

Board of Health: Kenosha County Public Health**Meeting Minutes: 12.14.21**

Microsoft Teams Virtual – 12:00 Noon

Agenda Item	Talking Points	Action Step (Who & When)
Call to Order, President	The meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm. (00:00:03)	
Approval of Minutes of October 12, 2021 and November 9, 2021 deferred to January 11, 2022 in-person meeting	Motion to approve the minutes of October 12, 2021 and November 9, 2021 deferred to January 11, 2022 in-person meeting. (00:00:05)	
Public Comments	None (00:00:10)	
President's Comments	Dr. Gerlach stated that clinic has been very busy with an influx of Influenza A & B. A fair number of parents are bringing their children in for Covid vaccines. (00:00:22 – 00:01:20)	
Title X Updates – Krista Tappa, Public Health Nurse Practitioner	Jen introduced Krista Tappa, Nurse Practitioner, who will give an overview of Title X. Since 1970, Title X is the only Federal grant program that provides comprehensive family planning services. The state of Wisconsin (DHS) is a grantee of the program and Kenosha County is one of 39 subrecipient sites in Wisconsin. Since its inception, funds are not able to be directly used to provide abortions as a family planning method. In 2019, a rule strictly prohibited any referrals for abortions. It also required strict physical and financial separation. Milwaukee county, along with 19 other grantees and 945 service sites, withdrew from the program because of this. This resulted in decreased access to family planning services. In 2021, a final rule revoked this with the readoption of the previous rule of 2000 – 2019. In effect on November 8, 2021, we may now provide clients all pregnancy counseling options. Language has changed that now recognizes telehealth. In addition, non-physician clinical service providers, such as Nurse Practitioner Physician Assistants, can direct family planning programs. Other language changes ensure increased access, equity, and quality of care. These are positive changes for our community that allow us to service our residents more effectively. The state allocates the money with an algorithm. (00:01:23 – 00:09:32)	
Health Officer/Director's Report a. Covid Update b. Other Public Health Services Update	Both of our hospitals are requesting state and federal resources as they are beyond capacity. Staffing is an issue. Our long-term care facilities face similar staffing issues. Total COVID hospitalizations between both hospital systems range between 60-65 per day, and our county averages 1-2 deaths per day. Over 90% of those hospitalized are unvaccinated. Positive Covid children are transferred to Milwaukee. No confirmed cases of Omicron in Kenosha County at this time. We don't have the resources to keep up	

	<p>with all positive cases of staff and children in the schools.</p> <p>Difficulty with testing companies coming from Illinois. Working to ensure they are signed up through WEDSS, our State Lab of Hygiene, and appropriate CLIA waivers to operate in Wisconsin so that they provide quality reporting. The recommendation for testing is to only go to approved testing sites that are on our county website. Home tests are not reported through the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS).</p> <p>There is turn away on positive Covid people for psychological inpatient services. This is a pandemic within a pandemic.</p> <p>December 10, 2021 held an evening booster clinic at the Job Center that was very well received, vaccinating 180+. On December 12, 2021, a mobile Covid clinic was held at Second Baptist Church vaccinating 77. We continue with our mobile clinics offering boosters and vaccinations.</p> <p>Currently two vacancies on the Board of Health. More information to come next month.</p> <p>Working on our new electronic medical records system, Patagonia. Foreseeing implementation in the late spring/summer when we will go live with everything interfaced and connected. This system will allow for greater output of data. Health departments such as Milwaukee, Dane County, Eau Claire, and Oneida are implementing or looking into implementation of this system as well.</p> <p>We hope to present at the Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA) Annual Conference in May on “Local Public Health Department Detention Center Relations”. Our participation in the Living Free Program, STI testing, and vaccine clinics strengthens our relationship with the Detention Center. Kirsten Gundersen, Equity Strategist, will also present on our Equity Strategic Plan.</p> <p>We have written a grant that will allow us to work with people upon release from incarceration to help them align with health resources.</p> <p>We have hired a supervisor for our SAMHSA grant who will start January 4, 2022 and offers are being made to two public health strategists for the grant.</p> <p>Every 3 years we must do a new Community Health Assessment (CHA). Aurora works with us. This year we will do focus groups and get community input during late spring/summer. Next year at this time we will begin the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) cycle from this data. Would like the Board of Health to be involved. We have a new process that will be implemented in 2023 for the CHIP.</p> <p>(00:09:37 – 00:33:40)</p>	
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Corporation Counsel's Report	John is working with Mark Melotik revising Chapter 16 of Environmental Health and Food Ordinances (restaurant, bed and breakfast, hotels, campground, tattooing) to modernize and update language. This updates Chapter 16 in terms of statutory references. Adding information on methamphetamine houses and appeal processes. (00:33:53)	
Other Business as Allowed by Law	Hospitals cannot turn away unvaccinated people even if they are full. Hospital staff receive very strict training on how to minimize any transfer of illness from patient to patient. (00:41:05)	
Closing Board Comments	Next meeting January 11, 2022 - in person N2 conference room	
Adjournment	<p>Motion to adjourn meeting by John O'Day. Meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm. (00:41:15)</p> <p>Prepared by Karen Kersting, Board of Health Secretary</p> <p>Respectfully submitted by Jen Freiheit, Health Officer/Director</p>	

Present: Dr. Diane Gerlach, John O'Day, Jen Freiheit, John Moyer, Lori Plahmer, Dr. Dominique Pritchett, Dr. Rita Ventura, Lynn Bogdala, Dave Cole, Krista Tappa

Not Present: Julia Robinson (excused absence), Dr. Foster (unexcused absence), Roger Perez (unexcused absence)