



Lincoln County Health Department

Annual Report

2015



Promoting optimal health and safety through prevention, protection, and intervention.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Lincoln County Health Department

Mission

The mission of the Lincoln County Health Department is to provide services to residents promoting optimal health and safety through prevention, protection, and intervention.

Vision

The Lincoln County Health Department will advocate for the public's health through promotion of healthy living and prevention.

Core Values

We display a high level of professionalism.

We are credible in all that we do.

We focus on prevention.

We advocate for the public's health.

We promote healthy living.

We are respectful of the diversity of our community.

We engage the community and partners in health promotion.

Message from the Director

I am pleased to present to you our 2015 Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD) Annual Report. This report provides a summary of the many ways in which our department touches the lives of Lincoln County residents each and every day in achieving our mission “to provide services to residents promoting optimal health and safety through prevention, protection, and intervention”.

Our public health department staff strives to provide to Lincoln County residents high standards of excellence in the programs and services we provide. In 2015 Lincoln County Health Department and the Board of Health made the commitment to apply to the Public Health Accreditation Board to complete National Public Health Accreditation.

Accreditation provides our health department with the ability to identify performance improvement opportunities in our department, provide a standard of excellence in services and programs for our communities, challenges us to advocate for public health policies and resources, and strengthens our public health workforce. The process keeps us focused on evaluating what we do and how we do it.

We cannot accomplish this alone. Providing Essential Services of Public Health requires community partnerships. I would like to thank our staff, the Board of Health, Lincoln County Board, our community partners and the residents of Lincoln County for continuing to provide us with the support and collaboration we need to do the work that we do each and every day.

Respectfully yours,



Shelley Hersil, CHES, MPH
Director/Heath Officer
Lincoln County Health Department



Ten Essential Services of Public Health

1. **Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community.**
2. **Protect people from health problems and health hazards.**
3. **Give people information they need to make healthy choices.**
4. **Engage the community to identify and solve health problems.**
5. **Develop public health policies and plans.**
6. **Enforce public health laws and regulations.**
7. **Help people receive health services.**
8. **Maintain a competent public health workforce.**
9. **Evaluate and improve programs and interventions.**
10. **Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health.**

Summary of Programs and Services

Chronic Disease

- **Working with partners on identified health priorities** through programs and policies using evidenced-based practices, assessments, education, and readiness for change.

Family Health Services

- **Lead screening/follow-up** on children with elevated blood lead levels and hazard risk assessments of dwellings.
- **Healthcheck** provides complete health exam with vision and hearing screening for Medicaid recipients.
- **Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC)** provides pregnant women enrolled in Forward Health Medicaid Program personal support, education, and counseling and assistance in finding needed resources by a public health nurse.
- **Oral Health Preventative Program** promotes fluoride supplements, varnish and school-based sealant.
- **Child Passenger Seats and Cribs for Kids** provided at no or low cost to qualifying families.
- **First Breath and Baby and Me** provides tobacco and alcohol resources for pregnant moms wanting to quit.

Communicable Disease Prevention and Control

- Provide surveillance, investigation, education and follow-up with reportable **communicable diseases**.

Immunizations

- **Childhood immunizations** are available for infants and children. **Adult immunizations** are offered for a low cost.

Worksite Wellness

- **TB skin testing, drug and alcohol screening, Hepatitis B, A and Influenza** immunizations are provided.

Adult and Elderly Care

- **Foot care** for residents of Lincoln County, ages 60 and older.
- **Wisconsin Well Women Program (WWWP)/ Referring to Portage County, Regional Coordination** which provides free breast and cervical cancer screening to women between the ages of 45-64 with low income, no or not enough insurance.

Jail Health Services

- Provide **on-site jail health services** including assessments, health counseling and coordination of services.
- Provided on-site **STD testing** for inmates including follow-up and treatment.

School Health Services

- **On-site school health services** including health counseling, health assessments, and coordination of services.

Public Health Preparedness

- Plan, prepare and respond to **natural or man-made disaster** along with community partners.

Environmental Health

- Investigate and enforce written complaints of potential **health hazard violations** that affect the public's health.
- **Well water testing** available for nitrates, fluoride and metals. **Water Analysis** for bacteria. **Radon testing** available.
- **Code enforcement, licensing, complaint investigation, inspection and education** of retail food stores, restaurants, pools, campgrounds, hotels/motels, tattoo & body piercing parlors, and mobile home parks.
- Investigate animal bites in Lincoln County to prevent and **control rabies**.
- **DNR Well Water Program** provides well water test and assessment for all transient non-community water supplies.

Performance Management

Program Area	Objective	Baseline	Results 2015
Disease Prevention and Control	By December 31, 2015, 82% of Lincoln County children will complete 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 Varicella and 4 Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV) vaccinations by their second birthday.	73% 2014	72%
	By June 30, 2015, 75% of pregnant women enrolled in Lincoln County Health Department's PNCC program will have received their annual flu vaccine.	53% (9) 2013/2014 flu season	61% (18)
	By December 31, 2015, 40% of Lincoln County resident's age 13-18 years of age will have received 3 doses of the HPV vaccine.	32% 2014	37%
	By October 31 st , 2015 there will be an increase in the 2015 immunization compliance rate at Prairie River Middle School from the 2014 97% baseline to 99%.	97% 2014-2015	95% 2015-2016
	By December 31, 2015, 100% of all disease cases will be completed within 60 days of receipt in WEDSS and within 45 days for STD cases. Exception TB.	2014 disease 99%, STD 93%	100% disease and STD cases
	By December 31, 2015, 100% of disease investigation staff, who completed a disease investigation during 2015 will have a chart audit completed to check for compliance in investigation guidelines.	New measure	75%
Family Health Services	By June 30, 2015, 20 or more unduplicated Lincoln County women enrolled in the WWWP will have received pre cancer cervical &/or breast screening services.	50	20 – Program ended in June
	By December 31, 2015, parents/guardians receiving a child passenger seat (CPS) through Lincoln County Health Department's program will have 'moderate' to 'significant' knowledge and ability to properly use and install a CPS.	16 child passenger seats provided in LC in 2014. Knowledge of proper car seat used increased - moderately (3.8) A am able to properly install the car seat on my own after receiving instruction – moderately (3.8)	2015, 15 seats provided. Knowledge of proper car seat used increased - moderately (3.3) A am able to properly install the car seat on my own after receiving instruction – moderately (3.8)
	By December 31, 2015, two area physicians from two different medical clinics will sign the Parenting Support Network of Lincoln County's safe sleep endorsement and agree to maintain and make available for distribution to caregivers of children safe sleep information.	New Measure	1 provided signed on
	By December 31, 2015, there will be a 150% increase in subscriptions to the Parenting Support Network of Lincoln County website.	As of 1-1-15, 13 subscribers	Increase of 315%; 28 new subscribers
	By December 31, 2015, 35% of medium to high risk postpartum families will receive a face to face visit.	In 2014, 27% (30 out of 111).	28.5% (25 out of 85)
	Chronic Disease	By December 31, 2015, 100% of our foot care participants who have known diagnoses of Diabetes &/or Circulatory problems, will have special client papers signed by client & provider, on file, and completed by a public health nurse.	In 2014, QI project initiated & 100% completed
By June 1, 2015, Dave's County Market will implement the "Best Picks" labeling system		New initiative	Completed
By June 1, 2015, 2 convenience stores in Lincoln County will implement 3 best practice strategies in promoting and or providing health options in their store.		New initiative	Completed
By December 31, 2015, 1 best practice will be implemented in the community based on LC Mental Health Coalition's Workplan.		In 2014, 2 best practice tools were completed	Hopeline - Posters, social media, mailings, and Cosmo Ads
By April 1, 2015, a HPLC annual report will be provided to 10 community partners.		New Initiative	Completed
By, December 31, 2015, 2 health care providers/ agencies/schools/ or businesses will implement oral health practices into their education programs or practices.		7 in 2014	6 in 2015
By December 31, 2015, three strategies in support of priority Other Tobacco Products (OTP) policies will be implemented.		2 environmental scans were completed in 2014 and results were shared with 3 representatives.	Incomplete

Public Health Preparedness	By June 30, 2015, increase staff's knowledge in the following CDC Public Health Preparedness Capabilities: Community Recovery (2) and Mass Care (7) will increase.	<u>2014 Confidence in Skills:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Recovery Average - 3.2 Mass Care Average – 2.8 (1 - Very Confident, 2 – Confident, 3 Somewhat Confident, 4 - Not At All Confident). 	<u>Confidence in Skills:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Recovery Average - 2.9 Mass Care Average – 2.5 (1 - Very Confident, 2 – Confident, 3 Somewhat Confident, 4 - Not At All Confident).
	By December 31, 2015, the average confirmed response rate by staff for quarterly Everbridge drills will increase to 85%.	In 2014, 77%	84% (only two drills)
	By December 2015, 2015 80% of all phone calls, including training calls, on category I communicable disease reports, excluding outbreaks, will be transferred to the appropriate staff member and proper follow up initiated within 15 minutes.	2014: 100% drill 54% actual events. 65% overall	100% drill, 81% actual events, 99% overall
School Health	By September 30, 2015 at least 50% of Individual Health Plans will be completed.	New measure	Kate Goodrich 25% Washington 33% Jefferson .04% Maple Grove 50% PRMS .075% MHS 63% Head Start/Early Childhood 84%
	By December 31, 2015 at least 50% of Kindergarten parents will provide medication and forms according to MAPS Medication policy and procedures.	New measure	Maple Grove 0 medications Jefferson – 60% Kate Goodrich 66% Washington 75%
Environmental Health	By December 31, 2015, 100% of Human Health Hazard Investigations will start within 5 days of receiving the complaint.	78% in 2014	89%
	By June 30, 2015, 98% of establishments for Agent and DATCAP contracts will receive their annual inspection timely.	96% DATCAP, 93% Agent	94.5% Agent 96% DATCAP
	By December 31, 2015, 95% of DNR well surveys will be completed on time.		89.5%
Strategic Plan	By December 31, 2015, a QI Self-Assessment will be completed.	New Measure	Completed
	By December 31, 2015, at least 2 QI Project results will be posted on the health department's website or newsletter.	New Measure	Completed
	By December 31, 2015, staff will demonstrate an increase in knowledge and skills to conduct QI Projects.	New Measure	100% increase among staff
	By June 1st, 2015, Public Health Accreditation Board Domains 7, 8, 9 and 3 will be complete with a score of 4.	Domain 7- 3 Domain 8-3 Domain 9- 3 Domain 3- 4 4=complete	Domain 7- 3.5 Domain 8-4 Domain 9- 3.5 Domain 3- 3.5 4=complete
	By April 1, 2015, LCHD will submit an application to the Public Health Accreditation Board.	New Measure	Complete
	By December 31, 2015, the average score of staff competencies in public health science (above 2.7) and analytical assessment (above 2.88) will increase.	In 2014, science – 2.7, analytical 2.7	In 2015, science – 2.7, analytical 2.8
	By December 31, 2015, staff will report that they have implemented 2 tools to improve their time management.	New Measure	100% among 11 staff
	By December 31, 2015, all staff job descriptions will incorporate Core Competencies	Complete	Complete
	By December 31, 2015, a new staff training log will be implemented.	Train log is currently in TRAIN.	Complete

Health Access – World Café Style

A total of 32 community stakeholders and health professionals gathered in both Merrill and Tomahawk in March 2015 to engage in deep conversations about what is preventing Lincoln County residents from achieving healthy lives.

Four groups of three to four people addressed each of the questions in round robin fashion—World Cafe. The following are common themes as the result of brainstorming among those that attended.

Resilience through building life skills:

- Build on current initiatives.
- Focus on teaching people about simple preventative measures that can be taken to help avoid health issues.
- Provide people with much more information about the local resources
- Do more to advocate for area job creation.
- Educate people about self-worth.
- Help to develop more life skills training in schools.
- Work in collaboration with agencies to create more local parks and recreation opportunities.

Connecting residents to county health care resources:

- Use social media.
- Establish a county-based helpline similar to 211.
- Partner with local libraries and other institutions to get Internet based information to residents.
- Improve the phone service at Social Services.
- Educate people on the difference among the services offered.
- Organizations need to share information with one another about what they provide.
- Create a mentoring system for those who need assistance.

Nutrition:

The discussion focused heavily on improving nutrition as a necessary life skill leading to better health. Partners expressed the need to expand efforts into the northern part of the county. Agencies represented in the planning process indicated that a focus on policy changes would profoundly influence residents' eating habits.

Final Identified Strategies

Final discussion included developing an action plan based on the final strategies selected by stakeholders:

Strategy 1:

Develop community/home gardening initiatives.

Strategy 2:

Expand a current program focusing on teaching residents, especially those who have low –incomes, how to prepare nutritional foods.

Strategy 3:

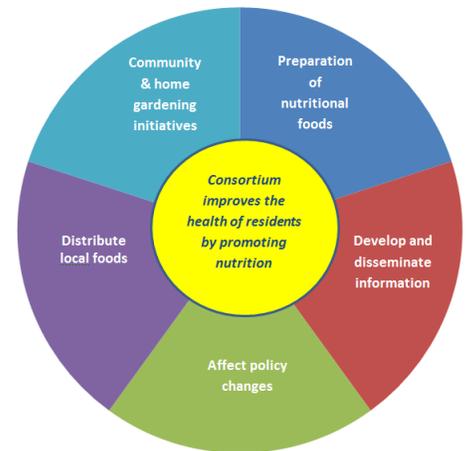
Develop and disseminate information about nutrition.

Strategy 4:

Affect policy changes.

Strategy 5:

Promote the distribution of local foods.



Healthy People Lincoln County

Working with partners help accomplish something that one agency could not do alone. Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD) partners with numerous agencies, departments and individuals throughout the county in order to make the community a healthier place to live and work. This initiative called Healthy People Lincoln County (HPLC). HPLC and their partners are able to pool resources, ideas and skills to avoid duplication and provide higher quality programs or services for the community.

Below are some 2015 Highlights:

Lincoln County Oral Health Coalition

2nd Annual Sugar Day-☺ut

In celebration of February Dental Health Month 2015, the Lincoln County Oral Health Coalition asked families and individuals to take the **Sugar Out Day** pledge to reduce the sugar they eat and drink for the day.

Results of the Campaign are as follows:

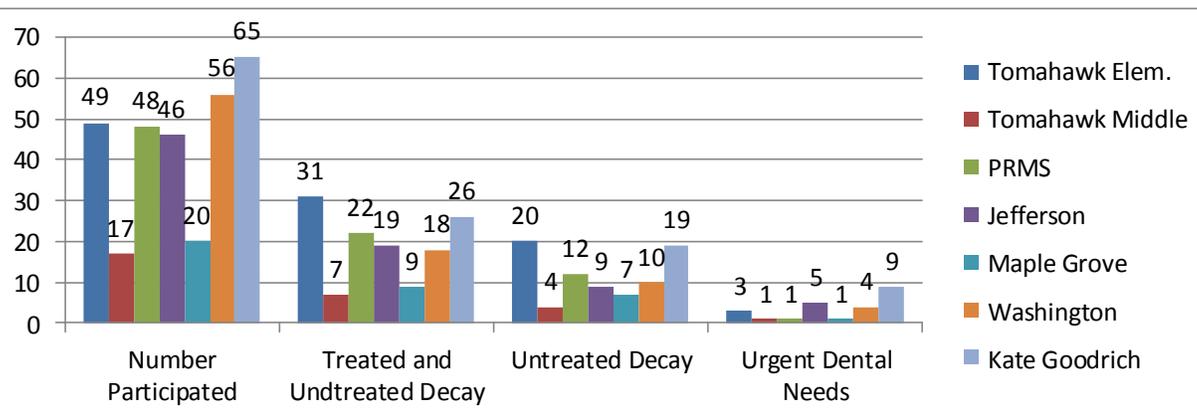
- ☺ Students increased their knowledge on sugar's effect on their teeth through community presentations at **Tomahawk Elementary, Washington Elementary, Jefferson Elementary and Pine River School for the Young Learner**. Students also pledge to be sugar free for the week of February 23rd
- ☺ A **presentation** was provided to parents at the Pine River School for the Young Learners as well as Washington Elementary's Lighted School House.
- ☺ **12 Dental offices** received a mailing encouraging their office to participate in Sugar Out Day.
- ☺ All public schools received a copy of the **Sugar Out Day Elementary School Tool Kit**.
- ☺ 4th graders in Merrill Area schools received a **dental hygiene packet from Ministry Health**.
- ☺ **26 Community members pledged** to be Sugar Free for the week of February 23rd.

Lincoln County Oral Health Coalition members are committed to community fluoridated water through the promotion of an agency endorsement statement. In 2015, 7 Coalition members signed this endorsement.



Dental Sealants 2014-2015 School Year

Lincoln County Health Department provides free dental sealants to all second, third, sixth and seventh graders in public schools. During the 2014-2015 school year 301 students participated in this program.



Lincoln County Nutrition Coalition

<p>Healthier Options At Convenience Stores: CHANGE grant</p>	<p>In 2015, four Convenience stores in Lincoln County implemented strategies to increase and market healthy food options in their stores as well as the promotion of these options.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lotter's Merrill Mobil Tomahawk BP Highway 51 Truckstop Tomahawk R Store</p>
<p>Healthier Options at Grocery Stores: "Best Picks" labeling system at Dave's County Market</p>	<p>Dave's County Market has labeled the healthiest foods in their store, to help customers identify the "Best Picks" for their plates. A kick-off was held in March 2015. Some examples of "Best Picks" foods include fresh fruits and vegetables, lower salt and lower sugar prepared fruits and vegetables (including juices), whole grain foods, reduced fat dairy and meat products.</p> <p>The "Best Picks" foods can be identified by looking for this label:</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <h2 style="font-size: 2em;">BEST Pick</h2> </div> </div>
<p>Community Garden Grant</p>	<p>The Health Department received a grant in July 2015 from Wisconsin Partnership program, for \$50,000 over 2 years, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create, expand, maintain, promote and sustain community gardens. • Develop community member's social connectedness. • Educate the community on gardening, and eating and preparing healthy foods. <p>The grant will implement a new community garden in Merrill, as well as expand gardens at Grace Lutheran Church and Kinship in Tomahawk.</p>

Lincoln County Mental Health Coalition

HOPELINE is a free service provided by the Center for Suicide Awareness. It is the first Emotional Support Text Line in Wisconsin and provides service throughout the entire state.

HOPELINE Promotional Efforts:

- HOPELINE posters/cards distributed to schools in Lincoln County (middle and high schools) and various coalition members.
- HOPELINE ads aired at the Merrill Cosmo Theater in December 2015 and January 2016.
- HOPELINE promoted via social media (Lincoln County Health Department, Parenting Support Network, etc.)



Photo above is 1 of 3 HOPELINE paid ads that aired at the Merrill Movie Theater in December 2015.

"Be SAFE" Safe, Affirming and Fair Environments

Be Safe is a curriculum from Michigan State University Extension designed to help young people, ages 11 to 14, and adults work in partnership to create environments that are physically and emotionally safe. UW-Extension sponsored training. *(6 individuals from Lincoln County became trained instructors in April 2015)*

Mental Health Resource Distribution Totals

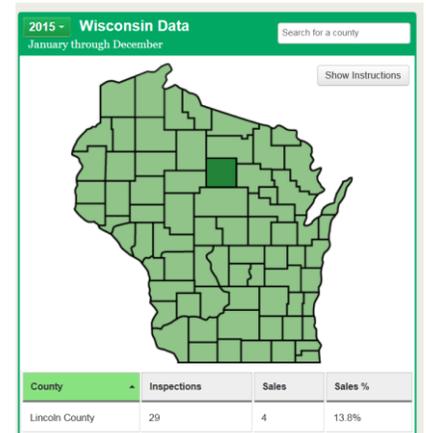
- **1,272** - Resource Guide
- **195** - Crisis Cards
- **80** - HOPELINE Posters
- **60** - HOPELINE Cards

Chronic Disease Prevention

Tobacco Control and Prevention

Lincoln County Health Department is part of the 6-county Northwood's Tobacco-Free Coalition. Participation includes education legislatures, partners and public on other tobacco products including electronic cigarettes, health effects of tobacco use, and tobacco quitting resources.

Additional coalition activities include participating in the Wisconsin Wins (WI Wins) campaign. This campaign is a State-level initiative designed to decrease youth access to tobacco products. Local investigations occur throughout the year to determine if retailers are selling tobacco to minors. WI Wins Program data for Lincoln County in 2015 is as follows: **29 random checks** were completed and **4 establishments** sold tobacco to a minor. The current illegal sale rate of tobacco is 13.8%.



In 2015, Lincoln County Board of Health forwarded their recommendations to update Lincoln County Ordinance 9.04 Prohibiting the use of E-cigarettes in/near County Buildings and Vehicles. The County Board passed this resolution in September 2015.

Breast Cancer Treatment Fund

In November 2014, Lincoln County Health Department joined the Breast Cancer Treatment Fund of Central Wisconsin's Local Advisory Board. The Breast Cancer Treatment Fund of Central Wisconsin, was seeded by a grant from Susan G. Komen (SGK), a national organization dedicated to ending breast cancer. It was a new resource available to women undergoing active treatment for a breast cancer diagnosis, and was designed to ease some of the financial stressors patients may face. It provided \$17,500 in cash to individuals which helped with financial assistance for those eligible residents in Lincoln County and Marathon County. These two counties were chosen as the focus because they have the most need within the seven-county central Wisconsin region. Excluding skin cancer, breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in Wisconsin women. In 2015, the grant was accepted, but funds were not given to the local board. This coalition plans to continue its efforts, apply for grant funding in the next cycle which starts in April, with hopes to expand to the other 7 counties in the Wisconsin region of the Central Wisconsin SGK for fiscal year 2016-2017.

Alcohol and Drug Prevention

During the 2015 holiday season, the Lincoln County Health Department implemented the BUZZKILL campaign in collaboration with the Lincoln County Drug-free Coalition. The campaign's focus is to educate adults of social hosting laws. Under Wisconsin law, anyone 21 or older who allows an underage person to drink or possess alcohol on their property is subject to fines and even jail time. The campaign included a press release, website/ Facebook posts and cinema ads.



This ad appeared at the Merrill Movie Theater throughout December.

Marketing/Community Outreach 2015

Communicable Disease and Prevention	# Reached	Community Health Improvement Plan	# Reached
Flu Promotion , posters, email, mailings, email lists, newspaper and radio ads	1000s	CHANGE grant received (focus CornerStores)	1000s
Measles Outbreak – newspaper, radio, website, Facebook	1000s	Dave’s County Market , Best Picks Point of Purchase Prompts	1000s
Lyme Disease , tick display		Mental Health Resource Guide , mailing	1000s
Immunization Month/Week , newspaper radio and birthday mailings	1000s	Community Garden , newspaper, radio, website	1000s
PCV13 , newspaper, radio		Hopeline , Cosmo paid ads	100s
Medical Provider Newsletter , 2 issues	100s	Sealant Presentation , newspaper, radio, and presentations	100s
Drug Resistant Head Lice , TV	1000s	Sugar Our Day , - presentations, newspaper, toolkit, and pledge	1000s
Chronic Disease	# Reached	School Health Services	# Reached
WI WINS Results , newspaper and radio	1000s	Head Start Classroom Education	100s
Tobacco Retail Training	?	Emergency Medicine and or Delegation Training	100s
BuzzKill , newspaper and radio	1000s	Growth/Development , 4 th and 5 th grade MAPS students	100s
Northwood’s Tobacco-Free Coalition	NA	Family Health Services	# Reached
LC Drug-Free Community Coalition	NA	Drowning Prevention , prevention packet hotels	5 Hotels
Environmental Health	# Reached	Public Health Preparedness	# Reached
Radon – paid Radio and Newspaper Ads	1000s	Mass Clinic , newspaper, mailing	1000s
Water Lab , newspaper and radio	1000s	Warming Sites , websites, radio	1000s
Restaurant Awards	1000s	Head Start Preparedness Display	29
Food Safety , newspaper and radio	1000s		
Inspections Online , newspaper, radio, website	1000s		
Blue Green Algae	1000s		
Lead Display , hardware stores and newspaper	1000s		



*All press releases are also posted on the Lincoln County Health Department’s website www.lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com.

You can follow Lincoln County Health Department on Facebook



Family Health Services

Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC)

PNCC is a Medicaid benefit that helps pregnant women get the extra support and services they need to have a healthy baby. Services provided by a public health nurse include: resources and referral to health care and community services, personal support, health education and nutrition counseling.

Prenatal Care Coordination Outcomes (24 clients/2013, 17 clients/2014 and 24 clients/2015)	Lincoln County (2013)	Lincoln County (2014)	Lincoln County (2015)	Region (2012)	Wisconsin (2012)
Percent of women who obtained Prenatal Care during first trimester	96%	100%	96%	95%	67%
Percent of women who reported decrease smoking/quit during pregnancy	100%	86%	100%	74%	69%
Percent of women who completed prenatal depression screening	88%	77%	100%	81%	48%
Percent of women who reported breastfeeding at 1 month	30%	17%	36%	53%	57%
Percent of women who reported following safe sleep practices	83%	100%	91%	82%	89%

Healthy Babies, Healthy Families

Having a new baby can bring changes for the entire family whether it's the first baby or there are other children in the home. The health department offers all parents a home visit to help make this transition easier. A variety of health and parenting topics are discussed including caring for a newborn, breast feeding, baby's nutritional needs and feeding, safety, baby blues and women's health. In 2015, home visits were completed and telephone visits by a public health nurse. There were approximately 247 births in Lincoln County in 2015.

Healthy Babies, Health Families Home Visit Outcomes (32 clients in 2013, 30 clients in 2014, 21 clients in 2015)	2013	2014	2015
Percent of women who initiate breastfeeding at time of Birth	72%	83%	63%
Percent of women breastfeeding at time of Home Visit	61%	70%	75%
Percent of women who have a contraception plan after birth	85%	90%	75%
Percent of women with increase in knowledge of Tdap vaccine	78%	60%	61%
Percent of women who report following safe sleep practices	77%	73%	100%
Percent of women who reported not allowing smoking in their home	83%	83%	88%
Percent of women on folic acid during pregnancy	96%	87%	100%
Percent of women who completed Ages and Stages Questionnaire	26%	43%	53%

The Parenting Support Network of Lincoln County (PSN) is a coalition consisting of area service agencies who share a mission to promote the health and safety of families through leadership, referrals and education.



Parenting Support Network of Lincoln County

In 2015, the PSN continued its focus on the promotion of safe sleep practices and child development screening to Lincoln County families. Two separate displays focusing on safe sleep and child development were present at the libraries in Merrill and Tomahawk, the UW-Extension and at several WIC clinics in Merrill and Tomahawk. The PSN also had a booth at Merrill's Children's Festival in April. Families were educated about the group's

Tomahawk. The PSN also had a booth at Merrill's Children's Festival in April. Families were educated about the group's

mission, focus areas and encouraged to subscribe to the PSN website. As a result, 11 new families signed up for the website at the event. Various agencies distributed the 2015 edition of the Family Resource Guide throughout the county. Lincoln County Health Department alone distributed 522 copies of this guide. To learn more about the PSN and our activities, visit us at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/lcparentssupport/>.

Fighting Lead Poisoning in Lincoln County

In 2015, local hardware stores teamed up with the Lincoln County Health Department to prevent lead poisoning. Childhood lead poisoning is the most preventable environmental disease among young children. Yet in 2013, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services records show that 70 children in northern Wisconsin alone tested positive for high blood lead levels. Lead can cause long-term learning and behavioral problems for children. Lead poisoning is caused most often by deteriorating lead-based paint or through improper renovation, repair, and painting activities in homes built before 1978. Ace Hardware, Merrill and Tomahawk, Trantow Do-it Center, Merrill and Walmart, Merrill worked with the Health Department to provide lead-safety materials to their customers. Each participating hardware store had a fact sheet displayed and free copies of “Lead Paint Safety: A Field Guide for Painting, Home Maintenance and Renovation Work” available for customers.



Partnering with Local Hotels on Pool Safety Campaign

In response to several drowning deaths, the Lincoln County Child Death Review Team decided to implement a pool safety campaign to prevent future tragedies. Through collaboration with local lodging establishments, the Child Death Review Team created pool signage with general safety information and also developed pool safety kits that included “water watcher” badges and educational materials. Pool party groups were identified as the primary target group.

“The kits are a great service. They are just one more layer in preventing pool injuries and deaths.”

AmericInn, Merrill

NEW PROCESS: Pool safety signage is posted within the pool area. During check in, pool parties receive safety kits and are encouraged to identify an adult “water watcher;” this person wears a designated badge. By wearing the “water watcher” badge, the person is responsible for watching the children within their

Thank you to the following lodging establishments who collaborated with the Lincoln County Child Death Review Team to implement this program. Badger, Merrill; AmericInn, Merrill; Econo Lodge, Merrill; Rodeway Lodge, Tomahawk; and Super 8, Tomahawk.

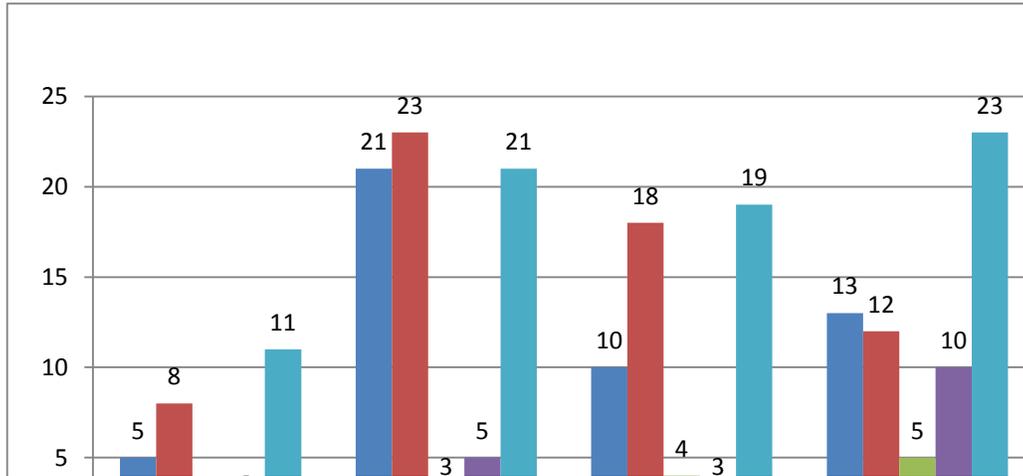
Water Watcher

While wearing this tag, I agree to be responsible for watching the children in the pool.

Drowning is Preventable!

School Health Services

Number of Completed Student Health Plans by Condition 2014-2015

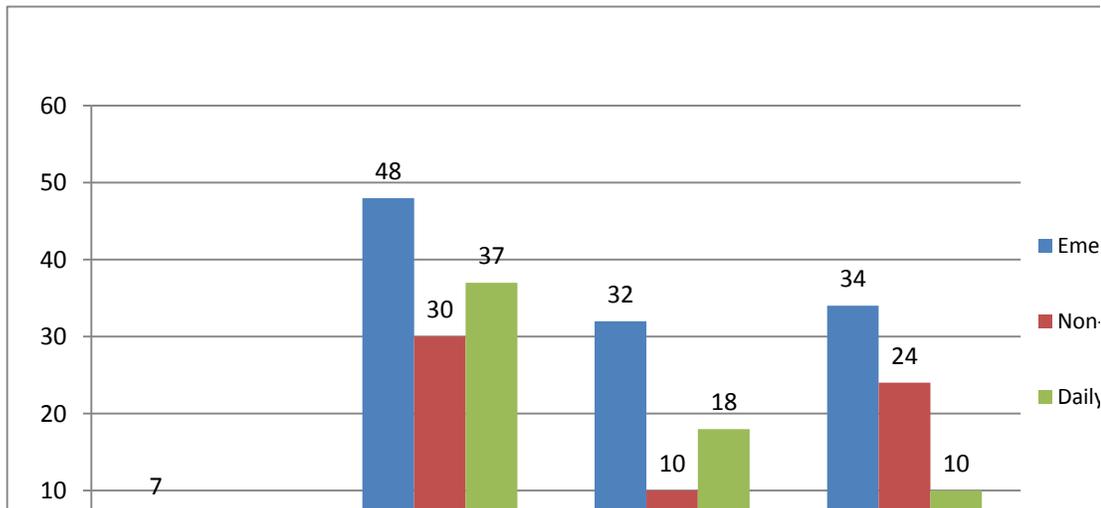


MAPS updated the Emergency Nursing Services policy in 2015.

The objective of emergency nursing service is to assure that pupils' health needs are addressed while they are at school or participating in school-sponsored activities.

This includes provision of necessary medication and health-related services for chronic health conditions, as outlined in a student's Individual Health Plan (IHP), as well as a system for response to emergent medical problems.

Number of Students with Medication at School 2014-2015



Head Start

LCHD contracts with MAPS for Early Childhood and Pine River School for Young Learners Head Start program to provide school health services. In order to meet Head Start's performance standards of determining child health status a Health Fair Screening Day is planned every year. The following are the screenings results for 2015:

- 56 Physical exams
- 47 Vision and 52 hearing screenings
- 52 Blood lead level testing and Hemoglobin determinations
- 50 Dental Exams and fluoride varnish applications

Fluoride Varnish is provided to Lincoln County Head Start during the 2014-15 school year.

- 12 Tomahawk Head Start Children Enrolled - 34 varnishes applied
- 63 Merrill Head Start Children Enrolled - 239 varnishes applied

Adult Health Services

WWWP - Affordable Cancer Prevention Screening

The Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP) provides preventive health screening services to women with little or no health insurance coverage. WWWP pays for mammograms and Pap tests. The program may pay for some follow-up tests to diagnose cancer. In 2015, LCHD provided services from January through June. In July, the program changed to Regional Coordination in which Portage County Health and Human Services became the coordinator for Lincoln County women.

3 - Cervical cancer screenings
0 - Clients diagnosed with cervical cancer
12 - Mammograms & Clinical breast exam
0 - Client diagnosed with breast cancer

Foot Care

Lincoln County Health Department provides foot care clinics monthly in Merrill and Tomahawk. The clinic includes toenail trimming and filing for those above age 60 who qualify.

In 2015 LCHD held 48 foot care clinics at 4 clinic sites with 146 active client's for a total of 813 visits.

Jail Health Services

Lincoln County Health Department provides onsite nursing services at the Lincoln County Jail, Monday through Friday. Services provided include:

- Individual health assessment and counseling
- Immunizations and TB testing
In 2015 immunization clinics, 55 inmates and jail staff qualified for immunizations due to risk factors. 124 vaccinations were given during the 5 clinics offered.
- Monitor and manage medications
- Refer and assist correctional officers with medical concerns
- Management of chronic disease
- Emergency care and skilled nursing procedures
- Training and delegation of staff

1053 - Health conferences with inmates at Lincoln County Jail.

377- Treatment or procedures.

1046 - Conferences with others regarding inmate's health.

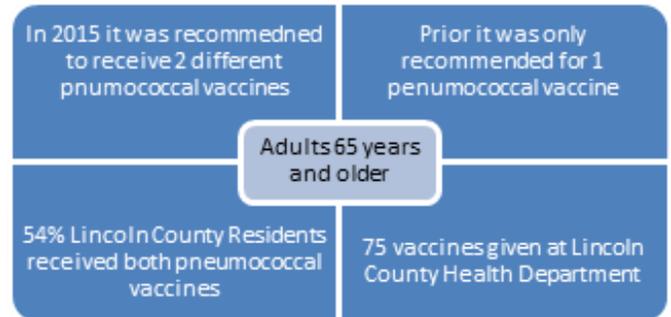
Communicable Disease Prevention and Control

Immunization Clinics, Clients and Shots

Year	No. of Clinics Held	No. of Children & Adults	No. of Vaccines Given
2015	56	1,108	1442
2014	54	1,339	1,617
2013	42	1,194	1,403
2012	53	1,719	2,193

New Pneumococcal Vaccine for those 65 Years and older

Source: Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR)



LCHD Flu Vaccine and Clinics

Lincoln County Health Department held 26 flu clinics for the 2015/2016 influenza season. Eight offsite clinics were offered throughout Merrill, and 12 clinics were held at the Lincoln County Health Department in addition to the monthly immunization clinics. Six clinics were held in Tomahawk. In 2015 a total of 670 doses were administered for the 2015/2016 influenza season.

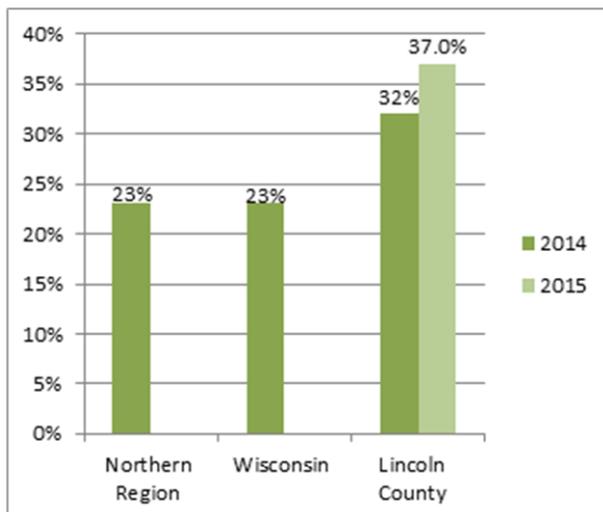
- Children flu given 85
- Adult flu given 585



*2015/2016	<1-6 years	7-12 years	13-18 years	19-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65+ years
	26%	24%	19%	13%	17%	36%	59%

**As of January 28th 2016, percentage of Lincoln County Residents who received their annual flu vaccine, Source: WIR

Youth Completion Rates for HPV Vaccine



*Source: WIR, Age 13-18 year olds who have completed all 3 doses

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine

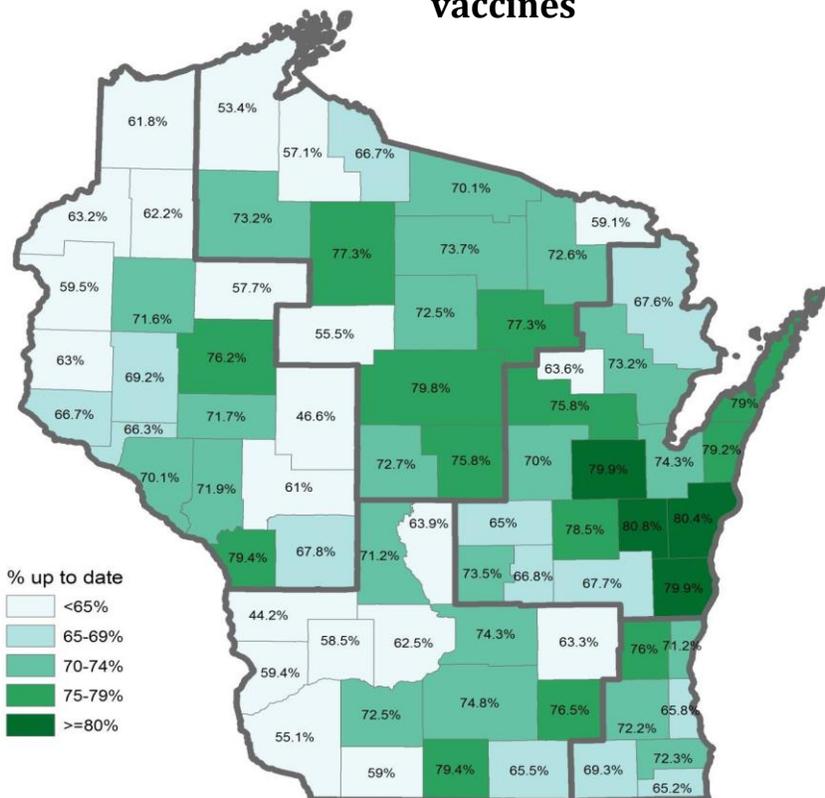
- HPV vaccine rates are low.
- Research has shown providers being the single best reason in a parent's decision to vaccinate their child with the cancer preventing vaccine.
- Local providers have played a major role in Lincoln County being the second highest county in Wisconsin for youth age 13 through 18 years to have completed the HPV vaccine series.
- During the 2016 year LCHD will again continue to focus on HPV vaccine rates in the county.

2014/2015 Prairie River Middle School, School Based Vaccine Clinic

The Program has **saved** families **over \$14,048.72** in vaccine costs. This does not include administration and office fees which would increase the overall savings. This program is made possible through a grant from Public Health Preparedness and Medicaid reimbursements.

Vaccine	Clinic 9/23/2014	Follow-up HPV clinic 11/18/14	Follow-up HPV clinic 03/24/2015
HPV	36	15	30
Influenza (Mist)	52	N/A	N/A
Influenza (Shot)	11	N/A	N/A
Meningococcal	14	N/A	N/A
Tdap	7	N/A	N/A
Total Vaccines:	120	15	30

2 year olds who have received vaccines



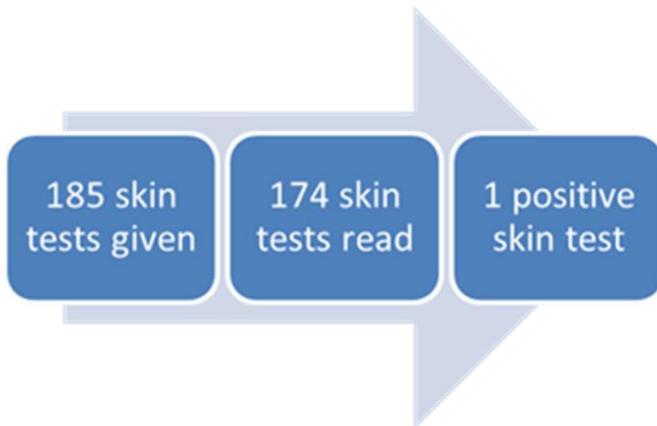
LCHD does outreach to families whose child is not up to date which include:

- ✓ Sending a letter to all parents who are behind on the importance of receiving vaccines on time, what vaccines their child is due for, and where they can receive those vaccines, along with their child's immunization record.
- ✓ Following up quarterly with those that are still behind. Sending a second letter and their child's immunization record.
- ✓ Following up those who continue to be behind quarterly with a personal phone call from the LCHD staff.

Source: WIR

Up to date means: having received 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 Varicella and 4 Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV13) vaccinations by their second birthday

Tuberculosis (TB) Skin Testing Completed at LCHD in 2015



Sexually Transmitted Disease Jail Clinics in 2015

In 2015 LCHD received a \$1000 grant from Health Care Education and Training (HCET), in partnership with the State of WI STD Control, to get residents tested for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Through this grant, fliers promoting STD testing were placed throughout the community, where teens and young adults hang out. Also a monthly STD testing clinic which provides free testing and treatment to Lincoln County inmates was implemented. Previously, inmates at Lincoln County Jail had no access to STD testing. The graph to the right shows the results of the four STD testing clinics held at the jail from August to December 2015. Those testing positive outside of the jail or were confirmed contacts of STDs were also treated through this program.

Reported Diseases in Lincoln County

Confirmed Cases	2013	2014	2015
AFB Smear Positive	1	0	0
Arboviral, Jamestown nyon	0	2	0
Babesiosis	2	1	1
Blastomycosis	5	2	1
Campylobacter	12	11	14
Chickenpox	0	0	4
Chlamydia	67	95	62
Cryptosporidium	4	8	13
E-Coli (shiga toxin)	0	4	0
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis	13	9	3
Giardia	4	10	13
Gonorrhea	5	3	2
Hepatitis B/Non AB	0	0	1
Hepatitis C	12	15	10
Influenza associated hospitalization	4	2	7
Listeria	0	0	1
Lyme Disease	16	24	21
Meningitis	0	0	1
Mycobacterial Disease (non TB)	4	7	2
Norovirus Outbreak	0	1	0
Parapertussis	0	0	1
Pertussis	13	6	2
Salmonella	5	3	4
Shigella	0	0	1
Streptococcus Group A	0	2	1
Streptococcus Group B	2	1	5
Streptococcus Pneumonia	3	1	3
Syphilis, Late Latent	1	0	1
TB, latent	0	1	1
Toxoplasmosis	0	1	0



•37 inmates tested



•2 inmates tested positive



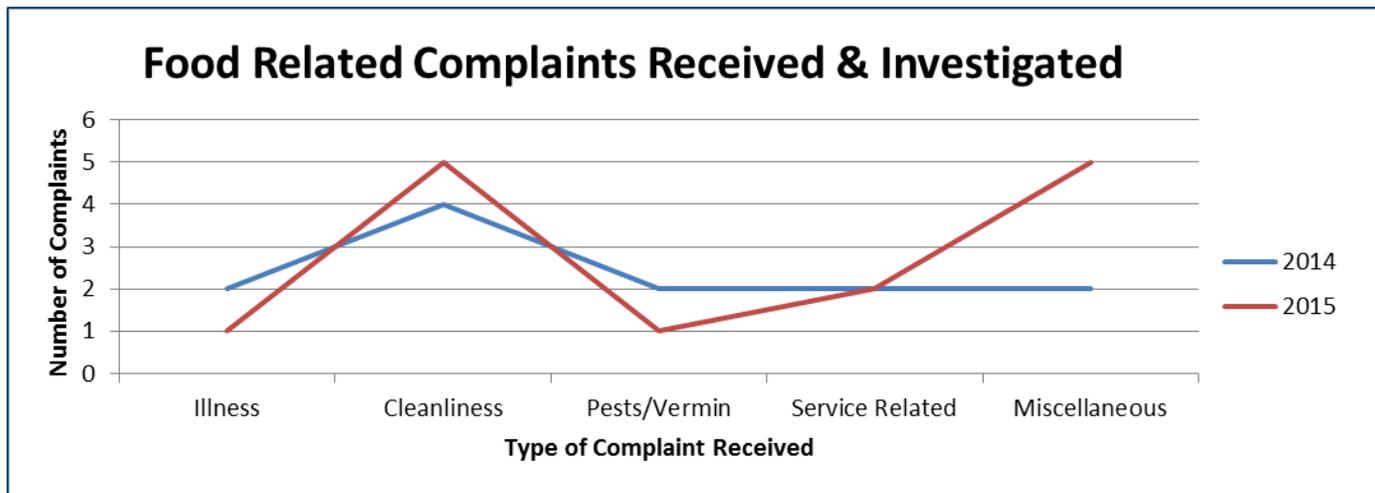
•3 inmates treated

Environmental Health

Keeping your Food and Water Safe

The food we eat is safe most of the time, but many people still get sick from contaminated food and water each year. LCHD plays an important role in preventing foodborne illness from happening by inspecting establishments where food is prepared or sold. Our health inspectors make sure that the food we eat at a restaurant and buy from a convenience or grocery store is safe to eat. They also respond to public complaints, investigate causes of foodborne illness, assist in food recalls and promote food safe food handling practices throughout our community.

Licensing activities July 1, 2014- June 30, 2015	# Licensed	# Inspected
DHS Restaurants	147	139
DATCP Retail Food	48	46
DPI School Inspections	23	23
Lodging	50	47
Pool/Whirlpool	15	15
Body Art and Body Piercing	4	4
Mobile Home Parks	8	8



CDC Risk Factors – Restaurant Establishments		
	Number of 2013-2014 Violations	Number of 2014-2015 Violations
Unsafe Food Source	4	2
Inadequate Cooking Temperatures	2	2
Improper Holding Temperatures	98	74
Cross Contamination	76	92
Personal Hygiene	90	72
Other CDC Factors	102	60

Radon

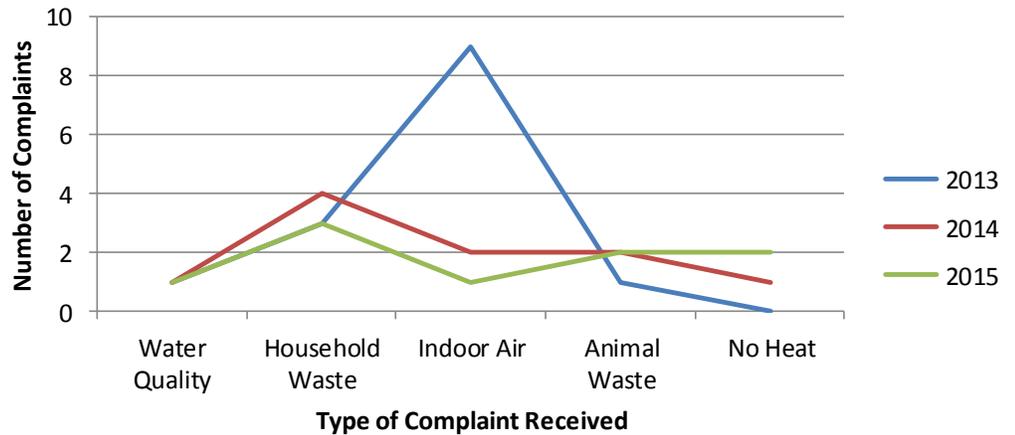
In 2015 Lincoln County Health Department received a \$2,500 radon grant. This grant helped to provide Lincoln County residents radon test kits for a discounted price as well as education of high radon levels. In 2015, **143** radon test kits were distributed to residents in Lincoln County. Of those 143 test kits **98** were returned for analysis. **48 (49%)** tests were above the EPA action level of 4pCi/L.

Environmental Health Programs

are not limited to food safety. Lincoln County Health Department's staff strives to protect the public health through investigation of **human health hazards**. The purpose of this public health ordinance is to protect the health of the citizens; provide technical assistance and education to the public; and to bring health hazards that are **not regulated by other governmental agencies** to resolution.

In Lincoln County, 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 an Environmental Health Specialist. The ultimate goal is to reduce environmental lead exposure and lead poisoning.

Human Health Hazard Complaints Received



Lead Testing

Department staff follows up on all elevated blood leads.

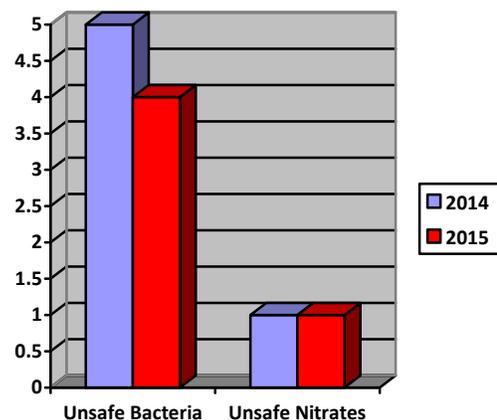
Total Number Lead Tests	
Providers	273
Health Department	81
Tests ≥ 5 and <10 ug/dl	13
Tests 10 to 19 ug/dl	2
Test >20 ug/dl	0
Home Investigation Inspections by Nurse	1

Well Water Testing

Safe, clean water is one of the most important substances in our lives—for drinking, cooking, cleaning and bathing. In 2015, **77** private wells were tested with **12** being unsafe for bacteria and **0** unsafe for nitrates.

LCHD has a contract to conduct **transient non-community well water testing**. Any facility that provides water to at least 25 people a day participated in this program. In 2015, **96** establishments were tested for bacteria and nitrates with 20% of wells receiving a more detailed well survey. **4** sites came back unsafe for bacteria requiring further action. Public posting of unsafe water, from nitrate levels above 10mg/l and/or bacterial contamination, is a requirement of the DNR TNC program. Facilities are required to provide safe drinking water to customers. Lincoln County had **1** facility with a high level of nitrates in drinking water in 2015.

Unsafe bacteria and nitrate results in TNC DNR Program

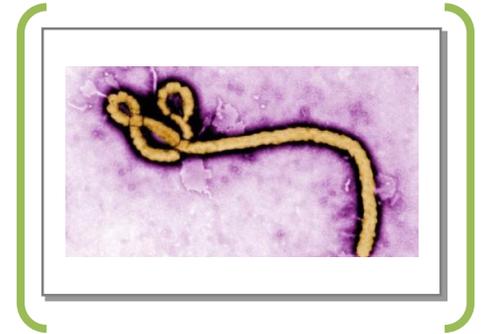


Public Health Preparedness

Ebola Tabletop Exercise

The Lincoln County Health Department Ebola Virus Tabletop Exercise was conducted on January 12, 2015 with numerous agencies from the county including: Emergency Management, Tomahawk Fire Department, Merrill Fire Department, Ministry Good Samaritan Health Center and Sheriff's Department.

The purpose of the tabletop exercise was to practice coordination and communication in an Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) scenario. The exercise addressed the following CDC Preparedness Capabilities: Emergency Operations Coordination, Information Sharing and Emergency Public Information and Warning, Responder Safety and Health and Non-pharmaceutical Interventions.



Major Strengths:

- Hospitals have exercised and are prepared to treat an Ebola patient until patient can be transferred to a Level 2 hospital.
- EMS and Dispatch have plans in place to respond.
- Participating agencies are aware of each other's plans and planned responses.

Areas of Improvement:

- Public Information Officers (PIO) not designated or known for all local agencies.
- Media templates for shared messaging are not developed.
- Not all agencies were available for tabletop exercise.

Mass Clinic Functional Exercise

On September 22, 2015, Lincoln County Health Department staff implemented their Incident Command System (ICS) while providing 52 immunizations to 23 Prairie River Middle School students. The main purpose of the exercise was for the Health Department to test their mass clinic plan and improve CDC Preparedness Capabilities.

Major Strengths:

- The Health Department's Incident Command Structure was successfully used to run the clinic.
- Using the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) ensured students received only the vaccines they needed. Also using WIR during the clinic ensured vaccine information was available in real-time.
- Triaging consent forms and paperwork prior to the clinic allowed nurses to clarify any information needed with the parent/guardian prior to clinic, which increased flow the day of the clinic.
- Successful coordination with school personnel and families to complete immunization clinic.

Areas of Improvement:

- Vaccination station was backed up due to multiple vaccines being administered.
- Registration had a vaccine reference sheet which had active vaccine lot numbers used for that clinic, the order of the lot numbers on the reference sheet were not the same order listed on the Vaccine Administration Record form which slowed registration down.



National Preparedness Month

During September, the Lincoln County Health Department collaborated with the Pine River School for Young Learners to promote National Preparedness Month. The school displayed a Preparedness Month Banner and had the following materials available: **"Get Ready" Kits**, which included items and resources to help families prepare for emergencies (29 distributed) and **Sesame Street "Let's Get Ready" Guides**, geared toward children and families to get the conversation started about emergency preparedness (16 – distributed).

Additional 2015 Data

▶ **85** School children screened for head lice, **490** children for hearing, **255** children for vision, **24** other screening.

▶ **5** First Breath enrollee.

▶ LCHD provides follow-up on **animal bites** which includes observation and testing of the biting animal and possible treatment of the victim. In 2015, **17** Animal bites investigated, **5** specimens tested, **5** number prophylaxis, **0** positive for rabies.

▶ **5,016** Parenting newsletters provided to parents with children from birth to age 3.

▶ **44** (22 families) children were prescribed fluoride supplements in 2015 (families) with **69** prescriptions filled.

▶ Lincoln County Death Review Committee reviewed the following in 2015 **drowning (1)** and **suicides (4)**.

▶ **27** Random Drug and or Alcohol Screening for Lincoln County Employees.

▶ **13** Car Seats provided to low income families.

▶ **10** Cribs provided to low income families.

Financial Summary for 2015

Revenue	2015 Actual	Expenses	2015 Actual
Tax Levy	\$551,973	Salary/Fringe	\$692,038
State and Federal Grants	\$92,647	State and Federal Grants	\$85,578
Other Grants	\$22,620	Other Grants	\$24,910
License and Permits and DNR Well	\$114,943	License and Permits and DNR Well	\$113,033
Contract Services	\$194,395	Public Health	\$47,804
Public Charges for Services (including MA)	\$56,864	Oral Health	\$7,653
Oral Health (including MA)	\$12,636	Return to General Fund	\$41,638
Total Revenues	\$1,046,078	Total Expenses	\$1,012,654

2015 Grants

Children Health Alliance of WI Seal A Smile Grant \$2,589	WI DPH Childhood Lead Grant \$3,330
WI Dept. of Health Radon Grant \$2500	WI DPH Immunization Grant \$9,898
WI Dept. of Health (WIDPH) CHANGE Grant \$7,000	WI DPH Maternal and Child Health Grant \$15,658
WI DPH Prevention Program Grant \$5,535	WI DPH Well Woman Women Grant \$6,602
WI DPH Preparedness Program Grant \$41,769	ASI NACCHO Grant \$15,000
Get Your Self Tested Grant \$1,000	

**Lincoln County Public Health Staff and
years of service:**

Shelley Hersil, CHES, MPH
Director, Health Officer, 14.5 years

M. Brigid Flood, RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse, 37.5 years

Sue Kuber, RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse, 27 years

Marla Reimann, RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse, 12.5 years

Judy Sargent, RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse, 10.5 years

Mindy Schwarz, RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse, 5 year

Kristi Krombholz, RN BSN
Public Health Nurse, 3 years

Nichole Peplinski, RN BSN
Public Health Nurse, 2.5 years

Karen Krueger, RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse, 4 months

Tammi Boers, RS
Public Health Educator, 9 years

Kristin Bath, CHES
Public Health Educator, 6 months

Ed Newbury, RS
Environmental Health Specialist, 8.5 years

September Murphy
Environmental Health Technician, 2 months

Diana Allen,
Program Assistant, 40.5 years

Gloria Schenzel
Fiscal Clerk, 25.5 years

Meghan Williams, M. Eng(Env)
Environmental Health Specialist 2.5 year

Mary Grefe, 3 years

Rita Burgener
Health Aide, 29 years

Gloria Myers
Health Aide, 30 years

Linda Seidler
Health Aide, 14 years

Ann Stoeckmann
Hearing Technician, .5 year

Allison Prebig
Hearing Technician, .5 year

Lincoln County Board of Health:
Jeffrey Moore, MD, Medical Advisor
Michael Loka, Chairperson
William Zeitz, Vice Chairperson
Gail Schneider, Secretary
Garth Swanson
Curtis Powell
Wayne Plant
Sue Weith, BSN, MSN



For more information about this report or any of our programs and services,
please contact:

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607 N. Sales Street, Suite 101
Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-0307
715-536-2011 (fax)
<http://lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com>
www.healthypeoplelincolncounty.com



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lincoln-County-Health-Department/133580893400016>

Dental Hygienist Volunteers:

Boni Biermier, RDH Oral Health Coordinator
Bridgette Haas, RDH
Pamela Lee, RDH
Peggy Osterman, RDH
Michelle Rieche, RDH

Thank you to all of our volunteers who have assisted our department in 2015.

Annual Report prepared by Shelley Hersil and LCHD Staff, April 2016



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