



## 2021 Annual Report

This 2021 Annual Report highlights some of Kenosha County Public Health (KCPH) activities as denoted via three sections: **clinical services**, **population health** and **environmental health**.

### Public Awareness

Further development of the KCPH rebranding continued into 2021 with some internal programs also rebranding for better community awareness.

**Vision:** An Equitable, Engaged, & Healthy Future

**Mission:** To inspire health and wellness in Kenosha County through service and leadership

### Striving for Equity

In 2021, a Health Equity Taskforce was established to learn how to reach the most impacted populations and earn trust of the community. Members of the Health Equity Taskforce are made up of local community leaders who represent key sectors within Kenosha County. The Task Force helped connect KCPH with **12** new community partners with whom we collaborated on mobile vaccine missions. The Task Force also helped coordinate **6** block-by-block mobile missions. KCPH was able to pay the Task Force members for their time by receiving two rounds of funding through the Vaccine Community Outreach grant from Wisconsin DHS.

### The COVID-19 Pandemic

The pandemic continued to impact KCPH in 2021. As schools, businesses, and daily life in general faced an ever-changing landscape of disruption, KCPH coordinated Kenosha County's emergency response, tracked cases and hospitalizations, and provided timely public health guidance. Disease investigation and contact tracing continued throughout 2021 to track the COVID-19 spread throughout the county. KCPH began efforts towards vaccinating the local communities and ensuring all residents had access to vaccinations. Mass clinics, mobile clinics, and homebound visits were all strategies used to reach residents for vaccinations.



53 mass community vaccination clinics were coordinated that vaccinated almost 34,000 individuals



60+ mobile missions were coordinated that vaccinated over 400 individuals



700+ homebound COVID vaccinations were administered

# CLINICAL SERVICES

The Clinical Services Section follows up on communicable disease reports along with providing preventive health services and education to the residents of Kenosha County. Individuals are seen in schools, homes, daycares, and workplaces, as well as at Kenosha County Public Health on a walk-in basis through our two clinic locations.

## Public Health Clinics

Two clinics provide a variety of services to clients on a walk-in basis at the Kenosha County Job Center and in Uptown. The clinics remained open throughout the year giving members from the Kenosha, Racine, and Illinois communities the opportunity to receive care when other clinics were shut down due to COVID responses.



**11** Tuberculosis prevention and control clients served



**5,924** urine drug screenings completed



**14** lead screenings completed

## Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program

KCPH, in collaboration with the Division of Aging, Disability & Behavioral Health Services and the Professional Services Group (PSG), a local treatment and counseling service, provides a comprehensive approach to addiction for opioid and alcohol dependent clients within Kenosha County. New clients are screened and, depending on results, receive injectable Naltrexone every 28 days while attending counseling sessions.



**113** new referrals to the program



**417** Naltrexone (Vivitrol) injections

## Family and Reproductive Health Program

The Family Planning and Reproductive Health Services provide testing, screening and treatments for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV testing, PAP testing, contraceptive counseling and sexual assault follow-up exams.



**1,102** reportable confirmed STI cases in Kenosha County



**386** clients seen for family planning and reproductive health



**268** STI screening tests performed



**143** HIV antibody tests completed



**303** reproductive health clients served

## Wisconsin Well Women Program

This state contract program provides breast and cervical cancer screening for eligible women. Annual exams for women include PAP testing as needed. Area providers deliver Mammography services.



**291** clients were enrolled in 2021, exceeding the target of 234

## Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) School Nursing Program

Public health nurses provide services in the school setting to the individual and community for the prevention of disease and the promotion of health and well-being. The nurses develop health care plans for students with chronic medical conditions to accommodate the student in the school setting. They also provide staff training, disease surveillance, and health education to a total of 37 schools in the Kenosha Unified School District and Head Start Program.



**16,271** student population **within 37 schools served.** This equates to 1 school nurse for every 2,603 students



**26%** of students had chronic health conditions and received coordinated care



**665** students with emergency health plans created by KCPH school nurses (Fall semester of 2020-21)



**13,858** medication doses were delegated by nurses to designated staff for administration during the day

## POPULATION HEALTH

The Population Health Section focuses on the health of the community as a whole and develops health education and programming based on data and needs assessments. Population health relies on using epidemiology to inform what programs and education are needed in Kenosha County. Epidemiology is considered the basic science of public health because it studies who gets sick and why. This section ensures programs are aimed at addressing the root causes of health issues, reducing health disparities and promoting health equity.

### Emergency Preparedness

Through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), KCPH ensures staff prevent, protect against, quickly respond to, and recover from health emergencies, particularly those whose scale, timing, or unpredictability threatens to overwhelm routine capabilities. Preparedness involves a coordinated and continuous process of plan development, implementation, and exercising that relies on measuring performance and taking corrective action. These plans were essential during the COVID-19 response in Kenosha County, guiding the Command structure operations, containment measures, and resource coordination.

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

Kenosha County Public Health contracts with Racine Kenosha Community Action Agency, Inc. (RKCAA) to provide WIC services to Kenosha families. The Kenosha County Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) provides healthy food, nutrition and breastfeeding information and referrals to community resources for pregnant and breastfeeding/postpartum women, infants and children under five years of age.



**5,194** clients (unduplicated) served  
Average monthly WIC participation was 3,463

## Bright Family Beginnings (BFB)

This program offers case management and health education for pregnant women and babies post birth aiming to improve healthy birth outcomes for families.



**648** total referrals to BFB

**177** families served

**155** children served

**1,578** visits completed

**75%** of families completed their expected number of visits in 2021

## Narcan Distribution Program

Narcan, nasal naloxone, is a life-saving medication that allows breathing to resume in an opioid overdose, thus preventing the overdose from becoming fatal. Narcan is distributed and trainings are held to curb fatal overdoses among at-risk populations.



**968** Narcan kits distributed



**474** individuals trained

## Asthma Care Program

The Asthma Care Program provides asthma self-management education and home environmental walkthroughs to people with poorly controlled asthma. The goal is to reduce missed school or workdays, urgent care visits, emergency department visits, and hospitalizations due to asthma.

In 2021, a new Public Health Strategist was hired to coordinate the Asthma Care Program and build new partnerships for asthma within the community.



**10** referrals made from community partners



**10** community events tabled



**29** local clinics and practices visited to share information on program

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health Section preserves and enhances the public health environment of Kenosha County. It provides information, regulations, education, and intervention in areas of food, water, waste, recreation, lodging, environmental and human health hazards, and consumer protection.

## Rabies Control and Animal Nuisances

This program conducts investigations related to animal bite cases, determining rabies immunization status, and initiating animal quarantine and observation procedures as required by State Statute and local ordinances.



**114** bite investigations



**43** animals submitted for rabies testing

## Transient Non-Community (TNC) Well Program

TNC water systems are public systems that serve at least 25 individuals per day and at least 60 days per year. The program involves annual bacteriological and nitrate sampling as well as sanitary survey well inspections to determine compliance with DNR well construction and pump installation requirements.



**228** public wells sampled



**161** public establishments sampled

## Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Program

KCPH was awarded a \$4.4m grant from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Grant in October 2020, to remove lead from homes. This grant officially began in January 2021. This program is being implemented in partnership with Kenosha County, Racine County, and numerous other local community organizations. Aims of this grant include:

- Providing appropriate level of lead hazard control services in identified housing units, and clearance testing for residential units.
- Providing technical support to companies and/or organizations to become qualified lead abatement contractors that otherwise would not have this capacity.
- Providing educational outreach events with community partners to help advocate for the program and work alongside other community programs.
- Providing a full continuum of services including blood samples, reporting, treatment, and medical follow-up.



**172 lead safe** units completed from April 2018-June 2021



**204** lead safe units projected by end of current grant cycle in June 2024



**20** individuals were trained to be lead certified

## Laboratory

Each year, numerous samples are submitted to the laboratory for testing and examination. The laboratory is certified by the United States Department of Health and Human Services to accept human specimens for the purpose of performing laboratory examinations. Approval has been granted in Microbiology, Diagnostic Immunology and Chemistry.

**The Environmental Bacteriology Unit** tests water samples for coliform bacteria, nitrates and fluoride, and tests paint chips for presence of lead.

**The Clinical Microbiology / Serology Unit** performs diagnostic tests for Gonorrhea, serological tests for Syphilis, and blood lead level tests.

**The Forensic Chemistry Unit** analyzes blood specimens for presence of alcohol, and tests evidence submitted by local law enforcement for presence of controlled substances.

- **102** controlled substances tested
- **334** blood alcohol tests completed

## Inspections

The environmental health section also inspects places of business to ensure the business is up to health code.

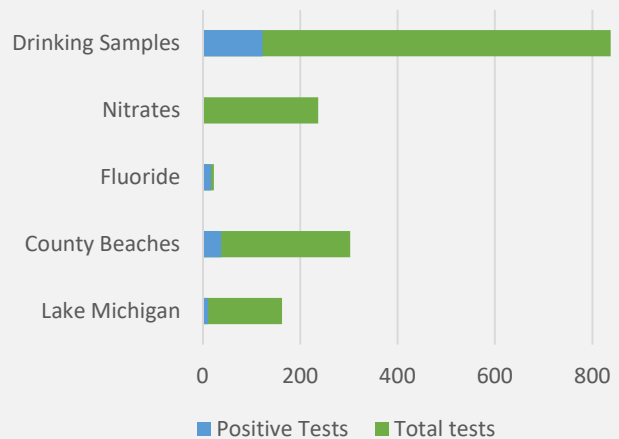


**137** school food service inspections



**86** food and recreation facility pre-inspections of new and/or changing restaurant owner facilities

### Environmental Bacterial Testing for 2021



### Forensic Chemical Testing

