



2016 Health Unit Annual Report

Mission:

The mission of the Green Lake County Health Department is to promote and protect health and prevent disease.

Vision:

We will become the leader in Public Health in Green Lake County promoting healthy people, thriving communities, and safe environments.

Core Values:

- *Prevention*
- *Professionalism*
- *Evidence-based Practices*
- *Collaboration*
- *Good Stewardship of All Resources*
- *Responsive*
- *Performance Improvement*
- *Health Equity*



Health Unit Staff: From left, Tracy Soda, PHN, Melanie Simpkins, RN, MPH, Health Educator and Accreditation Coordinator, Shari Krause, Public Health Program Specialist, Jeri Loewe, PHN, Kari Schneider, PHN, Kathy Munsey, RN, Health Officer, Renee Peters, Birth-3/Children's Community Options Program, Ashley Rondorf, Environmental Health Specialist



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Executive Summary

In 2016, one of our biggest accomplishments was to complete a Community Health Assessment (CHA) with five other counties, including Adams, Marquette, Juneau, Waupaca and Waushara. These six counties have been partnering as the Central Wisconsin Healthcare Partnership (CWHP) since 2011 and decided to complete the CHA as a group since we share so many similarities. All six counties chose priority areas of mental health and substance abuse. Green Lake County also chose a third priority –chronic disease. Data was collected, focus groups and key informant interviews were conducted, and the community felt these three areas need work. The Green Lake County Wellness Coalition changed from three Action Teams to two. They now are Mental Health/Substance Abuse Action Team and the Chronic Disease Action Team. These teams looked at gaps in current services and will be looking at evidence-based programs to address these priority areas in the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which will be completed in 2017. We were very excited to collaborate with Theda Care to create a Community Health Action Team who will be looking specifically at “Kids in Crisis” in the upcoming year. This group will be involving several community members to try to affect the issues our children face such as abuse, drug issues in their homes, incarcerated parents, bullying, divorce and more. Please take time to read the entire Community Health Assessment, which can be viewed by visiting www.co.green-lake.wi.us and clicking on the Health Unit link under departments.

In 2016, we also experienced reorganization of our staff due to the resignation of Jeri Loewe, Public Health Nurse (PHN) in July. Due to a shortage of Public Health Nurses, we hired Julia McCarroll who has her Master’s Degree as a Community Health Educator. This has been an excellent fit since we provide so much community education. In addition to Julia, staff members include Kathy Munsey, Health Officer, PHN’s Tracy Soda and Kari Schneider, Renee Peters who coordinates the Birth to 3 and Children’s Community Options program, Melanie Simpkins, Health Educator, Ashley Rondorf, Environmental Health Specialist and Shari Krause, Public Health Program Specialist. The Health Advisory Board members include chairperson, Jeanne Lyke M.D., Katherine Vergos, Tammy Bending, Jean Kessler, Pat Brandstetter, Harley Reabe, Nancy Hoffman and Kathy Munsey. The board was instrumental in passing a countywide policy to add E-cigarettes to the countywide smoking ban. They also passed a new communications policy, a resolution for the state to provide local funding for communicable disease and passed an amendment to update the Food Safety Regulation and licensing resolution.

Our unit continues to work towards accreditation, which is a goal for all health departments by 2020. This process makes us much more accountable for performance excellence since we have programmatic goals and policies to guide us. Staff have been trained in quality improvement and they implement program changes if deficiencies are noted. This process also mirrors the 140 Review, which is the state accreditation process that we are evaluated with every 5 years.

Our 2016 Programs and Services

Disease Control and Prevention

Public Health is 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 2016, along with previous year comparables.

Frequency of Reported Diseases in Green Lake County	2013	2014	2015	2016
Arbovirus (West Nile Virus)				1
Blastomycosis	-	1	-	-
Brucellosis	1	-	-	-
Campylobacteriosis	4	6	2	13
Chlamydia	41	42	47	43
Cryptosporidiosis	1	2	2	7
E-Coli	-	-	3	2
Ehrlichiosis	1	1	5	3
Giardiasis	2	3	-	5
Gonorrhea	-	2	2	1
Ebola Monitored Traveler	-	1	1	-
Histoplasmosis	-	-	-	1
Hepatitis B	3	-	1	2
Hepatitis C	13	12	16	15
Influenza (hospitalized)	7	9	6	2
Legionellosis	-	1	-	-
Lyme Disease	39	28	20	14
Measles (Rubeola)	-	-	1	-
Mycobacterium (non-tuberculosis)	2	-	5	1
Pertussis (whooping cough)	10	2	-	2
Q Fever	-	1	-	-
Salmonellosis	7	4	5	5
Shigellosis	-	1	-	-
Invasive Strep Disease	1	2	4	8
Syphilis	-	-	1	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	1
Latent TB infection	-	3	1	2
Varicella	2	3	2	1
Vibriosis (Non Cholera)	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	134	124	124	130

Tracy Soda, PHN, training County Staff on Blood Borne Pathogens.



Public Health Preparedness

We are an active member in the Region 6 Healthcare

Coalition and attend monthly meetings in addition to being active partners in the Local Emergency Planning

Committee. We participated in several exercises working closely with Gary Podoll, Emergency Management

Director, local law enforcement, our coroner, fire departments,

hospitals, nursing homes, Red Cross and surrounding counties to test our ability to handle a variety of public health issues including: Ebola, flooding, tornadoes and much more. We also work with the Northeast WI Public Health Preparedness Partnership and because of that, we were able to write for scholarships to attend the national Preparedness Summit in Dallas. At the summit, we were able to get training on everything from active shooter to Zika Virus, responding to surges of pediatric patients, disaster mental health and building resilient communities. We also were able to be a part of opening our Emergency Operations Center to assist WI Task Force I Search and Rescue Team as they trained in our county in September with 80 members of their team for 3 days after a simulated tornado with several victims hit the Green Lake area.

Kathy Munsey, Tracy Soda, and Mark & Gary Podoll at 2016 Governor's Conference on Preparedness.



PHN donning and doffing PPE during an exercise.



Immunizations for Children and Adults

We continue to have monthly immunization clinics in Green Lake. However, we have decided that due to extremely low turnout at Care 4U clinic in Dalton, we will be eliminating that clinic in 2017. Tracy Soda is part of a workgroup with several counties and the State Immunization Program to develop a statewide, standardized tracking form for immunizations for the Amish children in schools. We currently have eight Amish schools, which due to the lack of immunization compliance would be a concern in the event we have a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak.

The Affordable Care Act requires anyone with insurance to see their primary care physician for immunizations, which does create a hardship in rural counties due to lack of access. We have seen our compliance numbers go from close to 90% to less than 70% for our two-year-old cohort. According to the new rules, we can only immunize those who are uninsured or have Medical Assistance. We continued to have flu clinics in all communities in the fall as usual. Overall, 1046 vaccines were given in 2016, including flu shots, compared to 1447 vaccines administered in 2015.

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.

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. In 2016, 181 blood lead tests were completed, 13 had a level over 5, compared to 16 in 2015. Kari Schneider, Public Health Nurse and Ashley Rondorf, Environmental Health Specialist have done the follow-up with families in their homes if a child tests high with risk factors.

2016 Blood Lead Testing

Total Number of Tests: 181
Children <5 ug/dl = 151
Children >5 ug/dl = 13
Children >10 ug/dl = 1
Home assessments = 3

Mother, Child and Family

There were 213 births in Green Lake County in 2016 up from 180 births in 2015. We had 1 birth to a girl under age 18, compared to 1 last year. We also had 13 babies that were considered “low birth weight” (weighing less than 5lbs, 8oz), compared to 11 last year. In 2016, the percentage of women who smoked during pregnancy was 24% which is up from 2015 when it had been 18.8% (28% in 2014, 25% in 2013). Eight of the 52 women who reported smoking during their pregnancy had low birth weight babies. Nine infants were transferred to Neonatal Intensive Care Units. 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.

We continue to utilize the “**Life Course Model**” as promoted by the Family Resource Council through our Maternal Child Health grant. Through the Healthy Babies Coalition which is a partnership with Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara Counties, we sponsored training to educate local providers and families on the Life Course Model and ACE’s (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Over 100 people attended the conference in April. As part of our MCH grant, we also worked with two day cares to make them “Breastfeeding Friendly”. This designation can be given once they completed training for all staff as well as designating a breastfeeding room for moms. Berlin Community Day Care and Community Options Day Care in Green Lake worked with our staff to receive the designation. Breastfeeding is proven to improve the mental health of infants and that is why we have prioritized it as part of our overall Maternal Child Health goals.





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 250 clients in 2016. 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. Last summer, they started using electronic benefit cards instead of the paper vouchers. This has added an extra educational component to the program, but increased convenience for the client.

Kari Schneider and Shari Krause attend all WIC clinics to provide immunizations, information, assist with signing families up for dental and immunization follow-up appointments as well as try and decrease smoking rates of moms by enrolling them in the First Breath Program, which all staff have been trained on.

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 2016, 51 new children were referred to the program compared to 40 in 2015. Referrals came

from a number of sources including: physician, family member, social worker, and school district. Sixteen of those children received services through an Individualized Family Service Plan. Twenty-two children were found to be developing within age appropriate levels through a screening or did not meet eligibility through an evaluation. Twelve families did not follow through with a screen or evaluation/were not interested. One child moved to another county shortly after referral. These children along with those who had previously been in the program brought the total number of children served to 34 in 2016. In addition to those with significant developmental delays, there were several children with specific diagnoses including: DiGeorge Syndrome, Down Syndrome, William's Syndrome, significant prematurity, Maroteaux-Lamy Syndrome, cerebral palsy, and delays related to non-accidental injury.

Renee Peters is the Program and Service Coordinator/Educator. Contracted service providers included Jenny Hoffman and Sara McNamara, Occupational Therapists from Rehab Resources in Beaver Dam. Kristen Mertens provides Speech and Language therapy and comes from Theda Care in Berlin. Jody Streeter is the Physical Therapist from Walk of Ages in Oakfield.

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 **2016** 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.

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.

Children’s Community Options Program (CCOP)

This program, formerly known as Family Support Program 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 2016, 8 children had a CCOP plan written for a variety of goods and services. The Program was able to fund respite, conferences related to a diagnosis, in-home parental support/consultation, home modifications, individualized recreational opportunities, therapeutic/sensory 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. In 2016, 2 retailers sold to minors, compared to 7 in 2015. We are definitely seeing an increase in E-cigarette sales and usage.

Teeth Healthy Lives Program

The Dental clinic served 8 adults and 70 children. Seventeen were referred for additional services. We had previously provided services to the migrant

daycare, but that was taken over by another agency so we had fewer children than in 2015. Clinics are held 1- 2 times a month at our agency as well as summer outreach sites at the Boys & Girls Club and at Head Start in Markesan. Clients need to be on Medical Assistance or Badger Care.

Food Safety & Recreational Licensing Program

The Tri-County Health Consortium, consisting of Ashley Rondorf, Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) Green Lake, Ann Robbe, EHS for Marquette County and Mary Robl, Registered Sanitarian, Program Director from Waushara County Health Department. They 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 2016 there were approximately 800 inspections performed in the Tri-County area. The 3 inspectors support each other to ensure that facilities are in compliance with applicable regulations to promote health and safety for consumers.

Facility Type	Number of Inspections 2016	Total Number of Facilities
Restaurants and Retail Food	113	139
Campgrounds	12	13
Swimming Pools	19	21
Hotel/Motels/TRH	85*	117
Summer Camps	3	3
Tattoo Shop	0	0
Total—including pre-inspections & complaints	232	290

*TRH’s Tourist Rooming Housing only need to be inspected every other year per state directive.

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.



Placards placed by Health Unit on meth house in Berlin

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 that could affect their health.

Environmental Issues Addressed

Animal Bites—38
Well Water Concerns—11
Housing Inspection Cases—34
Meth House Placards--2
Nuisance/Other—6
Radon Test Kits Given Out--41



Employees check out health related booths at the 2016 Worksite Wellness Health Fair.

2016 Public Health Program Contacts	Totals
Accreditation	137
Adult Health	198
Birth to 3	640
Children's Community Options	66
Bioterrorism/Preparedness	68
Coalition for Wellness & Needs Assess.	455
Dental	142
Immunization	1856
Lead Tests & Follow-up	14
Maternal Child Health	2458
Public Health	1088
Worksite Wellness	874
Other	88
TOTAL	8084
PRESENTATIONS/EDUCATION CONTACTS	
Blood Borne Path Training	78
Berlin School Wellness	44
Employee Wellness Fair	35
Healthy Babies Coalition Conference	100
Heroin Summit	200
Lunch and Learns	128
Safety and Wellness to TRIAD	35
Preparedness for Tornado Exercise	112
Diabetes Education	226
Provider/Partner Meeting on Lyme	18
Parenting Class & Breastfeeding	28
Nutrition Presentations	381
Women's Health Events	200
Economic Development	169
Worksite Wellness Outreach	10,206
MCH Life Course	95
Amish Culture and Safety	24
Other	19
Total	12,098

Worksite Wellness/Employee Health Program

Melanie Simpkins, RN, MPH coordinates the employee wellness program using funds provided by Group Health Trust. In 2016, we had over 25 outreach activities including a health fair, individual health screenings, lunch and learns, Healthy Monday Tips, challenges, walking contests and more. 35 employees participated in 5 or more events. Seventy completed their annual physicals.

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.

The Green Lake County Wellness Coalition (GLCWC) worked on a number of initiatives working to impact chronic disease and mental health and substance abuse by providing education to the community on the benefits of healthy eating, healthy relationships and getting adequate exercise. The “Real Happy Hour” program was presented at numerous community events to get families to work on all 3 of those activities to reconnect and improve physical and mental health within families. Once the new Community Health Assessment was completed with new priorities, the group decided to reduce the action teams to two instead of three. There’s now a



Kathy Munsey, along with other local partners gave a presentation on drug abuse at Our Day event to help combat the heroin problem in Green Lake County

Mental Health/Substance Abuse Action Team and a Chronic Disease Action Team. Partners within the coalition addressed access to mental health services by hiring new staff and having them work in at least one school district. Berlin School

District continues to train on Mental Health First Aid and have developed a website to assist families with mental health and behavioral issues. It provides extensive resources to families. Other initiatives included providing all city clerks were given educational packets to share with non-profits who apply for liquor licenses on safe serving and checking ID’s to deter underage drinkers. The Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign was initiated in all four school districts. Senior nutrition

classes were held and members helped to form a Community Health Action Team (CHAT) with the help of Theda Care and Kaye Thompson who coordinates this initiative. The CHAT is working on “Kids in Crisis” as a “PLUNGE” activity to educate our community on the difficulties our children are experiencing and in 2017, we will work to address the issues.



Julia McCarroll, Health Educator, our newest employee, promoting the importance of good nutrition.

Julia McCarroll is a member of the Berlin School Wellness Coalition and works with them to improve physical activity opportunities for the children as well as improve the environment. We will be working to have a presence on all 4 district committees.

Our efforts paid off since we improved in the County Health Rankings from ranking 62nd out of 72 counties in 2014 to 53rd in 2015 to 25th in 2016!

The Green Lake County Wellness Coalition meets monthly and is open to anyone interested in improving the health of Green Lake County. Additional information is on our website: www.glcwc.org.

Submitted by Kathy Munsey, RN

Green Lake County Health Officer