SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FY 2015 ANNUAL REPORT
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Scott County Health Department looked to the future in FY15, with community health needs assessment and public health accreditation issues taking center stage.

Every five years, health departments in Iowa conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA), and write a health improvement plan, to guide their involvement in health issues in the community. Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act, non-profit hospitals have also been required to conduct needs assessments for their service area. 2015 marks the first year that Scott County Health Department, Rock Island County Health Department, Genesis Health System, Unity Point Health – Trinity, and Community Health Care, Inc., have collaborated from the outset to collect information about health needs in the Quad City area, and craft individual health improvement plans that stem from a common process. It is hoped that this model will improve health outcomes in our community by setting joint priorities, combining resources, and avoiding duplication of effort.

Typically, the process for SCHD begins in July, with the commencement of the fiscal year in which the health improvement plan is due, but this year the process began in January. The Iowa Department of Public Health, realizing the benefit to be gained by collaboration among health entities, allowed flexibility in the schedule for gathering data to be used in the process.

SCHD will be working on public health accreditation for our agency in the upcoming year. The groundwork for this effort was laid with our participation in the Iowa Public Health Standards project, which began several years ago. Since that time the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), a national accreditation agency, has developed a system of accreditation that is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and the National Association of County and City Health Officials. Iowa has now officially endorsed PHAB as the entity for departments wishing to seek accreditation. The Iowa standards will remain as a set of benchmarks for agencies in Iowa to use for improving local services and quality improvement.

This report presents an overview of the activities of each of our programs during the past year. I encourage you to also visit our website at www.scottcountyiowa.com/health to learn more about the Department and the services we provide. On behalf of the Scott County Health Department, I would like to thank you for your support.
The Scott County Board of Health (BOH) consists of five members of the community who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The BOH is responsible for safeguarding the community’s health and has jurisdiction over public health matters in Scott County. The Scott County Health Department (SCHD) is responsible to the Scott County BOH to carry out this important work. Meetings of the BOH are held on the third Thursday of the month at noon in the Scott County Administrative Center’s first floor boardroom. The public is invited to attend these meetings.

The average number of meetings the Scott County BOH convenes each fiscal year. Iowa law requires the board to meet 6 times a year.
BOH Welcomes New Members

Scott County Health Department welcomed two new Board of Health members in August 2014. Dr. Scott Sandeman is a veterinarian and owner of Glenroads & LeClaire Veterinary Clinics in Bettendorf Iowa. Dr. Sandeman has lived and practiced in the Quad Cities for almost 30 years. After graduating from Iowa State University, Dr. Sandeman practiced for 3 years in the Chicagoland area before moving to Bettendorf. Dr. Jim Lyle is a hand, wrist and elbow surgeon that also holds a Master of Public Health Degree and worked with Orthopedic and Rheumatology Associates (ORA). Dr. Lyles served on the Scott County Board of Health from August 2014 through July 2015, before moving out of the area to pursue personal and professional opportunities. This left a Board of Health vacancy to fill for the 2016 fiscal year. Dr. Larry Squire, retired dentist and adjunct professor with the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, has accepted the Board of Supervisor’s appointment to the Board of Health.

Scott County Board of Health Receives 2 Awards

The Scott County Board of Health received two awards from the Iowa Public Health Association. The Iowa Public Health Award was presented at the Iowa Governor’s Conference in April 2015, recognizing outstanding local public health service and citing Scott County Board of Health’s exceptional support for environmental and public health. The Iowa Environmental Health Award was presented in recognition of the Board of Health’s efforts to support and expand public health programs and environmental health for Scott County residents.

Ed Rivers, Director; Tricia Kitzmann, IPHA President; Denise Coiner, BOH Chair; Kathy Hanson, BOH member; Eric Bradley; Environmental Health Coordinator
MISSION, VISION, AND ADMINISTRATION

Mission
The Scott County Health Department promotes, protects, and preserves health through leadership, services, education, and partnerships.

Vision
Scott County— A safe and healthy community.

Administration
The SCHD Administrative team
• Provides leadership, direction & vision
• Manages department functions
• Monitors contracts, subcontracts & agreements
• Conducts quality improvement activities
• Ensures a competent public health workforce
• Conducts organizational strategic planning
• Provides budget oversight & financial management

Number of subcontracts issued for community programs
6
Strategic Plan

The SCHD completed the strategic planning process and plan in preparation for meeting the ongoing public health needs of the people of Scott County and to prepare for accreditation of the department in dynamic, quickly changing times for public health. The plan will enable the SCHD to meet the public health needs of people of Scott County based on the Ten Essential Services of Public Health, through the 3 Core Functions of Assessment, Policy Development, and Assurance. The plan seeks to address five primary areas: 1) technology; 2) health education, health promotion, and marketing; 3) quality improvement; 4) workforce development; and 5) organizational culture and workplace environment. Workgroups have been formed and staff has begun to work on action steps addressing these primary areas. Work will continue on this plan until 2019.
FISCAL YEAR 15 BUDGET

**Funding**

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**Expenditures**

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COMMUNITY RELATIONS, INFORMATION, & PLANNING SERVICES

The Community Relations, Information, and Planning Services Area is responsible for:

- Public health education and promotion
- Community partnership mobilization
- Community health needs assessment and improvement planning
- Community health data monitoring
- Care For Kids and I-Smile™ medical and dental home initiatives
- Linking the community to public health resources

91% of children in the EPDST program report a medical home.

93% of Scott County consumers who received face to face education report it will help them or someone else make a healthy choice.

99% of students entering kindergarten have a valid certificate of dental screening.
Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing

There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke; one of our goals in tobacco is to prevent exposure to secondhand smoke through the implementation of Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing policies. Scott County has had 3 new properties added to the Smoke-Free Homes Registry in 2015; you can check for smoke-free housing at the registry: http://smoke-freehomes.iowa.gov/.

City of Bettendorf Completes Assessment

Community Transformation Program (CTP) staff completed the Walking And Biking Suitability Assessment (WABSA) for the City of Bettendorf at Falcon Avenue and 53rd Avenue. The WABSA assessment identified a need for an additional ADA ramp, crosswalk paint, traffic signal, continuation of the sidewalk, and a pedestrian sign at the busy intersection. CTP staff presented the recommendations to the Assistant City Engineer of the City of Bettendorf, who agreed to share the WABSA findings. The recommendations were presented to the City of Bettendorf and they agreed to work towards the improvements this summer and fall.
The United States Postal Service (USPS) wanted to increase the percentage of healthy options in the employee snack vending machine. Without being familiar on how to approach the subject with their staff and vendor, USPS reached out to the Community Transformation Program (CTP) staff. CTP staff met with the USPS and Valley Vending QC to explain Nutrition Environment Measures Survey -Vending (NEMS-V) and provide examples of what yellow and green product pushers would look like. Without hesitation Valley Vending QC expressed a willingness to implement NEMS-V at the USPS. Together, the organizations selected desirable green and yellow NEMS-V healthy options for the snack machine. Prior to the NEMS-V implementation the snack vending machine only offered 13% green and yellow NEMS-V healthy options. Since NEMS-V has been successfully implemented with a healthy price structure, there are now 46% green and yellow NEMS-V healthy options available to the USPS vending machine.
Scott County, Iowa, was chosen as an urban setting to pilot the I-Smile™ Silver Project. Funded by the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation and guided by the Lifelong Smiles Coalition and the Iowa Department of Public Health, I-Smile™ Silver began in November 2014 and will run until November 2016. Utilizing an Iowa Registered Dental Hygienist as an I-Smile™ Silver Coordinator, the goals of the Project are to:

1. Assess the oral health status, needs and barriers of Scott County residents ages 60 and over;
2. Build networks and relationships with agencies that serve older Iowans, healthcare providers and dentists;
3. Provide training opportunities via the Office of Training and Education at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry to improve oral and systemic health outcomes for healthcare professionals of virtually every education level that serve seniors;
4. Promote oral health throughout the lifespan through mixed-media; and
5. Provide care coordination and facilitate access to dental care.
The Environmental Health Services staff provide a variety of services to the public, including:

- Food service inspection
- Food borne illness investigation
- Swimming pool and spa inspection
- Water well construction, permitting, and inspections
- Grants to Counties, well testing, well plugging, and well renovations
- Lead poisoning investigation
- Time of Transfer inspection of septic systems
- Subdivision review
- Tanning and tattoo parlor inspection
- Waste hauler inspections
- Private sewage disposal system construction, permitting, and inspection
- Private sewage effluent inspections and sampling
- Septic tank pumper inspections
- Public health nuisance complaint investigation
- Mosquito surveillance
- Hotel/motel inspection
- Animal bite program

1,439 Food Service Establishment Inspections
790 Food Service Establishment Re-inspections
100% of Approved Septic System Installations Met Initial System Recommendations
584.16 Tons of Recyclable Material Were Collected in Unincorporated Scott County
15 Environmental Investigations Were Completed for Children Who Have a Confirmed Blood Lead Level of 15ug/dL or Greater
Scott County environmental health staff working in the Food Safety Program continue to promote safe food handling through the ServSafe program. ServSafe is a food and beverage safety training and certificate course offered at various times during the calendar year by Scott County Health Department environmental health staff to employees and managers of food establishments in Scott County. Effective January 1, 2014, Iowa food code now requires every food establishment have a certified food protection manager. Food handlers attending the training course are provided key information about food hazards and proper food handling practices in order to keep food safe and protect against the costly nightmare of a foodborne-illness outbreak. Employees learn ways to prevent disease, regulatory requirements, and sanitation.
Online CEU Tracking Database for the Iowa Registry

In January of 2015, Registered Environmental Health Specialist, Tim Dougherty, led the Iowa Environmental Health Association (IEHA) in launching a new online CEU tracking system to record educational requirements as mandated by the Grants to Counties program. The new system was developed by the IEHA Professional Development Committee and replaces the old paper form which used to be mailed in annually. The new system allows IDPH staff to pull their own compliance reports, and allows users to enter CEUs as they are obtained. As it is both able to be updated with newly approved educational opportunities as they occur and allow users to upload graphics, it has greatly cut down on the time and effort needed to verify submission accuracy by both the compliance officers and grant recipients.

Norovirus Presentations

Eric Bradley, Environmental Health Coordinator, recently presented to environmental health professionals on a local Norovirus outbreak investigation at the 2014 National Environmental Health Association Annual Conference in Las Vegas, as well as at the 2014 Illinois Environmental Health Association annual conference in Peoria, Illinois and the 2015 Environmental Health Symposium in Opelika, Alabama. Eric shared information on the epidemiology of Norovirus, prevention and control measures, laboratory testing considerations, and sampling techniques based on knowledge gathered during two previous Norovirus outbreaks that occurred in Scott County at a restaurant/hotel and a casino/hotel.
The SCHD Clinical Services staff deliver a variety of service to the community including:

- Communicable disease control
- STD/HIV counseling, testing, treatment and referral
- Childhood immunizations
- Non-public school nursing
- Childhood lead poisoning case management
- Healthy Child Care Iowa Child Care Nurse Consultant
- Employee health training
- Rabies risk assessment
- Perinatal hepatitis B case management
- Foodborne illness investigation

### STD Clinic Flow

Beginning in early fiscal year 2014, a number of factors began to impact the STD clinic flow and operations. In an attempt to define Scott County residency, clarify eligibility for clinic and to streamline the STD clinic process, a quality improvement initiative was put into effect. Through the use of several quality improvement tools, the STD team was able to improve their clinic practices.
Expedited Partner Therapy

In January of 2015, the STD program implemented the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) recommendation to make available Expedited Partner Therapy to clients whose partners test positive for gonorrhea and/or chlamydia. According to CDC, Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) is the clinical practice of treating the sex partners of patients diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea by providing prescriptions or medications to the patient to take to his/her partner without the health care provider first examining the partner. EPT is indicated for partners who are unwilling or unable to access medical care and when a patient presents with re-infection(s). The gold standard for decreasing the transmission and/or reinfections of STDs is to examine, test, and treat all sex partners of persons diagnosed with an STD. However, when this is not possible, EPT may be an option for partners.

Text Messaging

In the past year, the STD clinical services team utilized text messaging services for contact tracing. According to clinical staff, approximately 20 text messages are sent out per month. Staff estimates a 50% higher response rate with the phone call/text message combination. Staff reports that the speed at which clients respond has also increased. In a case where timing and sequencing is essential, the increased speed at which a message can be sent and received has been very beneficial. Implementing the text messaging service has been convenient and has provided some cost savings.
Within the past year, the Scott County Health Department has made technological advancements within the Medical Examiner program. IVES (the Iowa Vital Event System), is an automated, secure web-based software application designed to process death records from the point of initial entry and verification through registrations and assignment of the State File Number.

IVES has provided the opportunity to complete death certificates electronically. Utilizing the electronic death certificate option has helped to expedite the process for completing death certificates, correction requests and communication between funeral directors, medical certifiers and Vital Records. Death certificates used to be hand typed by the assistant to the Medical Examiner. Once completed, the certificates then needed to be hand delivered or sent through standard mail. According to the Iowa Department of Public Health, this change has “eliminated the personal delivery of records to physicians for completion and signature, extensive and costly travel by funeral directors to file certifications and labor-intensive processing of paper records at the county recorder’s office and by the Bureau of Health Statistics.”

With the new electronic option, medical providers have been allowed more liberty for completion and are able to continue their work flow from remote sites. The web-based system has also accelerated the process for the family and has made records more readily available to the family, the Social Security Administration, county recorders, and other appropriate parties.
What happens when disaster occurs in your community? The Scott County Health Department, in collaboration with the Scott County Health Care Coalition, the City of Bettendorf and Rock Island County Medical Reserve Corps, sponsored the 2nd Annual Quad Cities Disaster Readiness Conference on April 7, 2015. Over 300 participants attended the full-day conference and gained insight from experts in the field as they discussed lessons learned from actual events and response efforts. Presentations provided firsthand information to first responders, support agencies, businesses and non-profits, community partners and elected officials who will be responding, managing and recovering from a large scale disaster. The conference provided opportunities to build community partnerships and CEUs were approved for Illinois and Iowa nurses and other healthcare professionals.
In April 2014 a formal request was made by Scott County Health Department Director, Edward Rivers, to have MEDIC EMS assume responsibility for providing EMS services in the Exclusive Service Area serviced by Buffalo Volunteer Ambulance Service, Inc. (BVAS) starting on June 1, 2014 and continuing through the period of licensure. BVAS was not confident that continuity of service could be ensured and submitted a request to the Scott County Health Department requesting the reassignment of service.

In applying the criteria provided in Chapter 28 of the Scott County Code of Ordinances, Section 28-6, with respect to assignment of Exclusive Service Areas, it was determined that MEDIC EMS would be best positioned, capable, and possess sufficient resources to expand service delivery into the Exclusive Service Area. The Scott County Health Department worked with MEDIC EMS to facilitate the transition from Buffalo to Blue Grass MEDIC EMS to serve as an Alternate Delivery Model (ADM).

The Alternate Delivery Model provides 24/7 paramedic care in this rural area by staffing a full-time paramedic, part-time EMS employees and utilizing volunteers as frequently as possible. Volunteer staff members can volunteer from home if they live a reasonable distance from the station, which is usually five minutes or less. Accommodations including a private bedroom, kitchen and living quarter facilities are available for volunteers who choose to stay on site. The ADM concept enables MEDIC EMS to continue to provide a high level of care at a reduced cost of operation per hour. The Alternate Delivery model has also been used within the cities of Le Claire since 1999 and Eldridge since 2001.
The Correctional Health Services staff delivers the following services to inmates in the custody of the Scott County Jail:

- Disease management and medication administration for both acute and chronic illness
- Wound care, diabetic care and teaching, orthopedic care, respiratory care, cardiac, renal, pregnancy care and mental health intervention and management.
- Sexually transmitted disease testing
- HIV testing
- Tuberculosis testing
- Emergency medical and dental services
- Vision exams for reading glasses only

The Scott County Health Department Correctional Health Coordinator continues to facilitate jail yoga sessions for both the female and male populations, with the goal of helping inmates learn stress relief and coping skills. This yoga program is based off of the Prison Yoga Project, which was originally developed using scientific evidence that reinforces that yoga, meditation and mindfulness training in prison can lead to a lower incidence of substance abuse, depression, hostility, re-offense rates, and improve impulse control.

Many participants have shared that they are able to sleep better, gain the ability to think before they react, and know that there is an alternative to violent acts. Additionally, a new yoga instructor, Joan Matilla (an audiologist in the Quad City area), has joined the Scott County Jail Yoga Program. She specializes in PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) focused yoga programming and works with female victims of rape and violence.

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29,046

NUMBER OF INMATE HEALTH CONTACTS PROVIDED IN THE JAIL

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Dental Fluoride Treatments

In March 2013, Scott County Health Department Correctional Health Nursing Staff began using dental fluoride varnish treatments for inmates that were experiencing dental health issues. Applying dental fluoride varnish onto teeth can help in preventing further tooth decay, resulting in increased pain relief for the individual. Prior to the use of dental fluoride varnish treatments, dental health concerns were primarily handled by sending an inmate outside of the jail to have the problem tooth or teeth extracted (surgically removed). Utilizing the fluoride varnish method is beneficial in many ways, including: saving the tooth or teeth for increased dental care options for the individual at a later time (after their release from incarceration); decreased safety risks for inmates, jail staff, dental care providers, and the community when leaving the facility for care; and a reduction in the associated costs of dental care. The average cost when leaving the facility for care for an x-ray and tooth extraction is $262 per tooth, whereas a dental fluoride treatment costs only $0.98 per individual. From July 2014 to June 2015, 182 Scott County Jail inmates received dental fluoride treatments, at an approximate total cost of $178.36 for all inmates (as opposed to a potential cost of $47,684.00 if those 182 inmates required dental extractions at $262 per tooth); ultimately demonstrating that dental fluoride varnish treatments continue to be a positive treatment option for Scott County Correctional Health.

Mental Health Referrals

Scott County Health Department Correctional Health Nursing Staff, working in partnership with psychologists and a mental health nurse practitioner, assisted a total of 972 inmates by coordinating their acute mental and behavioral health needs. Staff members provided 372 individuals with alcohol and drug withdrawal care treatment, and connected 402 inmates with the Center for Alcohol and Drug Services (CADS) for substance abuse consultations. Additionally, staff members were able to provide supportive care to 132 individuals, whose actions resulted in a need for being placed in a restraint chair, most commonly occurring as a result of mental health or drug or alcohol induced behavior concerns. Due to the partnership of Correctional Health nursing staff, medical staff, and mental/behavioral health providers, the team has been able to manage 99% of inmate health care needs within the jail setting.
Scott County is recognized as a Be Healthy QC Workplace

The Quad City Health Initiative recognized Scott County as one of 12 of a Be Healthy QC Workplaces throughout the Quad Cities. The Be Healthy QC Workplace title was developed and standardized by the Be Healthy QC Worksite Wellness Workgroup. The workshop looks at factors such as: physical activity; nutrition; tobacco; and overall employee health and well-being policies and environments to creating a healthier workplace. Qualifying workplaces must agree with 10 out of 20 evidenced based best practices at promoting workplace wellness. With the dedicated Health Benefit Team staff and support of administration, Scott County was able to agree to 17 evidence based best practices.

Staff Assists with Flood Damaged Debris Clean Up

In July, the Scott County Health Department assisted residents along the Wapsipinicon and Mississippi Rivers with flood cleanup. Scott County Health Department staff members helped load flood debris into garbage packers provided by the Scott County Conservation Department. Flood-damaged appliances, tires, and sand bags were loaded into trucks provided by the Scott County Secondary Roads Department. In all forty-five tons were collected through this coordinated effort.
Scott County Activity Competition

On January 26, 116 Scott County employees and family members joined a movement throughout the workplace to lead a more active lifestyle. All participants received a free pedometer to track daily steps and a database to record additional activity. Throughout the ten weeks, the Scott County Activity Competition included weekly challenges to keep participants motivated. Some participants teamed up to use their breaks for climbing up stairs, walking, or completing low impact exercises in available conference rooms.

Scott County Adds Nicotine to Policy

On March 12, 2015, the Board of Supervisors took a leap forward and approved a revision to the Scott County Tobacco policy prohibiting the use of nicotine products within all County owned or leased facilities, vehicles and the outdoor area or grounds of County property. In addition to the ban on tobacco products, other nicotine products that have become more prevalent, such as e-cigarettes, are now included in the ban. This revision was made in an effort to protect the health and safety of all County employees and visitors.
2014 NEHA Certificate of Merit Award – Tim Dougherty

Tim Dougherty, Registered Environmental Health Specialist, was the recipient of the 2014 NEHA (National Environmental Health Association) Certificate of Merit Award. The award nationally recognizes an individual for their outstanding contributions to the environmental health profession. Tim’s award is the third such award received by Scott County Health Department environmental staff for their contributions to the field.

Larry’s Retirement

After 44 years of faithful service to the Scott County Health Department, Larry Linnenbrink retired in July 2015. Larry oversaw the Health Department’s environmental health activities as the Environmental Health Coordinator. He will be greatly missed!

Environmental Health Professional of the Year - Eric Bradley

Eric Bradly was awarded the Environmental Health Professional of the Year Award at the Iowa Governor’s Conference on Public Health. The award recognizes an IEHA member that represents a professional role model and goes above and beyond in his/her field, demonstrating excellence in teaching, training, and striving to improve their own departments and the environment as a whole. Congratulations, Eric!