

2015



Grant County Health Department

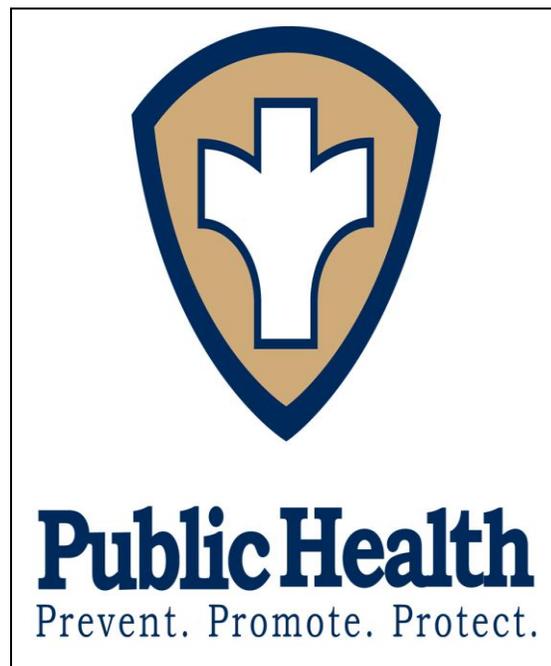
"Protecting Public Health in Grant County for 80 years"

- TO:** The Honorable Chairman, Robert Keeney and the Members of the Grant County Board of Supervisors
- FROM:** The Staff of the Grant County Health Department and the Members of the Board of Health
- RE:** Report of the Grant County Health Department Programs and Services for 2015

The work and efforts of a dedicated staff and Board of Health are reflected in this report. A special thank you to the Grant County Board of Supervisors, UW-Extension, Personnel Department, Finance Director, Sheriff's Department, Emergency Management, Area Health Providers, SW Community Action Program, Wisconsin Department of Health Services and our other partners in public health not mentioned above.

The mission of the
Grant County Health Department
is to promote the health and wellness
of ALL residents of Grant County.

“Everyone Living Better, Longer”



Ten Essential Services

1. Monitor health status to identify community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assure a competent public health and personal healthcare workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personnel and population-based health services.
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

State and Local Health Goals

Improved Health Across the Life Span
Eliminate Health Disparities and Achieve Health Equality

2020 Health Plan Focus Areas

Identify and Address Health Disparities
Examine and Assess Social, Economic and Education Factors that Influence Health
Improve Access to High Quality Health Services
Form Collaborative Partnerships for Community Health Improvement
Create and Maintain a Diverse, Sufficient, and Competent Workforce that Promotes and Protects Health
Ensure Capabilities that Promote Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
Secure Equitable, Adequate, and Stable Public Health Funding
Improve the Health Literacy of the Public and Our Partners
Ensure Public Health Capacity and Quality of Services
Conduct research for New Insights and Innovative Solutions to Health Problems
Support Systems to Manage and Share Health Information While Protecting Privacy
Assure Adequate, Appropriate, and Safe Food and Nutrition
Reduce Alcohol and Drug Abuse
Prevent and Manage Chronic Illness
Control and Prevent Communicable Diseases
Improve Environmental and Occupational Health
Promote Health, Growth and Development
Reduce Injuries and Violence
Improve Mental Health
Improve Oral Health
Increase Physical Activity
Promote Reproductive and Sexual Health
Reduce Tobacco Use

Department Overview

In 2015, the Grant County Health Department administered over 20 programs managing multiple grants and contracts with the State and other agencies. Additionally, we manage several multi-county regional programs. Staffing includes the following:

Full Time:	23
Part Time:	3 (including 2 that do not receive full benefits)
LTE Staff:	1-4 (RNs) and (1) Nurse Practitioner
Direct Contracts:	7 [(1) Hospice Medical Director, (1) Associate Hospice Medical Director, (1) Pharmacist, (1) Breastfeeding Peer Counselor, (2) Translator (1) Dentists (via contract with InHealth Community Wellness Clinic)]
Other Contracts:	>~100 individual contracts for services or to provide services
Volunteers:	~8 Hospice, 1 PH Medical Director, >20 for DFC Coalition
Staff Professions:	Include: Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioner, Certified Nursing Assistants, Registered Sanitarians, Registered Dietitian, Social Worker, Speech Therapist, Dentists, Pharmacist, Medical Doctors, Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists.

The 2015 operating budget was approximately 2.82 million dollars (excluding donations). Approximately 2.43 million dollars was anticipated from sources other than the local tax levy making the health department largely funded by State, Federal, grant, and fee for service sources.

In 2015, three programs were supported directly, but not entirely, by county levy funds. The vast majority of levy is used to provide public health and environmental health services which are mandated by the State. The remaining program provides personal care services.

Our Home Nursing Program and Health Check Program had required direct levy support in the past however they did not require any direct levy support in 2015. All programs are supported by levy funds through basic infrastructure, administration, and other ancillary activities (see the Sequoia Consulting Group Report).

Highlights and Challenges in 2015

Several health department staff completed Lean Government training and/or Quality Improvement training in 2015. Incorporating data driven decision making with a continuous improvement mentality has allowed the health department to run efficiently and provide needed services. 2015 Lean projects included 5S cleaning, working on improving patient outcomes in Home Nursing and Hospice, organizing our medical supply room, improving our ordering procedures, and we also began looking at our documentation for Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) patients.

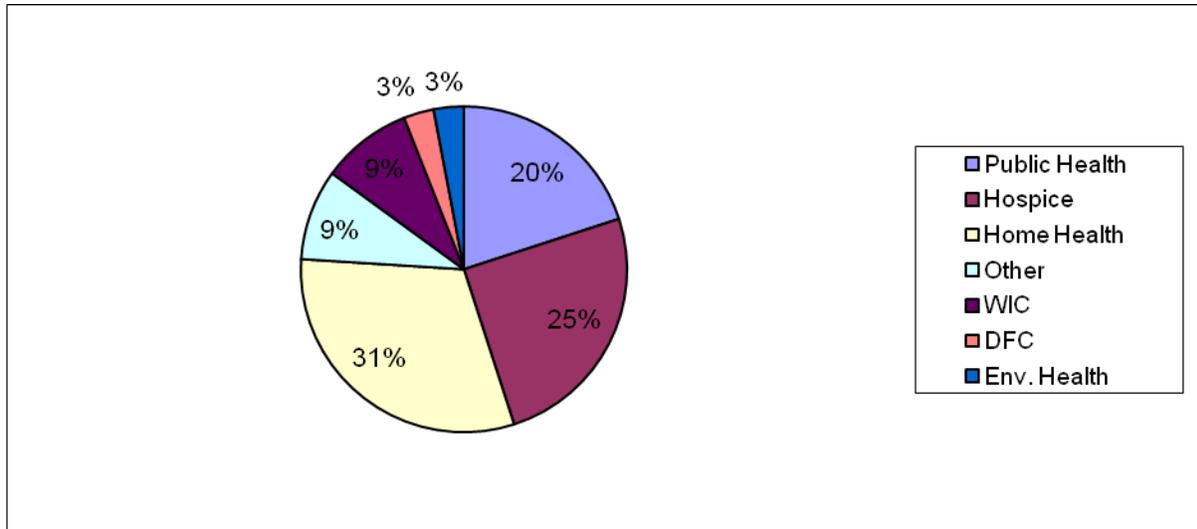
The health department also participated in a Community Health Needs Assessment with the three area hospitals providing much of the data for assessing the community. The final assessments for each hospital are anticipated to be completed in 2016. A tenth \$2,500 grant from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation was also obtained to provide child passenger safety seats to low income families. Additionally, a partnership with CESA resulted in \$8,000 of funding to enhance school nursing services and offer students the option to text nurses as well.

In 2015, communicable disease activity locally and globally continued to require significant resources and plan development. Ebola and mumps were among the top diseases of concern in 2015. A significant outbreak of mumps occurred in the State and Grant County experienced the highest number of cases of mumps in the state within its jurisdiction. Additionally, we assisted in responding to multiple respiratory and gastrointestinal illness outbreaks throughout the county.

Some other significant challenges for 2015 included staff turnover, the transition to ICD 10 coding, software challenges, and several regulation and billing changes.

Major Programs by Expense

The following pie chart illustrates budgeted expenses within the department for 2015.



Health Department Program Overviews

Public Health

Public Health programming within health departments focuses on improving the health of the communities within their jurisdiction. This includes monitoring health indicators such as immunization rates, disease incident rates, causes of injury or death, and health behaviors. A comprehensive effort to improve community health requires public and private partnerships. Good information to make informed decisions is necessary as well. To accomplish this, data is collected and used to create programming or to utilize existing resources to create positive changes without duplicating efforts. The overarching goal is creating an efficient and effective system based approach to addressing the public health needs of our county.

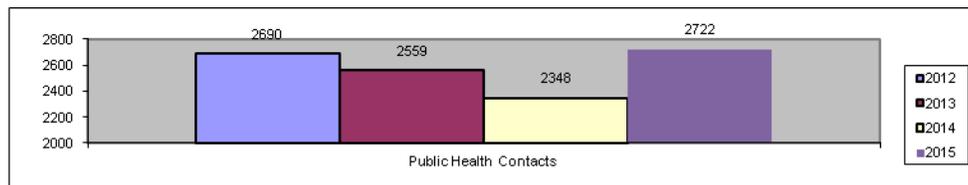
Local health departments provide many mandated services including the control of communicable disease, investigating and resolving human health hazards, health promotion, education, and chronic disease prevention efforts.

Health promotion and education campaigns include press releases, social networking efforts, newsletters, classes, and outreach at community events. Direct communications with our partners, key stakeholders, and the public are also used to educate and help initiate changes as well. A recent effort to partner with our three area hospitals has proven to be beneficial. Each local hospital has been assigned a public health nurse liaison allowing us to better understand what each of us are working on in our communities and has allowed us to leverage and share resources without duplication.

We provide many services out of our office and within the community at businesses, schools, satellite clinic locations, and in homes across the county. Examples of services provided to our residents include:

- 1) Dental Health Services
- 2) Health Checks
- 3) Immunizations
- 4) Injury Prevention Programming
- 5) Communicable Disease Control
- 6) Providing Health Education and Information on Emerging Health Related Issues
- 7) Emergency Responses

Below is the number of contacts for our Public Health staff.

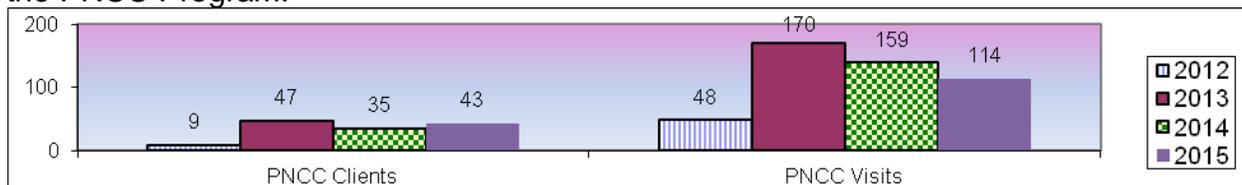


Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC)

The PNCC program reaches out to women with increased risks for complications during pregnancy. Our Public Health Nurses coordinate care to help ensure linkages with other providers and programs dedicated to improving birth outcomes, reducing health care costs and preventing many life-long problems.

Education is provided on: breastfeeding promotion, safety, nutrition, pregnancy related physiological and emotional changes, infant care, and parenting skills. Nurses assess risks including the potential for physical and mental abuse, unsafe environments, as well as screen for alcohol, drug, and tobacco use during pregnancy. If these or other risks are present, they encourage quitting unsafe behaviors or getting assistance by providing referrals to professional counseling or other agencies when necessary.

PNCC also offers a comprehensive set of services which includes referrals and assistance in enrolling in other health department programs such as Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Health Check as well as programs offered by outside agencies. A successful quality improvement project was started during 2013 to increase the number of clients served. An increase in the number of clients screened and served was observed and maintained as a result. Below are the number of clients and visits in the PNCC Program:



School Health

The Grant County Health Department provides nursing services to the following schools:

Cassville Elm. /HS	Amish/Mennonite Schools	St Charles (Cassville)
Cuba City Elem. /HS	Christian Day School	St Clements (Lancaster)
Potosi Elem. /HS	Holy Ghost (Dickeyville)	St. Joseph (Sinsinawa)
RiverRidge Elem. /HS	Immaculate Conception (Kieler)	St. Mary's (Bloomington)
		St. Rose (Cuba City)

Services include:

- General health information
- Medication management assistance
- Health plan and policy development
- Vision and hearing screenings for selected grades, including rechecks and referral to appropriate health care providers as needed.
- Immunization clinics for children and staff
- Follow-up on immunization requirements for entry to school.
- Health resources and presentations for teachers, staff, students and parents
- Training for school staff

Communication is maintained and meetings are held to educate and coordinate activities with school nurses employed directly by the schools (for those that have them). Additionally, some limited support is provided to their nursing staff to help out with their efforts or to provide services that we are required to assist them with. Schools located in Boscobel, Fennimore, Lancaster, Platteville, and Muscoda (Riverdale) receive these services.

Students at the high schools may now text a nurse to ask a question or set up an appointment due in part to collaborative effort with CESA 3. A total of 767.75 nursing hours were spent relating to school health not including immunization exercises or communicable disease control efforts. In addition, 5,033 miles were traveled by nurses relating to school health services. In 2014, 705.25 hours of nursing time were dedicated to schools and 4,672 miles were traveled. Public health aide time and administration time are not included in this total (as these hours are not specifically kept track of).

WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program is an educational and supplemental nutrition program serving lower income families with children up to age five. WIC encourages and supports breastfeeding. The program also promotes and maintains the health and well-being of nutritionally at-risk pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants, and children. WIC provides supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition and breastfeeding information, and referrals to other health and nutrition services.

WIC also has a breastfeeding peer program and provides access to fresh fruits and vegetables with a farmer's market program. In 2015, the WIC program transitioned away from paper "drafts" to an e-benefit platform using a card much like FoodShare. Health benefits of WIC participation include reduced:

- Premature births
- Low birth-weight babies
- Long-term medical expenses

In 2015, an average of 818 individuals was served per month. In 2015, WIC families spent a total of \$529,294.50 at eleven Grant County grocery stores. Farmer market benefits were available in 2015 as well with three area markets and five individual farm stands for a total of 8 vendors. Additionally, 75 participants consulted with our breastfeeding peer counselor. As a result of this and other efforts, our breastfeeding initiation rate increased from 72% to over 80%.

For comparison, an average of 845 individuals was served per month and a total of \$567,377.79 was spent in 2014.

Health Check and Other Services

The Health Check Program provides both individual services and comprehensive examinations of children aged birth to 21 years. A complete health check includes:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| <i>Head to Toe Physical Exams</i> | <i>Immunizations</i> |
| <i>Growth and Development Assessments</i> | <i>Mouth Exams</i> |
| <i>Nutritional Screening</i> | <i>Other Screenings</i> |
| <i>Fluoride Varnishes</i> | <i>Blood Lead Testing</i> |
| <i>Lab Tests</i> | <i>Eye Exams</i> |

Health Check screenings, lead testing, and immunizations are offered at most clinics to compliment the WIC program. As part of our health check services, 351 blood lead screenings were completed for children in Grant County. In comparison, 308 blood lead screenings were done in 2014.

We also checked and/or installed 120 child passenger safety seats (providing some seats at no charge to low income families).

Dental Health Services

Grant County Health Department's dentist, contracted through InHealth Clinic, saw 40 clients in 2015. Services were also provided in the Head Start offices. Public Health Nurses completed 97 fluoride varnishes and oral assessments on children in Head Start and at WIC/Health Check Clinics.

Jail Health

Two nurses from the Grant County Health Department have received extensive training and continuing education on topics relating to the provision of jail health services. These nurses staff the Grant County Jail providing onsite care three days a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). In addition, the jail is included in our “intake” system and “on call” rotation allowing our department to provide services as needed ensuring complete coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week including holidays.

The jail nurses coordinate with the jail staff, health care providers, and State inspectors to provide necessary care in as efficient and cost effective manner as possible. This system of providing nursing services on demand has met needs and continued to save thousands of taxpayer dollars each year. The health department also inspects the food service area annually to help keep the jail in compliance with State regulations.

In 2015, 833 hours of nursing time were provided to the jail. This is a decrease compared to 2014 when 863.5 hours of nursing time were provided to the jail. In addition 1,830 miles were traveled to provide jail health services in 2015.

Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP)

Grant County Health Department administered the WWWP for women ages 45-64 years of age meeting specific income requirements for half of 2015. Well Woman pays for mammograms, Pap tests and certain other health screenings. Early detection of breast or cervical cancer can greatly improve outcomes and significantly reduce the cost of treatment as well as shorten recovery times. In 2015, 25 participants from Grant County were able to access the WWWP program. The program became regionalized due to reduced numbers and in an effort to reduce costs. We continue to support and promote the program. Additionally, we are supporting a women’s health grant with Grant Regional Health Center in 2015-2016.

Immunizations

Challenges remain in ensuring that vaccination rates are high enough to prevent the sustained transmission of vaccine preventable diseases in the county. Typically up to date vaccination rates among two year olds are in the 50% range far below the recommended 90% range. Adolescent immunization rates are lower than desired and waiver rates remain high throughout Wisconsin and our county as well. Grant County has continued its membership with the Southern Wisconsin Immunization Consortium (<http://www.rwhc.com/SWIC.aspx>) in an effort to increase immunization rates.

In 2015, immunizations were offered at many locations throughout the county including all WIC / Health Check Clinics and vaccine was also available at the Health Department office and in Grant County schools. Many vaccines are provided at no charge while others are billed at minimal expense.

Below are the totals of vaccinations given by the Grant County Health Department in 2015. It is important to note that changes in the allowable use of State supplied vaccines in 2012 and the continued expansion of the use of combined vaccines have made comparisons to previous year's statistics more complex and reduced the number of immunizations given.

Number of Doses of Vaccine	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
DTaP - Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	73	69	58	83	69	75
DTaP/Hib/Polio (Pentacel)	379	356	322	2	1	0
DTaP/Polio (Kinrix)	209	198	197	103	98	92
DTaP/HepB/Polio (Pediarix)	0	5	23	196	213	216
Polio	28	24	14	21	30	45
MMR - Measles/Mumps/Rubella	374	392	339	204	131	165
MMR - Varicella (Proquad)	0	0	0	0	82	102
Hepatitis A (pediatric)	158	155	153	103	91	101
Hepatitis B (pediatric)	296	280	211	26	13	26
Td - Tetanus/Diphtheria	81	86	28	9	5	13
Tdap (Adacel & Boostrix)	1078	747	1170	354	348	526
Hib - Haemophilus Influenza type B	110	48	53	240	252	247
HPV (Gardasil)	117	98	212	71	75	617
Varicella (Chickenpox)	811	742	607	230	111	93
Prevnar 13	576	388	323	241	260	247
Meningitis	301	359	213	71	90	409
Rotavirus	140	132	118	92	88	77
Influenza -H1N1	3461	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Influenza - Seasonal	4529	4218	4232	4524	4207	3901
Pneumonia	83	48	49	26	33	30
Twinrix (Hep A/Hep B)	22	57	10	0	1	0
Hepatitis A (adult)	42	43	20	21	15	13
Hepatitis B (adult)	106	117	91	69	48	88
Shingles (Zostavax)	0	0	2	0	1	0
Total	12974	8562	8445	6686	6262	7083

Communicable Disease Follow-Up

Local public health departments are required to conduct follow-up activities with individuals having or suspected to have illnesses as identified in Wisconsin State Administrative Rule Chapter DHS 145, "Control of Communicable Diseases". Public Health staff confirm the illness, educate the individual(s) about the illness and encourage or ensure treatment (if needed). Steps are taken to control and reduce the spread of disease as well. Telephone calls, letters, and/or face-to-face contacts are used to gather and distribute information.

Reports of Mumps and Pertussis were up in 2015. A rise in sexually transmitted disease reports was noted as well. Reports of hospitalizations related to influenza were higher for 2015 as were reports of Pertussis emphasizing the need to improve immunization rates.

Below is a summary of communicable diseases that were reported to the Grant County Health Department in 2015 (It should be noted that not all cases were confirmed, many reports end up not being actual cases).

Communicable Diseases

(January 1 - December 31, 2015)

According to Wisconsin State Statute 252, any individual with knowledge or reason to believe that a person has a communicable disease must report to their local health department. This includes physician, nurses, lab workers, teachers and the general public. The Grant County Health Department has received the following reports of illness. Staff has completed follow-up on these reports and appropriate action has been taken.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Anthrax	0	1	0	0	0	0
Arboviral Illness	0	2	2	1	2	2
Blastomycosis	0	0	1	0	0	2
Brucellosis	0	0	1	1	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	34	26	23	31	33	23
Cryptosporidiosis	17	8	18	10	17	15
Cyclosporidiosis	0	0	0	3	0	1
Ebola (monitoring only)	-	-	-	-	1	0
E.Coli	7	8	8	4	5	8
Ehrlichiosis	1	1	4	3	2	8
Giardiasis	3	2	2	5	5	0
Hepatitis C	8	11	8	11	13	13
Histoplasmosis	0	2	1	0	1	1
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	2	0	0	0	0
Influenza-Associated Hospitalization	-	2	3	19	13	21
Invasive Hemophilus Influenza	2	0	0	0	3	1
LaCrosse Encephalitis	0	1	0	1	0	0
Legionella	1	1	0	2	1	0
Listeriosis	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lyme Disease	30	27	40	35	55	46
Metal Poisoning (Non-Lead)	0	0	1	0	1	7
Mycobacterium (Non TB)	2	2	5	3	5	3
Meningitidis, Aseptic Viral	0	0-	0	0	1	0
Parapertussis	-	-	1	0	0	0
Q Fever	1	1	0	1	0	3
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	1	1	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	6	9	11	11	20	13
Shigellosis	1	6	0	0	0	1
Strept All Types	5	2	3	3	6	6
Toxic Shock Syndrome	0	0	2	1	1	0
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy	0	1	1	2	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	0	2	2	1	0
Tuberculosis Latent	7	6	3	5	2	1
Viral Encephalitis	0	1	0	0	0	0
Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTALS	126	123	141	154	188	176

VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Chickenpox	9	11	11	8	13	8
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	1	0	1
Hepatitis B	1	0	2	5	2	8
Hib	2	0	1	0	0	1
Measles (Rubeola)	0	3	0	1	3	5
Mumps	0	1	1	1	1	54
N. Meningitidis	-	-	2	1	0	1
Pertussis	5	17	93	8	8	23
Rubella	0	2	0	1	0	0
TOTALS	17	34	110	26	27	93

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Chlamydia	108	87	132	128	114	135
Gonorrhea	7	6	9	11	9	28
Syphilis	0	0	2	2	2	3
TOTALS	115	93	143	141	125	166

Public Health Preparedness and Response

During 2015, Grant County Health Department continued to prepare for public health emergencies through extensive planning, training, and testing efforts. Work continued on Community Recovery, Mass Care (sheltering), and we worked on response planning for Ebola and other highly pathogenic emerging diseases. We also continued to test mass clinic plans by conducting immunization exercises in all of the county schools.

While a formal regional structure no longer exists due to funding cuts, we continue to meet at least monthly with public health partners including those in our local and regional area. Additionally, we maintain memorandums of understanding so that resources can be shared if necessary. We also updated plans based on findings from exercises, new information, and lessons learned.

Environmental Health Programs

Grant County is the lead agency in the Southwest Wisconsin Environmental Consortium. Members of the consortium include Grant, Crawford, Lafayette, Iowa, Richland, and Vernon counties. This program addresses several mandates and investigates factors that can adversely impact the health of our citizens. Issues include human health hazards such as vermin infestations, sewage or other waste problems, water and air quality issues, or public health nuisances which may endanger the safety or health of the public.

Local health departments are required by state statute to respond to human health hazards and by local ordinance to respond to public health nuisances. Additionally, health departments are required to investigate lead poisoning cases. Most complaints received by the local health departments are related to environmental health issues and include both public health nuisances and human health hazards.

Grant County also houses a regional Radon Information Center (RIC) serving a six county region. Radon is a naturally occurring gas that is considered to be the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. The RIC provides free consultation and radon test kits to homeowners concerned about radon. In 2015, a total of 358 radon test kits were distributed in the 6 county region.

Below are the statistics for environmental health:

<i>Number of Contacts</i>	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Water	179	215	157	184	152	139	122
Air Quality	272	259	213	216	206	160	171
Asbestos	210	197	153	196	151	142	149
Hazardous Materials	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Lead Hazards	167	138	161	141	114	93	88
Radiation Hazards	209	234	183	180	208	174	132
Housing	270	174	218	130	198	159	151
Rabies	113	92	117	101	114	114	106
Sewage	183	180	143	217	161	146	166
Solid Waste	213	241	179	202	180	155	181
Insects/Rodents/Animal Problems	170	162	132	170	146	116	118
Home Inspections	254	308	261	281	359	282	151
Totals	2240	2200	1917	2020	1989	1680	1536

Tobacco-Free Coalition

In 2015, the Tobacco-Free Coalition continued a partnership with resources being provided by Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, Inc. The coalition provided tobacco control and coordination services to Grant, Iowa, and Lafayette Counties. The primary focuses of the Multi-jurisdictional Tobacco Coalition remained the same as the previous year and included monitoring for new tobacco products that may be marketed to children, policy work, and sustainability efforts. E-cigarettes continue to gain popularity among youth and adults. In 2016, a transition to addressing tobacco use related to disparities will occur.

S.A.F.E. Grant County Coalition

S.A.F.E. Grant County Coalition Mission: Promoting responsible behaviors to reduce/prevent substance abuse and other risky behaviors (such as bullying and suicide) among youth/adults in Grant County. The Grant County Board approved 2015 funding in the amount of \$84,000. In 2015 our coalition focused on prevention/reduction of use for heroin and methamphetamine.

S.A.F.E. coordinated with both the Treatment and Teen Court programs, conducted the “Plunge” a day-long event that highlights the dangers of substance abuse, held the Youth Leadership Conference, and participated in Rural Safety Day. Significant reductions in heroin related arrests were seen in the county.

Consolidated Grants

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services has continued to provide state and federal grant funds to local health departments in a pass through process called Consolidated Contracts.

The following programs are examples of services provided using these funds:

Maternal & Child Health – Promotes systems building, healthy childhood development and injury prevention

Lead – Promotes blood lead screening of children and follow-up services for children with elevated lead levels (Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland, and Vernon counties funds)

Radon – Provides testing, education, and consultation services for residents regarding the risk of radon. (Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland, Vernon, and Crawford counties funds)

WIC (Women, Infants & Children) – Provides education and nutrition services, access to healthy foods, and referrals to services for pregnant women and children up to age five who meet the income guidelines.

Immunizations – Funds are used for maintaining records and for entering information into Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) as well as to help ensure that children are up to date on immunizations.

WWWP (Wisconsin Well Women’s Program) –Provides health services and screening to low income women.

Public Health Preparedness and Response – Federal funds provided for training and planning responses to natural and man-made public health emergencies. This is done in conjunction with Emergency Management, Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, and health care providers as well as other partners.

Prevention - Provides some limited funding for environmental health services.

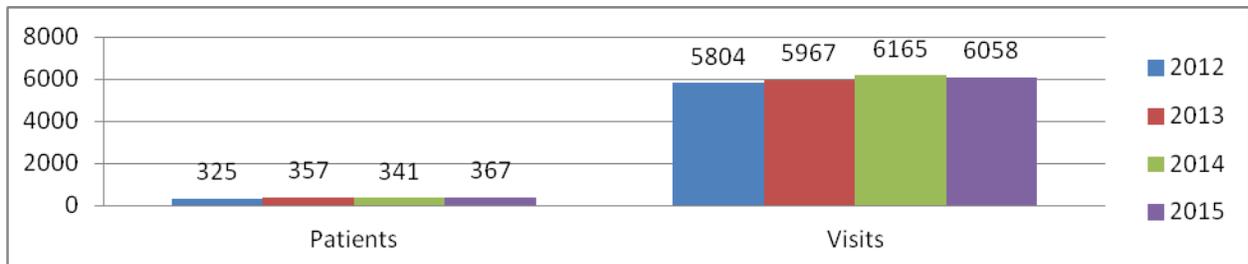
Home Nursing

In 2015, 367 clients received services from the Grant County Health Department. These clients received a total of 6058 visits from the Department. These visits are provided by nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists and home health aides. These services are paid for by Medicare, Medical Assistance, private insurance, Medicare replacement policies, private pay and family care. No one is denied service because of inability to pay.

The Department provides physical, occupational and speech therapy services through contracts. The Department utilizes therapy contracts with all three hospitals in our county. This allows the therapy services to be provided by a therapist who is in their area.

In 2015, 4 clients received personal care only services. In 2015, 51 visits were made to these clients by our home health aides. These clients receive assistance with bathing, hair care, skin and nail care. These clients also receive a supervision visit from our nurses every 50 to 60 days. In 2015, 22 nursing visits were made to these clients. These services are covered by Medical Assistance, private pay or private personal care agencies.

A comparison of patients and visits is noted below.



Hospice

In 2015, 82 clients were served on the Grant County Hospice Program. These clients received 2423 visits from a multi-disciplinary support team that includes registered nurses, social workers, hospice aides, nurse practitioner and therapist. Clients choose hospice care when their physician certifies that they are terminally ill and they are no longer seeking active treatment for their illness.

Hospice care focuses on medical and personal comfort for people in the last months of their lives. Hospice provides comfort care so clients can live as fully as possible until the end of life. Hospice also provides support services to clients' families as well as bereavement services for at least 13 months following the clients' death.

A comparison of patients and visits is noted below:



Board of Health Members

Dwight Nelson, Chair
 John Beinborn, Vice Chair
 Gary Ranum, Secretary
 Carol Beals
 Daniel C. Timmerman
 Meena Maski, MD
 Mary Kay Logemann, RN, BSN
 Matt Andrews, DDS

The persons listed below are directly responsible for the activities and programs noted in this report. Their dedication and commitment to the residents of Grant County is evident in the quality of the services provided to our communities.

Health Department Staff

Jeff Kindrai, MSPH, RS, Director/Health Officer
 Amy Miller, RN, BSN, Assistant Director
 Deb Udelhoven, Administrative Assistant

Amy Belscamper, Fiscal Clerk
 Brenda Cullen, CNA
 Brianne Farrey, RN, BSN
 Erin Huebschman, Associate Hospice Medical Director
 Holly Muench, RN
 Julie Leibfried, RN, BSN
 Kathy Marty, DFC Project Director
 Kim Martens, RN, BSN
 Lindsay Hanson, RD, WIC Dietitian
 Mareeta Kolman, SW
 Mary Allen, Admission Specialist
 Meena Maski, MD, Medical Director
 Michelle Young, RN
 Rebecca Leibfried, RN, BSN
 Robert Smith, Hospice Medical Director
 Shawn Handfelt, CNA
 Tracy Schildgen, RN, BSN

Brandie Anderson, LTE BSN
 Brenda Kennicker, RN, BSN
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 Katherine Reuter, Nurse Practitioner
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 Lorna Wolf, Billing Clerk
 Maria Leighton, LTE CNA
 Mary Koenen, RN, BSN
 Michelle Farrell, Contract Pharmacist
 Mike Parks, Speech-Language Pathologist
 Rebecca Franzen, BF Counselor
 Selina Baus, RN, BSN
 Steve Straka, LTE Clerical
 Troy Moris, RS