

Health Education, Information and Referral Services

Public Health Nurses provided information on Health Department programs and local resources, conducted confidential health consultations, provided information on immunization requirements and needs, educated about communicable disease and prevention, provided follow-up on mandatory reporting of communicable diseases, answered health-related questions, and distributed available literature or health packets.

A Facebook account was maintained, enabling residents using social media to obtain health-related emergency preparedness information on a timely basis. Examples include health alerts, communicable disease outbreak updates, disease fact sheet distribution, and personal protective recommendations during an emergency event.

Sixty-six radon test kits were distributed to Hales Corners residents. Results were evaluated for mitigation purposes, and added to an existing GIS map for our zip code.

Over 250 copies of the *2015 Farm Fresh Atlas* were distributed in the lobbies of the Library and Health Department.

Choose Wisely: A Healthy Guide for Eating Fish in Wisconsin brochures were made available in collaboration with Sherper's.

Current health information was maintained on a variety of topics on the Village's website at www.halescorners.org.

2015 Grant Programs

Prevention

In 2015, the Hales Corners Health Department conducted an agency accreditation readiness self-assessment to prepare for voluntary accreditation. The information was compiled and entered into an electronic data collection tool. Participation in this process helps local health departments consider whether to apply for national accreditation and assists the health department in charting a course of action to prepare for accreditation.

Immunization

The Health Department worked to address the Healthy People 2020 objective to increase the proportion of Hales Corners children two years of age who receive the recommended doses of DTaP, Polio, MMR, Hib, Hepatitis B, Varicella, and PCV vaccines. The Wisconsin Immunization Registry, physicians, clinics, and parents were resources used to identify children with complete, or needing to complete, immunizations.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

In March 2011, CDC developed 15 capabilities to serve as national public health preparedness standards. Wisconsin identified three capabilities to be addressed statewide each year during the five-year grant period. The Health Department analyzed gaps and worked to close gaps identified in the three chosen capabilities by creating or modifying plans, participating in trainings and exercises, or obtaining needed equipment.

Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI)

The Health Department worked on the four objectives for this grant, which included updating plans to provide oral medications during an incident to the entire jurisdiction of Hales Corners within 48 hours, conducting three drills from the CRI suite of drills, completing all required assessments, technical assistance reviews and metrics, and participating in an annual HSEEP-compliant exercise as required by the Wisconsin Division of Public Health.

Personnel

Board of Health

Lyn Ranta, MD
Bette Schubert, RN
Dennis Garvin, ANP
Mike Jansen
Dan Besson, Village Board Liaison
Debra Persak/Kathy Radloff, Health Officer
(ex-officio)

Health Department Staff

Health Officer

Debra J. Persak, RN (1.0 FTE)
Retired 7/31/15
Kathy Radloff, RN (1.0 FTE)
8/1/15—present

Medical Advisor

Lyn Ranta, MD (Consultant)

Public Health Nurse

Kathy Radloff, RN (0.6 FTE)
1/1/15—7/31/15
Kate Barrett, RN (0.6 FTE)
8/15/15—present

Administrative Assistant

Mary Lou Bradstreet (0.5 FTE)

Registered Sanitarian

Mary Kapelis, RS (0.2 FTE)
(FTE = Full-Time Equivalent)

We wish to acknowledge and thank Health Officer Deb Persak who retired after 36 years of dedicated service to the Village of Hales Corners and its residents. Deb established a vital Health Department which will continue to serve and protect the health and well-being of Hales Corners residents.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Hales Corners Health Department 2015 Annual Report

Vision

Through services based on prevention, education and promotion of healthy lifestyles, create an environment to optimize the health of Hales Corners residents.

Mission

The Hales Corners Health Department will provide leadership to protect and promote the health of Hales Corners residents.

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HCHHealth@halescornerswi.org

Communicable Disease Control

Reportable Disease Summary

Specific communicable diseases are required to be reported to the Hales Corners Health Department (HCHD) via the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System. After a disease is reported, Public Health Nurses implement control measures which include client assessment, epidemiological investigation, case finding, health education, counseling, referral, and enforcement of Wisconsin State Statutes related to communicable disease.

The communicable disease investigation process requires an understanding of the epidemiologic principles of disease and illness; receiving disease-related lab and healthcare provider reports; identifying disease cases and the potential exposure of others; monitoring signs, symptoms and treatment; collecting and analyzing data; containing disease through measures such as isolation and quarantine; working with other agencies including the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services and CDC; and educating and protecting the public. The HCHD investigated all potential and actual communicable disease reports, including food-borne, water-borne, and vector-borne diseases, outbreaks, epidemics and sexually transmitted infections.

The Health Department investigated the following disease reports in 2015: Chlamydia Trachomatis Infection (16); Gonorrhea (1); Hepatitis B, Chronic (1); Hepatitis C (4); Influenza -Associated Hospitalization (1); Legionellosis (1); Lyme Disease (4); Mumps (3); Mycobacterial Disease, non-tuberculosis (1); Pertussis (8); Rubella (2); Streptococcal Disease, Invasive, Group B (1); Syphilis Reactor (1); Varicella (3).

Health Promotion

Public Health Nurse Contacts

Nurses conducted home, office, and telephone visits to provide consultation, assessment, health education, blood pressure screening and education, referral to other agencies, community resource information, and resources for parents. Number of client contacts in 2015: 194

Maternal/Child Program

In 2015, the number of births to Hales Corners families totaled 71. Each family was offered a home visit and apprised of Health Department services via an informational packet sent to the home or by telephone contact.

School and Day Care Services

A Public Health Nurse (PHN) provided consultation services to 6 elementary schools, 1 day care center, and 2 pre-schools in Hales Corners. Weekly illness surveillance was conducted for all schools. Immunization reports were reviewed/reported according to Wisconsin immunization statutes.

Blood Lead Level Surveillance

Fifty-one childhood blood lead level reports from healthcare providers were reviewed and follow-up conducted for levels of 5 mcg/dL or greater.

Community Partnerships

- Collected 94 containers from residents as part of the Household Sharps Drop-Off program.
- Supported the WIC partnership with West Allis and Greenfield Health Departments to serve 37 Hales Corners residents.
- Regularly contributed to the Hales Corners Village Newsletter.
- Created displays at the Hales Corners Health Department on various public health topics.
- Distributed information to local health care providers on topics such as immunization compliance, disease reporting requirements, Ebola, influenza and other communicable diseases, and Health Alerts from the State of Wisconsin Division of Public Health.
- Collaborated with Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division to organize a community drug awareness campaign: Light and Unite Red.

Immunizations

In 2012, policy changes implemented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the national immunization program mandated that insured children and adults be directed to their primary health care provider for needed immunizations. This change impacted the health department's ability to provide immunizations for our residents since Hales Corners has a highly insured population. In addition, the Affordable Care Act expanded coverage of immunizations by private health insurance. The HCHD entered into a cooperative agreement with the Greenfield Health Department in 2015 to provide immunization services to Hales Corners residents who are uninsured or underinsured. This shared services agreement provides a cost-effective approach to ensure that qualified residents receive needed immunizations.

Seasonal Influenza Vaccine

The HCHD administered 39 doses of seasonal influenza vaccine to Village employees and residents between September and December, 2015.

Tuberculosis Skin Testing

TB skin testing was offered to individuals who live and/or work in Hales Corners for the purpose of contact investigation and/or employment screening. Twenty-five individuals received TB skin testing and results documented in 2015.

Training Highlights

Trainings attended by Health Department staff included:

- Weekly Ebola Response
- Rabies Seminar
- Mass Fatalities Management
- Annual Communicable Disease Seminar
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- Annual Vaccine for Children Workshop
- Radon Reduction Seminar

Environmental Health & Safety

The Health Department inspects and licenses certain establishments within the Village. Each licensed establishment receives one annual routine inspection and additional inspections based on findings and complaints. Establishment type and number of inspections in the 2015 licensing year are as follows: 62 licensed restaurants and food establishments received 87 inspections; 10 complaints generated an additional 17 inspections and 3 enforcement actions. Four school lunch programs received a total of 6 inspections. One bed and breakfast establishment received one inspection. Seven public swimming pools received a total of 7 inspections. Sixteen massage establishments received 18 inspections. One tattoo and body piercing establishment received one inspection. In addition, 2 inspections and contacts were made for non-licensed establishments or one-day food sales.

HealthSpace: This state-supported, web-based environmental health program provides the Health Department the ability to record all types of inspections on-site, monitor and track complaints, generate licenses and renewals, and create reports for program analysis. The Health Department provided information to Health Space to develop the capability for residents and the general public to view Hales Corners restaurant inspection reports online.

Nuisance Complaints: Air and water quality, housing, solid waste, vector, and lead complaints and investigations totaled 5 in 2015.

Rabies Control: Six animal bites involving a break in the skin were reported to the Police Department and follow-up for rabies exposure and control was conducted by the Health Department in 2015.