

Manitowoc County Health Department

Mission: To Protect and Promote the Health of Manitowoc County in Partnership with our Community

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For Immediate Release Date: 1/24/24

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Manitowoc County Health Department Achieves Wisconsin's Most Advanced Level of Health Department Certification

Recognition by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Highlights Manitowoc County's Commitment to Public Health Excellence

The Manitowoc County Health Department has officially been certified as a Level III Health Department by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). This 5-year certificate signifies that Manitowoc County Health Department meets the highest level of health department standards identified in state statute and administrative rules. Throughout the process, Manitowoc County Health Department effectively demonstrated how it serves as the community health strategist and has taken a leadership role in health issues facing the county.

In Wisconsin, local health departments are designated as a level I, II, or III based on an in-depth review of their operations, staff qualifications and services provided. The requirements that need to be met for each level are clearly defined.

Level I, is the most basic level and focuses on the core functions of public health, the 10 Essential Public Health Services, national performance standards, and the Foundational Public Health Services model. Public health nursing expertise and services are embedded throughout.

Level II, includes everything from Level I and adds a focus on organizational performance, capacity building and workforce development.

Level III is the highest tier, includes everything from level I, & II, and has an emphasis on community health strategy. A level III health department has systems and plans in place to collect and evaluate data, provide public health expertise, and focuses on impacting population health. Additionally, they have an environmental health program with a community and systems focus.

"The certification is a reflection of the outstanding dedication and commitment staff have demonstrated over the years." says Manitowoc County Health Department Director, Korina Aghmar. "This achievement motivates us to not only continue providing quality services, but also energizes our efforts to improve the health of Manitowoc County in partnership with the community."

For more information on health department level requirements visit: <u>Wisconsin Local</u> Public Health: Requirement Updates