

Loyal, WI

2023
ANNUAL
REPORT



**Clark County
Health Department**
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This annual report highlights some of the programs and services the Clark County Health Department (CCHD) offers, but this is not an all-inclusive list.



Our Vision

Safe environments, thriving communities, healthy people.



Our Mission

It is the Mission of the Clark County Health Department to promote health, prevent disease, and protect the residents of the county through partnerships and population-based services.



Our Values

- » Camaraderie
- » Connectivity
- » Dedication
- » Excellence
- » Ingenuity
- » Integrity

Opening Letter

Dear Clark County Board of Health, Clark County Board of Supervisors, Community Partners, and Residents:

I am delighted to present the 2023 Clark County Health Department (CCHD) annual report. I invite you to read this document to learn about the positive and collective impacts the CCHD and community partners are making in Clark County.

Through continued partnerships and population-based services, the CCHD strives to reach our mission of promoting health, preventing disease, and protecting the residents of Clark County. Our dedicated and professional staff continues to work passionately and proficiently to achieve the CCHD's vision of "safe environments, thriving communities, and healthy people."

Public health departments are responsible for providing public health protection and services. We focus heavily on prevention efforts. We work to prevent the spread of communicable diseases; ensure food, air, and water quality are safe; support maternal and child health; improve access to clinical services; prevent chronic diseases and injuries, and much more.

A healthy county can only be achieved through the support, partnership, and involvement of its residents, businesses, elected officials, coalitions, healthcare organizations, child care centers, schools, etc. We value our strong partnerships and hope you will continue to become engaged in helping to improve our county's health. Together, we can make Clark County a healthier place to live, work, and play.

I'd like to extend my sincere appreciation to all partners within and outside of public health who worked with the CCHD throughout 2023. Your efforts are valued and appreciated. We are a small, rural county, but with the power of collaboration, we were able to make significant improvements in the health of our communities.

In addition, I would also like to thank our health department staff for their commitment, excellence, and contributions to Clark County.

As a local lifelong resident, I am honored and proud to serve Clark County for over 14 years. I am humbled to have the continued opportunity to lead the health department.

Our promise to the community has always been to provide high-quality programs and services to improve the health and well-being of our residents. We will continue to work hard to deliver on that commitment.

Please stop in the CCHD office, give us a call, or visit our website and Facebook page to learn more about our services.

Yours In Health,

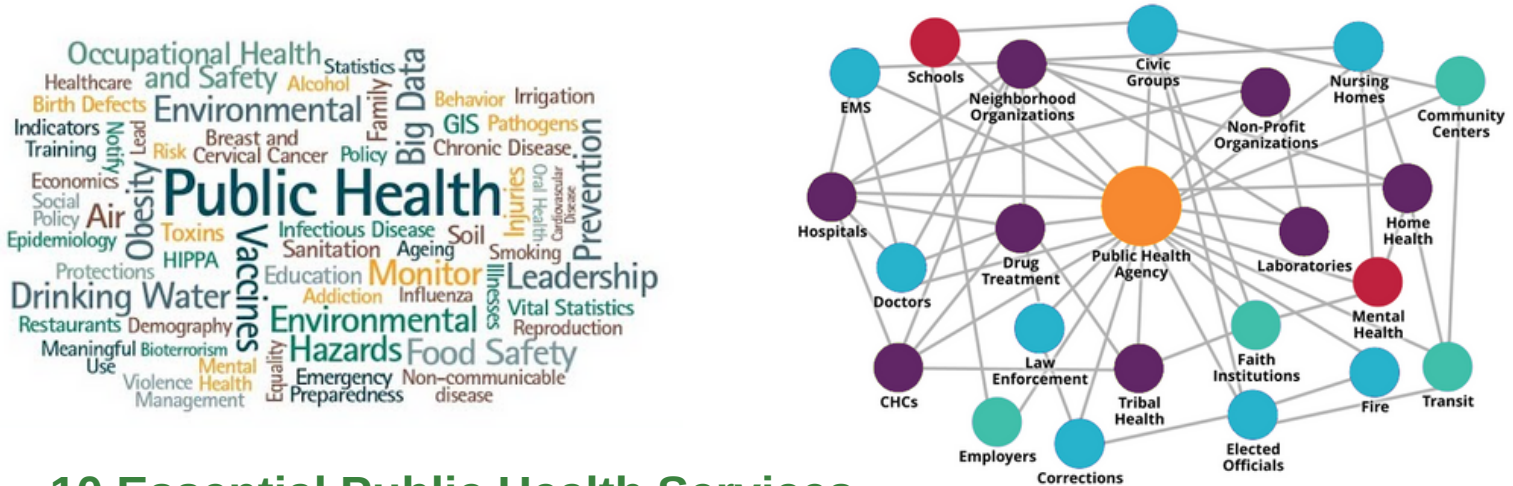
Brittany Mews, BSN, RN
Health Officer | Director



What Is Public Health?

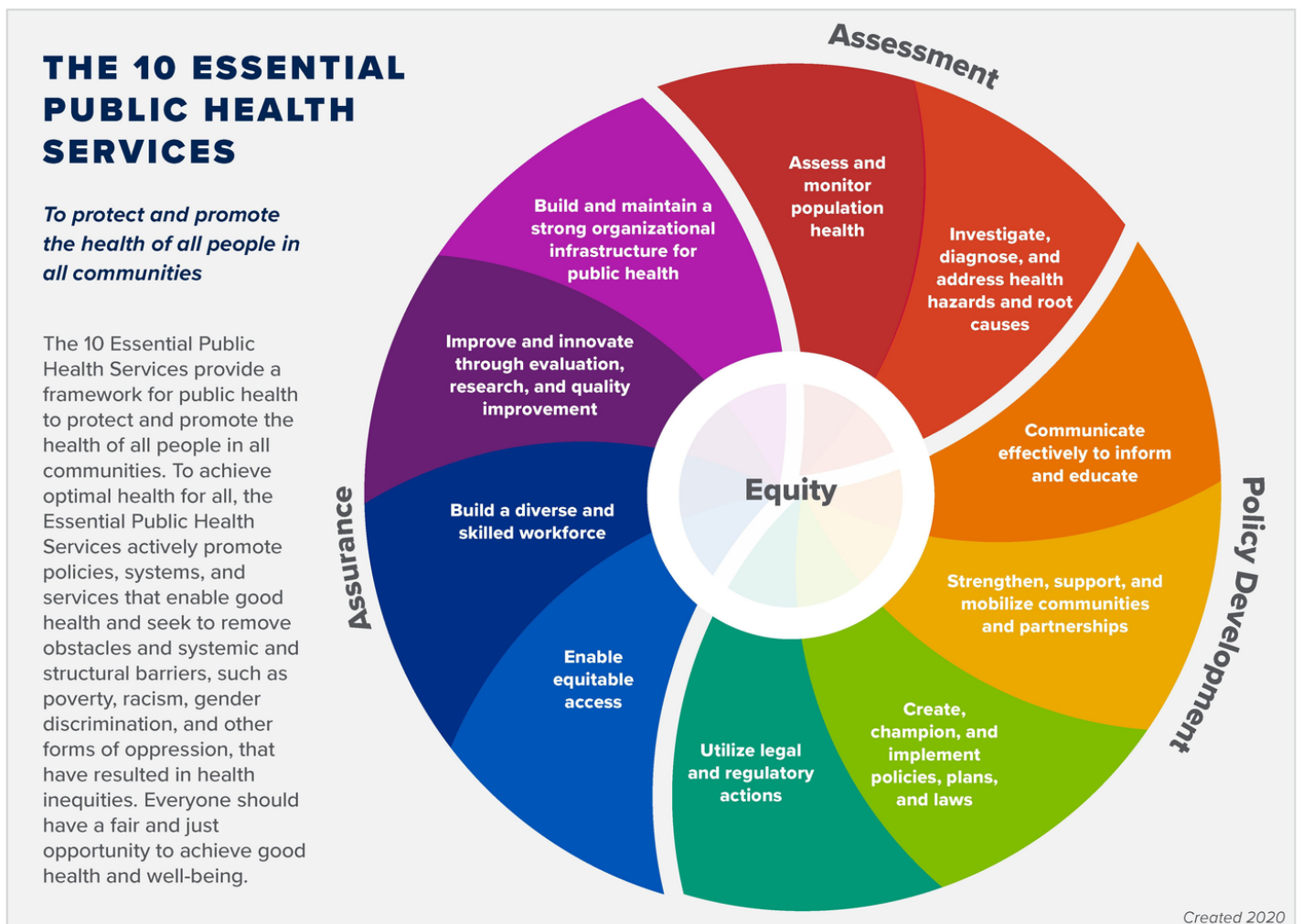
Public Health is the science of protecting and improving the health of people and their communities. This work is achieved by promoting healthy lifestyles, researching disease and injury prevention, and detecting, preventing, and responding to infectious diseases.

Public health systems are commonly defined as “all public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of essential public health services within a jurisdiction.”



10 Essential Public Health Services

The 10 Essential Public Health Services illustrates how the work of public health is done. The high-quality implementation of public health best practice is also required by state statute.



Foundational Public Health Services

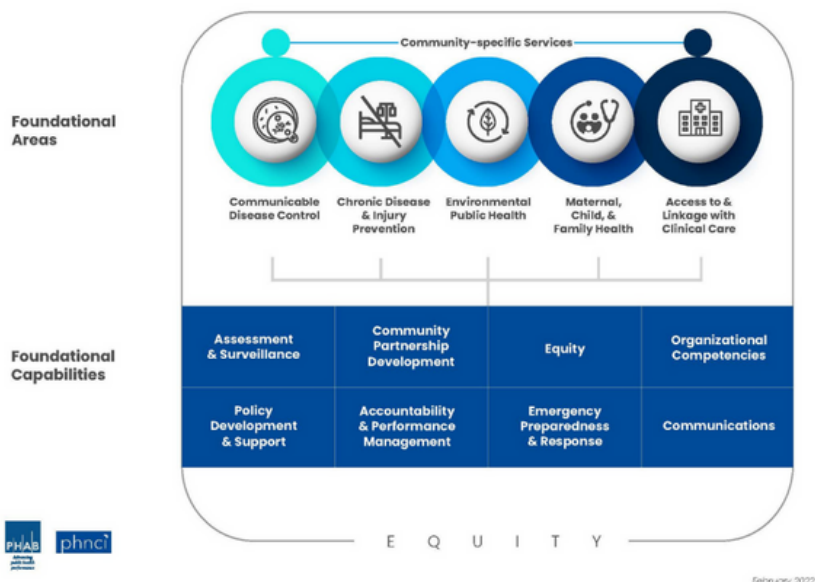
Local Health Departments (LHD) have a fundamental responsibility to provide public health protections and services in several foundational areas. The infrastructure necessary to provide these services strives to offer fair opportunities for all to be healthy and also includes eight foundational capabilities.

The Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) framework provides an overview of the responsibilities of public health and sets a standard for what should be available in every community. Although the needs of every community likely will differ, this sets the minimum level of service that should exist.

LHD's must always be ready to serve our communities. This requires access to a wide range of critical data sources, robust laboratory capacity, preparedness and policy planning capacity, and expert staff to leverage in support of public health protections and services.

Throughout the report, for each of the CCHD's programs/services, there is a reference to the corresponding FPHS foundational area and/or capability. If there is no reference to an area or capability, it can be presumed that particular service is a community-specific service.

Foundational Public Health Services



Community-specific Services are local protections and services that are unique to the needs of a community. These services are essential to that community's health and vary by jurisdiction.

Foundational Areas

Public health programs, or Foundational Areas, are basic public health, topic-specific programs and services aimed at improving the health of the community.. The Foundational Areas reflect the minimum level of service that should be available in all communities.

Foundational Capabilities

Public health infrastructure consists of Foundational Capabilities that are the cross-cutting skills and capacities needed to support basic public health protections, programs, and activities key to ensuring community health, well-being and achieving equitable outcomes.

WI Public Health Statutes, Administrative Rules, & Local Ordinances

Statutes

In Wisconsin, statutes outline the services the public can expect from a local health department. The following Wisconsin Statutes guide local health departments:

- [Chapter 95](#): Animal Health
- [Chapter 250](#): Health, Administration and Supervision
- [Chapter 251](#): Local Health Officials
- [Chapter 252](#): Communicable Diseases
- [Chapter 253](#): Maternal and Child Health
- [Chapter 254](#): Environmental Health
- [Chapter 255](#): Chronic Disease and Injuries

Administrative Rules

Wisconsin Administrative Code ch. DHS 140 specifies the required services for Levels I, II, and III local health departments. Under Wisconsin Administrative Code Department of Health Services § DHS 140.05, the Clark County Health Department is designated as a Level II health department.

- [Chapter 140](#): Required Services of Local Health Departments
- [Chapter 142](#): Access to Vital Records
- [Chapter 144](#): Immunization of Students
- [Chapter 145](#): Control of Communicable Diseases
- [Chapter 146](#): Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Clark County Ordinances

Locally, the Clark County Health Department also adheres to Clark County-specific ordinances.

- [Chapter 16](#): Health & Safety

Community Partnerships

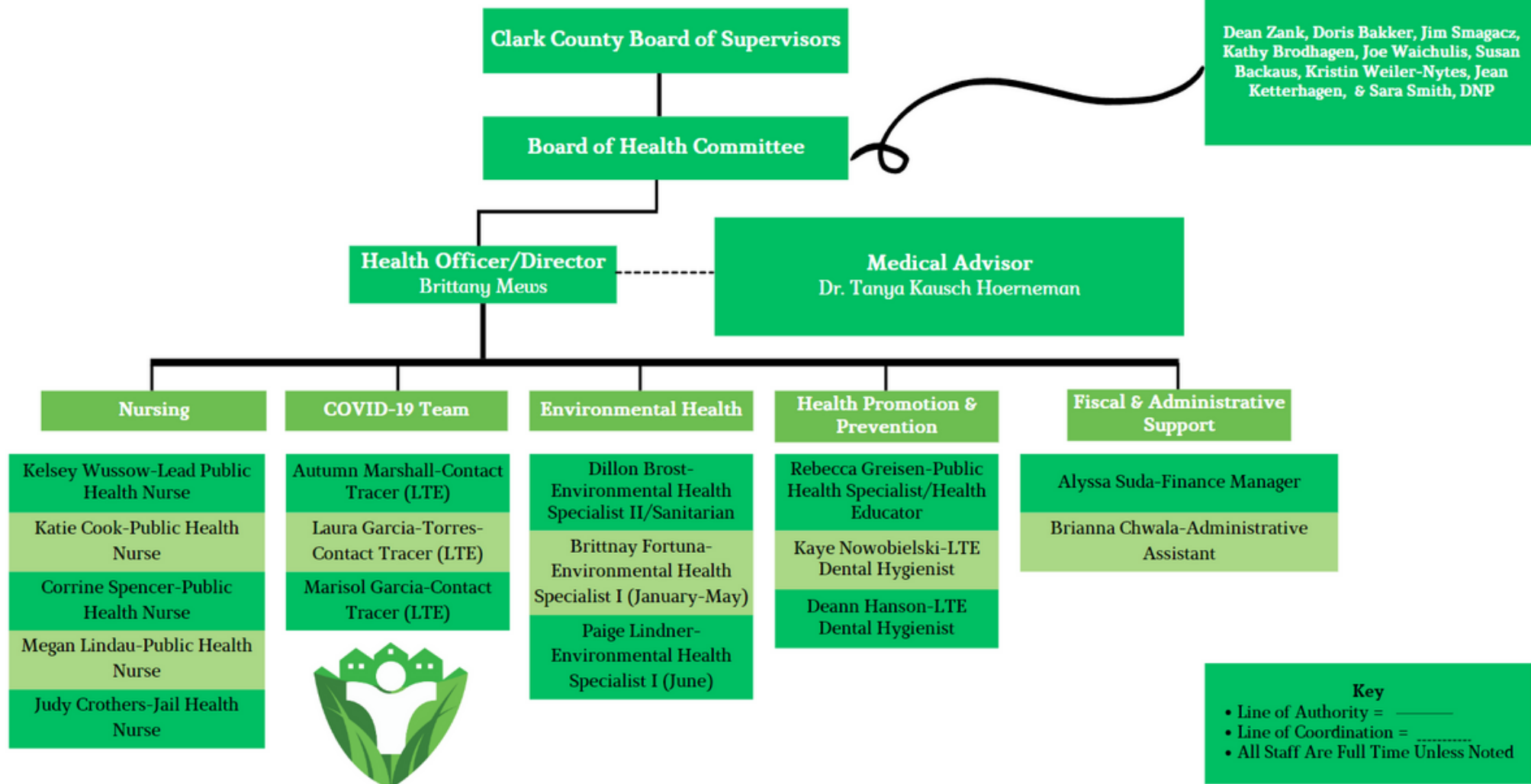
Successful partnerships are critical to the work of the Clark County Health Department. The CCHD is very appreciative and honored to work alongside a variety of valuable partners.

In August 2023, the CCHD developed a survey and requested feedback from external stakeholders and partners that represented a variety of sectors. The survey tool was sent to 346 individuals. A total of 93 partners (33%) submitted responses. Below are a few notable highlights received. To view the responses in their entirety, please refer to the CCHD's website [here](#).



- *"The staff is very professional and goal-oriented. They have created and improved processes to collaborate better."*
- *"I've always enjoyed working with the Clark County Health Department staff. They are responsive to what needs to be done and adjust to changes as needed."*
- *"The health department is doing very well with the different programs and keeping the public informed."*
- *"The Clark County Health Department is a strong health department as is recognized throughout the region and state for their work with the Plain Clothes community, maternal and child health programming, and creative/community-driven efforts to utilize ARPA dollars."*
- *"We have worked extensively with Clark County, and it has always been a pleasure. They are responsive, knowledgeable, and smart about resources. They are collaborative partners and we are lucky to have such amazing partners in public health."*
- *"I've very much appreciated the opportunity to work with the health department. My experience with staff has been very positive-they are willing to meet with partners regularly, share resources, answer questions, and most importantly connect those in the county with a need with appropriate resources in their networks, whether based in the county or serving as part of a partnership or coalition."*
- *"Thank you for all you do!"*

2023 Clark County Health Department Organizational Chart



HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Car Seats for Kids

The CCHD offers car seat checks to anyone in Clark County free of charge. The CCHD has three certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPSTs) who educate caregivers on the proper selection, installation, and use of car seats and booster seats. This program allows eligible, low-income caregivers to receive car seats and booster seats at a reduced cost. It is supported by local grant funds and/or donations.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Secured Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) grant funds to help sustain the program
- The CCHD provided parents with:
 - Education on car seat safety
 - Wisconsin Child Passenger Safety Law cards
 - Clark County Car Seats for Kids program business cards
- Posted Car Seat Quick Tip Clips to Facebook and Website
- Partnered with Safe Kids Marathon County to provide 15 car seats to low income families at Community Health and Resource Fairs



A total of 72 new car seats were given to families in need, up from 41 last year. Staff provided education with each installation

Cribs for Kids

Cribs for Kids is a safe sleep program for low-income parents, families, and caregivers to help reduce the risk of infant injury or death related to unsafe sleep environments.

Those who wish to participate in the Cribs for Kids program are first screened by the CCHD for eligibility and need. Parents and caregivers who qualify receive education on safe sleep practices along with a reduced cost Pack 'n Play crib. A Public Health Nurse (PHN) then works with the individual to complete the Cribs for Kids intake questionnaire, presents them with materials on safe sleep, and demonstrates how to correctly assemble the Pack 'n Play.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Secured grant funding from Clark County United Way
- Secured additional funding from Aspirus Stanley Hospital
- Consistently promoted safe sleep and the Cribs for Kids program during:
 - Child Death Review meetings
 - Clark County Interagency Coordinating Coalition meetings
 - At new mom classes
 - Health fairs
 - Facebook page
 - Website

38 Pack 'n Plays were distributed to families in need

This is up from 23 in 2022



Prenatal and Postnatal Education

The CCHD provides education to new parents, previously called Healthy Beginnings Plus, to help expecting families get the support they need to have a healthy baby. Over the past several years, the CCHD has moved away from the traditional format of 1:1 prenatal/postnatal education. The CCHD transitioned to group education, in which a nurse provides education on cribs or car seats to a group of expectant parents. The hope is to move to a set date/time in each month to host New Moms Classes with topics including pregnancy, labor, delivery, car seats, safe sleep, postpartum, breastfeeding, and newborn care, and make referrals as needed. The CCHD already provided these classes to the Plain Community twice, once in the spring, and once in the fall. Through the two classes, 26 expectant mothers were educated on various resources provided by the CCHD. A nurse is also present monthly at the Abbotsford City Hall to provide additional education with interpreters. Two CCHD staff have also been trained as Certified Lactation Consultants in order to broaden our scope and provide clients with additional services.

Safe Kids Wood and Clark Counties

The CCHD is a member of Safe Kids Wood and Clark Counties, which focuses on injury prevention.

As a member of Safe Kids Wood and Clark Counties, the CCHD collaborates with local partners and has increased access to grant opportunities. Marshfield Clinic Health System acts as the fiscal agent as well as the mediator between the two counties.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- *Caught Being Safe*: This program rewards Clark County children for demonstrating safe behavior(s), such as using hand signals while riding their bike or wearing their helmet.
 - The Clark County Community Foundation provided funding to purchase some of the incentives for this program
 - In March, the CCHD PHN hosted a meeting with local police chiefs
 - The PHN distributed 40 helmets, coupons from local businesses, frisbees, and water bottles with the Safe Kids Wood and Clark County logo. These items were then given to local police officers to hand out to children who were “Caught Being Safe”
- Attended quarterly Safe Kids Wood and Clark County coalition meetings
- Attended virtual Safe Kids Worldwide meetings to learn more about safety promotion and additional programs/campaigns available
- Utilized the CCHD’s Facebook page and website to share safety/injury-prevention tips with the public
- Published safety-related articles in the CCHD’s Amish/Mennonite quarterly newsletter



Plain Community Stop the Bleed event



Plain Community school Stop the Bleed event



Public Health Nurse, Katie Cook, ensures proper fitting of a bicycle helmet at Thorp bike rodeo



NIC Bike Safety Event 8.29.23

Communicable diseases (also called infectious diseases) are illnesses caused by organisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and/or parasites. Infectious diseases remain one of the major causes of illness, disability, and death. Surveillance, investigation, and controlling the spread of reportable communicable diseases are statutory responsibilities of local health departments. The CCHD ensures individuals receive appropriate treatments and are provided with education to help prevent the further spread of diseases.

Please refer to the table for a list of diseases reported to the CCHD from 2021-2023. These numbers are not a complete picture of communicable diseases in Clark County, as some infections may not have been reported.

*As of November 1, 2023, Coronavirus-associated hospitalizations and RSV-associated hospitalizations are now reportable conditions in Wisconsin.

**As of November 1, 2023, Coronavirus is no longer reportable in Wisconsin.

CCHD REPORTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES: CONFIRMED & PROBABLE CASES			
RESPIRATORY DISEASES			
	2021	2022	2023
Coronavirous, Novel 2019 (COVID-19)**	2,951	2,765	686
Coronavirus-Associated Hospitalizations	*	*	31
Influenza Associated Hospitalizations	1	22	7
Parapertussis	0	1	1
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	0	5	1
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)-Associated Hospitalizations	*	*	5
Tuberculosis (Active Disease)	1	1	1
ENTERIC DISEASES			
	2021	2022	2023
Campylobacteriosis	18	19	17
Cryptosporidiosis	12	11	8
Salmonellosis	14	5	9
Giardiasis	6	4	8
E. Coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing (STEC)	12	17	20
Yersiniosis	0	1	0

Case counts are from the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS)

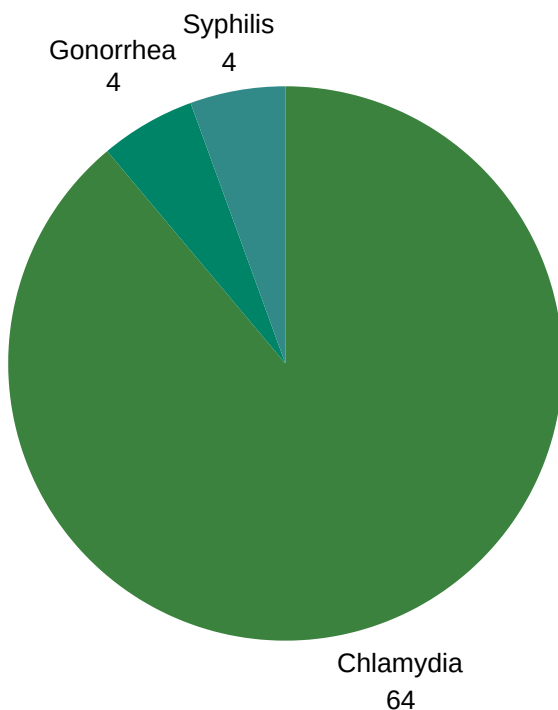
CCHD REPORTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES: CONFIRMED & PROBABLE CASES (Continued)			
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES			
	2021	2022	2023
Chlamydia	18	58	64
Gonorrhea	12	4	4
HIV	0	1	0
Syphilis	6	2	4
VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES			
	2021	2022	2023
Haemophilus Influenzae/Invasive	0	2	1
Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality	0	1	0
Hepatitis A	0	1	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	1	3	0
VECTORBORNE DISEASES			
	2021	2022	2023
Anaplasmosis	3	1	3
Babesiosis	1	0	3
Lyme Disease (All Types)	4	38	25

Case counts are from the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS)

CCHD REPORTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES: CONFIRMED & PROBABLE CASES (Continued)			
OTHER/ADDITIONAL DISEASES			
	2021	2022	2023
Blastomycosis	0	0	1
Carbon Monoxide Reporting	2	1	2
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	1
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	0	2	0
Hepatitis C (Acute & Chronic)	5	4	10
Mycobacterial Disease (Non-Tuberculosis)	2	5	1
Streptococcal Disease/Invasive/Groups A & B	3	7	21
Tuberculosis (Latent Infection-LTBI)	1	3	4
Tularemia	0	0	1

Case counts are from the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS)

2023 Sexually Transmitted Diseases



Emergency Preparedness

The CCHD is aligned with two groups that help support preparedness work, in relation to networking, coordination, standardization, and centralizing efficient and effective resources and planning efforts:

- North Central Wisconsin Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition (NCW-HERC)
- Western Wisconsin Public Health Readiness Consortium (WWPHRC)

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Completed Centers for Disease and Control (CDC) and the Department of Health Services (DHS) Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) required contract deliverables
- Participated in meetings and exercises as members of NCW-HERC and WWPHRC
- Participated as a member in the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
- Participated in the 2022-2023 NCW-HERC Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA)

Top 5 NCW-HERC Hazards Identified

- 1 Staffing Crisis
- 2 Workplace Violence/Threat
- 3 Communication/Telephone Failure
- 4 Infectious Disease Outbreak/Seasonal Influenza/Epidemic/Pandemic
- 5 Patient Surge

- Completed the 2022-2023 Clark County Health Department Mass Influenza Immunization Clinics After Action Report (AAR)/Improvement Plan

Strengths

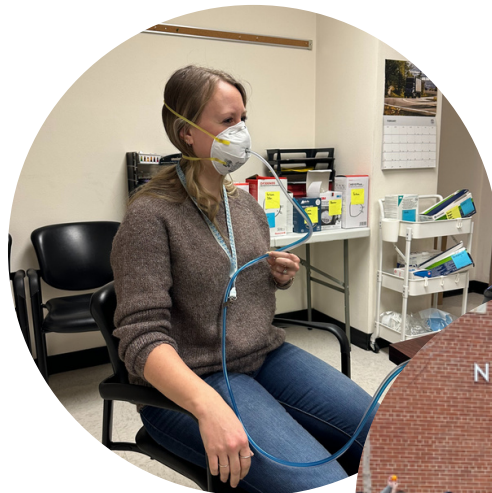
AAR Strengths & Areas for Improvement

- 1 Strong partnerships with immunization clinic host sites
- 2 Robust advertising using various modes of public communication
- 3 Outstanding staff and efficient workflow

Areas for Improvement

- 1 Assign a secondary point person to assist with clinic logistics for smooth operation
- 2 Verify current immunization status prior to administration versus during clinic
- 3 Too many people assigned to WIR immunization entry

- Monitored communicable disease data for outbreaks
- Fit tested applicable Health Department staff
- Mailed quarterly Plain Community Newsletters to 140+ Plain Community leaders discussing pertinent public health topics, such as tick safety, immunizations, air quality, lead poisoning, well water testing, skin cancer, etc.
- Distributed 41 rechargeable emergency lanterns and provided education on emergency communication plans, home emergency kits, home/fire escape plans, county emergency alerts, etc.
- Distributed 73 "Fight the Bite Kits" to Clark County campgrounds (Rock Dam, Russell Memorial Park, and Sherwood) for visitors; in partnership with Clark County Forestry & Parks. Each kit included bug wipes, a tick removal tool, a magnifying glass, a Tick Safety Guide, etc. Some kits were also provided to Forestry & Parks for their employees while working out in the county.
- Participated in the Neillsville High School "Trunk Junk Clean Out" event sponsored by State Farm Insurance and Children's Wisconsin



Clark County Immunization Coalition

2023 Activities, Discussions, & Outputs:

- Evolution of coalition logo to encompass all local partners and meetings moved to every other month to increase partner participation/availability
- Abbotsford Back-to-School Night
 - 13 vaccines administered between partners
 - Promotion of programs and services
- Neillsville Student Open House
 - 6 vaccines administered between partners
 - Promotion of programs and services
- Navigated immunization changes and recommendations
 - COVID-19 vaccine commercialization
 - DHS 144 updates and suspensions
 - RSV vaccine and monoclonal antibody releases
 - PCV 20 recommendation for use in childhood routine schedule
 - Etc.
- Vaccine promotion & education (including Spanish translations)
 - Back-to-School Facebook Series
- Funding opportunities
- Promotion of community events
- Reviewed vaccine research studies
- Identified vaccine gap areas
- Reviewed statewide immunization data



Mission: To increase immunization rates to protect the residents of Clark County from vaccine-preventable diseases

CCIC Members:

Aspirus-Stanley, Owen & Thorp
CCHD (Lead)
Country Health Clinic
Immunize WI
MMC-Colby
MMC-Marshfield
MMC-Neillsville
Marshfield Clinic Health Systems
Pharmaceutical Reps
Sniteman Pharmacy



Seasonal Influenza

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses. In 2023, the CCHD administered the quadrivalent influenza vaccine (protection from 4 influenza virus strains).

2023 Activities and Outputs:

Adult Vaccination Efforts

- Vaccines were made available to Clark County employees via appointments
- Offered off-site adult flu vaccine clinics throughout the county to increase access
 - Traveled to numerous sites, including businesses, community-based sites, schools, and assisted living facilities

Child Vaccination Efforts

- Facilitated 8 mass flu vaccine clinic events providing no-cost flu vaccine to children 6 months old through the age of 18
 - Locations: Abbotsford School District, Clark County Rehabilitation and Living Center, Colby School District, Loyal School District, Neillsville School District, Thorp School District, Spencer School District, and St. Bernard Catholic Church

385 vaccines were given to children (<19 years)

743 flu vaccines were administered by the CCHD

358 vaccines were given to adults ages 19 and older

60 high-dose (age 65+)

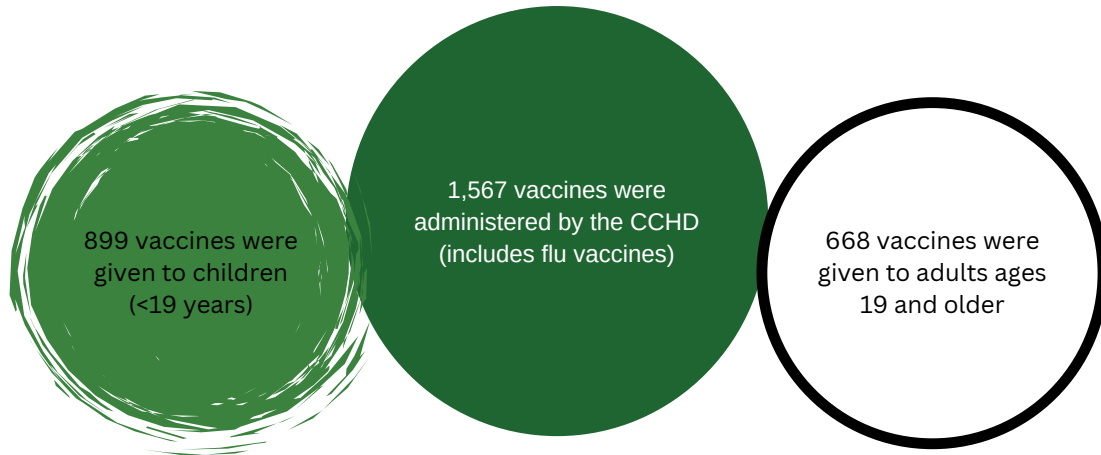
298 standard dose (age 19+)

Immunization Program

On-time vaccinations throughout a child's life is essential because it helps provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. Vaccines continue to be recommended through adolescence and adulthood to extend protection from all types of diseases. As individuals age, their risk of exposure to new infections increases.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Held monthly immunization clinics at the Clark County Rehabilitation and Living Center (CCRLC), every other month clinics at St. Bernard Catholic Church, and weekly immunization clinics in-house
- Traveled to 8 Plain Community homes and schools every eight weeks, totaling 48 clinics for the year



CLARK COUNTY BENCHMARK REPORT AT 24 MONTHS

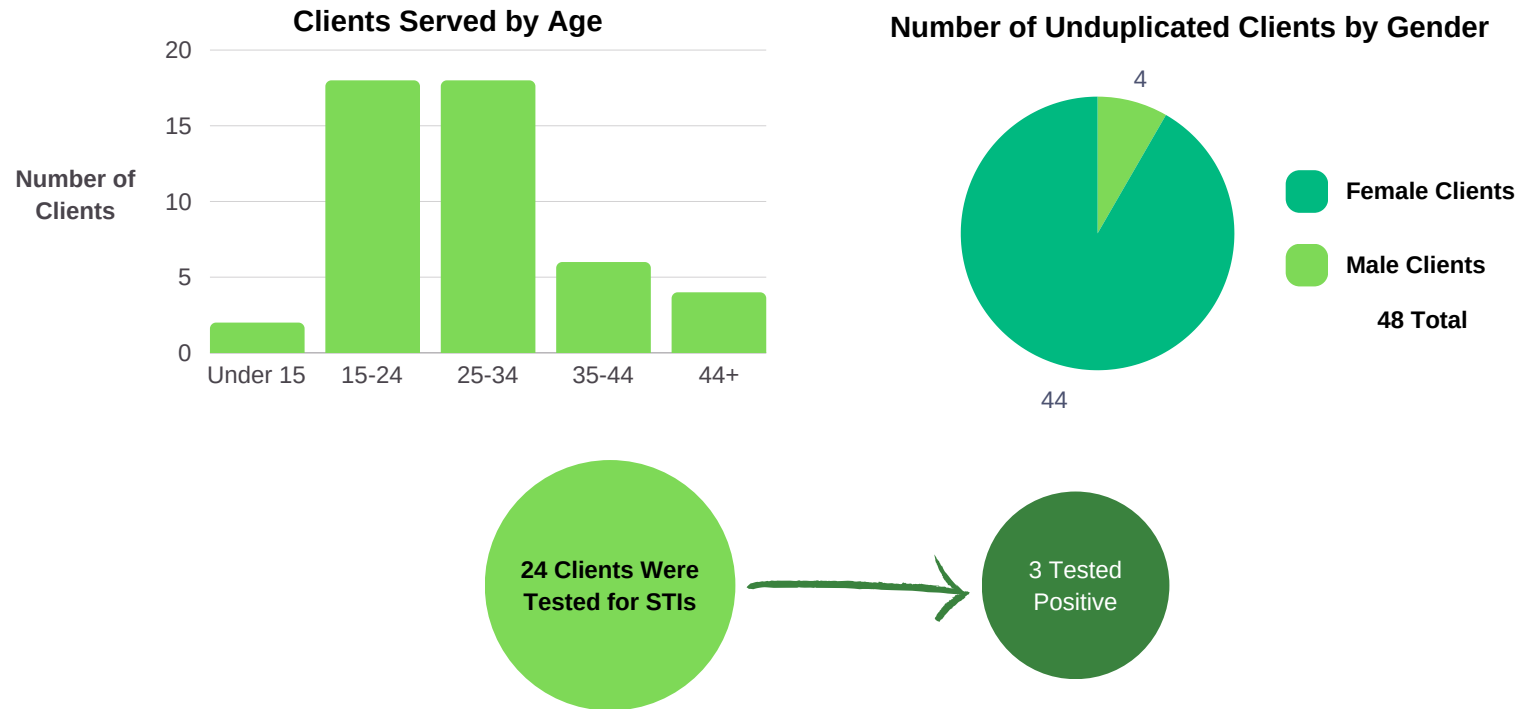
Year	DTaP (4)	Polio (3)	MMR (1)	Hib (3)	HepB (3)	Varicella (1)	Pneumococcal (4)	4:3:1:3:3:1:4 Series
2021	48%	56%	56%	58%	49%	46%	51%	37%
2022	50%	58%	59%	59%	52%	47%	53%	42%
2023	45%	54%	53%	57%	48%	43%	47%	35%

CLARK COUNTY BENCHMARK REPORT FOR ADOLESCENTS

Year	HPV (Complete)	Meningo (2)	Tdap (1)
	Age 9-18	Age 11-18	
2021	22%	7%	68%
2022	22%	7%	67%
2023	22%	7%	64%

The program exists to provide reproductive health services that offer quality, accessible, affordable, and confidential family planning care. Services available include education and counseling, contraception management, pregnancy testing, sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing and treatment, and referrals (as applicable). Medicaid and Family Planning Only Services (FPOS) Waiver-eligible men and women can receive free services and supplies. Individuals not meeting the eligibility criteria for the FPOS waiver can access services at reduced cost based on income.

2023 Activities and Outputs:



NEW IN 2023 - Expansion of Services!!

- In April 2023, we added Nurse Practitioner Services to offer greater access to comprehensive reproductive health care. Services include (not an all-inclusive list):
 - Annual Reproductive Health Exams to include Pelvic & Clinical Breast Exams
 - Cervical Cancer Screening, known as the Pap test; in addition to HPV (human papillomavirus) testing, as applicable.
 - Comprehensive STI Testing & Treatment Services to include HIV & Syphilis
 - Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (Intrauterine Device & Nexplanon) Insertion & Removal



Meet Abby Hinz, DNP, FNP-BC, APNP
Family Planning Nurse Practitioner!

Abby visited with clients on-site at the Health Department approximately once per month, from April to December & completed:

- 7** Reproductive-Focused Physical Exams
- 6** Pap Tests
- 4** Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Procedures

Get Yourself Tested (GYT) Campaign - Trivia Event:

- Objective: Increase public information on the importance of STI risk awareness and testing and partner with one community organization or small business
- Partnered with Frickin A Bar & Grill in Dorchester to coordinate the 2nd Annual CCHD GYT Trivia Night event
- The event was a huge success as 16 teams of 4-6 players were in attendance
- GYT promotional bags were provided to each participant and flyers were posted in the men and women's bathrooms to promote the services available through our Reproductive Health program
- The feedback from trivia participants, Frickin A Bar & Grill staff, and community members was overwhelmingly positive



Comprehensive Reproductive (Sexual Health) Education:

- Presentations were available by request to the 8 public school districts. Presentations are generally applicable to students in grades 7-10 and focus on sexual activity laws, abstinence, healthy relationships, and general STI prevention. Teen pregnancy statistics are included in addition to a basic overview of contraception options.

The Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile (SAS) program is a statewide sealant program that offers grants to local school-based programs, such as Clark County SAS. Wisconsin SAS is a collaborative effort between the Wisconsin DHS, Delta Dental of Wisconsin, and Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin. The program's mission is to improve the oral health of Wisconsin children by providing school-based dental sealants (and more).

Clark County SAS provides **no-cost** oral health services for all children in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade, regardless of insurance status, in participating schools.

Oral health services are provided by a licensed dental professional on various dates throughout the school year. Oral health services include:

- **Teeth Cleaning and Screening**
- **Oral Health Education**
- **Fluoride Treatment(s)**
- **Dental Sealants (If Applicable)**



CLARK COUNTY SEAL-A-SMILE DATA

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
# of Students Given a Consent Form	Program put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	3,399	2,722
# of Students Who Participated		1,030	988
Participation Rate		30.30%	36.3%
# of Students Who Received Sealants		510	454
% of Students Who Received Sealants		49.51%	45.95%
Total Sealants Provided		2,616	2,186
# of Students Who Received Fluoride		1,028	982
% of Students Who Received Fluoride		99.81%	99.39%
Total # of Fluoride Treatments Provided		1,933	1,897
# of Students with Untreated Decay		269	327
% of Students with Untreated Decay		26.12%	33.1%
# of Students with Urgent Dental Needs		8	9
% of Students with Urgent Dental Needs		0.78%	0.91%
\$ in Preventative Dental Care Saved by Participants*		\$360,429.23	\$328,829.25



Abbotsford

Colby

Colby St. Mary's

Dorchester Head Start

Granton

Greenwood

Loyal

Loyal St. Anthony's

Neillsville

Neillsville St. John's

Thorp

Thorp Catholic School

*If all participating students went to a dental provider to receive the preventative dental services listed above, this is the total estimated cost of those services. Fees based on the average fee from the 2018 ADA Survey of Dental Fees: Exam = \$53.84, Cleaning = \$71.54, Sealant = \$57.77, Fluoride = \$41.47.

The CCHD is an active member of the Clark County Child Death Review (CDR) team, which is coordinated through the Clark County Sheriff's Office. These multidisciplinary teams review and acknowledge all child deaths from a prevention standpoint. CDR teams are a community's response to a child's death (birth through age 19). Teams increase agency collaboration to improve health and safety, while demonstrating a commitment to keeping children and adolescents alive, preventing deaths of similar causes.

The Clark County CDR team inputs data into the National Child Death Review Case Reporting System. The National Center for the Review and Prevention of Child Deaths, in collaboration with state CDR programs, develops and manages this web-based reporting system. Users of this system can enter CDR case review data so that their findings can be tabulated at the local, state, and national levels. Findings from these reviews guide program, service, and policy efforts to keep children safe, healthy, and alive.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- 3 CDR meetings were held, with three total cases reviewed
 - As a result of the CDR meetings, several prevention initiatives were implemented internally, as well as additional education given to community members based on findings from the meetings

Clark County Interagency Coordinating Coalition

Maternal, Child, & Family Health;
Community Partnership Development

The Clark County Interagency Coordinating Coalition (ICC) is the unification of agencies/programs in a cooperative effort to network and implement valuable services to young children and their families in Clark County. Many organizations actively participate in this coalition such as Indianhead Community Action Agency, Head Start, Clark County Social Services, Birth-to-3, Childcaring, the CCHD, Marshfield Clinic Health System, Personal Development Center, Clark County Community Services-Family Support Program-Children's Long-Term Support Waiver (CLTS), etc.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- 3 meetings were held virtually, with one hybrid meeting, to share information and assess areas of interest among board members
- Members gave updates on programming and funding available to Clark County residents via their department or entity
- Participation has stalled as many departments and entities are low staffed and encompassing multiple roles

Jail Health and Nursing Services

The jail health program is a cooperative and coordinated effort between the CCHD, Marshfield Medical Center-Neillsville, and the Clark County Sheriff's Office. The goal is to assure that each inmate has access to adequate medical care.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

OUTPUTS	2020	2021	2022	2023
Inmate TB Skin Tests	12	17	17	11
# of Positive Inmate TB Tests	0	0	0	0
Inmate Prescription Medication Setup	54	119	111	78
Inmates Seen by Jail Advanced Provider	79	134	151	146
Counselor Visits	75	162	194	128
Psychiatrist Visits	25	28	26	8
Total RN Contacts	1,008	1,552	1,368	1,242
Medical Health Assessments			216	252

The CCHD has strong linkages with numerous institutions of higher learning and serves as a site for student placement for observation, practice experience, and internships.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Two groups of Senior-level Nursing Students from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire collaborated with the CCHD to work on various projects and activities, outlined in the table below.

Semester	# of Students	Project Topics	Project Activities/Products
Spring 2023	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccine administration experience Plain Community Culture Jail Health Shadow Experience and Education Introduced to County Veterans Services Bloodborne Pathogen Presentations Conducted a Community Survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated as vaccinators at Owen Immunization Clinic and various off-site Plain Community vaccine clinics Learned about Plain Community culture from presentation provided by Dr. Mark Loudon, UW-Madison Professor Introduced to role of a Jail Nurse and general healthcare in the jail setting Tailored education presentations and resources for Jail inmate population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic 1: Opioid Safety and Narcan Administration Topic 2: Support after Being Released Learned about the services provided by the Clark County Veterans Office and the role of the Veterans Service Officer Updated and recorded two Bloodborne Pathogen presentations - one for Community Services staff and the other for Jail staff Survey created to incorporate subjective data which included a variety of questions related to the county <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtained 31 responses
Fall 2023	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plain Community Engagement and Education Jail Health Shadow Experience Influenza (flu) vaccine research and mass flu clinic participation Research related to CCHD programs (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visited 31 Plain Community Schools - assisted with vision screenings and provided education to scholars on the topic of <i>Basic First Aid</i> Prepared topics for the Plain Community December Newsletter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella (Chickenpox) Vaccines Protect Your Heart While Shoveling Snow Winter Preparedness Introduced to role of a Jail Nurse and general healthcare in the jail setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shadow experience with provider visits (i.e. medication changes, dental complaints) and nurse visits (i.e. STI testing) Reviewed and reported local and state influenza vaccination data Participated at two mass flu clinics in local school districts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary role was as vaccinators Research projects selected: Seal-A-Smile Program and Reproductive Health Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluated project goals, outcomes, and effectiveness Strengths and areas for improvement

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Bloodborne pathogens are microorganisms that cause diseases and are present in human blood

How bloodborne pathogens are spread:

Exposure to infected blood from "sharps" (ex. needles)

Exposure to infected bodily fluids through sexual contact (ex. vaginal fluids and semen)

Exposure to an infected person's vomit, sweat, urine, or saliva (if it contains blood)

How you can prevent the spread:

Proper handwashing technique

Wear proper personal protective equipment (PPE)

Dispose of used sharps promptly in an appropriate sharps container

BASIC FIRST AID

If somebody is hurt or ill, we need to help them!

How to tell if somebody is hurt:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Physical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bleeding Cuts Brusing | Emotional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crying Yelling Stating they are in pain |
|--|---|

First Aid kits are a great tool to help someone who is injured:

- We can use:
- Gauze and bandages:** to cover an injury
 - Alcohol or iodine:** to clean the wound - get rid of germs
 - Tourniquet:** to stop bleeding

In emergencies, call 911 for help!



- One *RN to BSN* student from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire worked with CCHD during the Spring 2023 semester, to complete a Capstone Project. The Capstone Project topic selected was Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE).
 - Capstone Project captured information related to what SANE is, the importance of the services, resources available in Clark County, Wisconsin statistics, gaps in access to care, funding, and future planning.



Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner

- Collaborated with a group of Wisconsin Area Health Education Center (WI AHEC) students in May 2023. Wisconsin AHEC offers a variety of education and training programs designed to increase the diversity and distribution of the healthcare workforce, and enhance healthcare quality and delivery in rural and medically underserved communities.
 - Joined a group of 10 health professional students on May 24th in Marshfield to present information on the Public Health Perspective of Clark County's Plain Community
 - The students were studying a variety of health-related disciplines, to include medicine, pharmacy, nursing, social work, and public health.
 - In addition to completing the presentation, CCHD coordinated a tour on May 26th with a local Amish home and business.





HEALTH PROMOTION AND PREVENTION

Multiple community partners around central Wisconsin came together to provide services in a rural community by “meeting people where they are.” St. Bernard Catholic Church has a weekly food pantry that services 250 to 300+ families per week. The partners pictured below quickly identified the need for their services in a rural community location where individuals were already present versus individuals traveling throughout central Wisconsin to receive partner services separately.

Throughout 2023, community partners came together to provide seven “Community Health & Resource Fair” events. Some services available did vary based on the county of residence of individuals. Events are continuing into 2024.

Services provided included:

- Immunizations
- Pregnancy Education
- Infant Safe Sleep (Cribs)
- Car Seat Safety Checks (Car Seats)
- Reproductive Health Services
- Vision Screenings
- Blood Pressure Screenings
- Diabetes Screenings
- Water Testing Information
- and more!



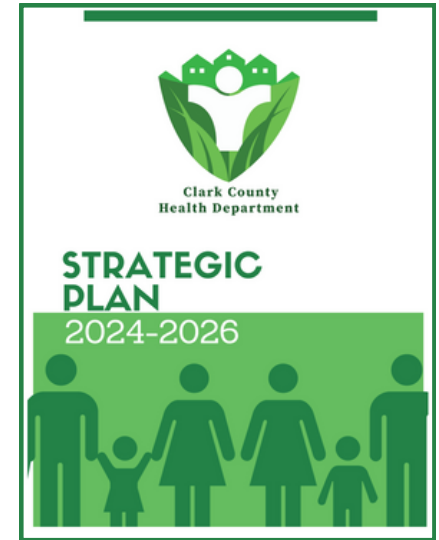
*Communities Coming
Together:
Services for All*



The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) defines strategic planning as, “a disciplined process aimed at producing fundamental decisions and actions that will shape and guide what an organization is, what it does, and why it does what it does.” A strategic plan is intended to serve as a roadmap for strengthening both internal and external operations. It outlines an organization's vision for the future, defines specific courses of action, and determines how interventions will be measured.

Development of the CCHD's 3-year strategic plan began in August of 2023. Activities facilitated by the CCHD included reviewing the CCHD's mission, vision, and values statements; collecting partner and stakeholder feedback; reviewing findings from Clark County's most recent Community Health Assessment; conducting multiple internal exercises; and compiling data to inform the content of the document. Through structured discussions, the CCHD identified 4 goal areas, along with objectives and strategies to include in the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan. Goal areas include *Public Health Advocacy*, *Community Engagement*, *Department Operations*, and *Employee Optimization*. Approval of the strategic plan by Clark County's Board of Health occurred on December 19, 2023.

The CCHD's 2024-2026 Strategic Plan can be viewed [here](https://www.clarkcountyny.gov/healthdepartment) or found on the CCHD's website (<https://www.clarkcountyny.gov/healthdepartment>) under “Publications & Data.”



2023 Activities and Outputs:

AUGUST



- Board of Health was introduced to Clark County Health Department's intent to initiate the 2024-2026 strategic planning process
- All-staff training on the strategic planning process
- Created & released the Partner Satisfaction Survey

SEPTEMBER



- Board of Health completed SWOT Analysis
- Collected & analyzed Partner Satisfaction Survey results from 114 respondents
- Health Department staff completed Direction, Alignment, & Commitment (DAC) Survey & SWOT Analysis

OCTOBER



- Health Department staff completed TOWS Analysis
- Reaffirmed Mission & Vision statements
- Amended Values statements
- Began drafting Goals, Objectives, & Strategies

NOVEMBER



- Confirmed Values statements
- Sought & received feedback from the WI Dept. of Health Services' Eau Claire/Western Region Office of Policy & Practice Alignment
- Finalized Goals, Objectives, & Strategies

DECEMBER



- Board of Health was presented with the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan draft document for review
- Board of Health approved of the Clark County Health department's 2024-2026 Strategic Plan on December 19, 2023

Per Wisconsin Statute 251.05, local public health departments are required to facilitate or co-facilitate a Community Health Assessment (CHA) and develop a corresponding Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) every 5 years.

The purpose of the CHA is to:

1. Better understand Clark County's current health status, needs, and areas for improvement
2. Collaborate with community partners to identify the top health priority areas
3. Develop plans to address key health issues affecting Clark County residents

Per the Internal Revenue Service, non-profit hospitals and clinics are required to conduct a CHA and develop a CHIP every 3 years. To eliminate the duplication of efforts within Clark County (meeting with the same stakeholders, redundant community surveys, time collecting secondary data, etc.), the CCHD partners with Aspirus Stanley Hospital and Marshfield Medical Center-Neillsville for each CHA/CHIP cycle. Thus, the Clark County Health Department is currently on the 3-year schedule. The purpose of the CHIP is to outline a strategic framework for addressing identified health priority areas.

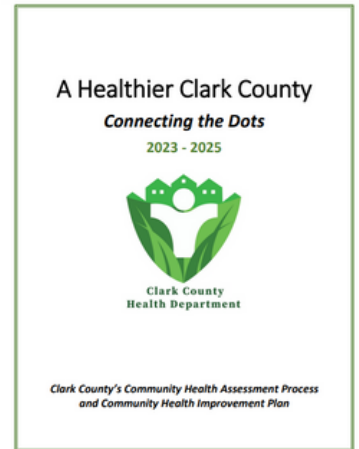
In June of 2022, the CCHD received approval from Clark County's Board of Health to address the following three health priority areas in the CCHD's 2023-2025 CHIP:

1. *Physical Environment and Safety*
2. *Communicable Disease*
3. *Alcohol Misuse and Drug Use*

To view the CCHD's CHA and CHIP document in its entirety, please refer to the "Publications & Data" section on the CCHD's website or click here: [A Healthier Clark County: Connecting the Dots 2023-2025](#).

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- To monitor progress within each of the three CHIP priority areas, the CCHD developed an internal tracking system that identified specific activities, deadlines, and staff assigned
- Completed all Year 1 CHIP activities within the three health priority areas
- Reported to the Board of Health on a quarterly basis



NARCAN® Direct Program

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention;
Emergency Preparedness & Response

To reduce opioid-related overdose deaths in Wisconsin, the Department of Health Services (DHS) contracted with Emergent-BioSolutions to establish the NARCAN® Direct Program. This program aims to address Wisconsin's opioid epidemic by providing free NARCAN® to community agencies and citizens.

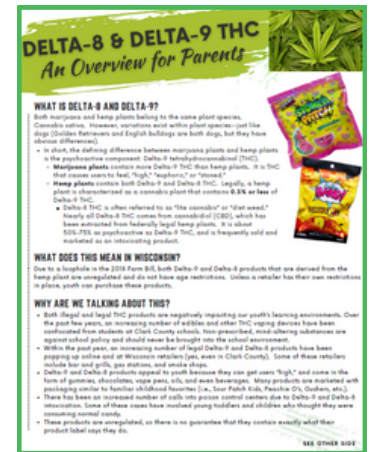
NARCAN® is the nasal spray formulation of naloxone, a drug used to reverse an opioid overdose. This program is funded by Wisconsin's share of the State Opioid Response grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

2023 Activities and Outputs:



In the spring of 2023, the CCHD was approached by a Clark County school district with concerns related to youth vaping and legal access to Delta-8 THC and Delta-9 THC (hemp and marijuana) products. The CCHD was informed that these products were having an increasingly negative impact on the learning environment, with a number of students getting high at school and in-school confiscations becoming more common. In understanding the seriousness of the matter, and its impact on youth health, the CCHD gathered resources and local partners to discuss potential strategies to address the issue.

In August, the CCHD collaborated with Abbotsford School District, Colby School District, Marshfield Clinic Health System, and Wood County Health Department to elevate the concern to Clark County's Board of Health. After listening to a presentation, the Board of Health recommended the CCHD increase efforts to provide education to parents and other adults on youth access to Delta-8 THC and Delta-9 THC products. They also requested that this topic be brought to a future (2024) County Board of Supervisors meeting.



2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Facilitated 4 presentations on vaping for Colby School District's Mental Health Day in April
- Facilitated 2 presentations on vaping for Colby School District in November
- To become more informed on youth access to Delta-8 and Delta-9 products, the CCHD conducted site surveys at 2 Clark County businesses and one Marathon County business
- Partnered with Abbotsford School District, Colby School District, Marshfield Clinic Health System, and the Wood County Health Department to present to Clark County's Board of Health on the following topics:
 - Overview of THC and Delta products
 - THC and Delta products in Clark County schools
 - Youth Risk Behavior Survey data and site visits
 - Delta laws and Wood County's ordinance
- Created a flyer for parents that was shared with all 8 Clark County school districts
- Provided information on youth access to Delta-8 and Delta-9 products in the August issue of the Plain Community newsletter
- Conducted one radio interview regarding Delta-8 and Delta-9 products in November
- Issued 6 Facebook posts from November to December regarding Delta-8 THC and Delta-9 THC



Maternal Child Health Grant

Maternal, Child, & Family Health; Community Partnership Development

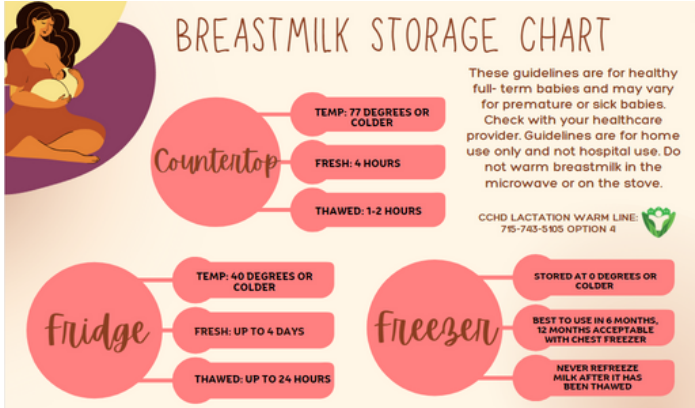
Each year, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) offers funding to local public health departments that specifically supports mothers, infants, children, and youth. Options within the 2023 contract included Social Connection, Breastfeeding, Developmental Screening, Adolescent Well-Being, Health Equity and Community Engagement, Perinatal Mental Health, and Physical Activity and Nutrition. Based on community needs, staff capacity, skillset, and the CCHD's scope of work, the Breastfeeding, Adolescent Well-Being, and Physical Activity and Nutrition objectives were chosen for the 2023 year.

2023 Activities and Outputs - Adolescent Well-Being:

- Provided free firearm locks at the Sons of the American Legion gun show in Neillsville
- Encouraged all 8 Clark County school districts to have students in grades 6-11 participate in the 2023 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
- Partnered with Clark County Community Services Department to provide self-injury prevention training and suicide prevention training to students at Neillsville School District
 - Trained all of Neillsville's 7th grade class in the Signs of Self-Injury (SOSI) program
 - Trained all of Neillsville's 8th grade class using a modified version of *Question, Persuade, Refer*
 - Trained all of Neillsville's 10th grade class in *Question, Persuade, Refer*

2023 Activities and Outputs - Breastfeeding:

- Collaborated with the Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition, Wood County Health Department, Marshfield Clinic Health Services Lactation Department, Clark County WIC, and the MCH team on any available resources as needed
- Integrated breastfeeding resources, as needed, as part of 1:1 already established client appointments
- Two PHNs completed the Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice (ALPP) Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC) online certification class, and received their certification
- Implemented the CCHD "Lactation Warmline"
- Started developing and reviewing lactation specific policies and procedures, developed lactation-specific resources (English and Spanish), and purchased supplies to prepare for 1:1 lactation visits in 2024
- Joined the Wisconsin Association of Lactation Consultants (WALC)



ALPP
THE ACADEMY OF
**Lactation Policy
and Practice**

2023 Activities and Outputs - Physical Activity and Nutrition:

- Obtained one free, large-scale hydroponic garden through the CCHD's partnership with Marshfield Clinic Health System
 - Marshfield Clinic provided funding to have the unit completely upgraded and refurbished
- Outreached to 3 Clark County school districts (Granton, Greenwood, and Neillsville), and invited them to apply for the hydroponic garden
 - In August, the garden, along with one year of supplies, was awarded to a first grade classroom at Greenwood Elementary School
 - In addition to providing set-up and technical assistance to the classroom, the CCHD assisted students during their first time planting and harvesting
- Utilized COVID-19 relief funds to purchase growing supplies for 7 Clark County school districts and 1 childcare site
- Continued to collect data from Clark County schools that were previously awarded a hydroponic garden in 2021 (Abbotsford School District, Loyal Elementary School, Owen-Withee Middle/High School, and Thorp Elementary School)
 - One survey was collected from each school per quarter
- All schools utilized their garden to support classroom learning
- Some schools used the lettuce grown in their hydroponic garden to supplement their school lunch program's salad bar

Loyal School District
17m · 📍

Today was a day of green thumbs and happy taste buds at our school! 🌱 Our fantastic 4th graders have been hard at work tending to their hydroponic garden, and the fruits (or should we say veggies?) of their labor were finally ready to be savored.

🌈 The elementary students had the incredible opportunity to taste the crisp, fresh lettuce straight from the hydroponic garden. From seed to plate, they witnessed the magic of growth and sustainability in action! 🌱

#LoyalProud

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF GREENWOOD

FIRST GRADE IS GROWING!

By Julie Plautz

The first graders at Greenwood Elementary are growing mentally and physically but they are also growing food in their classroom! The first-grade classrooms are excited to house one of the five hydroponic gardens that the Clark County Health Department has helped place since 2021. The garden was gifted to Clark County from Chippewa County and then recovered, refurbished and upgraded with funds from Marshfield Clinic Health System. The goal of the project is to help children learn about the nutrition aspect of fruits and vegetables, while also helping them learn the science behind growing food.

Each of the first graders started the project out by planting the pelleted seeds, getting them started under a grow light. After a few weeks, they transferred their plants to the hydroponic unit, which helped the plants grow utilizing a water pump and a very bright light which was on at night. The students were able to harvest the lettuce and take it home to enjoy with their families. They were able to grow three different kinds of lettuce and had plenty to share with other classes passing by.

First grade focuses on plants with a nine-week reading and science unit in the spring. The Fork Farm is a very valuable addition to the classroom as the children can see plant parts, and learn about plant life cycles and plant needs while learning firsthand the science behind growing plants as well as where their food comes from.

They have grown one batch and will start over with a new batch of plants in January. They would like to thank Rebecca Greisen and the Clark County Health Department for all their help in this endeavor!

In late 2023, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Chronic Disease Prevention Program was awarded a multi-county State Physical Activity and Nutrition (SPAN) grant through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The purpose of this grant is to support staff time for the implementation of evidence-based nutrition and physical activity strategies that address health disparities related to poor nutrition, physical inactivity, and/or obesity. In order to achieve the grant objectives, the CCHD is expected to leverage or create partnerships within various sectors (e.g., agriculture, religious organizations, government, educational institutions, etc.). In addition, the CCHD is also expected to complete activities within the following three strategy areas: *Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Breastfeeding*.

2023 Activities and Outputs - Nutrition

- Developed and finalized a workplan
- Met with leadership at St. Bernard Catholic Church in Abbotsford to gauge their interest in partnering to assess their food distribution site
- Outreached to Feed My People Food Bank to discuss various training opportunities for volunteers as well as policies and standards that apply to food distribution sites
- Outreached to Extension Clark County's FoodWise Educator to discuss potential opportunities for providing education to community members on healthy eating
- Work within this strategy area will continue through September, 2024

2023 Activities and Outputs - Physical Activity

- Developed and finalized a workplan
- Identified a non-SPAN funding source to support the implementation of traffic calming measures in areas where children are commonly present or play (e.g., signage, infrastructure, barricades, etc.)
- Identified areas within three different Clark County communities that could benefit from the implementation of traffic calming measures
 - Presented to Greenwood Common Council in December, 2023
 - Met with Neillsville Public Works in December, 2023
 - Met with Colby Public Works in December, 2023
- Work within this strategy area will continue through September, 2024

2023 Activities and Outputs - Breastfeeding

- Breastfeeding activities and outputs are equivalent to MCH activities and outputs
- Work within this strategy area will continue through September, 2024

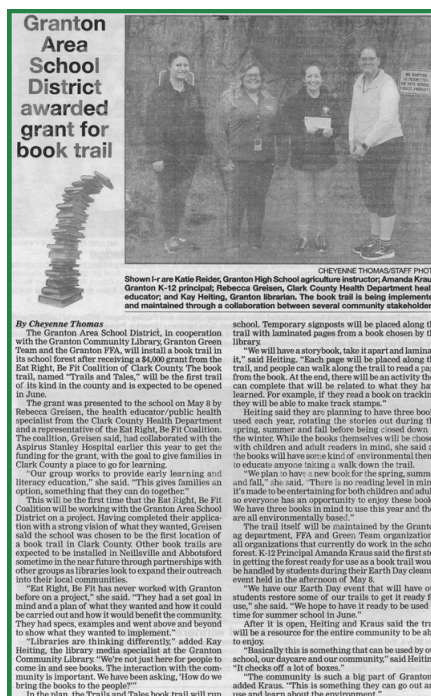
Clark County Eat Right, Be Fit Coalition

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention; Community Partnership Development

As a longstanding member of the Eat Right, Be Fit (ERBF) coalition, the CCHD continued to work with Clark County WIC, Extension Clark County, Marshfield Clinic Health System, Aspirus Stanley Hospital, and other community stakeholders to support and promote adequate nutrition, healthy eating, and physical activity throughout Clark County.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Co-facilitated 6 partner meetings
- Promoted awareness for Clark County food pantries and farmers' markets
- Continued to support the facilitation of Strong Bodies, a physical activity program for seniors, in multiple communities across Clark County
- Secured \$4,000 from Aspirus Stanley Hospital
 - Developed a community grant opportunity
 - In February, the ERBF coalition invited Clark County libraries to apply for the \$4,000 grant to support the implementation of a Story Walk
 - 3 Clark County libraries applied
 - Through a scoring and ranking process, the library at the Granton Area School District was chosen as the recipient of the \$4,000 grant
 - In August, Granton's Trails and Tales Story Walk opened to the public
- In August, members of the ERBF coalition supported Neillsville Improvement Corporation's Bike Safety Day event
 - About 80 community members attended



The Clark County Prevention Partnership (CCPP) is a local group that was organized in 2013. It consists of multiple organizations invested in addressing the mental and/or behavioral health needs of Clark County residents. Membership consists of the Clark County Health Department, local healthcare groups, Social and Community Services Departments, educational institutions, and community members. This group plays a significant role in addressing the 2023-2025 CHIP priority area of Alcohol Misuse and Drug Use.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Maintained active membership in the Northwoods Coalition
- Held 4 partner meetings
- In partnership with Clark County Community Services, the CCHD applied for the 2022-2023 State Opioid Response grant and was awarded \$9,000 worth of medication lock boxes, medication lock bags, and medication deactivation kits.
 - The purpose of this initiative was to reduce unauthorized youth access to prescription medications
 - Goods were distributed to the public through local libraries, Clark County Community Services Department, secure entrance at the Clark County Courthouse, and multiple community events
- In partnership with Clark County Community Services, the CCHD applied for the 2023-2024 State Opioid Response grant



Community Sharps Disposal Kiosk

Environmental Public Health; Community Partnership Development

Wisconsin law requires sharps be disposed of separately from other waste. This minimizes the risk for injury and prevents the potential spread of infections.

In 2022, Clark County was approved to receive funding, over the course of multiple years, from the 2021 national opioid settlement. To best determine how these funds could be used to address opioid use and public safety in Clark County, the Opioid Settlement group was formed. The CCHD has served as an active member of this group since 2022.

Per the Opioid Settlement group, the CCHD was given permission to pursue the installation of a large, publicly accessible, outdoor sharps disposal kiosk. The intent of the community sharps kiosk is to promote public safety and fill a gap in services within Clark County.



2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Garnered support from local law enforcement and other emergency personnel for the outdoor sharps disposal site
- Facilitated a partnership between Clark County and the City of Owen
- Facilitated a partnership between Clark County and Logistic Recycling, Inc. for the responsible disposal/emptying of the sharps kiosk
- Coordinated the delivery and installation of the outdoor sharps kiosk (the unit is located at Owen City Hall)
- Ordered 700+ personal-sized, 1-quart biohazard containers to deter stockpiling and promote the safe handling, storage, and transportation of sharps
 - Implemented 6 publicly-accessible distribution sites for community members to obtain personal-sized sharps containers: Abbotsford City Hall/Public Library, Colby Community Library, Loyal Public Library, Thorp Public Library, secure entrance at the Clark County Courthouse, and Owen City Hall
- In August, the CCHD issued a press release to all Clark County newspapers regarding the new sharps kiosk
- In December, the CCHD conducted one radio interview that promoted the safe disposal of medication as well as the new sharps kiosk

WI Wins: Youth Tobacco Prevention and Control

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention;
Policy Development & Support

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) contracts with the CCHD to facilitate the WI Wins program. The goal of the WI Wins program is to prevent tobacco/nicotine sales to minors in Clark County. Throughout the year, the CCHD coordinates unannounced tobacco inspections, provides training resources to retailers, and conducts public outreach initiatives. The CCHD thanks retailers who *do not sell* to minors and offers training resources to retailers who *do sell* to minors.

Wisconsin's goal is to have a "sales to minors" rate under 10%. Through the work of WI Wins, youth access to tobacco products has greatly decreased.



2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Fulfilled all program requirements as defined in the 2022-2023 grant contract
 - Conducted 4 public outreach activities
 - Conducted 3 media outreach activities
 - Facilitated 27 tobacco compliance inspections across Clark County

School Vision Screening

Maternal, Child, & Family Health;
Assessment & Surveillance

Early detection of visual impairment is crucial in young children. When left unnoticed or untreated, some vision abnormalities can lead to permanent ocular damage or blindness. As a proponent of healthy child growth and development, the CCHD offers vision screenings to children in grades 1, 3, and 5 at Plain Community schools.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Continued to partner with Prevent Blindness Wisconsin, a free program that provides vision screening training and resources to the CCHD
- University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Nursing students were trained and assisted with vision screenings at approximately half of the Plain Community Schools

Offered vision screening services at 59 Plain Community schools

Performed vision screenings at 54 Plain Community schools

316 scholars participated

21 scholars did not pass their vision screening test

A letter was then sent home with them to encourage their parents to schedule a follow-up appointment with an optometrist

Calming Spaces: Early Childhood Social-Emotional Collaboration Efforts

Utilizing COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant dollars intended to support community recovery, the CCHD purchased social-emotional items for Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Center, St. John's Lutheran Early Learning Center, Firehouse Friends, Central Clark County Community Child Care Center (7 C's), Granton Community Child Care Center, and Colby Elementary School to create calming areas/safe spaces. Some items the centers received included a sensory hideaway, cozy nest with pillows, breathing carpet squares, sensory and fidget items (balls, tubes, poppers, rings, dolls, beanbags, and bottles), stacking cups, calm down cubes, moods and emotions board books, breathing boards, weighted stress relief stuffed animals, etc. Lori Shafranski, Childcaring's Early Childhood Consultant, assisted each center in setting up the calming areas and coached staff on supporting children in developing emotional literacy, friendship skills, and problem solving strategies.



Big Dreams, Better Communities Grant

On March 11, 2021, President Joe Biden signed a 1.9 trillion dollar package into law known as the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The purpose of this package was to counteract the COVID-19 pandemic and to help support communities in their COVID recovery efforts. Of this money, a total of \$58.4 million was given to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). From there, the Wisconsin DHS designated a specific amount of money to each local and tribal health department. In general, health departments could utilize this funding to either (1) continue combating the COVID-19 pandemic or (2) promote community recovery.

Under the direction of the Clark County Board of Health, the Clark County Health Department chose to promote community recovery—thus creating the Big Dreams, Better Communities grant. This grant aimed to offer Clark County non-profit organizations the opportunity to improve health and wellness within their communities. Eligible organizations were invited to apply for up to \$15,000 in funding.

2022 Activities and Outputs:

- Developed and facilitated the Big Dreams, Better Communities grant
- Received 63 applications for funding
- Awarded 36 Clark County non-profit organizations a total of \$100,000 in ARPA funding

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- In November 2023, the CCHD requested a progress update from all non-profit organizations who were awarded funding through the Big Dreams, Better Communities grant



School District of Abbotsford



Neillsville Recreation Department



Clark County Public Libraries



Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Center

National Walk to School Day-Neillsville

Walk to School events aim to promote safer routes for walking and bicycling and emphasize the importance of issues such as lack of physical activity, pedestrian safety, traffic congestion, and concern for the environment. Each year, the CCHD partners with the Neillsville community to support National Walk to School Day.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Partnered with Neillsville Optimist Club
- Updated all flyers, volunteer forms, and letters to parents to promote the event
- The CCHD was also responsible for two of the walking routes on the day of the event
- Several children from both Neillsville School District and St. John's Lutheran School participated

Community Events and Engagements

- February**
- Stop the Bleed Training

- April**
- Stop the Bleed Training- Highway Department
 - Stop the Bleed Training- Sheriff's Office
 - Hosted a Narcan presentation for the Hispanic community on the Salud y Bienestar podcast
 - Facilitated Narcan trainings for the Clark County Sheriff's Office, Greenwood Police Department, and Owen-Withee Police Department
 - Facilitated self-injury prevention training and a suicide-prevention training for students at Neillsville School District

- August**
- Delivered the hydroponic garden unit to Greenwood Elementary School and assisted first grade students in planting seeds
 - Hosted a presentation for Clark County's Board of Health on Delta-8 THC and Delta-9 THC products
 - Supported Neillsville Improvement Corporation's Bike Safety Day event

- October**
- Participated in the Neillsville community's Walk to School Day
 - Facilitated Narcan training for St. Bernard Catholic Church

- December**
- 3 CCHD Staff trained to be Safe Sitter Instructors
 - Facilitated Narcan training for Clark County Social Services Department
 - Conducted one radio interview regarding safe medication and sharps disposal sites in Clark County
 - Presented to Greenwood Common Council on the traffic calming measures grant opportunity

- January**
- Gave 75 gun locks to the Son of the American Legion for their Neillsville Gun Show
 - Hosted a booth at Neillsville School District's Academic and Career Planning night

- March**
- Fitted 10 Abbotsford students for discounted bike helmets
 - Stop the Bleed Training- Plain Community
 - Facilitated Narcan training for Clark County Community Services Department
 - Facilitated 4 vaping presentations for Colby School District's Mental Health Day

- May**
- Safe Sleep/Car Seat Podcast
 - Stop the Bleed Training- Plain Community
 - Facilitated Narcan training for Loyal Police Department

- June**
- Thorp Bike Rodeo
 - Stop the Bleed Training- Granton First Responders
 - Facilitated Narcan training for Family Health Center of Marshfield, Inc.
 - Conducted 27 tobacco compliance inspections at retailers across Clark County

- September**
- Clark Electric Event
 - Participated in a Hispanic community outreach event at the Curtiss Health Fair

- November**
- 30+ ATV Safety Signs ordered for Clark County Trails in partnership with DNR and Forestry and Parks
 - Facilitated 2 vaping presentations for Colby School District
 - Conducted a radio interview regarding Delta-8 and Delta-9 products
 - Hosted the Get Yourself Tested trivia night event at Frickin A Bar and Grill in Dorchester



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SERVICES

The CCHD responds to environmental health concerns from the general public. The concerns are investigated if they fit the provisions of the *Clark County Code of Ordinance Chapter 16 Health and Safety*, or other Wisconsin statutes designed to protect human health and safety. Issues that clearly fit within the definition of a Human Health Hazard (HHH) are investigated in order to protect Clark County's residents from illness, injury, and/or disease related to environmental health hazards.

Many of the environmental health concerns that are filed contain more than one potential hazard. *The Environmental Health Concerns* table reflects all of the contacts that were made with the CCHD in 2023. These include environmental health-related concerns and complaints/situations that fit the definition of a HHH. Items in this table only include concerns that were not addressed under the umbrella of another environmental health program.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

17 properties had environmental
concerns (24, 2022)



3 of the environmental health
concerns were related to disputes
(13, 2022)

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS			
Concern	2021	2022	2023
Damaged, Dilapidated, Unsafe or Abandoned Buildings	7	1	4
Unsanitary or Unfit Conditions	2	9	6
Hoarding	1	0	0
Insect Infestation (Cockroaches, Bedbugs, etc.)	5	5	4
Animal Infestations (Rats, Mice, Cats, etc.)	2	3	7
Garbage	1	1	6
Sewage or Waste	2	6	2
Water or Plumbing	3	4	3
Air Quality Concerns	1	3	0
Lead-Based Paint (not related to lead poisoning)	1	0	1
Asbestos	0	0	1
Mold	7	5	4
Animal Health	0	0	0
Methamphetamines	0	0	0
TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS	32	37	38

In April 2019, the CCHD became an agent to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) under Wisconsin Statute 97 to issue licenses for restaurant, retail, recreational, and lodging facilities. The CCHD conducts an annual inspection at every licensed facility in Clark County.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- In 2023, there were 364 licenses in Clark County
- Each year, the CCHD inspects licensed facilities at least once during the licensing period
 - The licensing period runs from July 1st until June 30th of the following year



Table 1: Number of Licenses by Facility Type

Type of License/Facility	2021	2022	2023
Restaurant	123	134	152
Retail/Grocery Store	76	99	111
School	16	14	14
Jail	1	1	1
Lodging	39	45	53
Pool/Water Attraction	9	8	9
Campground	24	25	25
Total Number of Licenses:	288	326	364

Table 2: Number of Inspections by Facility Type

Type of License/Facility	2021	2022	2023
Restaurant	129	147	114
Retail/Grocery Store	81	115	75
School	28	28	25
Jail	1	1	1
Lodging	31	42	35
Pool/Water Attraction	5	9	7
Campground	24	22	23
Total Number of Inspections:	299	364	280

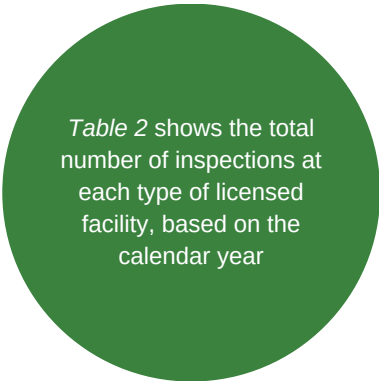




Table 3: Number of Inspections by Type of Inspection

Type of License/Facility	2021	2022	2023
Routine Inspection	236	292	222
Pre-Licensing Inspections	32	46	42
Re-Inspections / Follow Ups	26	17	9
Complaint Investigation	2	2	4
Other Inspection Types	3	7	3
Total Number of Inspections:	299	364	280

Routine inspections and pre-licensing inspections contribute to the number of inspections the CCHD is required to conduct each year. Re-inspections, or follow-up inspections, are conducted to ensure necessary corrective actions have been taken at facilities in a timely manner. Complaint investigations are completed when the CCHD receives reported concerns of licensing violations. Other inspection types may include a visit with no action or remote communication with a facility that does not require an on-site visit.

Lead

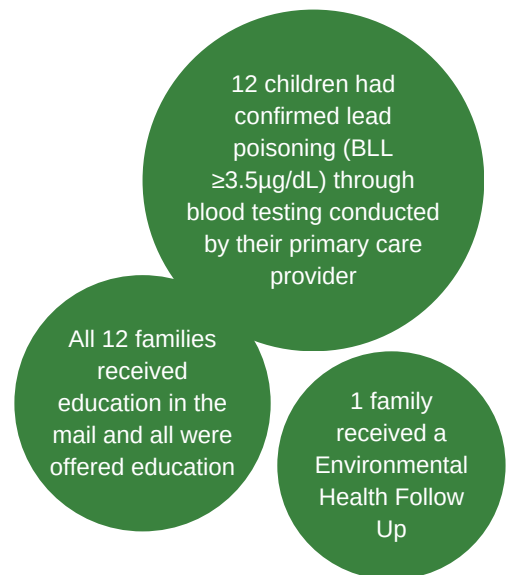
Environmental Public Health; Policy Development & Support

The CCHD is automatically notified by the Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Surveillance System (HHL PSS) through the Wisconsin Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program if a child's Blood Lead Level (BLL) is ≥ 3.5 $\mu\text{g/dL}$. If a child's venous BLL is ≥ 3.5 $\mu\text{g/dL}$, the CCHD provides education and case management until the child's BLL is at or below 3.5 $\mu\text{g/dL}$. Those who do not receive a confirmatory test for lead poisoning do not receive complete case management. However, they are contacted and instructed to seek confirmatory blood lead testing. This year all families were offered in home education, with only 1 family accepting and participating in a visit with EHS staff using the XRF machine. All families are called, text (if available), and mailed information on lead.

Some cases of lead poisoning persist from year to year and may cause a higher number of case counts than the actual number of individuals that tested ≥ 3.5 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ that year.

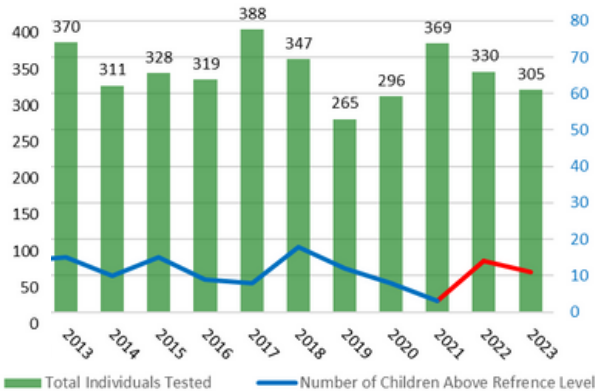
2023 Activities and Outputs:

Clark County Blood Lead Testing Rates & Results			
	2021	2022	2023
Total Individuals Tested	369	330	305
Individuals Below Reference Level	366	316	293
Individuals Above Reference Level	3	14	12
Individuals Case Managed for Lead Poisoning	2	9	1



The table below depicts the number of children (0-16) that had a blood lead test performed from 2013-2023 along with the number of children that had a result above the respective reference level at the time. In 2021, the CDC changed the blood level reference level from $\geq 5 \mu\text{g/dL}$ to $\geq 3.5 \mu\text{g/dL}$. The reference level could change again in the future because there is not a safe level of lead in blood. In 2022, the CCHD adopted the new reference level and followed up with all results $\geq 3.5 \mu\text{g/dL}$. The graph also depicts the new reference level change in red. The increase in 2022 of children with an elevated blood level is partially due to the reference level change but is still an increase if using the old reference over the past two years (9 children $\geq 5 \mu\text{g/dL}$).

Clark County Blood Lead Testing and Lead Poisoning Rates (2013 - 2023)



Indoor Radon Testing

Environmental Public Health;
Assessment & Surveillance

According to the CDC, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States (behind smoking). If an individual smokes and their home has a high radon level, their risk for developing lung cancer is almost 10 times greater than that of non-smokers. In-home testing is the only effective way to identify unsafe levels of radon gas.

Throughout the year, the CCHD offers affordable radon test kits to Clark County residents.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- January Radon Awareness Month: Press release to Clark County newspapers and post to Facebook
- The CCHD supplied 47 radon test kits
 - A total of 26 test kits were completed
 - 9 households (35%) were identified to have an unsafe level of radon ($>4 \text{ pCi/L}$)



Private Well Water Testing– Fee Exempt Test Kits

Environmental Public Health;
Assessment & Surveillance

Homes with pregnant women and/or children ages 6 months or younger qualify to receive fee-exempt well water test kits through the CCHD’s private well water testing program. These test kits provide test results for bacteria, nitrates, inorganic chemistry, and total metals.

Not all inorganics or metals are dangerous to one’s health, though some still affect the cosmetic quality of water. The health hazard of a water test result is classified into two categories: 1) Public Welfare Standard and 2) Public Health Standard. Public Welfare Standard refers to the limit above which the substance may adversely affect the cosmetic or aesthetic quality of drinking water. Public Health Standard refers to the limit above which the water should not be consumed or used for food preparation.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- The CCHD supplied 84 residential fee-exempt well water test kits to 63 households
 - 49 test kits were completed by residents in 37 different homes
- Nitrates and Bacteria:
 - Nitrates: 37 households were tested for nitrates in the groundwater
 - 2 (5.4%) households were above 10 mg/L, the unsafe level for pregnant women and children under six months old
 - No households were above 20 mg/L, the unsafe level for consumption



- **Bacteria:** 37 households were tested for Total Coliform and E. coli bacteria in the groundwater
 - 8 households (22.2%) were identified to have the presence of Total Coliform bacteria
 - 1 of the 8 households (12.5%) were confirmed to have the presence of Total Coliform bacteria
 - 1 household had the presence of E. coli



- **Inorganics and Total Metals:**
 - **Fluoride:** 37 households were tested for inorganics in the groundwater
 - 23 households (62.2%) had fluoride levels less than 0.3 mg/L, a level at which fluoride supplementation is recommended for children under 16 years to ensure healthy tooth development



- **Heavy Metals:** 37 households were tested for heavy metals in the drinking water
 - 2 households (18.92%) were identified to have an unsafe level of heavy metals
 - Manganese: 7 households (24.3%) had elevated levels of manganese (≥ 50 $\mu\text{g/L}$) based on the Public Welfare Standard, and 0 households had an unsafe level of manganese (≥ 300 $\mu\text{g/L}$) based on the Public Health Standard

Note: Elevated levels of manganese between 50 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and 300 $\mu\text{g/L}$ may adversely affect the cosmetic or aesthetic quality of drinking water, but are not expected to cause adverse health effects

- Iron: 7 households (18.9%) had elevated levels of iron (≥ 0.3 mg/L) based on the Public Welfare Standard
- Copper: 2 households (5.4%) had elevated levels of Copper (1300 mcg/L) based on Public Health Standard

Note: These levels may adversely affect the cosmetic or aesthetic quality of drinking water, but are not expected to cause adverse health effects

Transient Non-Community Well Water Testing Program

Environmental Public Health;
Policy Development & Support

Since 2011, the CCHD has contracted with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to complete well water sampling and sanitary surveys through the Transient Non-Community (TNC) program. In 2023, 76 water systems throughout Clark County were sampled and analyzed for the presence of bacteria and nitrates. A portion of these systems required a sanitary survey inspection (completed once every 5 years). If collected water samples were positive for the presence of bacteria and/or nitrates, CCHD staff worked with operators to post public notices and take corrective action to eliminate contamination.

2023 Activities and Outputs:



Bacteria Testing Lab

Environmental Public Health;
Assessment & Surveillance

In September of 2021, the CCHD started a certified bacteria lab to test for the presence or absence of Total Coliforms and E.coli in well water. The lab runs bacteria tests for the DNR-TNC program along with samples from private wells. Every year the lab completes proficiency testing to maintain certification.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- 116 samples were analyzed for the DNR-TNC program
- 28 samples were analyzed from private wells
- 144 total samples were analyzed

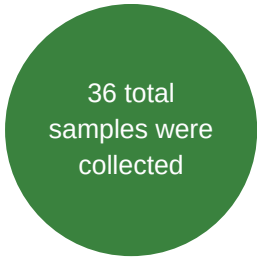
Recreational Beach Testing

Environmental Public Health;
Assessment & Surveillance

The CCHD's recreational beach testing program ensures the safety of public beaches in Clark County by sampling for the presence of E. coli.

2023 Activities and Outputs:

- Bi-weekly sampling (end of May to end of August)



4 beaches were monitored for E. coli

- 1 Arbutus Lake
- 2 Mead Lake
- 3 Rock Dam Lake
- 4 Sherwood Lake

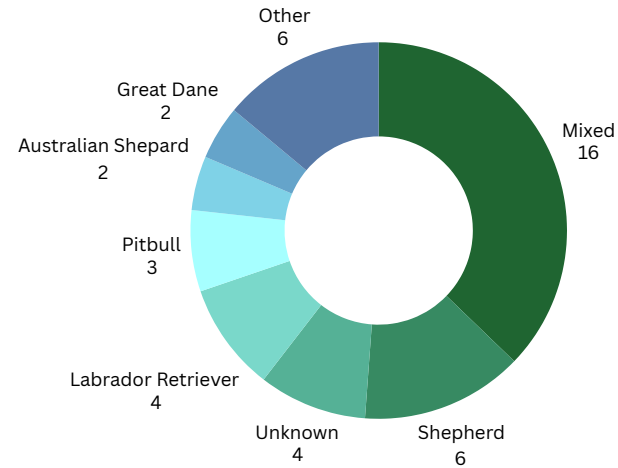


Animal Bites

Environmental Public Health;
Policy Development & Support

Investigation of reported animal bites for possible exposure to rabies is conducted to assure that serious illness or death from transmission of rabies is prevented. This program is designed to coordinate an effective rabies control procedure between the CCHD, Clark County Sheriff's Office, local veterinarians, physicians, cities, villages, town boards, and the general public.

Animal bites are reported to the CCHD and Sheriff's Office for follow-up. Monitoring of the animal for signs of rabies is done by a licensed veterinarian. Some animals may be sent to the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene for laboratory testing if they cannot be monitored. If an animal is not available for monitoring or testing, the bite victim is recommended to have a series of vaccinations that prevents the onset of the fatal rabies virus.



Other breeds included: Border Collie, Great Pyrenees, Boxer, Boston Terrier, St. Bernard, Australian Shepherd, Great Dane, Rottweiler, Chihuahua, Pomeranian, American Eskimo Mini, and a Springer Spaniel.

Animal Bites and Possible Rabies Exposures

Animal Type	2021	2022	2023
Dog	30	44	41
Cat	10	10	14
Bat	1	2	0
Racoon	0	2	0
Animal to Animal	1	1	0
Rabbit	0	1	0
Bobcat	0	1	0
Total Number Reported to CCHD	42	61	55

FUNDING AND FINANCES

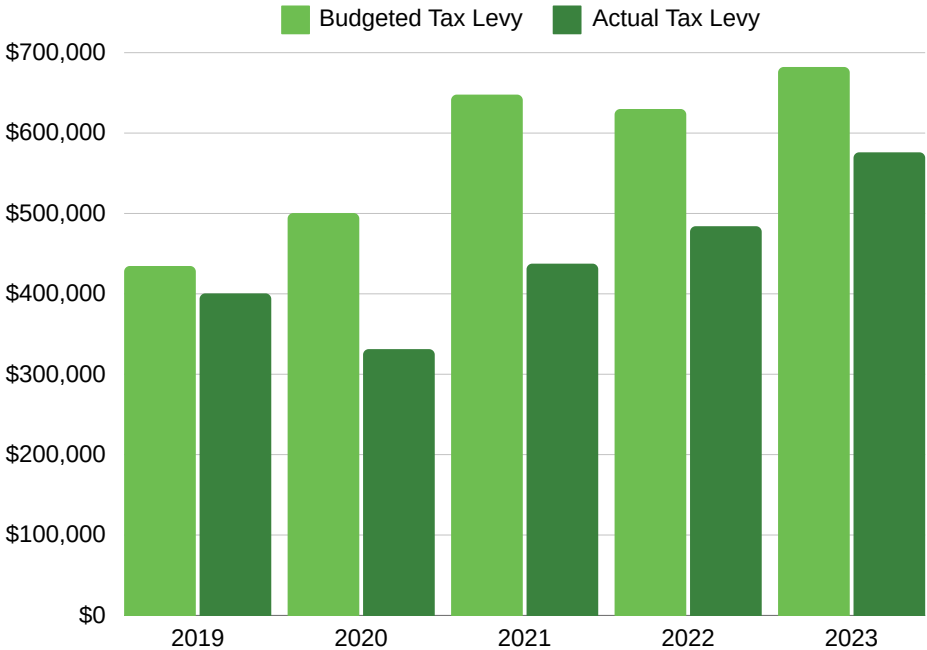


The table below represents the approved budget and actual amounts spent in 2023.

The General Fund is balanced during the budget process with county levy dollars to support the CCHD's programs. The Grant Fund is supported by a combination of local, state, and federal grant dollars, as well as the Grant Fund balance that carries over from year to year.

The Clark County Health Department relies on state or federal grants, county levy, and other local funding sources in order to provide programs and services to the public

2023 REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		
	Budgeted	Actual
100- General Fund		
Revenue	\$104,300	\$114,205
Expenditures	\$787,111	\$690,254
210- Grant Fund		
Revenue	\$991,139	\$746,224
Expenditures	\$991,139	\$723,001



The Health Department used 84% of budgeted tax levy in 2023, returning \$106,762 to the contingency fund

Grants Received

Grant Source	Program Name	Grant Timeline	Grant Amount
Aspirus Stanley Hospital	Cribs for Kids	01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023	\$2,500
Children's Health Alliance of WI	Seal-A-Smile	07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024	\$19,252 \$8,314
Clark County Community Foundation	Safe Kids	01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023	\$600
Health Care Education and Training	Get Yourself Tested	01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023	\$2,500
National Environmental Health Association	Licensing - DATCP	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023	\$3,372
State Opioid Response	Clark County Prevention Partnership	10/01/2022 – 09/01/2023 10/01/2023 - 09/01/2024	\$5,100 \$3,500
United Way	Cribs for Kids, Lactation Services & Safe Kids	01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023	\$1,250
WI Department of Health Services (DHS)	ARPA Child Immunization Childhood Lead Communicable Disease COVID-19 Enhancing Detection COVID-19 Immunization Support Lead Safe Homes Maternal, Child and Reproductive Health Preventive Health and Health Services Public Health Emergency Preparedness Routine Immunization WI Wins Workforce Development	03/03/2021 – 12/31/2024 01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023 01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024 10/01/2020 – 12/31/2023 07/01/2021 – 06/30/2024 10/01/2022 – 09/30/2023 01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023 10/01/2022 – 09/30/2023 10/01/2023 – 09/30/2024 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024 12/12/2022 - 06/30/2023 09/01/2023 - 06/30/2024 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023 07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024 07/01/2021 – 06/30/2023	\$453,100 \$13,500 \$4,745 \$4,000 \$4,000 \$639,300 \$69,100 \$3,519 \$90,823 \$6,408 \$6,408 \$35,429 \$35,429 \$15,000 \$19,000 \$2,079 \$2,310 \$83,600
WI Department of Natural Resources	Transient Non-Community	01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023	\$15,944
WI Department of Transportation	Car Seats for Kids	10/01/2022 – 09/30/2023 10/01/2023 – 09/30/2024	\$3,700 \$5,000



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www.clarkcountywi.gov/healthdepartment

