LTBI (preventive) treatment for **17(19)** people.

3. Vaccines for Children-In **2012-69 % (62%)** of Dunn County children under the age of 2 years were up to date with immunizations. Many parents have not had lifetime experience with these preventable diseases. We work with schools & the medical community to encourage vaccinations. **In2012the WI Immunization program provided Dunn County Health Dept. 2,632 doses of vaccine with a value of \$98,996.47.**
5. 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 **646 (759)** adult flu shots and **499 (323)** children's flu shots in 2012.
6. 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 coordinate with the House of Hope S.W. to provide general health screening and referral services with homeless families and individuals. In 2012 we received **52 (53)** referrals.
7. We continue our partnership with the Aids Resource Center of WI to provide free condoms in Dunn County locations. We have provided over 7000 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, Mayo Health Systems, UW-Stout, area hospitals, schools and citizens. We investigate all cases of reportable communicable disease.

Infection	2010	2011	2012
Babesiosis			8
Blastomycosis	0	1	0
Campylobacter	10	10	13
Chlamydia	119	125	113
Cryptosporidium	5	5	7
E Coli (0157:h7)	0	0	0
STEC	0	2	3
Ehrlichiosis	11	21	31
Giardiasis	1	4	3
Gonorrhea	3	3	2
Hepatitis A	0	0	0
Hepatitis B	7	3	4
Hepatitis C	8	14	16
Histoplasmosis	0	1	1
HIV	2	1	1

Influenza Novel A			2
Lyme disease	139	109+	150
Meningitis-bacterial	0	0	0
Meningitis-viral	0	0	0
Pertussis	6	6	212
Q Fever			1
Salmonella	5	3	7
Shigellosis	1	0	2
Tuberculosis	0	0	0
Malaria	0	1	1
Toxoplasmosis	0	2	0
Varicella (Zoster)			7

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.

Looking toward the Future:



2012 Note from the Director
The Health Department staff continues to use the Quality Improvement process to evaluate our programs and services. We are in process of strategic planning with consideration of the Affordable Care Act implementation.

We will continue our coalition work, recognizing the effort required by all of the community to improve health.

Issues for the future include;

- *Impacts of climate change and public health; i.e. extreme heat & cold, vector borne disease, flooding,*
- *Mental health issues & resources for families*
- *child safety and*
- *improving physical activity for children and adults.*

Wendy MacDougall, RN, MSN, APNP, Director/Health Officer