

Iowa County Health Department

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES 2010

Assessment of Community Health Status and Available Resources

The local health department takes a leadership role to organize a community needs assessment, advocate for policy development resulting in better health and assurance that needed services are available for all. All staff will work on and with committees as required to achieve these results. The Iowa County Health Coalition is spearheaded through the Iowa County Health Department with the director providing leadership to recognize problems or concerns and set up a process to work on them. The Iowa County Health Department may also be involved in Grant planning, writing, and execution when necessary to achieve objectives for the Community Health Plan. The last Community Needs Assessment was done 2008 – 2009.

Infectious Disease Control and Disease Follow Up

Staff is responsible for follow up on all communicable disease as mandated by the State of Wisconsin. Other activities include education to individuals or groups, networking with the community on communicable disease surveillance, and assure that other medical providers are following appropriate protocol. Reports are done on a statewide database.

Environmental Health Issues

Referrals on human health hazards and help with water testing, radon, environmental lead assessment and fluoride are part of this program. Rabies follow-up done with cooperation from law enforcement agencies and veterinarian clinics.

PH Preparedness & Response Team Leader

The local health department provides leadership, education, and organization to community members and agencies for emergency preparedness. Improve the Iowa County Health Department infrastructure and ability to handle natural and man-made disasters. Plan exercises in community in cooperation with emergency government, first responders and other partners.

Immunizations

The local health department prevents communicable disease by providing vaccines to children and adults. Vaccines available at the Iowa County Health Dept. are: Diphtheria Tetanus & Pertussis (DTaP), Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib), Hepatitis A & B, Influenza, Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR), Meningococcal, Pneumococcal Conjugate (Prevnar), Pneumococcal Polysaccharide, Polio, Tetanus & Diphtheria (Td), Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis (Tdap), Varicella (Chicken pox), Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and Rotavirus.

TB skin testing is provided by appointment. Set up school-based clinics when needed. Work with medical advisor regarding administration of new vaccines. Keep Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) up-to-date. Work with area clinics to assure proper use of immunizations and encourage use of the WIR. Provide information to people regarding travel vaccinations.

Maternal Child Health

This program works to enhance healthy babies and families. It consists of contacts to families with new babies, home visits as needed or per referrals and prenatal care coordination. The staff coordinates with other MCH providers in the community, and works with Social Services on child abuse/neglect investigations. **Other** community activities involve the IWATCH Coalition, Domestic Violence Task Force, and exploring cultural issues relating to families from other backgrounds.

Access to Health / Dental Care Issues

The Health Department is involved in a Regional Dental Coalition to increase dental access to children and adults in the county. Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is a responsibility of the Iowa County Health Department that provides dental care to children. Fluoride pills and varnishes are also provided. The director is currently a board member of the Community Connections Free Clinic (CCFC).

Educational Programs/Resource and Referral

The health department provides education and information on public health issues through local media, newsletters, radio, our website, and face-to-face. The staff also consults with individuals or through committee involvement (i.e., Highway Safety, SNOW) or Community-based programs (i.e., Head Start, COP).

Case Management

This program helps individuals requiring special services to receive the needed services under Medical Assistance billing. Currently, the programs are Personal Care and clients needing TB follow up.

Wisconsin Well-Woman Program

This program provides education to women regarding cancer health issues and screenings for women who qualify for breast and cervical cancer. It also requires assisting medical clinics to use the program and help them with billing issues.

Tobacco-Free Iowa County Coalition (is now the Tobacco Coalition of SW Wisconsin)

They proactive advocacy to help decrease use of tobacco products and improve in-door air quality in Iowa County. The coordinator works with law enforcement to decrease selling of tobacco products to children. The coordinator, as of 2010, works out of Grant County.

Mentoring Program

The local health department provides for clinical public health experiences to student nurses and other interns.