

# 2016 Annual Report

## Kewaunee County Public Health Department



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## *Message from the Director*

*I am once again pleased to be presenting the 2016 Kewaunee County Public Health Department's Annual Report. This report gives us an opportunity to look back over the year's accomplishments and share them with you. We continue to have a very dedicated, enthusiastic, and compassionate staff who take pride in their work and in promoting and protecting the health of all Kewaunee County residents.*

*I would like to thank the Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors, Kewaunee County Board of Health, and our County Administrator for the support they have shown our department over the past year. It is with this support and direction that we are able to establish public health policy for this county and continue to move forward. These leaders, along with our community partners help to guide us in the work we do and goals we accomplish. We are a stronger health department because of the cooperation and combined efforts of these partners.*

*Within the 2016 annual report, you will see how the Kewaunee County Public Health Department works within the community to carry out the 10 essential services of public health. In 2016 we used the information gathered during our Community Health Assessment to put together a 5 year plan to help move the health of Kewaunee County forward. Primary focus will be placed on Alcohol and other Drug Use, Mental Health, Nutrition, and Physical Activity. An additional health focus, Chronic Disease Prevention and Management, will be incorporated into each of the four main focus areas. Work groups have been established to address the focus areas and initiate work plans.*

*Our staff works hard to coordinate our grants and offer consistent resources for children and adults throughout our communities. We were privileged to add two new grants to our programming in 2016. Radon Education & Outreach and Building Resilience Against Climactic Effects brought light to many environmental health topics affecting Kewaunee County. Communicable disease follow-up and environmental health concerns regarding changes in ground water quality continue to impact the health department. Recognizing the need to work collaboratively to address these health concerns has strengthened many of our local and state partnerships. Prevention is an essential key to public health work. Prevention efforts within the health department focus on safe sleep, drug and alcohol awareness, car seat safety as well as the prevention of childhood abuse and neglect. Finally, education is a critical component of public health. Our department will continue to take each opportunity it has to educate our residents on prevention, health promotion and wellness.*

*Please review the activities presented in this report and feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. We believe in the mission of the health department: to promote and protect the health of the citizens of Kewaunee County. We will continue our work, together with community partners, to meet the health needs of Kewaunee County. And remember...it's important to Be the Change You Wish to See.*

*Sincerely,*

*Cindy Kinnard, RN, BSN  
Director/Health Officer*

## *2016 Synopsis*

- Began implementation of our 2016 Community Health Improvement Plan.
- The Prenatal Care Coordination Program provided case management services to 16 at-risk mothers throughout the year. A total of 60 visits were made.
- A total of 1102 vaccines were administered to 910 children and adults. Of these 635 flu shots were given in an effort to re-establish our influenza program.
- 60 radon tests were distributed.
- In partnership with the WIC Program, blood lead screenings were performed on 62 children.
- 49 animal bites were reported. This program helps to control and prevent any serious illness or death that may result from rabies.
- 15 car seats installations were completed.
- Public Health Nurses followed up on 143 reportable communicable diseases.
- Nursing staff provided hearing screening to 517 children and vision screening to 841 children throughout the county. 68 children were referred on for medical follow-up.
- 86 Tb skin tests were completed.
- 409 participants were served through the Kewaunee County WIC Program.
- Distributed 4300 letters to area residents with private wells encouraging well testing and promoting well safety awareness.
- Distributed 210 private well testing kits.
- Contracted RN services to provide for medication management with the Kewaunee County Human Service Behavioral Health Unit.
- 310 adults received blood pressure screening.

***Our Mission Statement:***

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department will administer those services necessary to protect the health of the citizens of Kewaunee County. Our concern is predominately and primarily with disease prevention and control, including other services that are necessary to ensure the optimal health status of the community.

***10 Essential Services of Public Health:***

1. Monitor the health status of populations to identify and solve community health problems.
2. Investigate and diagnose community health problems and health hazards.
3. Inform and educate individuals about health issues.
4. Mobilize public and private sector collaboration and action to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies, plans, and programs that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce statutes and rules that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link individuals to needed personal health services.
8. Assure a competent public health workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Provide research to develop insights into innovative solutions for health problems.

***Health Department Staff***

Director/Health Officer  
Cindy Kinnard, RN, BSN

Public Health Nurse / Grant Coordinator  
Cynthia Farrell, RN, BSN

Public Health Nurse/Emergency Preparedness Coordinator  
Melissa Patz, RN, BSN

WIC Director/Registered Dietitian  
Rachel Bauer, RD, CD, CLS

Clinic Nurse  
Merrie Novak, RN

WIC/Immunization Aide  
Marcia Dorner

Public Health Secretary  
Deanne Schultz

***Board of Health***

Gerald Paape, Chairperson

Kaye Shillin

Linda Teske

Donna Thomas

Douglas Doell

Kathy Janosky

Julie Janicsek

Shirley Kirchman (RN)

Dr. Kurt Kurowski, MD – Medical Advisor

**2016 Public Health Budget**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
Public Health	General Tax Levy	\$219,028	\$193,504
WIMCR – Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Reporting	Prenatal Care Coordination	\$4,373	0
Public Health Fees for Service	Radon Test Kits, Hep B Vaccinations, Sharps Collections, Tb Skin Testing	\$2501	0
Behavioral Health Contracted Service	Public Health Nursing Services	\$15,209	0
Kewaunee County Back-to-School Donations	Private Donations	\$4114	\$3,500 (remaining balance carried over to 2017)
Maternal & Child Health Grant	State Grant Consolidated Contract, General Tax Levy (75% match)	\$15,708	\$15,663
Prevention Grant	State Grant	\$3,600	\$3,600
Vaccine for Children Immunization Grant	State Grant Consolidated Contract	\$6,530	\$6,530
Adult Immunization Grant		\$2,433	\$2,432
BRACE: Building Resilience Against Climactic Effects	State Grant	\$10,500	\$10,492
Public Health Preparedness Grant	Federal Grant Homeland Security	\$35,535	\$35,513
Public Health Preparedness Grant - Ebola	Federal Grant Homeland Security	\$9,757 carried over from 2015	\$9734
Fit Families Grant	Federal Grant Snap-Ed Dollars	\$12,390	\$12,380
WIC: Women, Infants, & Children Grant	Federal Grant	\$71,414	\$71,266
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Grant	State Grant Consolidated Contract	\$1,961	\$1,935
Children & Youth with Special HC Needs	Stipend State Maternal & Child Health Grant	\$1,700	\$1,697
Radon Outreach Grant	State Grant	\$3,500	\$3,499
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$420,253</b>	<b>\$371,745</b>

*\*Excess funding from state grants is returned to the state of WI or carried over into 2017. Excess funding from general tax levy and revenues from public health nursing services goes back into county funding.*

## ***Maternal and Child Health Programs:***

### ***Maternal and Child Health Grant***

Maternal and Child Health Promotion consists of a multitude of programs targeting families with young children. The prenatal and postnatal programs aim to help families support their children's healthy growth and development. Research indicates that families participating in these programs have healthier babies, improved parenting skills, have developed positive community relationships, and their children have less behavioral problems.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department chose to utilize Maternal & Child Health funding to complete our work on establishing a "no wrong door" policy that began in 2011. We re-created our website and established a page designated to Maternal Child Health and our communities MCH resources. We have advanced our use of social media and have posted MCH resources frequently through Facebook and Twitter. In spring of 2016, we held individualized trainings with each of our medical clinics on services offered through the public health department as well as how to access the website and resources regarding Maternal and Child Health. We distributed our newsletter to MCH families at clinics, daycares, schools, WIC, and Birth to Three.

In addition, public health staff initiated the First Breath Program. This program helps pregnant women in Wisconsin quit smoking. It takes place at Prenatal Care Coordination appointments and provides women non-judgmental, one-on-one support to stop smoking. Smoking during pregnancy can lead to life threatening pregnancy complications, pre-term infants, miscarriage, stillbirths, and SIDS.

We continue our partnership in the Kewaunee County Abuse and Neglect workgroup (HOPE) started through the Human Service Department. In 2016 our focus was to make parents and professionals aware of trauma informed care. Several trainings were offered to professionals (law enforcement, public health, human services, and school staff) to bring awareness to trauma informed care. Parent Circles were also initiated as a means to bring parents into a non-judgmental environment to share parenting experiences and success. This support group was offered in each of our communities and was well received.

### ***Prenatal Care Coordination Program***

The Health Department assures access to medical, social, educational and other services for pregnant women who are considered high risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes through our Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) Program, as well as women who need extra support after delivering their baby. This program also serves all teen pregnancies within Kewaunee County. Although Prenatal Care Coordination is limited to those who receive Medicaid, the Health Department follows all high risk pregnancies referred to us.

The components of this program include outreach, physical and emotional assessments, care plan development, ongoing care coordination, monitoring, health education and nutrition counseling. A total of 16 women participated in PNCC for a total of 60 visits.

### *Postpartum Home Visits*

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department provides a newborn home visit to first time parents from a public health nurse to assist families after the birth of their infant. Mothers and fathers receive support and education on parenting, child development, and referrals to community resource services. Specific topics covered in the home visit include nutrition, breastfeeding, infant growth and development, brain development, injury prevention, and immunization. Well water test kits are available for parents with a private well. Car seat education and installations are provided by a nationally certified car seat technician. Our public health nurses made 15 visits to families in 2016.

### *Women, Infants and Children (WIC)*

WIC is a special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children. WIC helps income eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, post-partum women, infants, and children up to five years of age who are at risk due to inadequate nutrition. The program improves pregnancy outcomes by providing support services necessary for full-term pregnancies, making referrals to outside resources as necessary, reducing infant mortality by reducing the incidence of low birth weight (infants under 5 ½ pounds are at greater risk of breathing problems, brain injuries and physical abnormalities) and providing infants and children with a healthy start in life by improving poor or inadequate diets while saving long-term medical costs.

Kewaunee County had a caseload of 271 clients per month; with an overall caseload of 409 clients for the entire year. WIC participants redeemed electronic benefits worth over \$108,552.33 within Kewaunee County to benefit our local grocery stores. The clients are certified by a registered dietitian with the assistance of the WIC aide.

In 2016, the Kewaunee County WIC project continued to offer the Healthy Choices Market on site once per month during the months of July, August, September and October. The farmers market provides an opportunity for our WIC clients to utilize their farmer's market checks without having to make an additional stop. The Healthy Choices Market hosted two local farmers who provided a wide assortment of vegetables throughout the summer and fall months. In addition to only serving WIC clients, this market served seniors, patrons to the human service department, and Kewaunee County employees.



### *Fit Families Grant*

The following are the basic interventions that were chosen by SNAP-Ed officials for the Fit Families Program, a program designed to reduce childhood obesity. Research shows that changing these behaviors helps reduce obesity.

- **Make Every Bite Count-** increase fruits and vegetables to 5- ½ cup servings daily (clinical standard).
- **Move More Watch Less-** increase activity to 60 minutes most days of the week and reduce TV to 2 hours or less per day (clinical standard).
- **Make every Sip Count-** reduce juice to 6 oz or less and limit sugary beverages to once weekly or less (clinical standard).
- **Be a Role Model-** role model behaviors for your children (best practice).

Kewaunee County WIC data shows that 50% of two year old children are either overweight or obese as well as 45.4% of three-year-old children and 29.36% of four-year-old children successively. This data is showing a decreasing obesity rate in 4 year old children since the Fit Families Program was initiated in 2013.

Kewaunee County had 27 children complete the Fit Families Program in 2016. Data shows a 40.7% increase in children eating greater than or equal to 4 servings of fruits and vegetables per day after one year of being enrolled in Fit Families. There was a 44.5% increase in children who engaged in greater than or equal to 60 minutes of activity daily, and a 7.4% reduction in kids who watch two or more hours of television daily. The amount of children who drank less than 6 oz of juice daily increased from 40.7% at enrollment to 81.5% after one year of being on the program. In addition, 100% of the children enrolled, reduced sugary beverages to less than or equal to 1 serving per week.

Fit Families encourages parents to role model healthy behaviors to their children. This has been found to be one of the best ways to bring about positive change in families.

### *School Health*

The Kewaunee County Health Department provides screenings for students in public and private schools. Hearing, vision and scoliosis screenings are offered to each school in Kewaunee County. The initial screenings are coordinated through the schools and children are screened by volunteers. Any abnormal findings are then rechecked and referred for further follow up by the public health nurse. Hearing is checked in grades K-3, and vision is checked in grades K – 8. The following chart shows the number of children screening in the 2015-2016 school year.

<b>2015-2016 Kewaunee County School Health Screenings</b>		
	<b>Screened</b>	<b>Referred</b>
<b>Vision</b>	841	52
<b>Hearing</b>	517	16

***Prevention***

Injuries are a significant public health problem in Kewaunee County, Wisconsin and the nation, causing needless pain and suffering as well as emotional and financial stress. Each year, injury accounts for numerous hospitalizations in Wisconsin and in Kewaunee County. Injury prevention education is integrated into public health services provided to families and children.

***Fluoride Varnish Program***

In Wisconsin, fees paid to dentists by state health programs such as BadgerCare are the fifth-lowest in the country. Lack of dental insurance (public or private) is one of the major barriers to obtaining care. In addition, the level of reimbursement for services, particularly for state-funded insurance programs, is also a barrier for providers to participate in these programs because of insufficient financial incentives and reimbursements. In Kewaunee County, there are no dental providers who are currently accepting new BadgerCare patients.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department has a fluoride dental varnish program. The program is promoted through the WIC clinic, through mailings to new parents, and at community programs. Each year we partner with the Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County to offer a program entitled Kewaunee County Back to School. At this program, low-income children can pick-up new school supplies and shoes for the beginning of the upcoming school year. Each child, as well as adult, that participates in the program leaves with a dental hygiene package containing a toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, and timer. In addition, fluoride varnishes are made available by the health department to any child lacking dental resources. In 2016, 320 children (134 families) were served by the Back to School Program. 45 dental varnishes were done at the event.

In 2016, the health department partnered with Bridging Brighter Smiles (formerly known as Smiles for Life) out of southeastern Wisconsin to provide dental services within public school systems. All children are eligible for services. No one is turned away. They offer dental cleanings, sealants, and varnishes to any child regardless of their dental insurance status. For children on state insurance, Bridging Brighter Smiles will bill BadgerCare. For children with no health insurance they provide a sliding scale fee option or community care option. All three public school districts

within Kewaunee County took part in the dental service program. Private school children were welcome to come to the public school for dental services too.

***Kewaunee County Children Served by Smiles 4 Life in the 2016-2017 School Yr:***

Students Enrolled	<b>296</b>
Screenings / Cleanings / Varnishes Applied	<b>420</b>
Additional Fluoride Varnish Applications	<b>121</b>
Sealants Placed (per number of teeth)	<b>734</b>

*Prevention Grant*

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department chose to focus the prevention grant efforts on completing our Community Health Improvement Plan. In late 2015 we held a Community Health Assessment. Through this engagement process five primary health priority areas were chosen to focus on. They include: Physical Activity, Nutrition and Healthy Foods, Chronic Disease Prevention and Management, Alcohol and Drug Use, and Mental Health. After choosing these focus areas, it was decided that Physical Activity and Nutrition and Health Foods would be combined into one focus area. In addition, it was decided that Chronic Disease Prevention and Management would be addressed individually as well as in each of the other focus areas because chronic disease plays an important factor in all health priorities.

Workgroups were formulated and began work on each focus area. In regard to alcohol and drug use we have established a Kewaunee County DEC (Drug Endangered Child) Program. This program ensures that county professionals share useful information with appropriate school staff when a child has experienced an endangered situation at home. We have also furthered our participation in the FACES (Families and Communities Encouraging Success) program. This program discourages drug and alcohol use of school-aged children, parents hosting parties for their children, and appropriate drug and sharps disposal. Within chronic disease prevention and management, we have partnered within the Kewaunee County Community Advocacy Coalition which promotes dementia-friendly services throughout the county and provides support to individuals experiencing dementia or caring for individuals with dementia. Within the area of mental health, the health department staff continues to assist in medication management with our behavioral health unit. We have provided various educational pieces to share with behavioral health clients on topics including suicide prevention, medications and the heat, seasonal affect disorder and managing your blood pressure. Finally our nutrition workgroup focused efforts of developing a breastfeeding support group.

The health department also continued its participation on the Kewaunee County Child Death Review Team. This team focuses on reviewing the cause of death for any child 18 years of age and under within Kewaunee County. Topics including safe sleep are of great concern and education is provided by all members of the team.

Additional funding provided through the Prevention Grant was used to continue the process of reviewing agency policies and procedures. There is a strong push from the state to strengthen agency infrastructure. Several agency policies and procedures were reviewed and rewritten to better suit our current needs.

### *Car Seat Program*

Kewaunee County Public Health Department does offer certified car seat inspections. The public health nurse has been certified since 2008 as a Child Passenger Seat (CPS) technician by Safe Kids Worldwide and has achieved completion of the National Standardized CPS Training Program. To maintain certification, the technician must take part in five car seat check events each year, be witnessed on installing five different style seats by a certified instructor, provide four hours of public instruction each year on car seat safety and complete the required 6 CEU credits needed every two years. Our CPS technician partners with the Center for Childhood Safety in Green Bay and other CPS technicians throughout Northeast WI to provide services throughout the greater-Green Bay area.

Car seat inspections are offered to anyone who calls and requests one, as well as every first time parent. Seat inspections are done both at first time parent home visits and at our office. The average car seat inspection process takes 30-45 minutes per seat. In 2016, Kewaunee County Public Health Department provided 15 car seat inspections at our office; as well as one with each home visit provided.

### *Rural Safety Day*

Kewaunee County Public Health began collaboration with Kewaunee County UW Extension in 1996 to offer a special event focused on rural safety and injury prevention. This event is called Rural Safety Day. It takes place each year in May. We receive a \$500 grant from the Wisconsin Rural Health Initiative. The Kewaunee County Farm Bureau matches these funds with an additional \$500. The Kewaunee County Dairy Promotion provides milk and ice cream to all participants at the event. Finally, we partner with numerous community individuals and organizations who serve as presenters for each of the rural safety and injury prevention lessons. These partners donate their time for the day. They include: Wisconsin Public Service, Green Bay YMCA, Brown County Park and Rec. Dept., Kewaunee County Parks and Promotion Department, Kewaunee County Sheriff's Dept., WI Agri-Bility, local veterinarians, Kewaunee Fire Department, Luxemburg Fire Department, Luxemburg Rescue, Luxemburg Motor Company, area farmers, Kewaunee County Preparedness, Violence Intervention Project, and WI DNR.

Fifteen learning stations are set up throughout our livestock buildings at the Kewaunee County Fairgrounds. Approximately 275 children from nine area public and private schools are in attendance. The children are divided into groups of approximately 20-25 students. They rotate through learning stations every 15 minutes. The learning stations include:

- Large Animal Safety
- Small Animal Safety
- Tractor Safety
- Lawn Mower Safety
- Farmstead Safety
- Agri-Bility / Disability
- Fire Safety
- Electrical Safety
- ATV Safety
- Water Safety
- Preparedness / Family Emergency Safety
- Safety in the Woods
- Bike Safety
- Car Passenger / Seat Belt Safety
- Sun Safety

In addition to these safety lessons, during the lunch hour police, fire, and rescue departments, as well as a Wisconsin Public Service line truck, are available to educate the children on what their role is in the community and how their safety equipment works. Every child in attendance receives a safety booklet highlighting each of the lessons they learned about that day. Teachers spend time with their students to complete the evaluation and to reinforce the prevention lessons they have learned over the following week in their classroom. Evaluations have shown an increase in students' knowledge.

All presenters and organizations that help plan or participate in the event have a vested interest in educating our children on safety measures and the success of the program.

### ***Adult Health Promotion***

#### *Blood Pressure Clinics*

Adult blood pressure clinics are offered throughout Kewaunee County at low-income housing, meal sites, foot care clinics and our office. Individual appointments are also accepted. The clinic nurse screened 830 individuals for blood pressure in several locations (Kewaunee, Algoma, Dyckesville, Luxemburg and Casco) throughout Kewaunee County in 2016.

#### *Communicable Disease Control*

According to Wisconsin State Statute, surveillance, investigation, and follow-up of all Category I, II, or III communicable diseases are mandated responsibilities of a local health department. Public health nurses spend significant staff time conducting these investigations. In addition, animal bites are reported to the local health department by local law enforcement agencies to assure that measures are taken to prevent potential rabies transmission to humans.

*Communicable Diseases Reported & Confirmed in 2016*

<b>Disease</b>	<b>Reported</b>	<b>Confirmed / Probable</b>
<b>Blastomycosis</b>	1	1
<b>Campylobacteriosis</b>	18	18
<b>Chlamydia</b>	28	28
<b>Cryptosporidium</b>	8	8
<b>E Coli – Shiga Toxin STEC</b>	1	1
<b>E Coli – Enteropathogenic EPEC</b>	18	18
<b>E Coli – Enteroinvasive ETEC</b>	2	2
<b>Giardiasis</b>	6	4
<b>Gonorrhea</b>	1	1
<b>Group Strep A</b>	7	1
<b>Group Strep B</b>	11	5
<b>Hepatitis B - chronic</b>	2	1
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	5	3
<b>Influenza - hospitalized</b>	4	4
<b>Legionellosis</b>	1	1
<b>Lyme’s Disease</b>	10	9
<b>Mumps</b>	1	0
<b>Non-cholera Vibriosis</b>	1	1
<b>Pertussis</b>	1	1
<b>Q Fever</b>	1	1
<b>Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever</b>	1	1
<b>Salmonellosis</b>	5	5
<b>Streptococcal Pneumoniae</b>	3	3
<b>Syphilis</b>	1	0
<b>Tuberculosis - latent</b>	3	3
<b>Varicella</b>	1	0
<b>Yersiniosis</b>	1	1
<b>Zika</b>	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>121</b>

In addition to communicable disease follow-up, our staff maintains weekly correspondence with our three public school districts to monitor illness rates within the schools. These illness rates are reported each Friday and plotted on an absenteeism graph per school. This allows our nursing staff to watch for peaks or spikes in influenza, or gastrointestinal illnesses that are spreading throughout the county.

### *Outbreaks Reported*

One suspect outbreak was reported from a local health care institution. It was identified as a norovirus outbreak. 20 residents and / or staff became infected with the agent.

Staff worked with the area nursing home to identify the causative agents by collecting the necessary specimens, creating line lists, and providing education on how to stop the spread of the agent. A communicable disease presentation was given at this facility to help educate staff on preventing the spread of disease.

### *Animal Bites*

Investigation of reported animal bites is conducted to assure that serious illness or death from exposure to animal or human transmission of rabies will be prevented. This program is designed to coordinate an effective rabies control procedure between Kewaunee County Public Health Department, law enforcement, veterinarians, physicians, and our townships and municipalities.

<b>Year</b>	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Total # Reported to Kewaunee County Health Department</b>	45	38	48	49
<b>Dog</b>	30	23	30	26
<b>Cat</b>	9	8	11	19
<b>Bat</b>	5	5	5	3
<b>Raccoon</b>	1	0	1	0
<b>Cow</b>	0	2	0	0
<b>Squirrel</b>	0	0	1	0
<b>Rabbit</b>	0	0	0	1

### *Immunization Program*

Public health departments are allowed to vaccinate individuals who are on BadgerCare, are uninsured, underinsured, Native American or Native Alaskan. As a health department, our objective is to vaccinate as many children as we can within our guidelines and to track all children less than 2 years of age who reside within our county or utilize our vaccination services and send notices to parents of children that

are behind schedule. Booster doses are given to prevent immunity from waning. The immunization rates will be monitored to assure compliance with immunization schedules.

In 2016 we continued with state efforts to increase awareness of recommended adolescent vaccines including meningococcal, HPV, Tdap, and Hepatitis A. Also in 2016, our health department received additional funding for adult immunization. With this funding we promoted influenza vaccination of adults and focused our efforts on ensuring residents of our local nursing homes and community based residential facilities were offered the flu shot.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department continues to offer three community-based vaccination clinics per month as well as individual appointments. Vaccination services are also offered in the school settings to assist in meeting state requirements for sixth grade entrance. In 2016 mass influenza clinics were offered in all three public school districts and Tdap vaccine was offered to all 5<sup>th</sup> graders. 478 doses of influenza vaccine and 72 doses of Tdap were distributed in the school setting.

	<b>Total Immunizations</b>	<b>Total Children and Adults Served</b>
2012	1816	895
2013	821	501
2014	582	416
2015	1143	904
<b>2016</b>	<b>1102</b>	<b>910</b>

### *Educational Sessions*

Kewaunee County Public Health Department provides information that allows people to make healthy decisions every day like increasing physical activity, eating right, smoking cessation or simply washing hands to prevent the spread disease. The public health nurse and registered dietitian provide these information programs in schools, in homes, clinics and on our website. Educational sessions are provided to various community groups upon request.

- Blood-borne Pathogens
- Communicable Disease / Influenza
- Eating for the Aging
- First Aid
- Food Demonstrations



- Hand Washing
- Puberty
- What To Do When Your Child Is Sick
- Physical Activity / Proper Nutrition

### ***Preparedness***

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides yearly grant funding to local health departments in order to increase our capacity to plan for, respond to, and recover from public health threats and emergencies that may impact our community.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department focused on the following capabilities:

- **Fatality Management** – The ability to coordinate with other agencies (e.g. law enforcement, emergency management, coroner, etc.) to ensure the proper response to and recovery from a mass fatality incident.
- **Mass Care** – The ability to coordinate with partner agencies for ongoing surveillance and assessment to ensure that health needs continue to be met during an incident. This includes addressing public health needs of those impacted by the incident at a congregate location (shelter).
- **Medical Surge** – The ability to provide adequate medical evaluation and care during events that exceed the limits of the normal medical infrastructure of the community.
- **Volunteer Management** – The ability to coordinate the identification, recruitment, registration, credential verification, training, and engagement of volunteers to support the health department’s response to incidents.
- **Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions** – The ability to recommend to the applicable lead agency (if not public health) and implement, if applicable, strategies for disease, injury, and exposure control.

Initiatives to eliminate identified gaps based on the targeted capabilities included the following:

- Participation in the Department of Public Health facilitated Health Care Coalition regional exercise for Ebola Virus Disease response.
- The Kewaunee County Fatality Management plan was presented to the Northeast Regional Health Care Coalition to facilitate regional mass fatality planning.
- Staff was trained in mass care and sheltering capabilities and jurisdictional sheltering capacity was reviewed and mediated.
- A jurisdictional risk assessment was completed for Kewaunee County using the Wisconsin Vulnerability Assessment Tool which identified Kewaunee County’s highest risks for potential hazards to help guide future planning. Identified hazards for Kewaunee County include pandemic influenza, cyber attack, drought, severe thunderstorms, extreme temperatures, power outage,

and blizzards/ice storms. This information was presented to the Regional Health Care Coalition in conjunction with other Northeast Regional jurisdictions to coordinate an overall risk assessment for the region.

- Staff participated in WI-Trac training to prepare for coordinated response during public health related emergencies.
- In attempt to exercise and assess operational abilities of the mass clinic (dispensing) plan, staff coordinated a mass immunization functional exercise with schools throughout Kewaunee County. During the exercise 478 influenza vaccines were administered to children under the age of 18 and 72 Tdap vaccines were administered to 5<sup>th</sup> graders at either a school point of dispensing site or at the Kewaunee County Health Department.
- A staff member was trained in the Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry (WEAVR) program in order to recruit and manage willing volunteers to fill specific roles during a public health emergency.
- The department continues to update and improve upon the public health plans which include: the mass clinic (dispensing) plan, the public health emergency plan, and mass fatality plan. Staff continued to meet FEMA training requirements by participating in the ICS and NIMS courses.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department also received additional funding towards Ebola planning and operational readiness for responding to Ebola. An Ebola (EVD) Concept of Operations Plan was developed to guide the health department in responding to suspect and confirmed Ebola cases within Kewaunee County. This plan may also be used to respond to other communicable diseases.

### ***Environmental Health Services***

#### ***Beach Testing***

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department coordinates with WI DNR and UW Oshkosh, as well as the cities of Kewaunee and Algoma to provide monitoring of water quality at two of our Lake Michigan beaches. The program was implemented under the Federal Beach Act of 2000, an amendment of the Clean Water Act. The beaches that are monitored are Kewaunee City Beach (at Selner Park), and Crescent Beach in Algoma.

The monitoring takes place twice weekly between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The program monitors for the presence of Escherichia coli (E. coli). If E. coli levels are found to be >235cfu/100mL an advisory is posted. If levels are found to exceed 1000cfu/100ml, a beach closure is posted. Advisories and closures are posted at the beach as well as on the WI Beach Monitoring website.

In 2016 our beaches continued to utilize a beach flagging system to alert citizens of elevated bacteria levels in the lake. A green flag indicates that there is not currently an advisory or closure, a yellow flag indicates levels have reached a cautionary level (higher risk of illness exists), and a red flag indicates bacteria levels are considered high (warning...do not swim...serious risk for illness exists).

## ***Kewaunee County Beach Report 2016***

Beach Name	Number of Samples	# of Advisories	# of Closures	% Exceedances	Average <i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)
City of Kewaunee Beach	29	2	0	0.068	72.4
Crescent Beach	30	3	1	0.13	141.7

% of exceedances is based on the number of beach days under advisory or closure.

### ***BRACE: Building Resilience Against Climactic Effects***

In 2016, our health department wrote for and received the Building Resilience Against Climate Effects (BRACE) project grant to study and prepare for anticipated climatic effects on the public's health. The goal of this grant project was to enhance our capacity to assess, prepare for, and effectively respond to climate and extreme weather events and reduce or prevent related negative health effects to Kewaunee County's citizens.

After gathering relevant data related to the climate and health effects in Kewaunee County, a community engagement meeting was held to receive feedback and input from local partners and identify health outcomes to focus on over the upcoming year. We had thirteen attendees at our community engagement event held on February 11, 2016. The health outcomes identified as areas of improvement were: Water Quality and Precipitation, Winter Weather and Heat Extremes. We partnered with the Aging and Disability Resource Center, Human Services, Behavioral Health, Parks and Promotion, and Emergency Management to focus on the county's most vulnerable populations: the aging population, the mental health population, those with chronic disease and children. We developed actions steps and areas of focus for the identified health outcomes and carried out work on objectives to the best of our abilities over the course of the year.

Though we find value in all the objectives we achieved, we will continue to place special emphasis on vector-borne diseases, enteric diseases, and well water maintenance after heavy rain or flooding.

### ***Child Lead Testing***

There is no safe level of lead in the human body. Even very low levels of lead exposure can cause permanent brain damage and negatively affect health throughout the child's life, especially those between six months and six years of age. Experts now use a reference level of 5 micrograms per deciliter to identify children with elevated blood lead levels. The new lower value means that more children will likely be identified as having lead exposure allowing parents, doctors, public health

officials and communities to take action earlier to reduce the child's future exposure to lead.

In Kewaunee County, children with a lead level of 5 or greater are provided with follow-up and consultation by a Public Health Nurse. Sixty-two (62) capillary blood lead checks were done with one new child identified as having a lead level between 5 and 10 ug/dL. No children were reported as having been lead poisoned (greater than 10 ug/dL).

### *Radon Outreach*

The health department received a radon outreach grant in 2016. This grant provided us with the financial means to increase our radon educational outreach to Kewaunee County citizens. A blitz event was held in January to increase awareness of the poisonous gas and to provide people with the opportunity to receive radon test kits at a discounted rate. Several articles were written throughout the year to remind citizens that radon can be present in any home and that it is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Community events were attended throughout the year where radon kits were available for purchase.

All public health nurses completed the State Online Radon Measurement Course Certification. All real estate agents within Kewaunee County were contacted by a public health nurse. Radon testing and remediation with new home sales was discussed.

Sixty kits were distributed throughout the year. This is three times more radon kits given out than in the previous year.

### *Water Quality*

The quality of drinking water in Kewaunee County remains a leading concern for our health department. Because of our unique geology and soils, there are extreme challenges to protecting the groundwater within our county. Our upper layer of bedrock can be easily dissolved by water. This is referred to as "karst" bedrock. Soil is important for filtering contaminants out of groundwater, but in areas where karst bedrock is present, we lack the depth of soil needed to properly filter the groundwater. Red River, Lincoln, Casco and Luxemburg townships are most affected by karst bedrock.

Contamination of wells is a growing concern for our rural residents. As a health department, we encourage all well owners to test their wells annually; and whenever a change in color, odor, or taste is noted. The health department has well testing kits available to private well owners. In addition, free testing kits are offered to first-time parents of newborns, WIC families, and low-income families. Education is offered on various topics including annual well testing, options for improving your well water, high nitrates and blue baby syndrome.

In 2016, we continued our work with the Ground Water Task Force. A designated web page was created by the health department to keep the public informed on the mission and progress of the task force.

Throughout 2016, our health officer continued work on recommendations set forth by a short-term solution workgroup formulated by the WI DNR which focused on finding assistance for individuals with contaminated wells. The health department, in cooperation with DNR and Kewaunee County Land & Water Office developed clear guidance for responding to a contamination event. Letters were sent to residents within one-half mile of each contamination event to notify them of the event and to educate them on how to keep their families safe. In addition, 4300 letters were sent out to each residence with a private well encouraging annual testing of their well, educating them on maintaining safe drinking water, and providing resources to those who may be in need of assistance.

### *Additional Environmental Health Responsibilities*

In 2016, environmental health responsibilities also included the investigation of four residences and placarding of two human health hazard sites, investigation of a vapor intrusion site, and assistance with educating the public on an EPA Super Fund site. These services were done through collaboration with Kewaunee County Human Services, Law Enforcement, Kewaunee County Corporation Counsel, WI DNR, and US EPA.

### ***Behavioral Health Services***

In 2016, the Kewaunee County Public Health Nurses continued contract work with the Kewaunee County Department of Human Service to provide medication management to their Behavioral Health Unit. Policies and procedures regarding medication management and return of medication to human service staff were written and up-dated. In-services and staffing were attended.

Several educational handouts were created for use with behavioral health clients. Topics of education included blood pressure management, seasonal affect disorder, managing your medication in the summer-time heat, and teen suicide prevention.