

2021

ANNUAL REPORT



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Winnebago County
Health Department**



Captions (clockwise from top left): Staff and volunteers at high school COVID-19 vaccination clinic / Staff at Walk-In Wednesday Vaccine Clinic at Sunnyview Expo Center / Staff and volunteers vaccinating at the Oshkosh Public Library / Volunteer at middle school vaccination clinic / Vaccinating staff in preparation of first public COVID-19 vaccination clinic / First childhood COVID-19 vaccination administered by the Winnebago County Health Department / Vaccinating at the Oshkosh Farmers Market

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2021



2 Organization Overview

4 COVID-19 Response

7 Administration

9 Communicable Disease

10 Community Health & Prevention

12 Environmental Health

14 Healthy Lifespan

16 Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

Photo of staff, volunteers and National Guard was taken on February 3, 2021, in celebration of vaccinating over 1,200 people, which was the most vaccinated in a single day at Sunnyview Expo Center.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
**Winnebago County
Health Department**

OUR ORGANIZATION

The Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) is a Level III public health agency, the highest level recognized by state statute. The Health Department is comprised of six divisions: Administration, Communicable Disease, Community Health and Prevention, Environmental Health, Healthy Lifespan and Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Each division is overseen by a supervisor who reports to the Health Officer.

MISSION

The Winnebago County Health Department protects health through services, partnerships, and equitable practices and policies so all can live their best life.

VISION

Healthy people building thriving communities.

STAFF

In 2021, the Winnebago County Health Department had an average of 46 permanent employees on staff and an average of 49 additional temporary and project employees assisting with COVID-19 response.

Director/Health Officer: Doug Gieryn

Division Supervisors: Administrative: Julia Salomon / Communicable Disease: Melissa Stahmann / Community Health & Prevention: Ashlee Rahmlow / Environmental Health: Anne Boyce / Healthy Lifespan: Alana Erickson / WIC: Jamie Thibodeaux

BOARD OF HEALTH

There are nine members appointed to the Winnebago County Board of Health (BOH). The Board assesses public health needs and advocates for the provision of reasonable and necessary public health services. The board develops policies and provides leadership that fosters local involvement and commitment, which emphasizes public health needs and advocates for equitable distribution of public health resources.

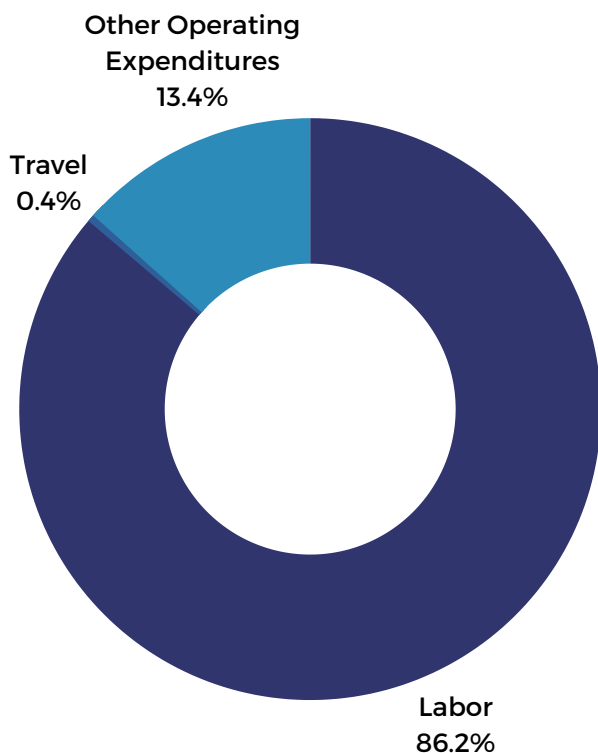
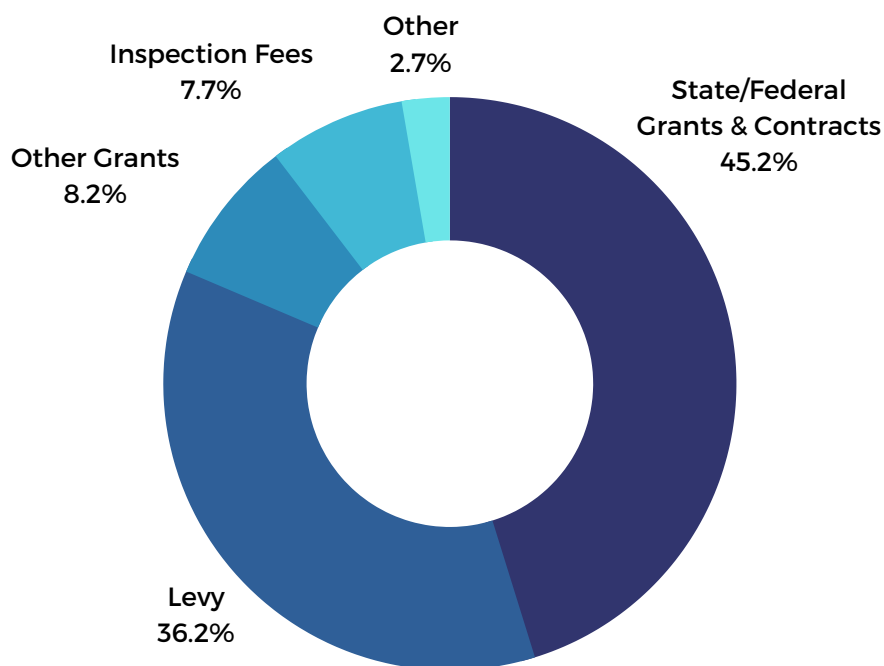
Chair: Dr. Shiloh Ramos

Members: Mike Norton, Rachel Youngquist, Thomas Egan, Thomas Ellis, Lois Gruetzmacher, Dr. Paula McNiel, Toby Vanden Heuvel, David Zerbe

2021 FINANCES

REVENUE

State/Federal
Grants & Contracts: \$2,509,936
Levy: \$2,008,492
Other Grants: \$454,261
Inspection Fees: \$427,581
Other: \$147,090



EXPENSES

Labor: \$4,911,093
Travel: \$22,555
Other Operating
Expenditures: \$763,044



Public Health
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Health Department**

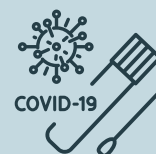
2021 COVID-19 RESPONSE

BY THE NUMBERS



Staff prepares COVID-19 vaccine at Sunnyview Expo Center.

COVID-19 STATS FOR WINNEBAGO COUNTY**



220,821
PCR Tests
Given*



16,946
PCR Confirmed &
Probable Cases*



238,911
Vaccine Doses
Given

WINNEBAGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT COVID-19 RESPONSE



32,008
Vaccine Doses
Given



72,455
Unique Visits to
WCHD COVID-19
Webpage



8,089
COVID Hotline
Calls Received



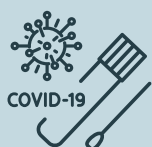
182
Vaccination
Clinics Held



58,648
Visits to
wcvaccine.org
website



165
Situation
Updates & Data
Reports Sent



23,600
PCR Tests
Given at
Sunnyview**

*Represents data for the Winnebago County Health Department jurisdiction, which does not include the City of Menasha or City of Appleton.

**Includes data from organizations the health department partnered with to provide services to Winnebago County.

2021 COVID-19 RESPONSE

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

January

Received first shipment of COVID-19 vaccine and began vaccinating healthcare providers and first responders.

February

Opened long-standing COVID-19 vaccine clinic at Sunnyview Expo and began vaccinating people 65 and older.

March

Launched COVID-19 vaccine website. (www.wcvaccine.org)

April

Vaccine approved for anyone 16 and older.

May

Vaccine approved for people 12 and older. First school vaccine clinic held on May 20, 2021 at Oshkosh West High School.

June

Launched Tri-County Regional Vaccine Tour and Oshkosh Farmers Market Vaccine Clinic.

July

50% of Winnebago County residents received their first dose.

August

WCHD released new recommendations urging everyone to mask due to substantial transmission of the Delta variant.

September

WCHD began giving booster doses.

October

50% of Winnebago County residents completed their vaccine series.

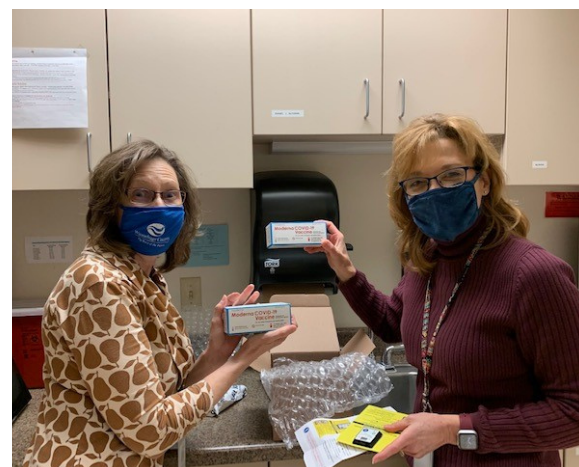
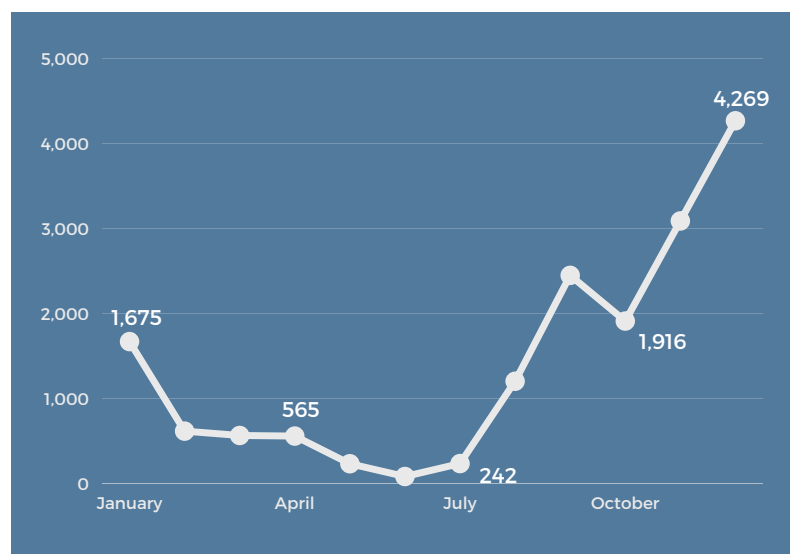
November

WCHD began vaccinating those over age 5.

December

On December 30, 2021, we recorded 338 new cases*, which was the highest daily case count in 2021.

COVID-19 CASES* PER MONTH IN WCHD JURISDICTION



First COVID-19 vaccine received by WCHD.

*PCR confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases.

2021 COVID-19 RESPONSE

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Began vaccinating the general public at Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh in February. Operated by WCHD staff, volunteers and the WI National Guard, this site continues to be one of the main locations for vaccination in the county.
- Established Walk-In Wednesdays to better serve the community by providing opportunity to get vaccinated without an appointment.
- Community conversations identified three priorities for building equity in vaccination efforts and reducing barriers to access: translation/interpretation, access to transportation, and earning and building trust. WCHD worked with community partners throughout the county to address these needs and identify opportunities for vaccination that were convenient, safe and met individualized needs.
- Coordinated 182 mobile vaccine clinics in various locations throughout the community, including businesses, farmers markets, schools, community organizations, libraries, churches, municipal buildings and fire departments.
- WCHD established one of four enduring COVID-19 testing sites in the state in collaboration with the Wisconsin National Guard and the WI Division of Public Health.
- Our communications team expanded to improve outreach efforts and increase capacity to manage web content, create press releases, respond to media, manage social media, create educational materials, provide situation updates to the community, and collaborate with community partners.
- Worked collaboratively with members of the Winnebago County Emergency Operations Center, Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition (HERC) University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Aurora Health Care and many other organizations in response.
- Provided COVID-19 guidance to the Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation, local Chamber of Commerce and other business related entities.
- Routinely met with administrators and health staff from our public and parochial schools and area colleges to offer support and guidance.
- Coordinated regional efforts to provide 24/7 support to childcare centers and long term care facilities (LTC). Our staff managed outbreaks, provided consultation, helped establish mitigation and prevention strategies, provided PPE and supplies, and trained childcare staff and LTC staff to better manage their COVID response.
- Hired and trained additional staff (including UW-Oshkosh staff) to conduct COVID-19 case and contact investigations, manage outbreaks, support surveillance efforts, and provide other needed services to the community at large.
- Assisted with several isolation needs throughout the county and HERC region.



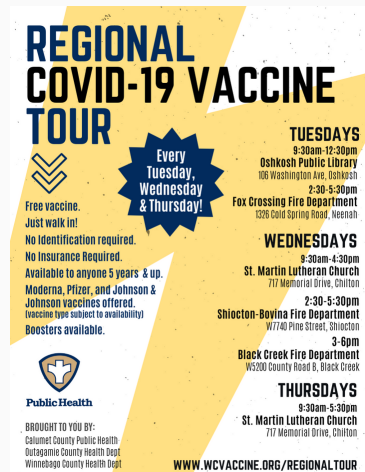
ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Division provides support for all divisions in the health department and assists with department wide administrative efforts. This division is comprised of an Accounting Associate, Administrative Assistants, Communications Specialist, Epidemiologist, Planning Specialist, Preparedness Coordinator and Policy and Equity Coordinator. In 2021, this division remained focused on COVID-19 response and played a large role in recruiting and training additional staff to work on the pandemic, coordinating testing and vaccination efforts, and providing information to the public, through WCHD's hotline, data summaries, media, website and marketing materials..

Planning: WCHD is participating in the WI DHS Pilot Program for Clear Impact, a software program for implementing Results Based Accountability (RBA). RBA is a data-driven decision-making process used to take action and solve problems. WCHD also assisted with strategic planning for Winnebago County's Diversity Affairs Commission.

Outreach: The wcvaccine.org website was launched in 2021 to provide the community with the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 vaccine and a detailed calendar showing all local vaccine clinics. In 2021, there were close to 59,000 visits to the site with a peak on March 30 with 3,295 visitors in one day.

WCHD also sent approximately 200 COVID-19 updates to the community, healthcare organizations, emergency responders, schools, local businesses and community organizations.



REGIONAL COVID-19 VACCINE TOUR

Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday!

Free vaccine. Just walk in!
No identification required.
No insurance required.
Available to anyone 5 years & up.
Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines offered.
(vaccine type subject to availability)
Boosters available.

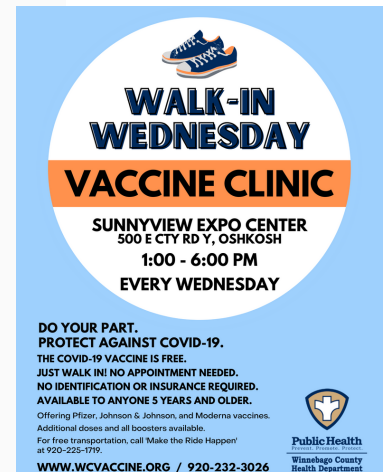
TUESDAYS
9-30am-12-30pm
Oshkosh Public Library
100 Washington Ave., Oshkosh
2-30-5-30pm
Fox Crossing Fire Department
1326 Cold Spring Road, Neenah

WEDNESDAYS
9-30am-4-30pm
St. Martin Lutheran Church
717 Memorial Drive, Chilton
2-30-5-30pm
Shiocton-Bovina Fire Department
67740 Pine Street, Shiocton
3-6pm
Black Creek Fire Department
W5200 County Road B, Black Creek

THURSDAYS
9-30am-5-30pm
St. Martin Lutheran Church
717 Memorial Drive, Chilton

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
Calumet County Public Health
Outagamie County Health Dept
Winnebago County Health Dept

WWW.WCVACCINE.ORG/REGIONALTOUR



WALK-IN WEDNESDAY VACCINE CLINIC

SUNNYVIEW EXPO CENTER
500 E CITY RD Y, OSHKOSH
1:00 - 6:00 PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY

DO YOUR PART. PROTECT AGAINST COVID-19.
THE COVID-19 VACCINE IS FREE.
JUST WALK IN! NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED.
NO IDENTIFICATION OR INSURANCE REQUIRED.
AVAILABLE TO ANYONE 5 YEARS AND OLDER.
Offering Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, and Moderna vaccines.
Additional doses and all boosters available.
For free transportation, call "Make the Ride Happen!" at 920-225-1719.

WWW.WCVACCINE.ORG / 920-232-3026

By The Numbers

Press Releases Sent: 42

COVID-19 Hotline Calls
Received: 8,089

New Facebook Page Likes: 1,114

COVID -19 Data Summaries: 205



ADMINISTRATION

Data: WCHD's first epidemiologist joined our department and hit the ground running providing much needed COVID-19 case data, developing infographics and assisting in presenting data in a more digestible way for better understanding. WCHD works directly with organizations, such as schools, to provide data needed to make informed decisions. This team has also kept the community informed throughout the pandemic by providing data on our website, through WCHD's Situation Updates, social media and data summaries published each week. These data summaries included a general overview, trend data and reports customized for schools and municipalities. In total, 205 data summaries were shared in 2021.

Health Equity Team: The Health Equity Team is comprised of nine WCHD staff members who continued to meet throughout the pandemic. The team worked toward the vision that health outcomes for residents in Winnebago County will not be determined by social identity or socially determined group status such as, but not limited to, ability, gender identity, geography, income, or race.

Policy Team: This team, which is made up of seven staff members, embraces the vision that all Winnebago County residents benefit from policies that promote equitable health outcomes. When elected officials and decision-makers work together with local public health departments, it results in healthier communities with more people benefitting from equitable policies.

HEALTH EQUITY TEAM 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Analyzed the results from the biannual health equity staff assessment & shared back with staff
- Developed a new health equity action plan for 2021-2022
- Added health equity & community engagement language to WCHD's standard job description
- Asked health equity related questions during hiring interviews
- Participated in the Winnebago County Diversity Affairs Commission
- Continued working on actions related to our organizational commitment to the statewide Racism is a Public Health Crisis declaration
- Presented to the Winnebago County Diversity Affairs Commission on local health equity data & shifting demographics
- Presented to the City of Oshkosh's Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee on vaccine equity and access
- Increased staff health equity capacity through multiple trainings including introductions to LGBTQ+ populations, refugee health, and Afghan culture
- Helped lead Fox Valley Thrives, a regional alliance focused on advancing equity
- Served on the WI Association of Lactation Consultants Equity Team
- Created an internal vaccine equity access team which worked to build trust & relationships with Black, Latinx, and Hmong populations
- Reserved vaccine appointments for people without internet and/or technology issues or other barriers
- Translated materials to be available in multiple languages
- Hired bilingual temporary staff to conduct community outreach and answer vaccine questions via phone and in-person at clinics
- Collaborated with multiple partners to fund free transportation to and from vaccine clinics

POLICY TEAM 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Presented to Winnebago County Administration, Winnebago County Board of Health, Winnebago County Legislative Committee, and partnering departments on the developing details and strategy of the American Rescue Plan Act funding and its impact on public health
- Collaborated with First Five Fox Valley to advocate for use of ARPA funds for family & child health in Winnebago County
- Developed a new page on our website for elected officials with public health resources & information
- Partnered with the City of Neenah on sign restrictions policy to provide community-wide COVID messaging
- Provided public testimony for the WI Joint Finance Committee during their virtual state budget hearing
- Piloted our Health in All Policies Health Equity Lens Analysis Tool with the Falls Prevention Program

By The Numbers

Public Testimony or Presentations by Policy Team at Municipal Meetings: 6

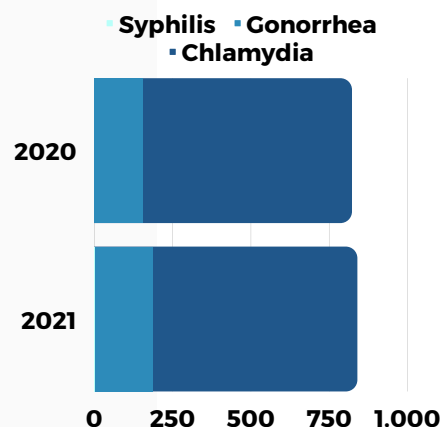
Letters & Fact Sheets on Public Health Policies to Decision Makers: 4

Public Health Policy Connections Newsletters Sent to Elected Officials: 4

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Communicable disease (CD) staff play an important role in detecting, preventing and controlling illness in the community by investigating all reportable communicable diseases, monitoring disease rates and trends, and guiding strategies to prevent spread of diseases. During the pandemic, this team led much of the COVID-19 response. They have been a leader in all vaccine efforts, in addition to managing outbreaks, working with additional contact tracers and disease investigators hired for the response, and providing guidance tailored to the specific needs of the public, hotline staff, local organizations, businesses, long term care facilities and schools.

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI): STI rates continue to be an issue in Winnebago County. In 2021, there were 651 cases of Chlamydia, 186 of Gonorrhea and 2 of Syphilis.



Tuberculosis (TB): CD staff is responsible for triaging referrals of latent TB infection, sputum collection for people with active and suspect TB disease, Directly Observed Therapy and Video Directly Observed Therapy, contact investigations, and phlebotomies for TB screening. The team monitored 90 TB cases in 2021, 87 were latent and 3 active. This was 31 more cases than 2020.

Immunization: Childhood immunization clinics resumed at the health department after being on hold due to COVID-19. CD staff also provided 409 influenza vaccines to county staff.

Children in Winnebago County that are up to date on immunizations



By The Numbers

Employee Flu Vaccine: 409

TB Cases: 90

Total STIs: 839



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

The Community Health & Prevention Division (CHP) works with residents and partners on systems and policy change to create equitable conditions and improve community health. In 2021 the team also worked with partners to build equity in the department's COVID-19 vaccination efforts. They provided information about the vaccines, addressed concerns of various populations including Black, immigrant, Hmong, and Latinx communities in an authentic, community-centered and trust-building initiative that eliminated barriers to vaccine access.

Housing: Safe and stable housing continued to be a priority area. CHP staff served on the City of Oshkosh's technical committee for their Housing Needs Assessment and Strategy Plan. The Winnebago County Eviction Prevention Task Force applied for ARPA funds and developed a strategic plan to improve housing stability. Our team supported ESTHER in applying for and receiving a DHS Mobilizing Communities for a Just Response grant. ESTHER aims to utilize community engagement tools to better understand the housing needs of people who are undocumented, have been released from jail or prison, college students, are in recovery, and single-parent families. The CHP team also supported the Day by Day Warming Shelter in serving their clients throughout the pandemic.

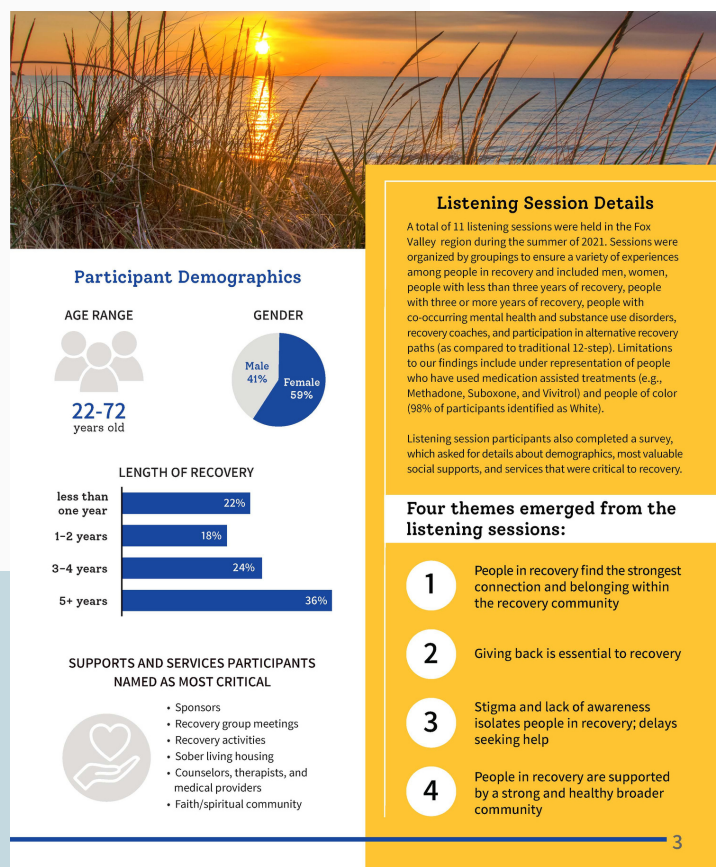
Social Connectedness: CHP partnered with Solutions Recovery, Inc, Shaffer Counseling & Consulting, and Unity Recovery Services. to host focus groups to better understand how connection and belonging are experienced in the recovery community and the avenues in which the community could better support those in recovery. The results were published in our [Connection & Belonging Voices of People in Recovery Report](#).

By The Numbers

Lifepoint Needle Exchange Visits: 1,183

Doses of Narcan Given Out: 1256

Community Partners in OFR Team: 47



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

Substance Use:

Breakwater: A Community Together: This community coalition is aimed at preventing and reducing youth and adult substance use in Winnebago County. In 2021, Breakwater welcomed a new coordinator, recorded new episodes of The Break Water Podcast, ran a Navigating Cannabis Series in the Oshkosh Herald, and released a PSA to showcase the importance of "We Heart You" cards and reaching out for help. Breakwater also partnered with the Oshkosh Police Department to conduct alcohol compliance checks and hosted CHEERS classes. Out of 74 businesses that were checked, 59 passed. Those who did not pass, and this was their first offense, were offered a CHEERS class to learn about the dangers of underage alcohol use.

Overdose Fatality Review (OFR): The OFR team continued to review deaths by overdose and provide recommendations to reduce overdose deaths in the county. They implemented the Handle with Care program with Oshkosh Area School District to reduce the impact of childhood trauma and increase the accessibility of substance use training to mental health providers. The team also began to build a rapid response system for non-fatal overdoses. Nearing the end of 2021, the county experienced a significant increase in deaths by overdose due to the prevalence of fentanyl. The OFR team quickly formed an overdose spike response team to prioritize messaging and create awareness on fentanyl and the benefits of Narcan and programs like neverusealone.org.

Mentorship Grant: WCHD was awarded the Health Equity & Overdose Prevention Mentorship Program grant from NACCHO. This will allow the team to learn from others and increase equity in our overdose prevention work. Funds will be used to offer training opportunities to staff and members of the community.

Harm Reduction: CHP maintained the Narcan Direct grant through Wisconsin DHS and worked to increase access to Narcan throughout the community. We also worked with pharmacy partners and created Narcan cards to increase access. Our Lifepoint needle exchange program continued to adjust to the needs of the community throughout the pandemic and was heavily supported by the administrative division.

By The Numbers

Alcohol Compliance Checks: 74

New episodes of The Break Water Podcast: 28



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health (EH) division provides inspections, consultations and education to prevent and minimize the harmful environmental exposures from air, water, housing, places of work, toxic materials, vector control, nuisances and human health hazards. Staff also respond to environmental complaints, including housing, solid waste and trash, junk vehicles, indoor and outdoor air quality, mold, animal concerns, vector, pests issues and hazardous materials. In 2021, Environmental Health staff also played a big role in COVID-19 response. They took the lead in helping businesses establish COVID-19 protocols and responded to 113 COVID-19 related business complaints. They also answered the COVID-19 hotline, provided return to work documentation, coordinated PPE, and notified positive cases.

Radon Testing: Winnebago County has higher than average levels of radon, therefore WCHD encourages routine testing. Radon test kits are sold at the health department year-round, with a discount during Radon Awareness Month in January. In 2021, 63 radon kits were sold and 72 homes were tested. 49% of homes tested were at a healthy level and required no action; 26% were between 4.1 to 8.0 pCi/L and a long-term radon test was recommended; 25% were at 8.1 pCi/L or higher and staff recommended consultation with a professional to consider a radon-reduction system

Sanitarian Inspections: The Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) provides licensing and inspection for food establishments, lodging, campgrounds, pools, mobile home communities, body art facilities and recreational camps. The goal of the program is to prevent communicable diseases and foodborne illnesses from affecting residents and visitors. In 2021, staff conducted a total of 1,012 inspections.

By The Numbers - Sanitarian Inspections

Food Establishments: 839

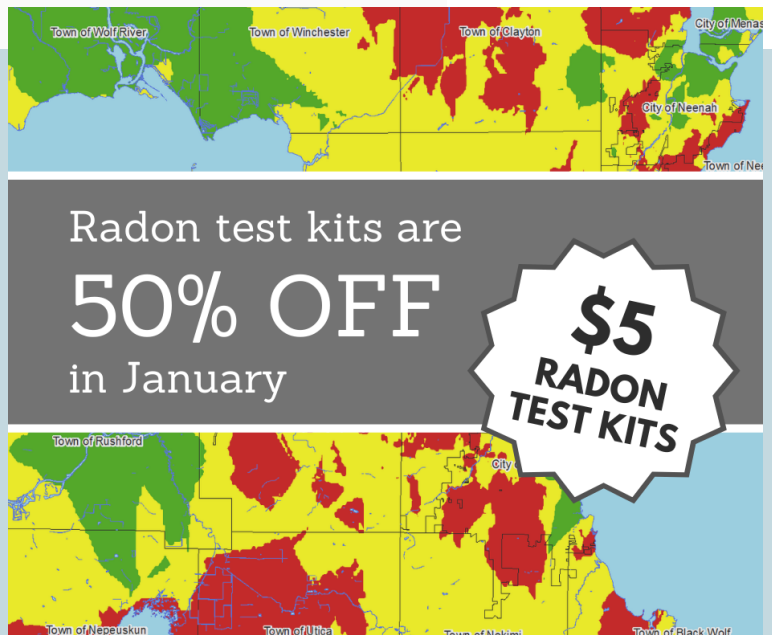
Pools: 72

Lodging: 60

Body Art Establishments: 17

Campgrounds: 14

Mobile Home Communities: 10



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

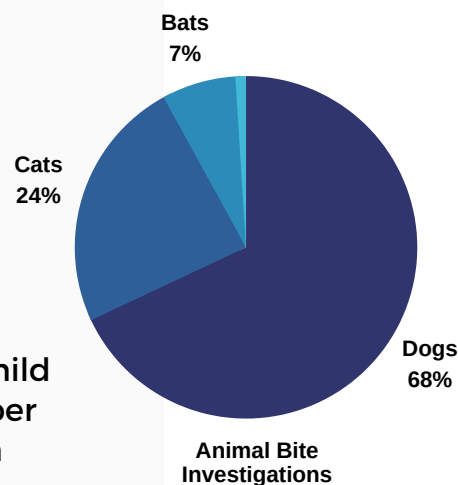
Carbon Monoxide: On average, carbon monoxide poisoning sends about 500 Wisconsinites to the emergency room each year. When a blood test shows a person has a Carboxyhemoglobin (COHb) level at or above 5%, WCHD staff conducts follow-up interviews to determine the cause of the elevated level. In 2021, 9 cases required follow-up investigations.

Transient Non-Community Water: Locations serving water to at least 25 people for 6 or more months of the year require testing. In 2021, 2 of the 117 establishments tested had unsafe bacteria levels requiring 21 additional samples.

Animal Bite Investigations: WCHD staff works with law enforcement, veterinarians and state officials to ensure all potential human cases of rabies are investigated. In consultation with local physicians and veterinarians, WCHD provides guidance on treatment for the individual and animal that may have been exposed to rabies. In 2021, 234 animal bites were investigated.

Elevated Lead: In 2021, WCHD responded to 15 reports of a child with an elevated blood lead level at or above 5 micrograms per deciliter. All cases received consultation from a public health nurse and an environmental assessment of the home.

Drug Drop: There are 4 locations located in Winnebago County where residents can drop off unwanted medication to be properly disposed, preventing drug abuse, accidental poisoning, and environmental hazards. Staff routinely assists with sorting and disposing of medication from these locations.



By The Numbers

Radon Tests: 72

Animal Bite Investigations: 234

Carbon Monoxide
Investigations: 9

Lots of heat, little rain fuel early algae blooms on lakes

County health officials are now warning people to be cautious because of the health and safety risks.



HEALTHY LIFESPAN

The Healthy Lifespan Division (HLS) promotes health throughout all stages of life by providing client education and advocacy, nursing services, community engagement and coalition work. Focus areas include injury prevention, maternal and child health, aging adult services, preventive health screenings for women and mental health.

Family Child Health: In 2021, prenatal care coordination, new mom/baby visits, and basic need distributions (car seat fittings and pack 'n plays) were on hold due to COVID-19. Additional routine services (child immunizations, parent events) were limited as the HLS division staff were pulled to the COVID-19 response. Nevertheless, public health nurses were a main support for schools, childcare centers and families across the region navigating the pandemic.

One of the positive changes as a result of navigating the COVID-19 pandemic was expanding our capacity to serve families in a hybrid of virtual ways and expand our paraprofessional case management (nursing, dieticians, peer counselors). More communication avenues such as text, email and video calls were acquired to make communicating with our residents more feasible to their schedule and travel barriers.

Advocacy: Staff partnered with First 5 Fox Valley to educate board members, staff, residents and others on ARPA spending opportunities to protect young families. As well as bring themes into the County's Aging Plan & Livable Communities strategies.

Milk Depot: The Mothers' Milk Bank of the Western Great Lakes provides pasteurized donor human milk to premature and critically ill babies, supports moms who donate milk after loss, and distributes reduced cost or free donor milk to chronically ill middle and low income children. In 2021, our Oshkosh depot dispensed 20,585 ounces of donor milk to Wisconsin residents, which is almost double the amount of milk from 2020.

By The Numbers

Families that Received Diapers: 359

Ounces of Donor Breast Milk: 20,585

Housing Authority Nurse Visits: Over 1,000

Wellness Plus Class Participants: 230



HEALTHY LIFESPAN

Promoting Healthy Aging: Our local Fall Prevention Coalition, Finding Balance Together continued implementing automated referrals from EMS to the ADRC & WCHD directly at the incident utilizing a new app. As the pandemic restrictions ease, PHNs will be able to follow up on in-home falls risks and improvements.



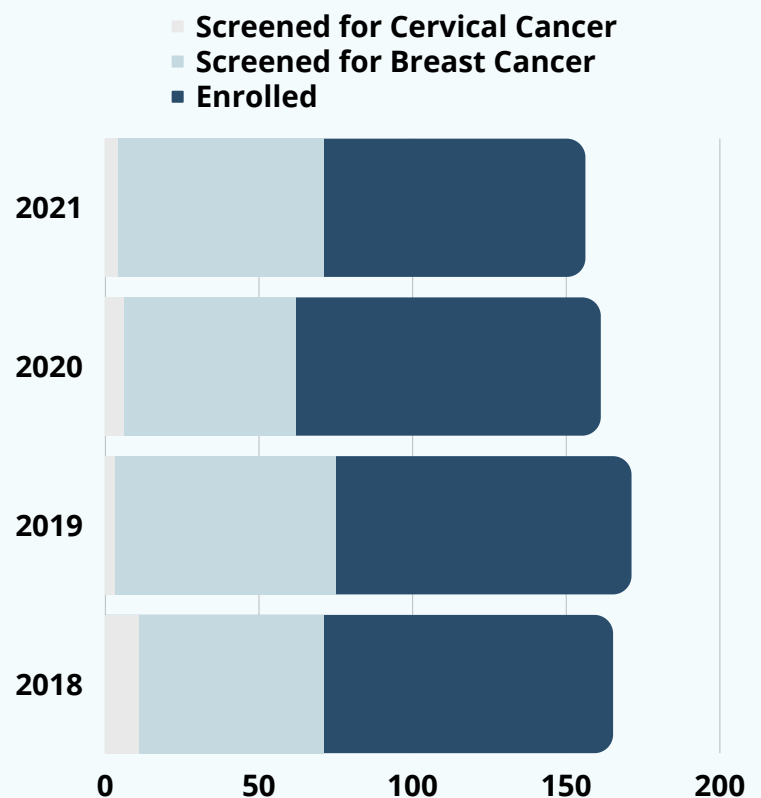
Housing Authority Support: The Winnebago County Health Department is contracted by the Winnebago County/Oshkosh Housing Authority (HA) to provide services to residents in subsidized housing to help them remain in their independent living residence as long as possible. Over 1,000 nurse visits were still made to HA residents throughout seven locations in 2021. As well as critical disease management and prevention mitigation advisory to the HA agency's administration and staff.

Diaper Bank: Staff continued to distribute diapers to families throughout the pandemic. In 2021, 359 families received free diapers, and 75% of those families were under the federal poverty level.

Feminine care products were also provided to 111 women in need.

Wisconsin Well Woman Program: The Wisconsin Well Woman Program provides breast and cervical cancer screening to low income, uninsured or underinsured. In 2021, 85 women in Winnebago County were enrolled in the program, 67 breast cancer screenings were completed and 4 cervical cancer screenings.

Winnebago County
Wisconsin Well Woman
Program Utilization



By The Numbers - Wisconsin Well Woman Program

Winnebago County

Participants: 85

Breast Cancer Screenings: 67

Cervical Cancer Screenings: 4

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC)

WIC is a supplemental nutrition program for pregnant women, infants, women who are breastfeeding, postpartum women, and children younger than 5. WIC provides nutrition education, breastfeeding education and support, supplemental nutritious foods, and connections to other community services. There are two WIC locations in Winnebago County that are in the Oshkosh and Neenah health department offices.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) waived the requirement that WIC participants attend office visits in person. This flexibility extended throughout the entire 2021 year. In response, most families have been meeting with WIC staff over the phone, and accommodations were made for families that preferred to meet in person.

At the start of 2021, the Winnebago County WIC program joined forces with the Outagamie County WIC program to form a new project that serves both counties. There was a total of 6,377 WIC participants in 2021 under this new structure, with 3,071 from Winnebago County. In Winnebago County, 181 participants were pregnant women, 653 post partum, 595 infants (under age 1), and 1,642 ages 1 through 4.



In 2021, WIC participants redeemed benefits worth over \$2 million within Winnebago and Outagamie counties to benefit local stores.

WIC's Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) increased benefits in 2021 to allow one \$30 voucher per participant instead of per family. WIC participants in Winnebago and Outagamie Counties received \$77,820 in FMNP vouchers, and 48% were redeemed at local farmers markets.

53 families from Winnebago County were enrolled in Fit Families, a program for 2- to 4-year-olds that empowers families to adopt healthy eating and physical activity behaviors.

By The Numbers

Participants: 6,377

Farmers Market Vouchers

Redeemed: \$37,354

WIC Benefits Redeemed at Local

Stores: \$2,233,691

