

03-31-23 exec Draft _____	2
PH separation memo _____	3
DHHS to DHS and DPH Packet _____	4
Res No 3 (2023-2024) Stand Alone Committees DHS and Public Health _____	19

**WAUPACA COUNTY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

March 31, 2023

County Board Chair Koeppen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and the open meeting statement was read in room 1068 of the Waupaca County Courthouse with the following members present: Co. Brd. Chair Koeppen, Suprs. Zaug, McClone, D. Johnson, Bosquez, Spierings, Morack, Will, Nygaard, Wengelski, Murphy, and Federwitz. Also present were: Supr. Strey-Hirt (via Zoom), Supr. Golding, Supr. Purchatzke, Judi Olson, Jody Much, Amanda Welch, Ted Phernetton, Jed Wohlt, Liz Wagner, Heidi Dombrowski, Kristy Opperman and Ron Hansen.

Review and Approve Agenda. Motion: Supr. Morack moved and Supr. Spierings seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Review and Approve Minutes. Motion: Supr. Zaug moved and Supr. Bosquez seconded the motion to approve the March 14, 2022 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

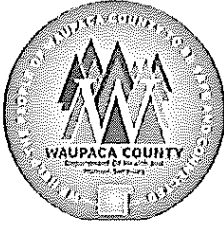
Department of Health and Human Services Restructuring – Public Health Separation: An outline of a recommendation prepared by Ted Wohlt and Ted Phernetton was provided to the committee prior to the meeting. It provided information about the desired outcome, history of the current DHHS structure, opportunities, considerations, structure and financial impact. Amanda Welch gave an overview of the purpose of the meeting stating that this is a starting point of the conversation to consider the recommendation. There was discussion on the history and financial impact. There was further discussion and opinions shared of the benefits and disadvantages of a separation. Members of the committee requested additional information to be presented at a future meeting before a decision is made.

Adjourn. Motion: Supr. Zaug moved and Supr. Murphy seconded the motion to adjourn. Co. Brd. Chair Koeppen declared the meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Kristy K. Opperman

County Clerk

These minutes will be posted to the website prior to approval from the committee and are considered to be in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting.



Waupaca County DHHS
811 Harding Street
Waupaca, WI 54981

"We help the people of Waupaca County to be Safe and Connected"

MEMO

To: Amanda Welch, Kristy Opperman, and Executive Committee

From: Ted Phernetton, Director

Date: May 4, 2023

Re: Separation of Health Services (Public Health) from Human Services

At the May 3, 2023 DHHS Board meeting, the board motioned with approval the recommendation that the Public Health Department separate from Human Services. It is respectfully requested that this recommendation be approved. Thank you for your consideration.

**Waupaca County DHHS
Recommendation for Department Restructuring
Follow-up Information**

AREA: DHHS

Issue/Subject:	Public Health Separation
Date:	April 2023
Department/Service Affected:	Agency Structure/Human Services and Public Health
Prepared By:	Jed Wohlt and Ted Phernetton

Follow-up Purpose

The purpose of this follow-up information is to respond to a request from the DHHS Board for additional information on the concept of separating the DHHS into two separate agencies; the Department of Human Services and the Department of Public Health.

New Board of Health

One of issues that has been questioned is the establishment of a new Board of Health and the costs involve. The Board of Health does have its genesis within statutes which would dictate the need to pay all members a per diem. Statutes states that *"a local board of health shall consist of not more than 9 members. At least 3 of these members shall be persons who are not elected officials or employees of the governing body that establishes the local health department and who have a demonstrated interest or competence in the field of public health or community health. In appointing the members who are not elected officials or employees, a good faith effort shall be made to appoint a registered nurse and a physician..."*

It would be planned to have a Board of Health that consists of 7 members. If they were to meet monthly, the per diem cost would be \$490 per meeting. This of course does not include any mileage reimbursement that may be paid. If the Board of Health met monthly the annual per diem cost would total \$5,880. If they met quarterly the cost would be \$1,960. Again, this does not include any mileage reimbursement that may be paid.

Department Origins

Due to the decision in 1986 to create the Department of Human Services bringing together the services provided under chapters 46 and 51, it was decided that also beginning in 1987 two additional entities/departments would be integrated into the Department of Human Services. Those were the Waupaca County Commission on Aging and Waupaca County Health Services. There has been some thoughts that providing a "one-stop shop" for the citizens of Waupaca may have been the motivating factor in this move. That phrase has not been found in researching the issue. It is unclear if joining services/departments under one umbrella was done with a focus on service delivery or if it was to move all services into the same building. Regardless, the services provided by Health Services during that time was far different than it is 36 years later. The interested reader will be directed to the accompanying pages from the DHS Annual Report from 1988 and compare it to Public Health section of the 2022 Annual Report. In addition the organizational charts from those periods are also

offered as a contrast. The reader will notice that there is considerable shift in focus of the Health Department. In those days there was much more focus on direct health services providing support to folks in their homes. Those services are no longer provided by the county. One could argue that those services that were once provided by Public Health aligned well with the Human Services delivery of Adult Long Term Care services to the frail elderly and disabled. Those services are also not provided by the county in this day and age.

Service Shifts

In the earlier days, Public Health provided a good deal of direct one-on-one services to the public. Over the years, the shift has been to look at public health through a global lens that couples the identification of overall public health risks with regulatory and prevention services versus direct service to individuals. There still exists a couple of programs that provide direct service (pre-natal care, Health Beginnings, WIC) but they are truly prevention programs with the underlying issue of health at its core.

Within the Human Services side of the organization, although there have been shifts and changes in the services provided over the years, services remain to be individualized and a response to an individual's unique situations versus the more global community concerns.

Pros and Cons

It has been asked that maybe a "pros and cons" look be provide to folks to assist in making a decision. In an attempt to respond to that requesting the following is offered.

Pros

- Provides a more visible identity and platform for both Public Health and Human Services.
- Creates more responsive and focused Public Health department.
- Enhanced ability to build community relationships in response to each separate department's issues and duties.
- Allows community partners to understand the two distinct areas of responsibility.
- Allows for policies, procedures, and initiatives to be more strategically fitted eliminating attempts of trying to make one size fit all.
- Creates and dedicated Board of Health and Human Services Board to provide a more focused support and strategic direction as we move into the future.
- Simplifies budgeting.

Cons

- There is a cost to the creation of a separate Board of Health.
- Collaboration may be diminished if at some time the two agency directors fail to get along.
- One-time costs to change letterhead, business cards, etc.

HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION
ANNUAL REPORT - 1988

Home Care

Registered Nurses, Home Health Aides, and a Physical Therapist provided home health care to ill, convalescent, dying, and disabled residents in 1988. Care included direct measures, such as bathing, wound care, and catheter care; teaching about diet, diagnosis, and medication; support of terminal patients and their families; and case management. A total of 3,990 chargeable visits were made.

RN	1,862 Visits
PT	14 Visits
HHA	2,114 Visits

There were 763 non-chargeable RN visits made. Non-chargeable visits include evaluation visits, HHA supervisory visits, and behalf of visits. Evaluation visits are made in response to requests from family members, physicians, nutrition site managers, and other division staff. The purpose of the evaluation visit is to assess the patient's physical, social, and mental well-being and to determine his ability to meet his own needs.

In the Home Health Aide Extended Program (HHAE), 2,288 visits were made. The HHAE, in addition to doing personal cares, does some meal preparation and light housework. The Home Care Nurses made 34 non-chargeable supervisory visits to the clients receiving these services.

In July, 1988, Medical Assistance's Personal Care Worker (PCW) Program was implemented. The providers are the contracted HHAE's. The PCW also provides assistance with personal care and does housekeeping. The difference between the programs is primarily the level of need of the patient. In some situations, part of the time spent in the home is billed as HHA and part of the time is PCW. In 1988, 659 visits were made by PCW's. There were 26 non-chargeable supervisory visits made by Home Care Nurses.

Public Health Nursing Program

Communicable disease control measures include immunization clinics and follow-up of reported communicable diseases. In 1988, there were 22 clinics at four locations in the County - Waupaca, Clintonville, Manawa, and New London. In addition, immunizations were given by appointment at the office. The influenza vaccine was given at the Nutrition Sites throughout the County and several County worksites. Tetanus-Diphtheria clinics were offered at six High Schools to students, due for their first "10-year" booster. Totals for 1988 are as follows:

DTP	1,090
Polio	946
MMR	303
HBPV	199
HBCV	23
Td	431
Influenza	937

Health Services Division
1988 Annual Report

Tuberculosis skin testing was offered to County residents at the office for work requirements and as part of disease surveillance. In 1988, 99 Tb tests were given.

Reported communicable disease in 1988 more than doubled the number of 1987 reports. Appropriate follow-up was completed.

Rhuematic Fever	1
Blastomycosis	1
Campylobacter Enteritis	17
Giardiasis	13
Hepatitis B	1
Lyme Disease	26 Reports (approx. 1/3 confirmed)
Salmonellosis	10
Chlamydia	43
Mumps	1
Primary Herpes	7
Non-Gonococcal Cervicitis	
& Urethritis	34
Gonorrhea	2
Shigellosis	1
Histoplasmosis	1
Pesticide Poisoning	<u>1</u>

160

School Health Program

The Public Health Nurses coordinated services to the County Parochial Schools and to the Iola School System. Services included screening according to DPI guidelines, CD surveillance, and consultation when requested.

	Screened	Re-Screened	Referred
Vision	1,348		69
Hearing	787	92	20
Scoliosis	363	116	27

Adult Health Programs

A total of 161 health supervision visits were made to County residents by PHN's. Forty-five pre-employment health assessments were completed for new employees.

The Elderly Services Division helped to sponsor a health screening for elderly at the Nutrition Sites throughout the County. Screening included blood pressure, blood sugar, hemoccult slides, hemoglobin, and counseling. In 1988, the nurses screened 371 persons. Ninety-five were re-screened because of initial high test results and 40 were referred for medical evaluation.

In addition to the senior screenings, screening was also provided in five worksites, including Waupaca County Courthouse and Human Services Department. 245 persons were screened at these sites for BP only or BP and cholesterol.

Health Services Division
1988 Annual Report

This year, the Health Services provided a health education program and screening to individuals enrolled in the Workfare Program. Seventy-nine persons were screened for blood pressure only, and 22 were screened for BP and cholesterol.

HealthCheck

The HealthCheck Outreach Worker contacts parents of eligible high-risk children who receive Medical Assistance, to arrange a health screening. The purpose of the screening is to detect disease early and refer to physicians for medical treatment when it is most effective. In 1988, 203 children were screened. This was a 15% increase over the number screened in 1987.

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant

The objectives of the 1988 grant were met. Eighty-two pregnant women, 14 pregnant teenagers, 177 new mothers and babies received health promotional services. Also, with the grant, parent education was provided to 148 parents. Nursery and day care centers were offered services, including screening and educational presentations. Through the grant, 364 pre-school children were screened for vision and hearing.

WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program

In 1988, the WIC program served an average of 541 participants per month. The following is a user count by participant type for 1988:

Women	162
Infants	142
Children	486

On May 1, 1988, the Wisconsin WIC Program became the seventh state to sign contracts with infant formula manufacturers to receive rebates on each can of formula purchased through WIC. The increase in funds allowed an additional 50 participants to be enrolled in the Waupaca County WIC Program.

Also, as a result of the additional funds, the Waupaca County WIC Project has been working with the State WIC Office on an outreach plan. The plan included radio and television PSA's, newspaper articles, and distribution of new brochures to physicians, planned parenthood office, social services, immunization clinics, prenatal classes, and unemployment office.

Environmental Health Program

The Sanitarian provides routine inspections of the public establishments, including restaurants, taverns, tourist rooming houses, campgrounds, motels, hotels, and swimming pools, which are licensed by the County. In 1988, he made 120 inspections, with 46 follow-up inspections. He also responded to 65 nuisance or other complaints. In addition, the Sanitarian provides consultation to other Departments and to licensed establishments.

Health Services Division
1988 Annual Report

Early Childhood - Exceptional Educational Needs (EC-EEN) Program

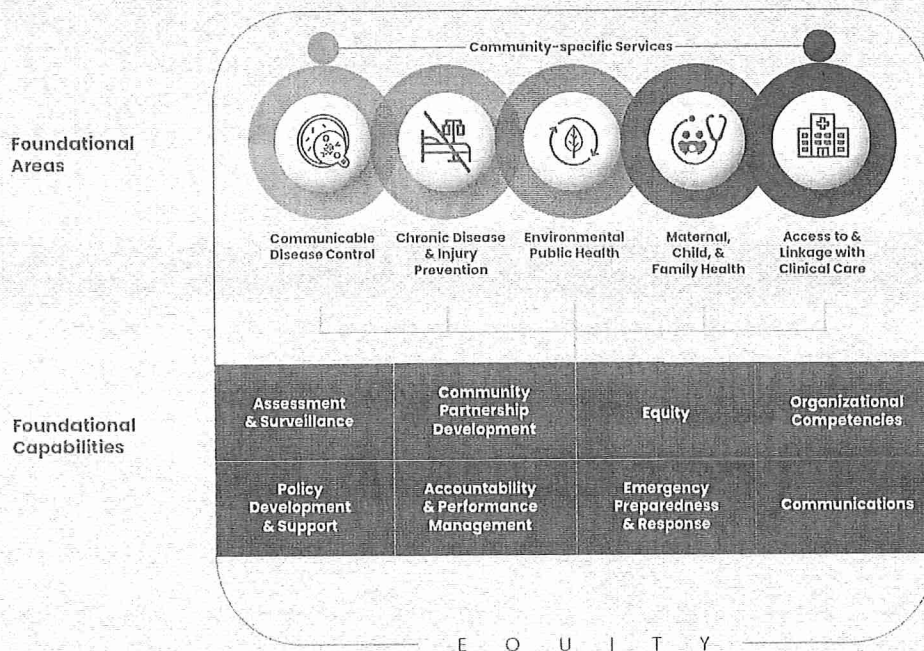
The Early Intervention Program officially became an EC-EEN Program in 1988, as staff prepared to apply for PL 89-313 funding. The program grew as new staff joined the Special Education teacher to provide services to developmentally disabled children from birth to 3. New staff included a physical therapist, speech therapist, and consultation by an occupational therapist. In 1988, the total caseload was 27, which included, in addition to those with an identified EEN, children who were at risk.

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. Overall public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations, which can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as big as an entire country or region of the world.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM INFORMATION AND ORGANIZATION

Foundational Public Health Services

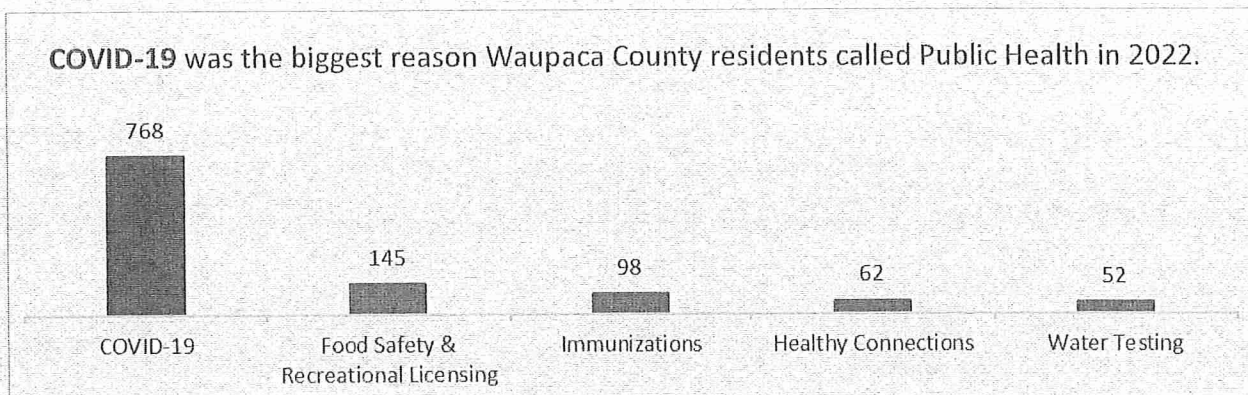


Public Health Staffing:

- ⇒ Health Officer
- ⇒ Program Assistant
- ⇒ Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian (3)
- ⇒ Public Health Nurse Supervisor
- ⇒ Public Health Nurse (3)
- ⇒ WIC Project Director
- ⇒ WIC Nutrition Educator(2)
- ⇒ Healthy Beginnings Case Manager (3)
- ⇒ Community Health Educator/ Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

The **Public Health Program Assistant** provides support to all Public Health programs and staff, as well as reception services to our costumers. In 2022, program support staff managed over **2,300** calls received through the Public Health main number.

COVID-19 was the biggest reason Waupaca County residents called Public Health in 2022.



Public Health

Communicable Disease Control

Waupaca County Public Health is committed to controlling and preventing the spread of diseases in the community. Duties include:

- ⇒ Providing timely, relevant, and accurate information to the health care system and community on communicable diseases and their control.
- ⇒ Identifying statewide and local communicable disease control community partners and their capacities.
- ⇒ Developing and implementing a prioritized communicable disease control plan.
- ⇒ Receiving lab reports and other relevant data.
- ⇒ Conducting disease investigations, including contact tracing and notification.
- ⇒ Recognizing, identifying, and responding to communicable disease outbreaks for notifiable conditions in accordance with local, national, and state mandates and guidelines.
- ⇒ Assuring the appropriate treatment of individuals who have reportable communicable diseases, such as TB, STIs, and HIV in accordance with local and state laws and CDC guidelines.



137 investigations into communicable disease outbreaks

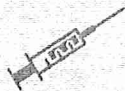
- **120** for COVID-19 infection
- **11** for acute respiratory infection
- **5** for gastrointestinal infection
- **1** for Norovirus infection



5,700 condoms distributed to clients and at community events



33 animal bite follow-ups
1 positive rabies case in a bat



305 immunizations provided

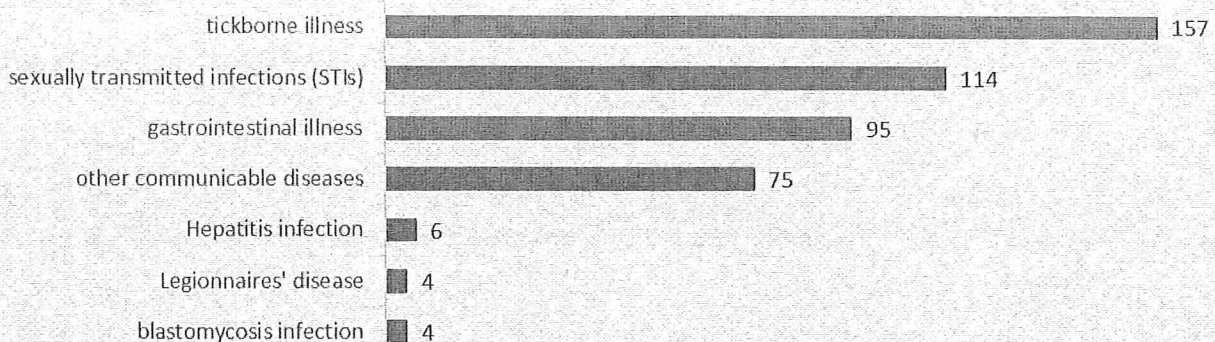


32 reproductive health clients served



200 tick prevention kits provided

Outside of COVID-19 cases, Public Health responded to **455** other cases of communicable disease.



Public Health

COVID-19

The primary functions of Waupaca County Public Health during the COVID-19 pandemic included:

- ⇒ Tracing, tracking, and testing to prevent the spread of the virus.
 - Includes **21** COVID-19 testing dates, provided in partnership with the Wisconsin National Guard and by Waupaca County Public Health staff
- ⇒ Educating and advising the community.
 - Includes **49** daily snapshots and **39** weekly updates shared to Waupaca County Public Health's website
- ⇒ Collaborating with partners.
- ⇒ Coordinating availability and delivery of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- ⇒ Providing **3,754** COVID-19 vaccinations at over **107** separate vaccination clinics
- ⇒ Hiring additional staff to support response activities.
 - **10 contract/LTE staff** to assist with disease investigation, testing, and vaccination
 - **18 nursing students** to assist with testing and vaccination, in partnership with UW-Oshkosh and Grand Canyon University

COVID-19 WEEKLY SNAPSHOT FOR WAUPACA COUNTY

The 7-day average indicates the average daily number of lab confirmed and probable cases. The 7-day total is also reported in cases. Data is reported on Friday, excluding holidays.

7-DAY AVERAGE	7-DAY TOTAL	COMMUNITY LEVEL
11.9 ▲ 1.0 case on avg. since 08/10/22	83 ▲ 12.2%	LOW

FOR THE TIME PERIOD OF 08/11/22 - 08/17/22

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS IN WAUPACA COUNTY

residents who have received at least one dose	residents who are fully vaccinated	residents who are fully vaccinated with a booster
58.0% 29,555 residents	55.2% 28,134 residents	34.1% 17,262 residents

2:03 pm
08/19/22

FREE COVID-19 PCR TESTING IN WAUPACA COUNTY FOR FEBRUARY

all testing is located at the Manawa Masonic Center

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
31 9am - 12pm	1 9am - 12pm	2 9am - 12pm	3 9am - 12pm	4 9am - 12pm
7 9am - 12pm	8 9am - 12pm	9 9am - 12pm	10 9am - 12pm	11 9am - 12pm
14 9am - 12pm	15 9am - 12pm	16 9am - 12pm	17 9am - 12pm	18 9am - 12pm
21 9am - 12pm	22 9am - 12pm	23 9am - 12pm	24 9am - 12pm	25 9am - 12pm
28 9am - 12pm				

Manawa Masonic Center
520 N Bridge St
Manawa, WI 54949

Drive-through testing, no appointments.
Register ahead at
register.covidconnect.wisconsin.gov
or complete registration on-site.

Additional options for COVID-19 testing can also be found at register.covidconnect.wisconsin.gov

2022 COVID-19 Waupaca County Data:

- ⇒ **5,675 combined confirmed, probable, and suspect cases** — *positive result from a PCR or NAT test or an antigen test with consistent symptoms and known exposure to COVID-19*
- ⇒ **87 hospitalizations** — *with a documented positive COVID-19 test*
- ⇒ **32 deaths** — *COVID-19 listed as a significant condition contributing to or underlying cause of death*
- ⇒ **120 confirmed outbreaks** — *one or more cases within a long-term care facility*

2022 News/Press Releases:

- ⇒ **January 6:** Surge in COVID-19 Cases Leads to Waupaca County Public Health Modifying Case Management; CDC Issues New COVID Isolation & Quarantine Guidance
- ⇒ **February 4:** Free N95 Masks Available to Waupaca County Residents



WALK-IN WEDNESDAYS

THE COVID-19 VACCINE IS FREE!
JUST WALK-IN, EVERY WEDNESDAY
WAUPACA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 2ND FLOOR

9AM-4PM

PRIMARY SERIES AVAILABLE TO ANYONE 8 MONTHS+
8 MONTHS+ FOR PFIZER AND MODERNA

BOOSTER DOSES AVAILABLE TO ANYONE 6+
6+ FOR PFIZER PRIMARY SERIES
18+ FOR MODERNA PRIMARY SERIES

SECOND BOOSTER DOSES AVAILABLE TO 50+
12+ IF IMMUNOCOMPROMISED, OR ADULTS 18+ WITH
TWO DOSES OF J&J VACCINE
MUST BE A DOSE OF PFIZER OR MODERNA

OFFERING ADULT AND PEDIATRIC DOSES
OF PFIZER AND MODERNA

WITH QUESTIONS, CALL 715-258-6323



Public Health

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

Waupaca County Public Health works to provide information, resources and education to promote health and safety. Duties include:

- ⇒ Providing timely, relevant, and accurate information to the health care system and community on chronic disease and injury prevention and control.
- ⇒ Identifying statewide and local chronic disease and injury prevention community partners and their capacities.
- ⇒ Developing and implementing a prioritized prevention plan.
- ⇒ Reducing exposure to tobacco and other harmful substances.
- ⇒ Working actively with statewide and community partners to increase statewide and community rates of healthy eating and active living.
- ⇒ Coordinating chronic disease and injury prevention programs and services.



Infant Safe Sleep

- ⇒ 5 pack-and-plays were distributed
- ⇒ Safe sleep education was provided to expectant parents and families with infants enrolled in Public Health programs



Child Passenger Safety

- ⇒ 22 car seat vouchers were provided
- ⇒ 27 car seats were inspected
- ⇒ 12 community car seat fitting stations were hosted



Opioid Overdose Prevention

- ⇒ 15 NARCAN kits were distributed

Waupaca County Fatality Review Teams exist to create a better understanding of the risk factors and circumstances that surround preventable deaths within Waupaca County, and improve how organizations surrounding each case can work together to improve function and coordination. Case analysis within the review process is used to develop recommendations for changes to policies, protocols, practices, resource allocation, and coordination to reduce or eliminate future preventable deaths from occurring.

Child Death Review:

- ⇒ Cases Reviewed: **3**
- ⇒ Number of Agencies Represented: **23**
- ⇒ Waupaca County is one of **45** teams in the state of Wisconsin.

Overdose Fatality Review:

- ⇒ Created in July 2022, no cases reviewed in 2022.
- ⇒ Number of Agencies Represented: **24**
- ⇒ Waupaca County is one of **22** teams in the state of Wisconsin.

Suicide Review:

- ⇒ Created in July 2022, no cases reviewed in 2022.
- ⇒ Number of Agencies Represented: **21**

Public Health

Environmental Health

Waupaca County Environmental Health protects and promotes a healthy environment by preventing, assessing, correcting, and controlling agents in the environment which could potentially have adverse effects on health and well-being. Duties include:

- ⇒ Inspections, consultations, education, and response to human health hazards.
- ⇒ Providing timely, relevant, and accurate information to the state, health care system, and community on environmental public health threats and health impacts from common environmental or toxic exposures.
- ⇒ Identifying environmental public health partners and their capacities.
- ⇒ Conducting mandated environmental public health laboratory testing, inspections, and oversight to protect food, recreation sites, and drinking water
- ⇒ Identifying other public health hazards related to environmental factors in accordance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- ⇒ Protecting workers and the public from chemical and radiation hazards in accordance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- ⇒ Participating in land use planning and sustainable development to encourage decisions that promote positive public health outcomes and resilient communities.



Licensing & Inspections

- ⇒ **591** facilities were licensed under Waupaca County Food Safety and Recreational Licensing (FSRL):
restaurants, retail food operations, lodging facilities, mobile home parks, public swimming pool/spa/water attractions, campgrounds, tattoo/piercing establishments, & recreational camps
- ⇒ **687** retail food/recreational facility inspections conducted (*includes routine, pre-inspection, re-inspection, and follow-up inspections*)
- ⇒ Responded to **33** complaints for licensed facilities



Human Health Hazards

- ⇒ Responded to **42** environmental health hazards/situations
- ⇒ Processed **39** radon test kits
- ⇒ **14** follow-ups completed for high blood lead levels in children
- ⇒ **4** daycares tested for lead presence in drinking water through state funding



Drinking Water

- ⇒ Collected and analyzed **452** water samples for Transient Non-Community (TN) public water systems (*includes bacteria, nitrate, and nitrite water samples*)
- ⇒ Performed **43** public water system sanitary surveys
- ⇒ Performed **134** public water system annual site visits
- ⇒ Performed **5** Level Two Assessments on public water systems
- ⇒ Coordinated corrective actions for **6** water systems with bacterial violations and **5** with nitrate violations
- ⇒ Processed **726** water samples
 - ⇒ **477** Bacteria samples
 - **258** from public water systems
 - **200** from private well systems
 - ⇒ **221** Nitrate samples
 - **177** from public water systems
 - **44** from private systems
 - ⇒ **23** Arsenic samples processed from private systems
 - ⇒ **5** Nitrite sample processed for TN system(s)

Public Health

Maternal, Child & Family Health

Public Health works to improve the health and well-being of mothers, children, and families in Waupaca County. Duties include:

- ⇒ Providing timely, relevant, and accurate information to the health care system and community on emerging and on-going maternal child health trends.
- ⇒ Identifying local maternal and child health community partners and their capacities.
- ⇒ Developing prevention programs.
- ⇒ Identifying and promoting emerging, evidence-based early interventions in the prenatal and early childhood period that promote lifelong health and positive social-emotional development.
- ⇒ Coordinating maternal, child, and family health programs and services.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) promotes and maintains the health and well-being of nutritionally-at-risk pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children. The WIC program offers:

- ⇒ Screening for nutrition & health needs
- ⇒ Information on how to use WIC foods to improve health
- ⇒ Benefits to buy foods
- ⇒ Referrals to doctors, dentists & other support programs
- ⇒ Information on healthy eating during pregnancy & breastfeeding
- ⇒ Help with starting or continuing breastfeeding, immunization referrals
- ⇒ Blood lead testing (did not occur in 2022 due to COVID-19)

In 2022:

- ⇒ **943** people participated: **245** women, **166** infants, & **532** children under the age of 5
- ⇒ Averaged **644** individuals served each month
- ⇒ Over **446** families participated in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program; **\$5,988** were redeemed for fresh fruits & vegetables at local farm markets
- ⇒ **\$425,605.78** worth in benefits were redeemed at local grocery stores



The WIC program contracts a breastfeeding peer counselor to provide education and support to women who are currently breastfeeding or are considering breastfeeding their child. **81.8%** of women in WIC initiated breastfeeding with their newborns, above the state average of 76.0%.

Out of all infants enrolled in WIC:

- ⇒ **46.8%** were exclusively breastfed for 1 month, which is above the statewide average of 34.6%.
- ⇒ **23.1%** were exclusively breastfed for 6 months, which is above the statewide average of 11.9%.

Fit Families is a successful behavior change program that strives to help prevent childhood overweight/obesity by empowering families to adopt healthy eating and physical activity behaviors. The program is geared towards families of 2-4 year old children enrolled in WIC.



- ⇒ **50** children were actively enrolled in 2022.
- ⇒ Evaluation results have proven an increase in fruit & vegetable consumption and physical activity and a decrease in juice consumption & TV viewing.
- ⇒ **100%** of the families enrolled in 2022 received 10 or more direct education contacts throughout the year long program.

Public Health

Maternal, Child & Family Health

Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) is a Medicaid benefit that helps expectant mothers get the support they need to have a healthy baby. This voluntary program provides services prenatally and up to 2 months postpartum. PNCC began accepting referrals in 2022 after suspending services in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During in-home PNCC meetings, Public Health Nurses (PHNs) provide expectant parents with information on pregnancy, labor and delivery, breastfeeding and nutrition, and newborn care. PHNs also refer families to additional needed community resources.



16 expectant mothers were referred for services.



Three PHNs served **6** clients who accepted the program.



PHNs had **12** hours of face-to-face contact & **14** total contacts with families.

Healthy Beginnings is a free, voluntary home visitation program that offers information and support to parents of infants or young children. During home visits, case managers offer families support in the areas of the parent-child relationship, child development, and family health and safety. Case managers also connect families to additional community resources as needed. In-person home visits resumed in March 2022, after being suspended in early 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Video communication and phone calls continue to be alternative contact methods available to families. Parenting and social groups for Healthy Beginnings families also resumed in 2022.



Case managers served **46** families, including **17** new enrollments.



Three case managers had **852** hours of face-to-face contact & **2,358** total contacts with families.



94% of families enrolled in the program had no substantiated report of abuse/neglect.



48 adults & **64** children attended two parenting groups and three social groups.

From the 2022 Healthy Beginnings Client Satisfaction Survey (21 total surveys):

Survey Item	% of Families who <u>Agree or Strongly Agree</u>
My home visitor is trustworthy and dependable.	100
My home visitor helps me find useful resources in my community.	100
My home visitor helps me to keep my family and myself safe.	100

Question: How has Healthy Beginnings helped you and your family?

- To find and have the resources available to make my family happy and healthy.*
- It has helped me understand development stages and how to help foster a good sibling relationship.*
- Gave me resources I didn't know were out there. Showed me that I could get help in more places.*
- Taught me very valuable lessons and helps with problems I couldn't solve myself.*

Public Health

Additional Areas & Capabilities

Access to & Linkage to Clinical Care

Waupaca County Public works to foster connections with primary care providers. Duties include:

- ⇒ Provide timely, relevant, and accurate information to the health care system and community on access and linkage to clinical care (including behavioral health), healthcare system access, quality, and cost.
- ⇒ Identifying healthcare partners and competencies.
- ⇒ Developing plans for increasing access to healthy homes and quality health care.

Assessment, Surveillance, Community Partnership, Equity, Communications

Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). A large portion of health education work in 2022 centered around the CHA with collecting survey responses, analyzing primary and secondary data, and creating the CHA report to be available to the public.

Health Education improves individual and population health through assessment, community health planning, capacity building, and other policy/program implementation for public health staff and the surrounding community. This program includes acquiring grant funding, providing public health-related communication to the public, and engaging in the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). A large portion of health education work in 2022 centered around the CHA with collecting survey responses, analyzing primary and secondary data, and creating the CHA report to be available to the public.

- ⇒ Facilitated or held membership in several coalitions/groups within the community:
 - Living the Waupaca Way Coalition
 - Waupaca Recovery Coalition
 - Central Wisconsin Health Partnership
 - Northeast Region Health Educator Network
 - Waupaca County Hunger Network
- ⇒ Provided regular Facebook posts to educate and inform on public health topics, including continued education about COVID-19.
- ⇒ Organized a community-wide event focused on reducing stigma and building hope within the recovery community.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) focuses on preparing for and responding to events that pose a substantial risk to the health of the county's residents. The PHEP program provides information, resources, and expertise to partners and the community to ready Waupaca County for health threats, emergencies, and disasters, just like what is seen in the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, several plans and lessons learned from past practice drills and exercises proved to be incredibly useful in the response to COVID-19.

- ⇒ COVID-19 response measures such as operating testing sites and coordinating vaccination clinics.
- ⇒ Staff held active membership in Fox Valley Area HealthCare Coalition meetings.
- ⇒ Staff participated in countywide long-term care preparedness workgroups, functional exercise planning, and local and countywide emergency planning committees.

Waupaca County forms human services agency

By **Ed Culhane**
Post-Crescent staff writer

WAUPACA — By a vote of 18 to 5, the Waupaca County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution Tuesday which will consolidate four county agencies into one large department with a single governing board and director.

The new Department of Human Services, which will come into existence Jan. 1, will take over Waupaca County's share of the operations of the Unified Health Services Board. Shawano and Waupaca counties will end their joint operation of Unified Health Services at year's end.

Unified Health provides referrals, funding and other services in cases involving drug and alcohol abuse, mental commitments and developmentally disabled individuals.

The new department will also con-

solidate the operations of the county's departments of Social Services and Health Services (county nurses) and the Commission on Aging.

The move will cause far reaching changes in the county's management structure, and necessitate the politically difficult reassignment of dozens of county employees.

The new agency will have more than 90 employees making it the largest agency in the county.

The county's special Unified Health Study Committee, formed after Shawano and Waupaca counties decided late last year to end their partnership, was authorized Tuesday to begin a search for a director of the new agency.

The move comes as county supervisors lay the groundwork for a new human services building which will bring the various functions of the four agencies, and perhaps the circuit court, under one roof.

A possible site for the new building is the vacant, county-owned land next to the county jail at Harding and Roy-alton streets.

The consolidation has been opposed by members of the Commission on Aging who believe their elderly clients will be stigmatized as welfare recipients under the new department.

Concerns that services to the elderly will be given a low priority and that funding levels will drop were also raised.

Petitions bearing 101 signatures of commission clients were presented in opposition to the consolidation.

Pat Harvey, commission director, said elderly clients are afraid the commission's mission to provide nutritious meals and social companionship to senior citizens will get lost in the bureaucracy of the large department.

Supv. Dennis Sexton, chairman of

the study committee that recommended consolidation, took offense of the implication that supervisors would give services to the elderly a low priority.

"We believe that something that is mandated by the county board — some of our employees should give us credit for some judgement and not work against it," he said. "It's not an easy job. It's not an easy process."

Loran Frazier, board chairman, said funding for commission services would not be affected by the change.

"Waupaca County is not interested in getting funds from any department. The only thing we are interested in is getting a uniform department."

Harvey said she was willing to work under the new structure.

"I guess all they (senior citizens) are looking for is some sort of assurance that they will not be low on the

Continued on page 5

Human services.

Continued from page 1.

Supv. Alvin Kirchner and others raised the concern that a single, powerful agency may be more difficult to control than separate agencies.

Voting against consolidation were Kirchner, William Kramer, Harold Steenbock, Walter Stelzner and Fred Jensen. Kramer is a member of the Commission on Aging.

Supervisors James Flink, Robert Besaw and William Vergutz were absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 (2023-2024)

SUBJECT: Department of Health and Human Services (“DHHS”) Structural and Organizational Changes to Separate Health Services from the DHHS and create the Stand –Alone Department of Public Health (DPH).

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 60 (1986) created the Waupaca County Department of Human Service (DHS) effective January 1, 1987; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the Waupaca County DHS was based on locating related services in a single physical location and prompted the integration of four separate county departments; namely, Waupaca County Department of Social Services, Waupaca County’s portion of the United Health Services of Shawano and Waupaca Counties, Waupaca County Health Services, and the Waupaca County Commission on Aging; and

WHEREAS, in August of 1993, Governor Tommy G. Thompson signed into law Chapters 250 to 255 of the Wisconsin Statutes which required the establishment of a county health department and a county board of health in all Wisconsin counties; and

WHEREAS, Waupaca County Resolution No. 20 (1994) resolved that the Board and Department of Human Services be renamed the Waupaca County Department of Health and Human Services. It was further resolved that the Waupaca County Health and Human Services Board and the County Board Rules of Order shall be revised to reflect the changes; and

WHEREAS, changes in Health Services (that is, Public Health) over the decades has evolved to align less with the patient-centered response services that Human Service programs continue to provide to individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the current day Health Services (Public Health) has its main focus on population-health based services that include the following: surveillance and investigation to identify community health problems, disease control, disease prevention, emergency preparedness and response, health promotion, human health hazard identification and mitigation, policy and planning, leadership and organizational competencies, and collaborative community engagement to act as a community leader and chief health strategist; and

WHEREAS, a stand-alone Public Health Department establishes a more visible identity to the public and community partners to promote engagement with public health stakeholders and that enhances the ability of the county to respond more effectively and strategically to health related issues, including during times of public health emergencies; and

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2023 the DHHS Board unanimously recommended to the Executive Committee of the Waupaca County Board that Public Health be a stand-alone

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Waupaca County Board of Supervisors authorizes, effective August 31, 2023 the separation of the Health Department from the Department of Health and Human Services and the establishment of a stand-alone Department of Public Health and Board of Health pursuant to Wis. Stat. Chapter 251 and related Wisconsin Administrative Code regulations and that all government actions associated with such an action be authorized and taken as may be required.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that County Clerk Opperman is directed to send a copy of the resolution to State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Secretary-designee Kirsten Johnson upon passage.

Diane L. Meulemans
Corporation Counsel

RECOMMENDED FOR
INTRODUCTION BY WAUPACA
COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

[illegible]
