

Board of Health Minutes November 9th, 2023

Attendance: Rita Metzger, Dr. Brian Konowalchuk, Shirley Fessler, Catherine Wagner, Jonathan Neils, Nick Muench.

Absent: Shannon Kanter, Annette Kaminski, Leo Naidl. Also in attendance: Bob Ziegelbauer, Korina Aghmar, Paulette Mach, Shaunda Stuart, Heather Feest

Regular Business:

The meeting was called to order by Rita Metzger at 5:00 p.m. The minutes of the October 2023 Board of Health meeting were reviewed. Motion by Jon Neils, seconded by Shirley Fessler to approve. Motion carried. No public comment.

Health Officer Report:

- *Strategic Planning:* Working on finalizing strategies and key metrics. Anticipate this will be completed in January.
- *Staffing:* Recent vacancy in WIC was filled with an internal candidate who was working as a Bilingual Health Aide-this position has been posted.
- *Grants:* New objective for 2024 Lead Poisoning & Prevention Grant to identify children exposed to lead earlier.
 - Target- increase the number of children that get an age- appropriate blood lead test by 5%.
 - Strategies include increasing community education and access to testing.
 - Nursing and WIC will be collaborating to provide onsite testing for WIC clients next year.
- *Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP):* Anticipate having our CHIP completed in early January. Initial meetings have been held for all CHIP related coalition groups.
 - Continuing to work through Healthiest Manitowoc County (HMC) to advance the priority areas.
 - Under HMC there are 4 coalitions, including 2 new ones added to address the priority areas of access to services and safe recreational opportunities (the other 2 are investing early and substance use prevention).
 - Coalitions are led by a Health Dept. staff and member of a community agency-all have all had initial meetings.

Nurse Manager Report:

- *CD Control & Prevention*
 - Manitowoc County CD Case Report: COVID-19 and Chlamydia continue to be the highest number of cases.
 - WI DHS Weekly Respiratory Virus Report released-now includes COVID 19 and RSV cases. The predominant virus for the week ending 10/28/23 was Rhinovirus & Enterovirus (neither one are reportable).
 - Mass flu clinics completed
- *Community Outreach-*
 - Working on ways to stay healthy during the respiratory virus season. Respiratory hygiene kits are available to community-have distributed 200 kits so far.
 - Nurses and Community Health Educator participated in Focus Groups to assist in identifying needs related to youth well being and substance use prevention.

Environmental Health Report:

- All EH staff completed training required to maintain their certifications as Lead Hazard Investigators (LHI).
 - This training is related to statutory obligations we have to provide lead hazard investigation activities when there is a child in the home that has an elevated level of lead.
 - We will be exploring options for LHI trainings for 2025 when we need to get recertified again as WI-DHS will no longer be providing these trainings for free.

WIC Services Overview & Report:

- Presentation by WIC Director, Paulette Mach on WIC program.
- Final participation numbers for September: 960 participants-about 588 families. Initial October numbers are 957.

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment:

The next meeting date for the Board of Health will be January 11th, 2024 at 5:00 PM in the public health building. A motion to adjourn was made by Nick Muench and seconded by Jon Neils. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Korina Aghmar, on behalf of Secretary