

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



2018 PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Michelle Breuer, RN, BSN; Sharon Steele, Administrative Assistant;
Lisa Cummer RN, BSN; Cindy Riniker RN, BSN, MPH (Health Officer);
Dan McWilliams, Director



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March 1, 2019

Crawford County Board of Supervisors
225 N. Beaumont Road
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821

Dear Supervisors,

This year our annual report has been modernized to include pictures of our staff and board of health to recognize the importance of them to our department. We also included a few charts/graphs to help provide a picture of our accomplishments and surveillance activities in 2018. Adding to our push to modernize our Public Health Department, we were granted permission from our county board of supervisors to hire a health educator to expand our role of educating our county residents of all ages on environmental and public health issues. This role will be fulfilled in the beginning of 2019.

I was hired on April 30, 2018 as the new Crawford County Health Officer and 2018 was also the first full year of a combined agency of Health and Human Services. The transition seems to be going smoothly and I am happy to report that our BOH is maintaining its presence.

We plan to continue to make changes to modernize our department by reaching out to others in our community to gain partners and collaborate with them to strive to achieve Public Health 3.0, which is a paradigm or public health transformation that calls on local public health infrastructure to ensure the conditions in which everyone can be healthy. The Crawford County Health Department intends to offer and provide the best services possible to our residents by prioritizing leadership and knowledge support to advance population health through partnering with other agencies, businesses, and key stakeholders in our communities.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cindy Riniker".

Cindy Riniker, Health Officer

Crawford County Public Health

Mission Statement

Crawford County Public Health Department is the official agency of the County responsible for the promotion of wellness, prevention of disease by identifying and minimizing health risks and provision of a healthful environment.

Vision

Active, healthy families and persons of all ages, abilities, and cultures living, learning, working, and playing in thriving communities.

Core Values

- *Prevention and promotion.* Strategies that prevent disease and promote healthy living in healthy environments lead to long term benefits for everyone.
- *Responsiveness.* Provide leadership on health related issues and concerns expressed by the community, by population data and by the Board of Health
- *Collaboration.* Community partnerships produce well-supported and cost-effective health outcomes by bringing people, resources, and organizations together.
- *Data-driven, science-based services.* Effective public health interventions depend on the best and most up-to-date research and information available.
- *Social justice and diversity.* A healthy community recognizes that everyone's health matters equally, and that services and solutions must be accessible, affordable, and appropriate for all.
- *Customer service and accountability.* As vigilant stewards of the public's trust, we provide services that are responsive and accountable to the community's needs.
- *Skilled, innovative workforce.* A well-trained, dedicated, and creative workforce is the foundation of our ability to assess and address the health of the community.

The 10 Essential Public Health Services

The 10 Essential Public Health Services describe the public health activities that all communities should undertake:

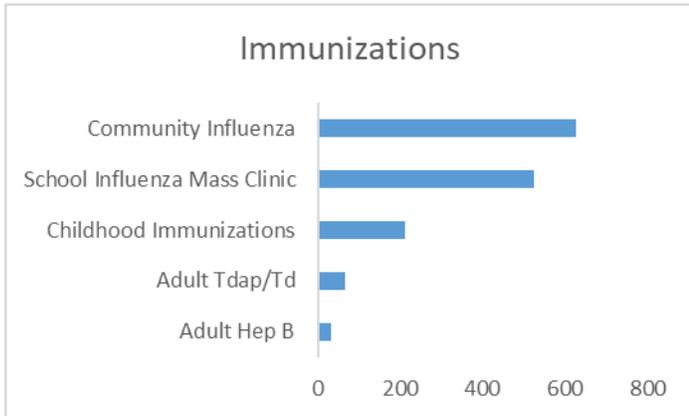
1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues
4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable
8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems



IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS

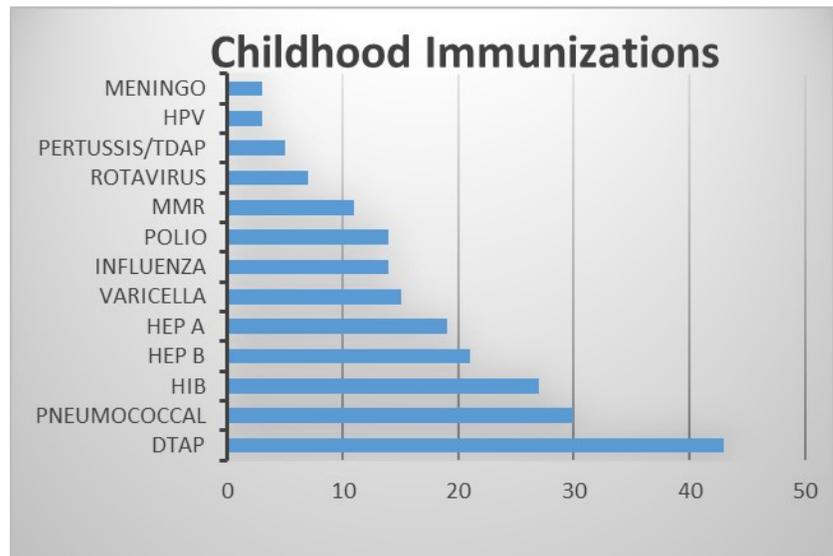
Crawford County Public Health continues to offer the flu vaccinations in the communities of Ferryville, Gays Mills, Lynxville, Seneca, Soldiers Grove, Wauzeka and Prairie du Chien. In 2018 Crawford County Public Health provided influenza vaccinations to 627 community members.



Crawford County Public Health participated in a Public Health Preparedness Immunization Exercise during the fall of 2018. We were able to provide 526 influenza vaccinations in the Crawford County schools. Percentages of students immunized in the schools are as follows: North Crawford – 19.7%, Prairie du Chien Public - 18.1%, Prairie Catholic – 41.4%, Seneca – 30.7%, Wauzeka-Steuben - 39.3%. This is a great accomplishment to have vaccinated and protected that many children from the flu.

CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATIONS

Crawford County Public Health offers all vaccinations approved by the Advisory Council on Immunization Practices (ACIP) free of charge through the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) to children who are less than 19 years of age and meet one of the following criteria: Medicaid eligible, uninsured, underinsured or are American Indian or Alaska Native. Crawford County Public Health provided 213 childhood vaccinations to children in 2018. Vaccination clinics are offered in Gays Mills, Seneca and Prairie du Chien.



ADULT IMMUNIZATIONS

Adult vaccinations provided by Crawford County Public Health include Tdap, Td and Hep B. In 2018 there were 48 Tdap and 20 Td vaccinations provided. Of these 14 Tdap and 12 Td were due to the August flood. We partner with local businesses in our community to vaccinate their employees against Hep B. In 2018 we provided 31 Hepatitis B vaccinations.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



Environmental health focuses on the relationships between people and their environment; promotes human health and well-being; and fosters healthy and safe communities. Environmental health is a key part of any comprehensive public health system to identify and decrease chemical and other environmental exposures in air, water, soil and food to protect people and provide communities with healthier environments.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLAINTS

Crawford County Public Health receives and investigates environmental complaints and collaborates with other agencies to reduce environmental health hazards. In 2019 CCPH responded to complaints for abundance of dead animals (1), unsanitary/unsafe housing (7), welfare checks for medical concerns (1), mold (6), unrimmed tires (1), fuel oil spill (1), asbestos (1), several refrigerators/freezers with doors/lids on in yard (1), broken handicapped bathroom in public establishment (1), feral cats (1). One bird was sent in and was tested for West Nile Virus (negative). Multiple nuisance complaints were received on bedbugs, cockroaches, and head lice.

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT SERVICES

Tires and other containers offer habitat for mosquitos that carry the diseases West Nile Virus and La Crosse Viral Encephalitis. Crawford County Public Health contracted with Joseph Writz, owner of Driftless Region Vector Control LLC, for mosquito abatement services. This included canvassing communities for potential mosquito-related human health hazards, identify and larvicide habitat sites, and provide education on how to decrease the incidence of mosquito breeding. 45 businesses and 79 residential areas were identified and contacted throughout our county.

WATER QUALITY

Water quality is an issue every year. Well water test kits are provided in cooperation with the State Lab of Hygiene for pregnant women and infants at risk who have a private, untested water supply. High nitrates in water have been linked to birth defects, “blue baby syndrome”, learning disorders, and can lead to coma and death if left untreated. Boiling the water concentrates the nitrates in water therefore, finding the source of contamination and taking steps to reduce further contamination is very important. 9 well water test kits were supplied to homes of referred newborn babies not on public water.

The State Lab of Hygiene also provides water test kits in the event of a major flood. We handed out 13 water test kits during the 2018 flood and provided education on how to clean-up post contact with flood water.

ANIMAL BITES/RABIES

Animal bite investigations are initiated through the Sheriff’s Office and PDC Police Department and are then followed up on by Public Health. The follow-up includes: contact with victim to assure proper treatment was received, proper quarantine of animal in question, proper veterinarian surveillance, following up on lab testing where there may be a concern for a rabies infection, and then finally entering this information into the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDDS). 30 animal bite reports were followed up on this year which included 4 bats, 14 cats, and 12 dogs.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONTINUED

RADON

Radon is an invisible and odorless gas and is one of the most serious health hazards found in indoor air. This gas is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers; the second leading cause of lung cancer overall; and is responsible for up to 30,000 lung cancer deaths each year.

Radon occurs naturally in the soil and accumulates in homes especially during the winter months. High radon levels have been found in every state and in every type of house. In Southwest Wisconsin, past testing has shown that in some areas 30% of homes have elevated radon levels. Making repairs to eliminate radon gas can be simple and affordable. A typical radon problem can be solved for less than \$1,500.

Testing is the only way to know what the radon level is in your home. Fortunately, this cause of lung cancer is largely preventable; the first step is to test your home. If elevated radon is found, it can be easily and effectively corrected. Crawford County provides kits to homeowners free of charge at this time through a radon grant for the 6 surrounding counties of Vernon, Iowa, Richland, Lafayette, Grant, and Crawford. This year we provided radon education to Crawford County residents and 14 test kits were given out.

LEAD TESTING

Testing for the presence of lead in children ages 1 and 2 continues to be done routinely at our WIC clinic sites. This screening is done free of charge and information regarding the hazards of lead is addressed with each client. Any Crawford County child with venous blood level of ≥ 5 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ receives a risk assessment of the environment and/or home assessment, along with follow-up blood lead screenings. In 2018, a total of 49 children were screened through our office with 8 reported elevated blood lead tests. The parents of 4 of these children with high lead levels agreed to home assessments and education provided by our agency.

YOUTH CONSERVATION DAY

Crawford County Land Conservation hosted a Youth Conservation Day at Sugar Creek Bible Camp near Ferryville, WI on 9/27/2018. A total of 157 5th – 7th grade students participated from several schools which included De Soto, North Crawford, Seneca, Wauzeka-Steuben and Prairie du Chien schools. Crawford County Public Health presented tick & mosquito information during eight different sessions (approximately 20-25 minutes in length) throughout the day and provided each student with a take home tick removal kit provided by the Environmental Health Department from the State of Wisconsin.

NURSING STUDENTS

The Crawford County Public Health Department hosted two nursing students (Laura DuCharme & McKenzie Rickleff) from Viterbo University in the fall of 2018. Laura was a great asset post 2018 flooding by contacting all volunteers, which was over 300 individuals, that assisted with flood clean-up to check need for Tetanus vaccine. She also created an educational board about influenza that was displayed in the Crawford County Administrative Building. McKenzie developed a great database that can be used ongoing for our annual tobacco compliance checks and created an educational board about Alzheimer disease that was displayed in the Crawford County Administrative Building. They were both very much appreciated and a joy to work with.





HEALTHY BEGINNING PLUS

Healthy Beginnings Plus (HB+), formerly known as the Prenatal Care Coordination Program (PNCC), is a BadgerCare benefit that is offered and provided to Crawford County pregnant women. The program assists pregnant women and their families in receiving support and services necessary for a positive birth outcome for both mom and baby. 2018 was the last full year Crawford County Public Health will be administering this program due to no referrals.

WIC

The Woman Infant & Child (WIC) Program is a nutrition, informational and supplemental food program available to eligible families that have children under age five, women who are pregnant and nursing women.

Three WIC clinics are held monthly in Crawford County; the first two Wednesdays of the month in Prairie du Chien at our Public Health office and the fourth Wednesday of the month in Gays Mills at the Community Building.

During WIC clinics Crawford County Public Health nurses screen all families for Public Health services that may be of benefit to promote health and wellness. In 2018, 321 unduplicated individuals received WIC benefits compared to 393 individuals in 2017. CCPH will continue to collaborate with WIC to provide services, resources and referrals to our WIC families in 2019.

POSTPARTUM VISITS (PPV)

Crawford County Public Health offers home visits or support through phone contacts to all postpartum mothers and babies upon referral. Issues addressed during these visits and/or contacts include: normal growth and development, immunizations, feeding and nutrition, safe sleep, shaken baby syndrome, postpartum depression, well water testing, car seat safety, health insurance, day care, second hand smoke, early brain development and more.

HeathCheck

The HealthCheck program is designed to provide preventative health counseling to children under the age of 18 enrolled in Medicaid or BadgerCare. A general head to toe physical assessment, hearing, vision, capillary blood lead tests, dental inspection, analysis of growth and development, anticipatory guidance, immunizations and nutritional counseling are all included in a HealthCheck. Private clinic settings are the primary providers for these services. We continue to advertise and promote HealthCheck services.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

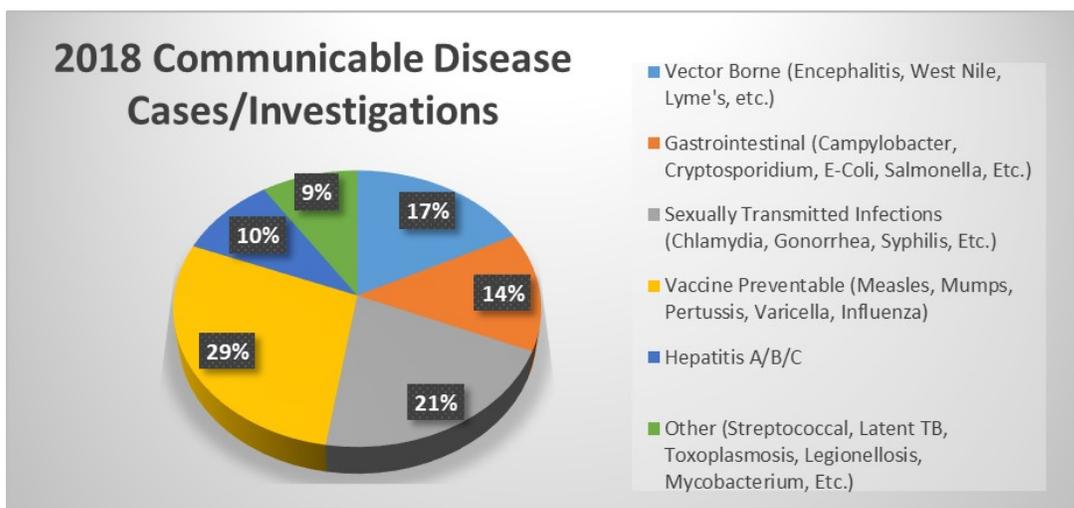
Crawford County Public Health is mandated by State of WI (DHS Chapter 145) to follow-up on over 80 communicable diseases and illnesses that includes, but is not limited to, the following: foodborne & waterborne, vector-borne, respiratory, vaccine-preventable and sexual transmitted diseases. Prompt identification and control of illness can reduce further illnesses, death and health care costs as well as and protecting and improving the overall health of our communities. In review of 2018, 280 cases were identified and followed up on. As can be seen in the graph, disease investigations/cases are steadily rising, which then leads to more time and energy spent by staff to stop or prevent the spread of disease.



During 2018, Crawford County experienced disease outbreaks related to Influenza and Cyclosporiasis. We also provided surveillance and follow-up on county residents exposed to an outbreak of Measles located in a nearby county. These outbreaks affected young children to older adults. All individuals involved were provided with education and received treatment as needed. Would like to note, that several of these illnesses could have been avoided by a simple vaccine.

Crawford County continues to see an increasing trend of STI's. Our county is not alone as an increasing trend is also seen across the entire state of Wisconsin. The two most prevalent STI's are Chlamydia and Gonorrhea with Gonorrhea showing a sharp spike from 1 in 2017 to 14 in 2018. The ages of reported cases ranged from 16-64 with the most predominant ages being 18 and 22 and predominant population being female. The CDC comments that "Preventing STI's among youth is a key priority" and that sexually active individuals, "Must take

steps to protect themselves". Testing, treatment, using condoms consistently and correctly, and limiting the number of sex partners are all effective strategies for reducing the risk of infection and consequence to health. Crawford County will follow CDC guidelines in regards to providing education and guidance to help combat this growing health risk.



MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

The Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) block grant creates partnerships across the federal, state and local levels that address challenges that are facing women, children and families. The 2015 State MCH Needs Assessment identified MCH priorities and performance measures for 2016-2020. Objectives identified address National Performance Measures related to breastfeeding, safe sleep, developmental screening, smoking and adolescent injury prevention (suicide and transportation related injury).

A review of Crawford County's 2014 Needs Assessment, the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment, the 2015 WI County MCH Profile along with current and past Crawford County Health Ranking and Roadmaps (adult & pregnancy smoking rates) undoubtedly indicated that smoking and tobacco use commanded our attention.

The 2018 MCH Program objectives and strategies concentrated on ways to increase access to, awareness of and education of evidenced based smoking cessation services that provide clear, constant and consistent education and messaging for women and their family members who smoke. With collaboration from the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation and the UW Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention (CTRI) office we have successfully been able to educate several key community partners/providers on evidenced based smoking cessation interventions that included secondary and tertiary smoke exposure.

Community providers/partners have responded favorably to additional education, awareness and resources. In 2019 our MCH objective is to work with local school districts to understand and/or reduce youth suicides and suicidal thoughts/behaviors.

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

The blood pressure clinics are held at the nutrition meal sits to accommodate senior citizens. We service three sites--Eastman, Soldiers Grove and Prairie du Chien. The blood pressure screening often involves health education and counseling by a Public Health nurse. The number of blood pressure screenings completed in 2018 was 284. (217 were done in 2017). Community education is also provided during these clinics.

Blood Pressure Categories



BLOOD PRESSURE CATEGORY	SYSTOLIC mm Hg (upper number)		DIASTOLIC mm Hg (lower number)
NORMAL	LESS THAN 120	and	LESS THAN 80
ELEVATED	120 - 129	and	LESS THAN 80
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE (HYPERTENSION) STAGE 1	130 - 139	or	80 - 89
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE (HYPERTENSION) STAGE 2	140 OR HIGHER	or	90 OR HIGHER
HYPERTENSIVE CRISIS (consult your doctor immediately)	HIGHER THAN 180	and/or	HIGHER THAN 120

TB TESTING

Tuberculosis skin tests are available upon request for college entrance requirements, teachers and school personnel. Skin tests are also given to personnel at the Opportunity Center, group home workers, new clients at foster homes, EMS volunteers, and the general public. 77 TB tests were administered in 2018. One hundred twenty six tests were given in 2017.

SERVICES TO CHRONICALLY MENTALLY ILL

The Health and Human Services Agency provides mental health support and services which includes: primary case management services, medication monitoring and setup, administration of injectable psychotropic medications, and supportive psychotherapy to our chronically mentally ill clients through the certified Community Support Program (CSP) and mental health clinic. The Public Health nurses assists and provide backup coverage as needed.



<https://www.facebook.com/CrawfordCountyPHD>

SCHOOL HEALTH

We continue to contract with Wauzeka-Steuben School District for school nursing. Nursing duties include but are not limited to: diabetes management, asthma, medication management, immunization assessment and administration, member of the Wellness Committee and staff training. Student assessments including: hearing, vision, height, weights, BMIs, head lice, and early childhood screening.

We offer consultation services to school nurses in all Crawford County school districts regarding communicable diseases, immunizations and state rulings. Again this year we were able to offer free flu vaccinations for students by conducting the Mass Clinic Preparedness Exercise.



VISION

Public Health Nurses are certified by Wisconsin Prevent Blindness to perform vision screenings for children. We are a resource for both public and private schools to assist in annual vision screening of children. The resources include initial screening, retesting, and referral of children. Our vision screening program continues to partner with area Lions Clubs to serve the community by providing Early Childhood Vision Screening. The goal is to help identify pre-school children (ages 1-5) who may have or be at risk for amblyopia “Lazy Eye”.

The collaboration between Lions Clubs Zone 5 and Crawford County Public Health has resulted in a stronger, more effective vision screening program in our county. The vision screening device employs state of the art technology in vision screening of young children, it has exceptional accuracy, provides a detailed printed report to aid the eye care professional in follow up examinations and the ability to quickly and simply screen children. The most important benefit is that when eye problems in children are identified early, when treatment can be most effective, it ensures that children’s vision is optimal for learning and in some cases can even prevent permanent loss of vision. Timely referral have improved the overall vision of our Crawford County children.

FLUORIDE VARNISH PROGRAM/DENTAL SERVICES

Crawford County is a rural county with no fluoridated public water available. According to 2018 countyhealthrankings.org, 44% of the county population has had no recent dental visit and 57% of the children are eligible for free or reduced price lunches in the schools. Many of these children are insured by Medicaid or have no dental health coverage. With the children covered by Medicaid, it is an ongoing struggle to find a dentist in the area who will see these children. Many of these children are at-risk children.

Crawford County Public Health offers an Early Childhood Cavity Prevention Program to children through age six. This program includes oral health screening, education, fluoride varnish application, and referral for any necessary dental problems. Fluoride has been found to prevent or reduce cavities in primary and permanent teeth of young children.

Crawford County Public Health’s Early Childhood Cavity Prevention Program targets WIC participants and Head Start. In 2018 there were 77 fluoride varnish treatments done by public health nurses compared to 85 in 2017.

In 2018, The Crawford County Health Department partnered with Devan Toberman, RDH, to offer oral health care and education to all 3K – 6th grade students from Prairie du Chien Schools, Wauzeka-Steuben School, Seneca School, and North Crawford School during the 2018-19 school year. Each child from 3K – 6th grade that received parental consent will receive two screenings/cleanings, three fluoride varnishes, dental care education, application of sealants as needed, and sealant retention checks. In the Fall of 2018, a total of 415 children received services thus far.

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT (CHA)

A community health assessment refers to a state, tribal, local, or territorial health assessment that identifies key health needs and issues through systematic, comprehensive data collection and analysis. These assessments and strategies that follow create an important opportunity to improve the health of communities. By statute, the CHAs must take into account input from “persons who represent the broad interests of the community served by the hospital facility, including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public health.” Public Health agencies are required to complete a CHA every five years, whereas, hospitals are required to complete one every three years.

This year we partnered with Grant County Public Health, Crossing Rivers Health, Grant Regional Health Center, UW Extension, Southwest Tech, Gundersen-Boscobel Hospital, and the ADRC to work on compiling data to complete our CHA. We wrote for and received a grant of \$3750.00 to help offset the costs related to this project. Between the two counties of Crawford and Grant, we sent out electronic surveys to stakeholders who were individuals with a vested interest in the community and had 192 respondents. We also sent out electronic and paper surveys to the general community, which included individuals and community members representing their own interests and had 142 respondents. Here in Crawford County, four focus groups were established in the communities of Gays Mills, Seneca, Prairie du Chien, and Wauzeka. Through the information received from these surveys and focus groups, community needs were identified that will help guide our agency in the development of our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and Strategic Planning scheduled to be completed in 2019.

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Crawford County Public Health continues to work with multiple community partners including surrounding public health units from Iowa and Wisconsin as well as Emergency Management, the Coroner, Sheriff’s Office, hospitals and other health care units to improve our readiness in case of an emergency. Crawford County is part of the Western Wisconsin Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition and a six county Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition in SW Wisconsin. Through 6/30/2018 our focus was on Community Resilience (Community Preparedness and Community Recovery). Our new grant period began on 7/1/2018 with the focus on Information Management (Emergency Public Information/Warning and Information Sharing).

In 2018, Crawford County Public Health partnered with Crossing Rivers Health System to provide Stop the Bleed Training to 3 businesses/schools which included 3M, Prairie Catholic School, and Bluff View School. A total of 63 adults have been trained so far. The Stop the Bleed training is designed to teach individuals in the community how to recognize and control life-threatening bleeding until help arrives.

TOBACCO/7C’S COALITION



Crawford County is part of the 7 C's Health Initiative, which is a multi-jurisdiction coalition that includes seven counties in Western Wisconsin: Buffalo, Trempealeau, Jackson, Monroe, La Crosse, Vernon and Crawford. With the help of our coalition partners and members, we are encouraging people in our communities to live tobacco-free. We support reaching toward a healthier Wisconsin, one that embraces tobacco-free communities.

The mission of this coalition is to collaboratively work to improve the health of our citizens living in our counties so that they may live long, healthy lives, free from tobacco and nicotine regardless of their income, education, or ethnic background.

Our priorities are:

- Generate awareness of Other Tobacco Products (OTP)
- Raise awareness of the high rates of smoking among maternal and pregnant women.
- Educate coalition members about the link between tobacco and chronic diseases
- Increase youth involvement in the 7 C's Health Initiative
- Promote health messages for families and communities
- Use evidence based prevention strategies to address the priorities of the 7 C's Health Initiative coalition

As part of the 7Cs Coalition, in 2018, the Crawford County Public Health Department completed its WI Wins tobacco compliance checks of retailers who sell tobacco products within Crawford County. WI Wins is a research-based campaign to reduce youth access to tobacco. We are happy to report that 26 establishments were investigated and all passed, except one. This was a 96% success rate for not selling tobacco to our minors. By being a positive influence and not selling tobacco to our minors, our retailers/establishments are contributing to the health of our state and community.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Crawford County Public Health Nurses are available to present educational programs to community groups related to health and wellness topics. Topics presented to groups in 2018 included education about the harmful effects of tobacco/nicotine use and 2nd and 3rd hand smoke, juuling, e-cigarettes, Stop the Bleed, hypertension, dental health, vector borne diseases and lead poisoning, We are available to provide education to community members on a topic of their choice in regard to health and wellness.



2018 HEALTH COMMITTEE

Dr. Walter Boisvert, Medical Advisor (not present);
Pat Dearth; Amanda Schultz; Don Stirling; Wayne Jerrett, Jr.;
Gari Lorenz, Chairman; Karen Reilly; Jane Schaaf