

2021 ANNUAL REPORT: CITY OF MENASHA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MISSION

To protect and promote health and safety across the lifespan, by building partnerships and providing high quality services guided by community needs

VISION

A safe and healthy community where everyone has the opportunity to live their best life

VALUES

teamwork,
trust,
communication,
respect,
friendliness



City of Menasha Health Department Current Staff

Back Row (left to right): Kristine Hutter, Health Director; Kortney Dahm, Public Health Nurse (PHN); Todd Drew, Sanitarian; Larissa Keller, Office Coordinator; Claire Opsteen, Registered Dental Hygienist

Front Row (left to right): Claire Holzschuh, Public Health Educator, Liz Rosin, PHN, Meghan Pauly, PHN, Linda Palmbach, PHN



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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

Although 2021 brought its own challenges, both new and continuing from 2020, it was also a year full of hope, energy, and excitement for the Menasha Health Department. COVID-19 vaccinations began and new treatments became available, bringing with them hope for better outcomes from this disease. We were able to resume some of our "normal" activities that were put on hold in 2020. While we were incredibly sad to see two of our core staff retire in 2021, we were able to fill those two positions quickly with individuals who are excited to serve our community.

Menasha Health Department staff administered our very first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to local first responders in January 2021. Vaccination efforts continued throughout the entire year, with staff coordinating, hosting, and participating in various community vaccination clinics. Clinics were held at our own health department, Menasha Joint School District (MJSD) schools, churches, and other locations. We are so grateful to the many, dedicated partners who led or assisted with this work. It cannot be done by one agency alone.

The health department sustained other aspects of our COVID-19 pandemic response during 2021. This included disease investigation and contact tracing for the City and for MJSD, with the help of our hardworking team of contact tracers and school staff. Staff also worked closely with MJSD, Summit Clinical Laboratories, and the WI Department of Health Services to set up a COVID-19 testing program in MJSD schools to provide free tests to students, staff, and their household family members. Our health aides and school secretaries were instrumental to this project.

In non-COVID news, the Menasha Health Department was officially re-designated as Level III, the highest level of designation for a health department in our state. This means Menasha's health department is able to carry out a robust array of services and activities to protect and promote our community's health and safety.

Many standard functions of the health department resumed in 2021. Staff were able to conduct licensing inspections, routine childhood immunizations, investigate other communicable diseases, provide oral health services, and begin providing health services to older adults. We look forward to offering more of these services in 2022 as we figure out what our "new normal" looks like.

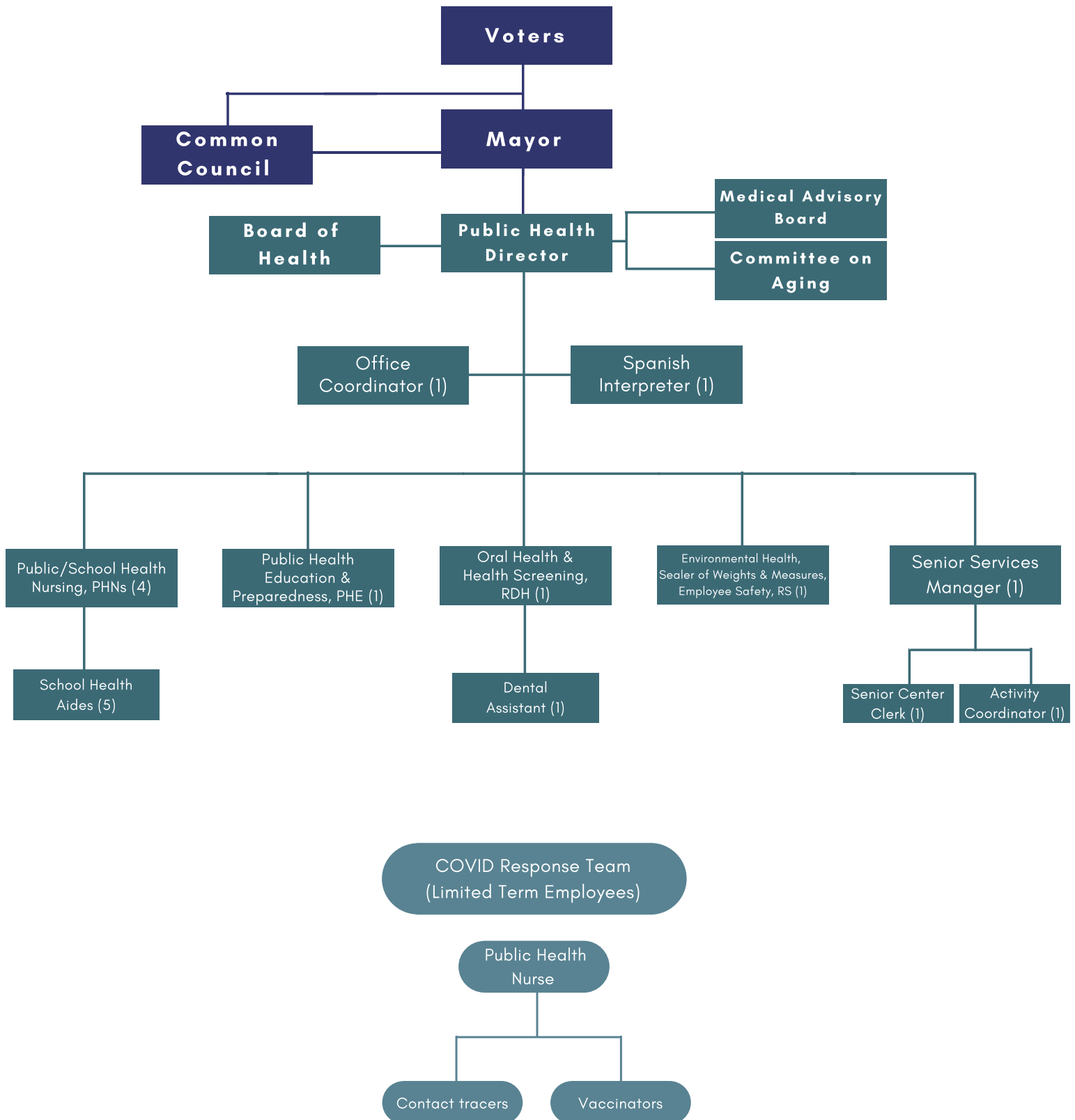
We hope you take the time to read through this report and reflect with us on the past year. Thank you for supporting your local City health department!

Sincerely,

Kristine Hutter

Public Health Director/Health Officer

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



2021 STAFFING AND BUDGET

STAFF

**Public Health
Director/Health Officer**
Kristine Hutter, MPH, CHES

**Public Health Office
Coordinator**
Larissa Keller

Spanish Interpreter
Jayanni Schmeichel

MJSD School Health Aides
Charlotte Friedrich
Julie Herzfeldt
Shari O'Connell
Sue Reiter
Angela Rusch

Registered Sanitarian
Todd Drew, RS

Registered Dental Hygienist
Claire Opsteen, RDH

Public Health Educator (PHE)
Claire Holzschuh, CHES

COVID-19 Response Team (LTE)
Mary Jo Kirchman
Crystal Manders, RN, BSN
Susan Penniston, RN, BSN
Gina Phillips, RN, BSN
Megon Rose, LPN

Public Health Nurses (PHN)
Kortney Dahm, RN, BSN
Linda Palmbach, RN, BSN
Meghan Pauly, RN, BSN
Liz Rosin, RN, BSN

Senior Center
Chloe Hansen Dunn, MPH
Leah McCormick
Janet Rothe

Retired in 2021
Mary Fritz, PH Aide
Nancy McKenney, PH Officer

BUDGET

Menasha Health Department

Total Revenues: \$950,235
Total Expenditures: \$1,149,936

The funding sources for the health department consist of grants, contract revenue, fees for service, license and permit fees, school health contractual arrangements, medical assistance billing revenue, and city tax levy monies. Total expenditures for 2021 were \$1,149,936. The local tax levy provided \$199,701 with the remaining \$950,235 coming from all other sources of funding combined.

Menasha Senior Center

Total Revenues: \$29,594
Total Expenditures: \$70,095

The funding sources for the Senior Center consist of local grants, fees for service, facility rental fees, donations, and city tax levy monies. Total expenditures for 2021 were \$70,095. The local tax levy provided \$40,501 with the remaining \$29,594 coming from all other sources of funding combined.

2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

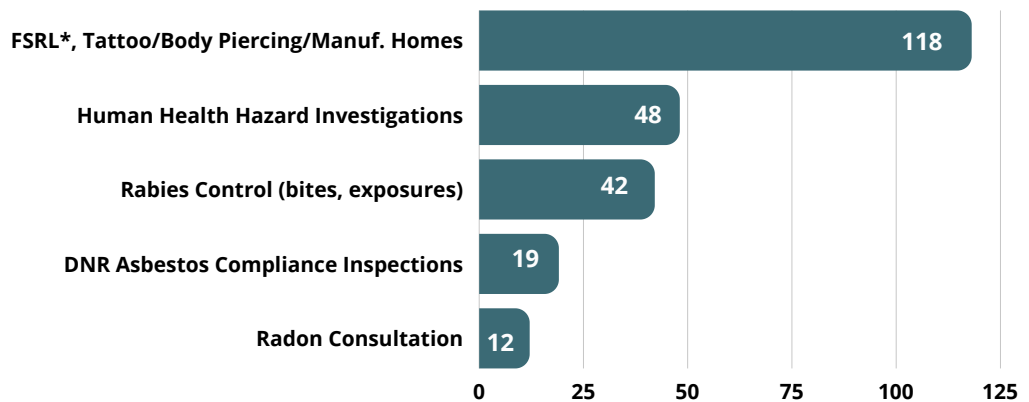
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health Program is responsible for conducting inspections for food safety and recreational licenses (retail food, swimming pools, tourist rooming houses), manufactured home parks, and body art establishments. These inspections are conducted by Todd, our Registered Sanitarian. Environmental Health is also responsible for: investigating human health hazard complaints, conducting lead risk assessments, providing radon measurement and mitigation consultation, conducting indoor air quality investigations, and consultation on asbestos, contaminated soil and water, odors, noise, and fugitive dust concerns. The Registered Sanitarian oversees the City of Menasha rabies control program in cooperation with the City of Menasha Police Department.

Todd acts as an agent for the following state agencies:

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Safety and Professional Services
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Administration

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES IN 2021



*FSRL = Food Safety & Recreational Licensing

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Todd, Sealer of Weights and Measures, enforces Wisconsin Law related to the accuracy of weighing and measuring devices used in commerce. Devices include gas pumps, scales, pricing systems, timing devices, and linear measures (items that are sold by the foot or yard). A portion of the program also audits pre-packaged products to ensure accurate weight declaration and labeling. The Sealer investigates all complaints related to weighing and measuring devices, including credit card skimming complaints. A total of 468 devices were tested in 2021 to ensure they are within tolerance of Wisconsin law and National Institute of Standards and Testing (NIST) standards, which is a branch from the US Department of Commerce. Look for this seal on commercial devices which ensures they have been tested and found correct.



2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

EMPLOYEE SAFETY

The health department oversees the City Employee Safety budget and houses the Employee Safety Coordinator, Todd. In collaboration with the Human Resources department, Todd coordinates mandatory safety training, annual hearing screening, conducts respiratory fit testing, maintains the Hazard Communication Program, and investigates all reported employee injuries. Additionally, the Employee Safety Coordinator conducts regular safety committee meetings with City Hall, Library, Public Works, and Menasha Police Department staff.

2021 Employee Safety Accomplishments

- held 12 safety meetings
- held 7 trainings on various safety topics
- conducted 8 injury investigations
- conducted 62 hearing screenings
- conducted 47 respiratory fit tests
- conducted 9 safety trainings for new employees



PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

As part of its public health emergency preparedness program, the Menasha Health Department employs a Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Coordinator, who is also the public health educator. The preparedness coordinator supports the department in maintaining public health emergency plans as well as the capacity to respond to emergencies. Emergencies the health department would be involved in responding to include: communicable disease outbreaks, radiologic or chemical emergencies, natural disasters, bioterrorism, and pandemics. MHD is a member of the Region 6 Fox Valley Healthcare Emergency Response Coalition (FVHERC), which consists of public health, healthcare, emergency management, long-term care, and other community partners. In 2021, these partners came together for regular meetings to share information throughout the COVID-19 pandemic response.

Every October, the Menasha Health Department holds an annual mass influenza vaccine clinic, run as an emergency preparedness exercise. During this event, flu vaccines are provided at no cost to children 18 years and younger, and to adults for a small fee. MJSD and City staff can also receive their flu vaccine at this clinic. During the 2021 annual mass influenza vaccine clinic, 93 adult and 72 pediatric influenza vaccines were given for a total of 165. After the emergency preparedness drill was concluded, the PHEP Coordinator completed an After Action Report (AAR) and Improvement Plan (IP) based on feedback from staff and participants involved in the clinic. The PHEP Coordinator also tracks Incident Command System (ICS) trainings, which provide staff with the knowledge and skills to respond to public health threats. In 2021, 90% of MHD staff had completed their required trainings.

In 2021, MHD continued its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, shifting response activities and resources as needed to most effectively meet the needs of the community. Staff coordinated and implemented weekly COVID-19 vaccine clinics, responded to testing needs, and provided guidance to local businesses, childcare centers and long-term care facilities.

2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) grant program focuses on assisting Menasha workplaces and childcare centers to become Breastfeeding Friendly, and to maintain that designation. The goal of breastfeeding friendly workplaces and childcare centers is to promote safe and inclusive places for breastfeeding mothers to express milk for their babies. Due to the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic, no new childcare centers or workplaces were recruited to receive breastfeeding friendly status. Staff still attended bi-monthly Breastfeeding Alliance of Northeast Wisconsin (BFAN) meetings to collaborate and promote breastfeeding initiatives in the region.



In addition to the MCH grant program, the Menasha Health Department provides a number of other services and programs to promote the health and safety of babies, children, and moms. Public health nurses provide home visits for new moms to ensure they have the support they need, and to check in on their baby. This can be at the request of the family or their healthcare provider. Home visits and other follow-ups are also conducted for families whose children have elevated blood lead levels. Linda, PHN, conducted car seat fittings to make sure children are riding safely in vehicles. Claire, PHE also virtually attended the bi-annual Maternal and Child Health Summit to learn about current issues that mothers, babies, and children are facing.



10 car seat fittings were conducted (an increase from 2020!)



121 letters sent to new parents with information related to water lines and lead



Zero lead related home visits were conducted because no child's blood lead levels tested above 5 mcg!



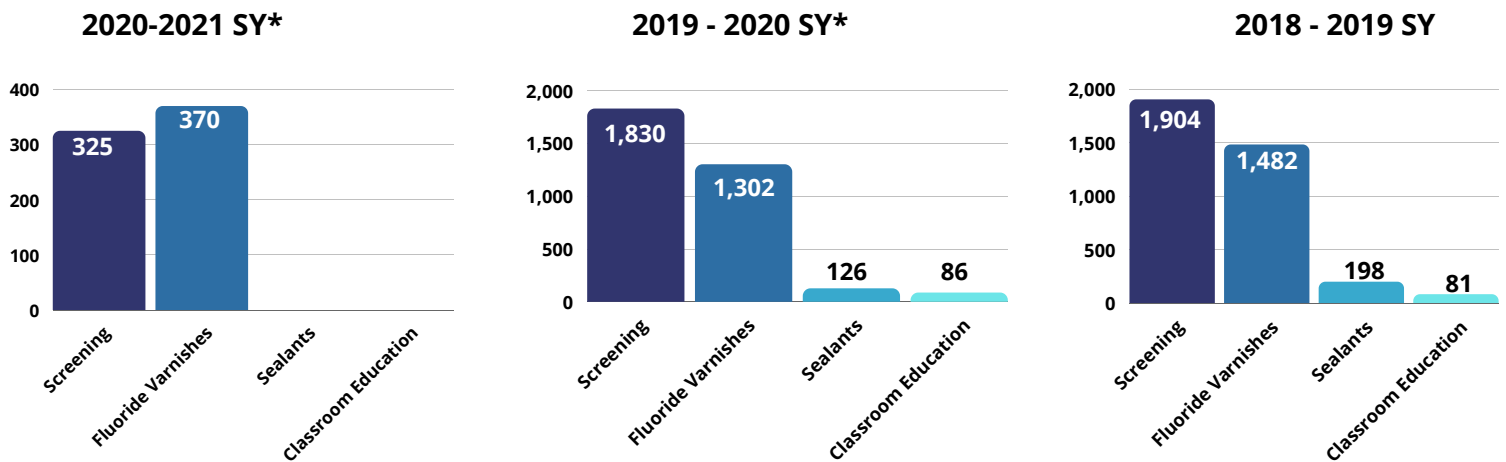
2 home visits were conducted to follow up with new moms and babies

2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ORAL HEALTH

Menasha Health Department has an oral health program called Menasha Healthy Smiles, led by a public health registered dental hygienist, Claire. The main goal of this program is to prevent tooth decay, the most common chronic disease in children. Claire provides oral health services to students in the Menasha Joint School District and participants of area early childhood education programs in the City. Oral health services include: oral health education in classrooms, screenings, topical fluoride and dental sealant application, patient follow-up, and referrals for treatment. Claire also provided oral cancer screenings and education to older adults who attend the Menasha Senior Center.

School-Based Oral Health Services Provided by School Year



*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, aerosol-generating procedures were not allowed and other dental services were limited in 2020 and early 2021. Many procedures resumed in late 2021 and will continue in 2022.



These are some of the items Claire brings with her while doing classroom presentations to teach young children and adolescents about oral health!

2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SCHOOL HEALTH

The Menasha Joint School District (MJSD) contracts with the Menasha Health Department for school nursing services. The four public health/school nurses are responsible for:

- developing individual health plans for students with medical needs
- providing individual health conferences with students and staff
- monitoring illnesses in the school setting
- referring parents to appropriate resources in the community
- providing classroom education on health topics
- educating and training staff on emergency medications
- assisting in development of Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
- CPR training for school district staff

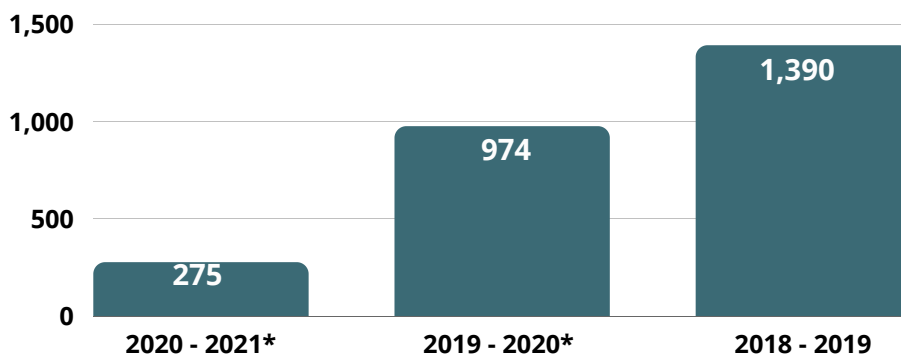
105

MJSD employees
were trained in
CPR/First Aid!

29

IEPs were
developed!

School Nurse Encounters by Year



*In Spring 2020, MJSD switched to all virtual learning. Due to high numbers of COVID-19 cases, the MJSD also switched to virtual learning in Fall 2020. Classes resumed in-person in 2021 with strict health protocols, resulting in fewer school nurse encounters than previous years. With students back in person for SY 21-22, school nurse visits likely be much higher.

SCHOOL HEALTH AIDES & COVID-19

Five school health aides provide health related services for school-aged students in the MJSD. They primarily work during lunch hours distributing medications and providing other health services to students. Due to the ongoing pandemic, health aides continued to assist with COVID-19 response efforts in the schools, including testing and contact tracing, in addition to their typical duties.

The MJSD participated in a pilot program with CESA 6 to provide COVID-19 tests to students and staff in the district, along with neighboring school districts during the 2020 - 2021 school year. Health aides conducted COVID-19 testing at this site. That pilot program was completed in April of 2021, and a total of 486 tests were conducted! School testing was identified as a need to mitigate cases of COVID-19 in the schools for the 2021 - 2022 school year. In Fall of 2021, the MJSD partnered with the Wisconsin DHS K-12 School COVID-19 Testing Program and Summit Clinical Laboratories to continue providing free and convenient testing. The health aides assisted with the testing sites at the schools within the district while Summit Labs employees administered the tests. From September to December 2021, 1,128 COVID-19 tests were conducted for students. The health aides also helped with monitoring cases of COVID-19 by documenting them on spreadsheets and conducting contact tracing in the schools to help limit the spread of disease.

2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The Menasha Health Department is responsible for communicable disease surveillance, disease investigation, contact tracing, public education and outreach, and other infection control measures as required under Wisconsin State Statutes. Health department staff followed up on reported cases of diseases including: foodborne illnesses, respiratory diseases, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Staff also followed up with 4 Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) cases in Menasha. The health educator created and disseminated social media posts about communicable diseases and shared to our Facebook page.

The COVID-19 Response Team, along with the PHNs, conducted many phone interviews with residents who tested positive for COVID-19 and their close contacts. On each call, the investigator interviewed the client to determine symptoms, who they may have come in contact with, and provided follow-up education for their isolation/quarantine periods. They also returned phone calls to individuals looking to schedule appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine, COVID-19 testing inquiries, and other clinical questions related to COVID-19. Health Department staff worked closely with long term care facilities and daycares on coronavirus infection control and mitigation.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS BY YEAR

Disease	2021	2020	2019
Campylobacteriosis	3	1	5
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	3	0	1
Chlamydia	76	73	72
SARS-CoV-2 (Coronavirus)	2,097	1,634	0
Cryptosporidiosis	2	0	1
Cyclosporiasis	2	2	0
Giardiasis	2	0	2
Gonorrhea	28	25	19
Hepatitis B	2	0	0
Hepatitis C	8	3	3
Histoplasmosis	1	0	0
Strep Throat (A and B)	6	2	2
Lyme Disease	12	1	7
Mycobacterial Disease (Non TB)	3	1	1
E. Coli	7	5	12
Salmonellosis	3	3	4
Pneumonia	4	0	2
Syphilis	2	2	5
Tuberculosis (LTBI)	4	1	6
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	0	2	1
Influenza	0	7	7
Legionellosis	0	2	1
Year Total	2,263	1,765	151

2021 COVID-19 DATA

Total Cases	2,097
Hospitalizations	74
Deaths	15
Public Health Investigations	108

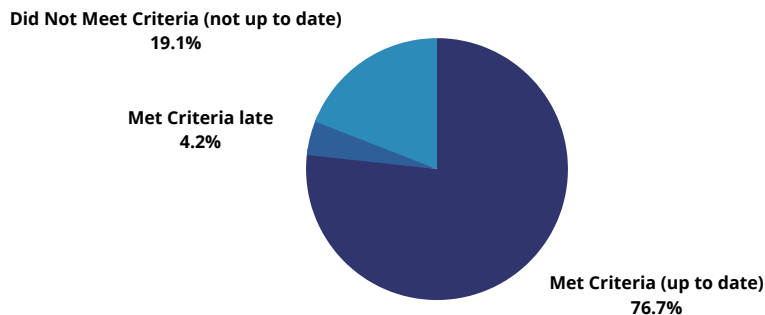
Note: The number of Public Health Investigations may be under-reported for 2021. Investigations may not have been opened in our disease surveillance system (WEDSS) during COVID-19 case surges. A Public Health Investigation includes investigations of outbreaks of COVID-19 in workplaces, childcare centers, schools, and long-term care facilities.

2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

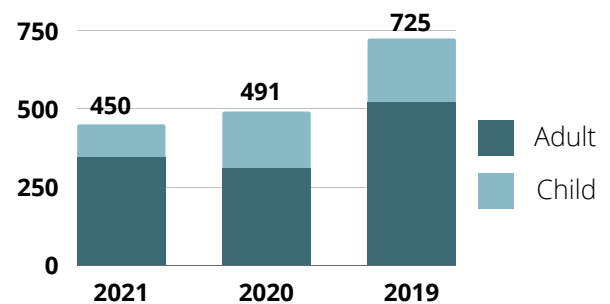
IMMUNIZATIONS

The goal of the immunization program is to ensure babies up to 24 months old are up to date on their recommended vaccines. The Menasha Health Department holds monthly Vaccines For Children (VFC) clinics to provide childhood vaccines to children 18 years old and younger. These clinics serve children who are: American Indian/Alaskan Native, underinsured, not insured, or on Medicaid or BadgerCare. Vaccines administered during these clinics include: HPV, MMR, DTaP/Tdap, Polio, Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Varicella, Pertussis, Meningitis, and influenza. Menasha Health Department's 2021 immunization goal was for 82% of children in the community to meet their recommended childhood vaccines by 24 months of age (benchmark). In 2021, health department staff administered 73 routine childhood vaccines. With the help of other community vaccinators, about 77% of children in the community met the benchmark criteria by 24 months old.

Percentage of Children Who Met/Did Not Meet the Vaccine Benchmark Criteria



Total number of flu vaccines administered by year

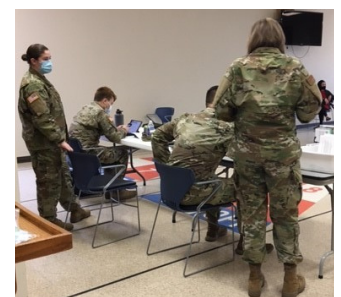
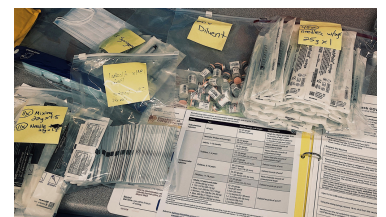


Menasha Health Department provides annual flu vaccines for children and adults!

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICS

MHD staff began planning for the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine to the community in late 2020 in preparation for the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. The first vaccine clinic MHD held was on January 11, 2021 for Menasha area first responders. Clinics were held for specific eligible groups for the majority of the first quarter.

MHD also partnered with various community organizations, groups, businesses, Northeast Wisconsin Multicultural Coalition Inc. (MCI), Wisconsin National Guard (WING), and surrounding local health departments to rollout the COVID-19 vaccine. Throughout all of 2021, the MHD held weekly vaccination events to offer the most opportunities for the community to receive the vaccine. Clinics were geared toward specific groups as new populations became eligible to be vaccinated, including for older adults, older teens (16+), those eligible for booster doses, and for the 5-11 year old age group. During our November clinics for children in the MJSD ages 5-11, we administered more than 170 vaccine doses. MHD also partnered with MCI and other community partners to hold community clinics which offered Spanish and Hmong language assistance, incentives, and community resources all in one place!



2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OLDER ADULTS

The Menasha Health Department provides low cost, accessible health services to older adults through its Health Screening 60+ grant. During 2021, Meghan, PHN, saw 147 clients for wellness programming and health screenings. Meghan and participants were excited to resume Lunch & Learns, Tai Chi, Memory Café, Stepping On, and Walking Club on a regular basis once they could do so safely.

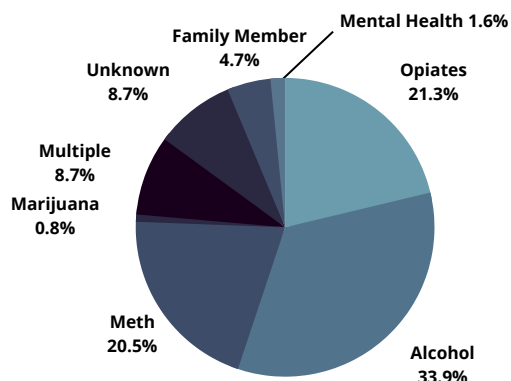
The Menasha Senior Center (MSC) provides social, educational, and recreational activities to adults 55+. Participants have opportunities to pursue improved health, strengthen economic security, enhance well-being, and increase societal participation. The Senior Center was closed until May 2021. For the first four months of the year while the center remained closed, the MSC served an average of 460 participants each month through virtual programs, including: Tai Chi, Breakfast for Your Brain, Sign Language, and Mystery Chocolate. Some outside in-person groups were held, like Coffee and Chats, Take and Make crafts, and monthly activity bags. The MSC re-opened with limited hours in May of 2021 and programs began operating on a regular basis. On December 7, 2021, the MSC celebrated its 40th anniversary! To celebrate, breakfast for lunch was served, arts and crafts were available to create, raffles and bingo were played, and the Mayor and special guests from the Menasha Police Department came to visit.



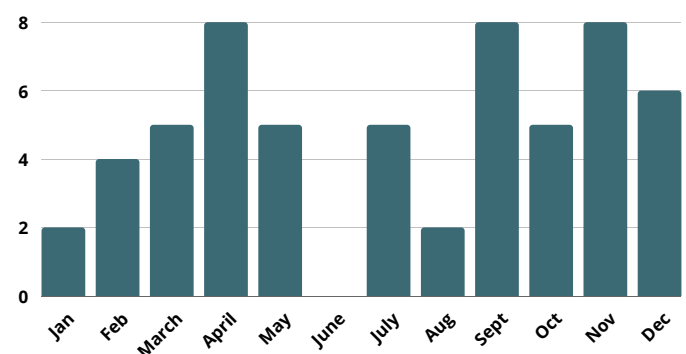
MENASHA COMMUNITY ADDICTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MCAAP)

The Menasha Community Addiction Assistance program (MCAAP) is a collaboration between [Unity Recovery Services](#) and the City of Menasha. MCAAP assists individuals and families who are affected by substance use disorders by linking residents to resources in the community and to a recovery coach from the PRISM Team. Staff attended bi-weekly MCAAP team meetings to review cases referred to the program and attended virtual monthly core team meetings to review progress toward program goals and activities. Linda, PHN, also participated in the virtual Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review Team meetings to support this work.

Percent of referrals by referral type, since 2019



Number of referrals to MCAAP in 2021, by month



If you or someone you know is struggling with substance use challenges, call the the PRISM Team Hotline (920) 345-7746 for 24-hour support.

2021 PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Menasha Health Department posts on Facebook about a wide array of topics, including: environmental health, food safety, communicable disease, emergency preparedness, vaccinations, COVID-19 updates, weather preparedness, and more. In 2021, the Menasha Health Department Facebook page reached 24,916 people, was visited 2,431 times, and had 181 new likes!

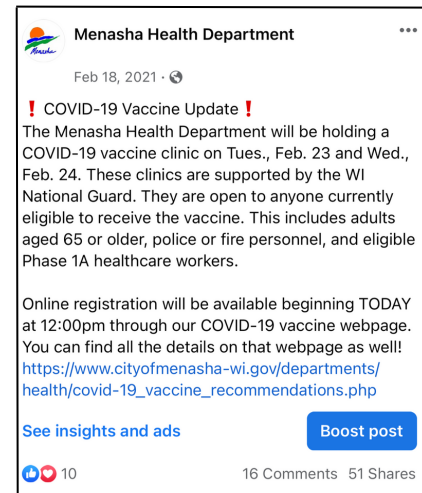
Check out our top Facebook posts from 2021:



This post was interacted with the most on Facebook!

15
27
6

Don't forget to give
Menasha Health
Department a
follow to stay up to
date on all things
health related!



Out of all the posts in 2021, this one had the largest reach* (6,757 people)!

**Facebook Page Reach is the number of people who saw any content about our page - including stories, ads, posts, and social information.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Menasha Health Department is a pilot partner in the Results Based Accountability (RBA) pilot program with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and other health departments in the state. The RBA framework is a methodical way of thinking, whose purpose is to improve the health and well-being in communities. It can be used to improve programs, projects, agencies or other service systems. In 2021, the health department completed Year 2 of the pilot project and will participate in Year 3. Near the end of Year 2, Claire, PHE, began a course to become certified in the RBA framework. The Health Department plans to use the RBA framework to improve the quality of our programs to best serve our community.



The health department continued to convene meetings of the Board of Health (BOH) and the Committee on Aging (COA) in 2021. The BOH meets on the second Friday of every month to discuss health department activities, health related concerns in the community, and to review and approve MHD policies and procedures. The COA also meets on the second Friday of every month and is responsible for making recommendations to the Mayor and Common Council regarding the well-being of older adults. MHD was also a placement site for University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh (UWO) Bachelor of Science in Nursing students and UW Green Bay RN to BSN students. UWO students assisted with COVID-19 vaccine and influenza vaccine clinics. As their class project, they also hosted a self-care fair at the Menasha Senior Center.

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