



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Schuyler County, NY

2016 Annual Report



Schuyler County Public Health



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A Message from the Director

I am pleased to present Schuyler County Public Health's 2016 Annual Report to the Board of Health, other departments, agencies, and the community. This report describes the programs and services provided during 2016 with the Department's mission in mind: *"to protect and empower our community to be safe, healthy and prepared"*. It is a reflection of the hard work and commitment of the entire staff as we work to improve the health of our community. Public Health continues to strive to meet all the National Public Health Standards, also referred to as the 10 Essential Public Health Services. The National Public Health Performance Standards provides us a framework to assess our capacity and performance. Public Health professionals must be able to strategically consider research results, political interests, and community requests when leading program and policy work. This evidence-based public health framework is an effective model for this type of decision-making.

Schuyler County Public Health and Schuyler Hospital Inc. facilitated the updating of our Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan in 2016. We utilized the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) process, which is a strategic approach to community health improvement.

Public Health saw another new threat to our nation's health in 2016 from the Zika Virus which will continue into the future. The Department responded by increasing our active surveillance, providing public education, monitoring pregnant women who travel to outbreak areas of the world and drilling our Isolation and Quarantine Plan. We've learned an enormous amount in a very short time, but we still have much to learn. What we do know is that this virus has devastating effects on a developing fetus.

Public Health continues to pursue Accreditation with five other counties in our S²AY Rural Health Network. Our Multijurisdictional Accreditation Application was submitted to the National Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) in June 2016. We have spent many hours since then identifying, preparing and submitting documentation to support our mastery of the PHAB Standards and Measures. We plan the final submission of all 6 counties' documents to PHAB on or before May 31, 2017.

While each new event or issue brings challenges, they also offer opportunities to collaborate and learn with our community partners and to strengthen our role as a leader for population health improvement. I am proud of the work done by the dedicated Schuyler County Public Health staff. I am also confident that in partnership with our governing entity, community partners, community agencies and businesses we can move closer to our vision of *"a connected community of healthy people and safe places"*. Public Health is a best buy: investments in public health are repaid many times over.



Marcia Kasprzyk, RN, BSN
Schuyler County Public Health Director

Mission

To protect and empower our community to be safe, healthy and prepared

Vision

A connected community of healthy people and safe places

Values

- We value health being a community priority.
- We value relationships with partners and stakeholders.
- We value the trust and respect of the Schuyler County community.
- We value the use of evidence and data to improve performance.
- We value the competence of our staff and the quality of our work.
- We value innovation and idea driven solutions.
- We value our adaptability and unbiased perspective.

Where to find us

Mill Creek Center
106 S. Perry St
Watkins Glen, NY 14891

Visit us online

<http://www.schuylercounty.us/publichealth>

Follow us on

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/SchuylerPublicHealth/>

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<https://twitter.com/SchuylerCoPH>



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S2AY Rural Health Network

Stacey Parrish-Stegner
Cabins to Castles Real Estate

James Coleman, MD
Public Health Medical Consultant

Overview of Programs and Services

Public health works to promote and protect “the health of people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play.”¹ We work to prevent injuries and illness and use science-based solutions to improve people’s quality of life.¹ Public health also saves money. For every \$1.00 spent on prevention, \$6.50 is saved in health spending.² The following sections discuss what Schuyler County Public Health does to improve the health and wellbeing of Schuyler County residents.

Chronic Disease

What is this?

Chronic Diseases include health issues such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, and asthma. Chronic diseases are the leading cause of death and disability in New York State and many chronic diseases are linked to changeable behaviors. Eating a healthy diet, getting exercise, and not using tobacco products can all help prevent people from getting a chronic disease. Even if someone already has diabetes or another chronic disease, these health behaviors can help improve their health and help them live longer.³ Schuyler County Public Health’s Chronic Disease Prevention Programs work to raise community awareness of chronic diseases and how they can be prevented. We promote physical activity, healthy eating, and tobacco cessation. We also provide the community with information to help them make healthy choices and help community members with chronic diseases manage their illness and improve their quality of life. Schuyler County Public Health works to make the healthy choice the easy choice.

Who works on this?

Elizabeth Watson MPH
Public Health Specialist



What do we do to address this?

- **Asthma:** Asthma is a chronic disease of the lungs which causes repeated episodes of wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and nighttime/early morning coughing.⁴ There is currently no cure for asthma, asthma attacks can be controlled and prevented.⁵ Schuyler County Public Health works with health care providers, schools, and community coalitions to help people fight asthma so they can live a full and active life. We work to eliminate asthma attack triggers in public places by changing policies. For example, we may work with a business or park to develop

¹ American Public Health Association (APHA). (n.d.). What is Public Health? Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.apha.org/what-is-public-health>

² American Public Health Association (APHA). (2012, October 18). Public Health Infographic. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from http://action.apha.org/site/PageNavigator/Infographic_Page_2012_10_04_Round_2.html

³ New York State Department of Health. (2016, May). Chronic Diseases and Conditions. Retrieved March 23, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/chronic/>

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2017, February 23). Asthma. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/default.htm>

⁵ New York State Department of Health. (2017, February). Asthma Information. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/asthma/>

a tobacco-free policy. Schuyler County Public Health also monitors asthma-related ER visits and helps increase awareness in schools and the community about what to do if someone is having an asthma attack.

- **Arthritis:** Arthritis refers to the more than 100 rheumatic diseases and conditions that affect joints, the surrounding tissues, and other connective tissue.¹ Arthritis can cause pain and disability but physical activity has been shown to help reduce arthritis pain, improve quality of life, and delay the onset of arthritis-related disability.² Schuyler County Public Health works to reduce arthritis pain and improve the quality of life of county residents with arthritis by promoting and supporting physical activity in the community. We encourage the use of evidence-based programs such as Active Living Every Day, Chronic Disease Self-Management, and Walk with Ease to help community members manage their health condition. Schuyler County Public Health also helps people with arthritis through our involvement in Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Schuyler which works to reduce obesity and promote physical activity.
- **Cancer:** Cancer includes a group of more than 100 different diseases that start when abnormal cells in the body grow out of control. There are many different causes and factors that affect someone's chances of getting cancer. Scientists estimate that about 30% of cancer deaths are from tobacco use and 25-30% are from physical inactivity, obesity, and an unhealthy diet.³ Schuyler County Public Health works to prevent cancer deaths in the community by promoting screening for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancers. We also collaborate with the S²AY Rural Health Network and the NY Cancer Service program to help provide support for cancer screenings and treatments. Schuyler County Public Health also supports regional efforts to reduce people's exposure to cancer causing substances through collaboration with the Southern Tier Tobacco Awareness Coalition (STTAC) and the Finger Lakes Children's Environmental Health Center. Schuyler County Public Health also helps prevent cancer through our involvement in HEAL Schuyler, a community coalition which works to reduce obesity and promote physical activity.
- **Cardiovascular Disease (CVD):** CVDs, like heart disease and stroke, affect the heart and circulatory system and are the leading cause of death in New York State and nationally. Physical inactivity, poor diet, tobacco use, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, overweight/obesity, and diabetes are all major risk factors for getting CVD.⁴ Schuyler County Public Health works to prevent and reduce these risk factors in the community. We collaborate with the Regional Finger Lakes Health System Agency Blood Pressure Registry to track the number of patients with hypertension rates. We also encourage the use of evidence-based programs such as Active Living Every Day and Chronic Disease Self-Management to help community members manage their health. Schuyler County Public Health also helps prevent CVD through our involvement in HEAL Schuyler, a community coalition which works to reduce obesity and promote physical activity.
- **Diabetes:** When someone has diabetes, their blood sugar levels are above normal. Diabetes can lead to serious health problems like lower-limb amputations, heart disease, blindness, and kidney failure.⁵ Schuyler County Public Health prevents diabetes in the County by providing pre-diabetes screening and by promoting the National Diabetes Prevention Program to help people change their lifestyle and prevent the onset of diabetes. We also promote the Chronic Disease Self-Management program to help people living with diabetes manage their health condition.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2017, January 20). Arthritis Basics. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/arthritis/basics/index.html>

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016, October 26). Physical Activity for Arthritis. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/arthritis/basics/physical-activity-overview.html>

³ New York State Department of Health. (2015, February). Cancer. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/cancer/>

⁴ New York State Department of Health. (2016, March). Cardiovascular Disease. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/cardiovascular/heart_disease/

⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2015, March 31). Basics About Diabetes. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/diabetes.html>

Schuyler County Public Health also works with the Southern Tier Diabetes Coalition to prevent, detect, and reduce the impact of diabetes on individuals in the community.

- **Obesity:** If someone's weight is above what is considered healthy for their height, they are considered to be overweight or obese.¹ Overweight and obesity can cause serious health problems including heart disease, stroke, some types of cancer, and depression. Overweight and obesity are the second leading cause of death in the United States, second only to tobacco use. Preventing overweight and obesity requires addressing many factors including individual behaviors, access to affordable and nutritious food, and opportunities for physical activity.² Schuyler County Public Health works to prevent obesity and overweight through our involvement with Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Schuyler. HEAL Schuyler is a coalition of agencies, businesses, and concerned community members who work to reduce the rate of obesity in the County by addressing the environmental factors that affect weight and working to make sure people in the County have access to affordable and nutritious foods and opportunities to take part in physical activity. For further details on HEAL Schuyler please refer to the HEAL Schuyler Annual Report.
- **Tobacco Use:** Smoking causes many diseases including heart disease, stroke, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), birth defects, and cancers in almost every part of the body. Secondhand smoke can cause a variety of health issues, including triggering severe asthma attacks. Secondhand smoke can even cause death in people who do not smoke, including children.³ Schuyler County Public Health works to reduce tobacco use through collaboration with the Schuyler County Coalition on Underage Drinking and Drugs (SCCUDD) and STTAC. These organizations work together to increase awareness of the harms of tobacco use, prevent youth starting to smoke, and increase policies that promote tobacco-free living such as Tobacco 21, tobacco-free outdoors, smoke-free media, smoke-free multi-unit housing, and point of sale.

2016 Accomplishments

- Conducted 3 Chronic Disease Self-Management Classes (Living Healthy Retreat)
- Taught one Active Living Every Day class
- Screened 65 people for diabetes at two worksites and identified 31 people at risk for diabetes. Four were referred to primary care providers.
- Attended a Health and Wellness Fair and promoted "Schuyler Walks" walking trail maps in conjunction with HEAL Schuyler
- Had a community weight loss challenge where 184.9 pounds were lost by 51 participants
- Collaborated and promoted community walking steps challenge (Schuyler Steps Outs) where 356 participants went 156.5 million miles
- Increased website hits to online resource site on physical activities and healthy eating

Goals for 2017

- Expand the role of public and private employers in obesity prevention
- Increase screening rates for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, breast, cervical, and colorectal cancers among the populations facing health disparities
- Promote the use of evidence-based care to manage chronic disease
- Increase policy changes made related to chronic disease such as Smoke-Free Housing, breastfeeding-friendly locations, and paid leave for cancer screenings
- Increase number of community locations that adopt and implement nutrition and beverage standards
- Hold 4 events to promote chronic disease screenings for diabetes, blood pressure, and colorectal, breast and cervical cancers

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016, June 16). Defining Adult Overweight and Obesity. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/adult/defining.html>

² New York State Department of Health. (2017, January). Obesity Prevention. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/obesity/>

³ New York State Department of Health. (2017, February). Smoking and Tobacco Use – Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/tobacco_control/

options in Schuyler County

- Recruited 5 restaurants for voluntary food standards program established by HEAL Schuyler
- Collaborated with Southern Tier partners on increasing awareness about tobacco and diabetes initiatives
- Collaborated with nutritional assistance programs on promoting healthy eating and physical activity interventions

Communicable Disease

What is this?

Communicable Disease is any illness or infection that is spread from person to person, animal to person, animal to animal, or even person to animal.¹ Public Health Law mandates a list of notifiable communicable diseases that have to be reported to the local health department.² Schuyler County Public Health's Communicable Disease Control programs investigate all communicable disease reports in the County to identify the source of the infection and ensure proper treatment, identify those at risk, and provide education to help prevent further spread of disease. We provide surveillance of health issues that arise in the County and maintain regular contact with health care providers and schools. We also work to promote vaccination in the community through education and by providing clinics for both people and animals.



Who works on this?

Chelsea Bailey RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse

Jill Wendela RN, MS
Public Health Nurse

What do we do to address this?

- **Rabies:** Rabies is a deadly disease that any mammal, including people, can get through contact with the saliva of an infected animal, usually through a bite or a scratch.³ Though any mammal can get rabies, most animal cases in the United States occur in wild animals like raccoons, skunks, bats, and foxes.⁴ In most human cases of rabies, the infected person got rabies from a dog bite.¹ Vaccinating pets, like dogs, is the best way to prevent people from getting rabies.¹ Vaccination of dogs, cats, and ferrets is required by law in New York State. We help prevent the spread of rabies by providing six public Rabies Clinics each year and by investigating all animal bites and wild animal exposures in the County. Our investigations allow us to provide exposed people and animals with prompt Post-Exposure Prophylaxis. Rabies is almost always fatal, but through pet vaccination and timely Post-Exposure Prophylaxis, human rabies cases can be prevented.⁵ For this program, we collaborate extensively with law enforcement, local veterinary offices, and the Humane Society.

¹ New York State Department of Health. (2007, August). Communicable Disease Control. Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/control/>

² New York State Department of Health. (2015, February). Communicable Disease Reporting. Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/diseases/reporting/communicable/>

³ World Health Organization (WHO). (2016, March). Rabies. Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs099/en/>

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016, October 05). Rabies. Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/index.html>

⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2008, July 5). Human Rabies Prevention --- United States, 2008. Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5703a1.htm>

- **Arthropod:** Arthropod diseases are infections spread from bugs like ticks and mosquitoes.¹ In Schuyler County, Lyme disease is the most common arthropod infection. We investigate each Lyme disease case to ensure that diagnosis meets case definition and receives proper treatment. We also provide education to the public on how to prevent tick and mosquito exposure. Additionally, we do targeted information campaigns with populations at higher risk such as hunters and hikers. We also investigate any other arthropod diseases that may arise in the County such as Zika or West Nile.
- **Sexually Transmitted Diseases:** Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) are infectious diseases that are most often spread through vaginal, oral, or anal sexual contact.² STDs include infections such as Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).³ We investigate all cases of notifiable STDs to help identify proper treatment and ensure that those who may have been exposed also receive testing and treatment. We also provide prevention education to all individuals involved and provide general prevention education to the public. Schuyler County Public Health does not have an STD testing facility but partners with Chemung County Health Department to provide county residents with testing and treatment.
- **Vaccine-Preventable Diseases:** Vaccines work by “imitating” a germ so your body learns how to defend against it without having to be exposed to the germ and without you having to get sick. This means that when that germ tries to invade, your immune system can quickly respond and destroy the germ because it already learned how to do it.⁴ Vaccines are a safe and effective way to protect yourself, your family, and your community from a variety of serious, and often deadly diseases, like polio and influenza.⁵ Schuyler County Public Health provides education and resources so community members know what vaccines they need and when they should get them. We also provide seasonal flu clinics and immunizations for children through the Vaccines for Children Program. For this program, we collaborate with the Immunization Coalition of the Southern Tier.
- **Tuberculosis:** Tuberculosis (TB) is a bacterium that most commonly attacks the lungs and is spread through the air.⁶ TB infection can result in either active TB infection or Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI). Active TB infection means the person is currently ill with TB, highly infectious, and in need of immediate medical attention. LTBI is when an individual has been exposed to TB, has the bacterium in their body, but it is not making them sick. People with LTBI are not presently contagious but can develop active TB.⁷ We investigate each individual case of TB to distinguish between LTBI and active TB to ensure proper treatment and to implement precautions to prevent the spread of active TB in the community.

¹ New York State Department of Health. (2006, November). Arboviral Infections (arthropod-borne encephalitis, eastern equine encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, California encephalitis, Powassan encephalitis, West Nile encephalitis). Retrieved February 16, 2017, from https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/arboviral/fact_sheet.htm

² New York State Department of Health. (2016, November). Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs). Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/std/>

³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2014, February 25). Diseases & Related Conditions. Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/std/general/default.htm>

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016, August 03). For Parents: Vaccines for Your Children. Retrieved March 16, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/vaccine-decision/index.html#prevent-disease>

⁵ New York State Department of Health. (2016, April). Vaccines and Immunization. Retrieved March 16, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/>

⁶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016, March 11). How TB Spreads. Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/basics/howtbspreads.htm>

⁷ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016, March 11). Latent TB Infection and TB Disease. Retrieved February 16, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/basics/tbinfectiondisease.htm>

2016 Accomplishments

Rabies

- Provided rabies vaccination for 792 animals through Rabies Clinics
- Successfully provided Post-Exposure Prophylaxis to 12 individuals exposed, or potentially exposed, to rabies
- There were zero human rabies deaths in Schuyler County in 2016
- Created informational rack cards on rabies

Arthropod

- Created informational rack cards on Lyme disease prevention

STDs

- Participated in the S²AY Rural Health Network Team Chlamydia project to educate healthcare providers and pharmacists on Expedited Partner Therapy

Vaccine-Preventable Disease

- Increased percentage of children who received recommended scheduled vaccination from 46.25% to 60.3%
- Increased number of county residents with seasonal flu vaccination reported in the New York State Immunization Registry by 23% compared to 2015
- Switched over to an electronic, paperless clinic process

General Communicable Disease

- Distributed weekly surveillance reports to local providers, schools, and agencies to keep them informed on what health issues are occurring in the County and the region
- Successfully investigated all 200 communicable disease reports received in 2016

Goals for 2017

Rabies

- Vaccinate 800 animals through public Rabies Clinics
- Track the number of rabies vaccinations given through local veterinary offices
- Ensure that 100% of individuals requiring Post-Exposure Prophylaxis receive the full course of treatment

Arthropod

- Track the number of Lyme disease cases in animals reported by local veterinary offices
- Ensure that 100% of Lyme disease cases that receive treatment meet case definition
- Distribute tick removal kits and education throughout the community

STDs

- Continue to work with the S²AY Rural Health Network's Team Chlamydia to reduce Chlamydia rates in the region
- Complete annual onsite visit to the Chemung County STD Clinic

Vaccine-Preventable Disease

- Increase the percentage of adolescents who complete the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine series by working with the S²AY Rural Health Network's HPV project group

General Communicable Disease

- Utilize online surveys to collect surveillance data to help improve reporting compliance
- Increase community outreach and education on communicable diseases and their prevention

Environmental Health

What is this?

Environmental Health is how people's health is affected by their environment. The air people breathe, the food and water people eat and drink, and all of their surroundings can have an impact on health.¹ Schuyler County Public Health is a partial service county, meaning that much of the environmental health efforts in Schuyler County are completed by the New York State Department of Health's District Office in Hornell. The Hornell District Office protects the health of the public through a variety of programs including those that ensure that food and indoor air quality are safe in locations like restaurants and hotels.² To learn more about what the Hornell District Office does in Schuyler County, see [Appendix A](#). Locally, Schuyler County Public Health works to prevent lead poisoning in children, to assure the safety of ground and surface water, and to prevent injuries. We provide education and collaborate with community partners to protect the public's health.

Who works on this?

Jill Wendela RN, MS
Public Health Nurse

Darrel Sturges
Watershed Inspector

Josh Cole
Watershed Inspector Assistant

Casey Allen BS, MSEd
SCCUDD Project Coordinator/
Public Health Specialist



What do we do to address this?

- **Lead Poisoning Prevention Program:** Lead is a metal that can cause serious problems when it gets swallowed or breathed in to the bodies of children and adults. Lead poisoning is especially dangerous for young children as it can harm their growth, behavior, and ability to learn. It is more likely among children under the age of six than among any other age group.³ Lead can be found in dust, air, water, soil, and in some products used in and around our homes.⁴ Children most often get lead poisoning from old lead paint dust that gets on windowsills, floors, toys, and hands.³ People with lead poisoning don't usually feel or look sick. A blood test, measuring how much lead is in someone's blood stream, is the most common way to check for lead poisoning.³ Schuyler County Public Health works to prevent lead poisoning through education in the community and by ensuring that providers complete the blood lead test for all children at ages one and two. For this program, we collaborate with the Finger Lakes Coalition to STOP Lead Poisoning.

¹ New York State Department of Health. (2014, December). About Environmental Health, Tracking and Exposure. Retrieved March 09, 2017, from https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/public_health_tracking/about/

² New York State Department of Health. (2016, December). District Environmental Health Programs. Retrieved March 09, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/distphn.htm>

³ New York State Department of Health. (2013, October). Lead Poisoning Prevention. Retrieved March 09, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/>

⁴ New York State Department of Health. (2010, April). Sources of Lead. Retrieved March 09, 2017, from <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/sources.htm>

- **Watershed Protection Agency (WPA):** Water is important for health. It helps you regulate your temperature, cushion your joints, protect your spinal cord, and get rid of wastes.¹ However, when water is contaminated by germs, minerals, or chemicals it can cause serious health problems.² The WPA provides water sampling and testing services so residents can make sure their well water is safe to drink. In Schuyler County, the WPA commonly tests people's private water supplies for coliforms (like E. coli), nitrates, lead, sodium, and other contaminants that could affect people's health. If these contaminants are found in the water, the WPA connects homeowners with resources to address the problem. WPA also administers septic system programs to ensure the quality of surface and ground water in the county to prevent water contamination that could make people sick. Through this program, the WPA inspects septic systems for real estate property transfers and for new construction, property conversions, and replacement systems. The WPA also inspects septic systems for the Lamoka-Waneta Lake District/Town of Wayne and for homes located near Cayuta Lake to ensure lake water quality. The WPA also investigates and responds to complaints related to septic systems, garbage, manure piles, and other environmental issues that could impact the water supply.
- **Injury Prevention:** Injury prevention efforts in Schuyler County focus on preventing falls in older adults and children, preventing fires, preventing home and motor vehicle injuries, burn prevention, dog bite prevention, and bicycle safety. We also work to prevent bullying, suicide, and youth use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
- **Schuyler County Coalition on Underage Drinking and Drugs (SCCUDD):** SCCUDD is a group of dedicated community members, businesses, and agencies that work to prevent, reduce, and delay the onset of substance use among Schuyler County youth by collaborating with our community partners, promoting prevention education and substance-free activities, and implementing environmental strategies. SCCUDD works to reduce youth use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs as they can cause lifelong problems. Research suggests that drug use during adolescence may impact the development of parts of the brain responsible for memory, inhibition, planning, and emotional regulation.³ Alcohol and other drug use during adolescence increases the likelihood of developing addiction. Nine out of ten people with addiction started using substances before they turned 18.⁴ The Coalition uses a variety of strategies to reduce youth drug use in the community including hosting informational forums, organizing trainings for youth, and working to enact policies to reduce youth access to drugs. Schuyler County Public Health is a founding member of SCCUDD, acts as SCCUDD's fiscal agent for its Drug Free Communities Support Grant, and employs the Project Coordinator for the Coalition.
- **Suicide Prevention:** Schuyler County Public Health works to prevent suicide among community members by collaborating with the Suicide Awareness For Everyone (SAFE) Coalition. SAFE is devoted to connecting people to prevention, intervention and recovery by providing education, support, and advocacy to reduce the suicide rate in Schuyler County.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016, October 05). Water & Nutrition. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/nutrition/index.html>

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2015, July 02). Overview of Water-related Diseases and Contaminants in Private Wells. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/private/wells/diseases.html>

³ Squeglia, L. M., Jacobus, J., & Tapert, S. F. (2009). The Influence of Substance Use on Adolescent Brain Development. *Clinical EEG and Neuroscience: Official Journal of the EEG and Clinical Neuroscience Society (ENCNS)*, 40(1), 31–38.

⁴ The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse. (2013, November 11). Teen Substance Use. Retrieved March 16, 2017, from <http://www.centeronaddiction.org/addiction-prevention/teenage-addiction>

2016 Accomplishments

Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

- Updated lead test reminder postcard for parents
- Completed an occupational workplace lead exposure study

Watershed

- Completed about 1,000 water samples
- Inspected 221 septic systems in the Lamoka/Waneta Lake District
- Completed 48 New Construction Permits
- Completed 21 Replacement Permits
- Completed 16 Tank Upgrade Permits
- Completed 7 Conversion Permits

SCCUDD

- Celebrated the 10 year anniversary of its founding
- Collaborated with FLACRA to bring Narcan Training to the community. Training for community members was previously unavailable.
- Supported FLACRA in providing 50 people with Narcan Training
- 20 compliance checks were completed for off-site alcohol retailers through the Council on Alcoholism and Addictions of the Finger Lakes to ensure alcohol was not sold to those under 21
- Increased active adult and youth membership
- Completed a social media campaign for Alcohol Awareness Month
- Collaborated with the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office for the first time on a National Drug Take Back Day Event
- Participated in and presented at the first annual Health and Wellness Fair organized by the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce and Cayuga Health Systems
- Collaborated with the Suicide Awareness For Everyone (SAFE) coalition to develop an article recognizing National Recovery Month
- Planned and conducted community forums about meth, prescription drugs/heroin, and alcohol
- Collaborated with SCCUDD's youth coalition and SADD to conduct a community forum about underage drinking
- Collaborated with the Southern Tier Tobacco Awareness Coalition and a local apartment complex to help the latter adopt a 100% smoke-free policy
- Implemented organizational changes

Goals for 2017

Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

- Increase lead testing rates for 1 and 2 year olds in the County

Watershed

- Finalize contract with the Town of Catherine for the Cayuta Lake septic system inspection program
- Complete 100% of the Lamoka/Waneta Lake District 5 year inspections due
- Complete 100% of the Cayuta Lake District 5 year inspections due
- Complete process to get all records set up electronically

SCCUDD

- Increase active adult and youth membership by 5%
- Add one school representative to the Executive Board
- Track the approximate number of opioid overdoses in the County
- Track the number of community members participating in take-back events and safe storage education
- Track the pounds of prescription drugs collected through take-back events and drop boxes
- Track the number of safe-server trainings held
- Collaborate with the Council on Alcoholism and Addictions of the Finger Lakes to provide compliance checks in the County
- Track the number of participants in Narcan trainings
- Work to enact community changes aimed at reducing youth substance use e.g. a social host ordinance or beer gardens at festivals
- Support the youth coalition in planning an alcohol and other drug free Post-Prom Party
- Support the youth coalition in planning and implementing other programs to help reduce youth drug use
- Conduct youth surveys in the three county schools
- Conduct survey of community adults on their perceptions and opinions related to youth drug use
- Provide youth drug prevention trainings and youth leadership trainings
- Organize information campaigns and events on alcohol, prescription pain relievers, and other drugs
- Implement one project to help build sustainability
- Continue to collaborate with the Southern Tier Tobacco Awareness Coalition, law enforcement, and other community organizations

including branding and meeting structure changes

- Changed one of the drugs of focus from marijuana to prescription pain relievers/heroin in response to the opioid epidemic both locally and nationally
- Was interviewed five times by area news stations about underage drinking, a spike in opioid overdoses in the region, and a community forum about heroin and prescription drugs
- Designed and implemented a survey of community adults gathering information on perceptions of youth use and their opinion about possible environmental strategies to address youth use of alcohol and other drugs
- Organized a Fall Planning Retreat event with presentations by youth on the Teen Educators Pilot Program Over-the-Counter Medicine Safety and by the District Attorney on the state of drug use in Schuyler County

Emergency Preparedness and Response

What is this?

Emergency Preparedness and Response helps people plan for, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies.¹ These public health emergencies could be a disease outbreak, a weather emergency, an act of terrorism, or a chemical spill.² Schuyler County Public Health works to ensure community organizations and the public are prepared in case of an emergency. We plan, train for, and respond to potential emergencies that could strike the County and the surrounding area.

Schuyler County Public Health collaborates with the Western Region Health Care Emergency Preparedness Coalition, Finger Lakes Public Health Alliance – Emergency Planners, Watkins Glen International, local Emergency Management and emergency responders, Schuyler Hospital, local businesses, and law enforcement. We also rely on the support of community volunteers in the Medical Reserve Corps who help provide manpower in case of an emergency.



Who works on this?

Niki Turnmyre RN
Senior Registered Professional
Nurse

What do we do to address this?

- **Plans and Response:** Schuyler County Public Health prepares and plans for all types of emergencies that could impact the health and safety of Schuyler County residents. This includes preparing for potential terrorist attacks (like anthrax), pandemics (like influenza), and natural disasters (like floods and winter storms). All employees of Schuyler County Public Health receive training so they can assist in any potential response. They also learn the principles of emergency response including the Incident Command Structure and how to properly put on and take off personal protective equipment to reduce the risk of an illness spreading to themselves or others.
- **Preparedness Drills:** Schuyler County Public Health completes drills to test how prepared we are to respond to emergencies. Based on how the drills play out, we adjust and improve our plans, training, and response. We complete drills to test our response to situations like Ebola, pandemic flu, Hepatitis A outbreaks, winter storms, and flooding.
- **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC):** The Medical Reserve Corps is a national network of medical and non-medical volunteers that work “to improve the health and safety of their communities.”³ MRC volunteers provide Schuyler County Public Health with manpower and

¹ Nelson, C., Lurie, N., Wasserman, J., & Zakowski, S. (2007). Conceptualizing and Defining Public Health Emergency Preparedness. *American Journal of Public Health*, 97(Suppl 1), S9–S11. <http://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2007.114496>

² New York State Department of Health. (2016, March). Types of Emergencies . Retrieved March 21, 2017, from https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/emergency/families_individuals_caregivers/types_of_emergencies.htm

³ Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. (2017, February 13). About the Medical Reserve Corps. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from <https://mrc.hhs.gov/pageViewFldr/About>

technical skills during emergency and non-emergency events. They provide nursing and clerical support to Schuyler County Public Health during drills and in the case of actual emergencies. MRC volunteers also help with community health screenings, rabies clinics, and other activities to protect the health and safety of the community.

2016 Accomplishments

Plans and Response

- Created a Communications Directory so that partners and community resources can be contacted swiftly in case of emergency
- Updated the Isolation and Quarantine Plan based on findings from the Isolation and Quarantine Drill
- Collaborated with local, state, and federal agencies in the Emergency Operations Center during NASCAR at Watkins Glen International

Drills

- Completed a week-long Isolation and Quarantine Drill to test the response to a potential infectious disease exposure
- Trained staff on how to properly put on and take off personal protective equipment
- Completed drills to test our staff notification systems
- Completed drills to test our communicable disease reporting system

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

- 2 new volunteers joined the MRC and completed orientation

Goals for 2017

Plans and Response

- Ensure all staff receive emergency planning and response training quarterly
- Ensure all updates/revisions of emergency plans are presented to staff, the Professional Advisory Committee, and the Board of Health
- Establish an Emergency Planning Committee with representatives from county, health, and partner agencies
- Complete the Inter-municipal MOU Operational Plan with Finger Lakes Public Health Alliance – Emergency Planners

Drills

- Complete a progressive drill of the Inter-municipal MOU Operational Plan
- Participate in annual NASCAR Emergency Operations Center tabletop drill
- Complete all required exercises/drills

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

- Recruit 5 additional MRC volunteers
- Ensure that all new volunteers complete orientation
- Introduce MRC training calendar and goals
- Increase outreach to medically trained professionals to ensure at least 10 volunteers are able to provide immunizations at any time

Family Health

What is this?

Family Health programs are available to provide Schuyler County parents with the opportunity to give their children a healthy start in life. Schuyler County Public Health offers home visits for all parents in the County. Through these visits, families can get education, support, and tips they can use to help them parent to their fullest potential. Schuyler County Public Health provides outreach and education in the community about reproductive health and family planning. We also work with other agencies and individuals in the community to ensure local policies make the County a place where children can grow up healthy and happy.

Who works on this?

Janel Walker RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse

Shawn Tubridy MA
Family Support Worker

Chelsea Bailey RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse



What do we do to address this?

- **Healthy Families:** Healthy Families is an evidence-based program available to new and expectant parents. Families that participate in the free and voluntary program receive in-home support from trained staff. Research shows that families that take part in the Healthy Families program have healthier babies, create positive family bonds, have children who do better in school, increase their knowledge of parenting and child development, and get better connected to services in the community.¹ Schuyler County Public Health's part-time Family Support Worker provides these home visits and ensures expectant and new parents get the support they need to raise happy and healthy children. Healthy Families Schuyler is a partnership between Cornell Cooperative Extension and Schuyler County Public Health.
- **Maternal Infant Health:** The health and well-being of women, infants, children, and families determines the health of the community in the future. By identifying the health challenges and risks they face now, health problems in the future can be prevented.² Schuyler County Public Health provides new and expectant parents with health guidance and referrals to make sure they receive the proper care and services they need before the baby is born and after they arrive. This health guidance is provided through voluntary home visits available to all new and expectant parents in the County.
- **Baby Café:** Research suggests that breastfed babies have a lower risk of multiple health issues including asthma, childhood obesity, and sudden infant death syndrome while mothers who breastfeed are at lower risk of ovarian cancer, some types of breast cancer, and Type 2 diabetes.³ Schuyler County Public Health promotes breastfeeding through our Baby Café program. Our Baby Café is a free drop-in center that provides support, advice, and assistance to mothers. At the Baby

¹ Healthy Families New York. (n.d.). Healthy Families New York. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <http://www.healthyfamiliesnewyork.org/>

² Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. (2017, March 27). Maternal, Infant, and Child Health. Retrieved March 27, 2017, from <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/maternal-infant-and-child-health>

³ Office on Women's Health. (2014, July 21). Why breastfeeding is important. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <https://www.womenshealth.gov/breastfeeding/breastfeeding-benefits.html>

Café, mothers can get advice and tips about breastfeeding and other relevant topics from certified lactation counselors and other mothers in a relaxed environment.

- **Reproductive Health:** Unintended pregnancies, which include unwanted and mistimed pregnancies, account for almost half of all pregnancies in the United States. When a pregnancy is not planned before conception, it increases the risk of problems for mother and baby. Babies that result from unintended pregnancies are more likely to be low birth weight and have some types of birth defects. They are also more likely to have health and behavior issues and have lower educational attainment.¹ Schuyler County Public Health does outreach and education in the community to women and men of reproductive age to promote family planning, prevent unintended pregnancy, and provide information and referrals for their other reproductive health needs.
- **Child Health:** Through this program, Schuyler County Public Health works to improve the physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being of children in the community to ensure they have access to family-centered care and services that are sensitive to the family's culture and the child's needs. As part of the Family Resource Committee, we work to identify and address the needs and barriers to child health in the community and promote local policies to improve the health of children in the County.

2016 Accomplishments

Healthy Families

- 10 expectant and new parents received support through the program

Maternal Infant Health

- 19 new and expectant parents who received at least one home visit

Child Health

- Took part in the Trauma-Informed Care & Resiliency Learning Collaborative

Goals for 2017

Healthy Families

- Provide at least one home visit to at least 50% of Schuyler County newborns
- Increase outreach to ensure at least 25% of parents referred directly to the program are contacted about the services available to them and their newborn
- Ensure that 100% of children in the program are up to date on their immunizations
- Increase the number of referrals to community resources and services
- Ensure that all families referred to resources and services receive follow up regarding the services

Maternal Infant Health

- Increase the number of new and expectant parents that agree to a one-time home visit

Child Health

- Ensure that 4 school-based dental health sites remain in the county
- Track the number of children who receive preventative dental services through school-based dental health sites
- Provide a presentation on fluoride varnish application to 20 health care providers in the county

¹ Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. (2017, March 27). Family Planning. Retrieved March 28, 2017, from <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/family-planning>

Children's Programs

What is this?

Children's Programs include the Early Intervention Program, the Children with Special Health Care Needs program, and the Preschool Special Education Program. For these programs, Schuyler County Public Health works with families to coordinate health care and educational services for children in Schuyler County. We match families with providers, family support services, and other assistance needed to ensure Schuyler County children have the resources they need to reach their full potential.



Who works on this?

Janel Walker RN, BSN
Public Health Nurse

What do we do to address this?

- **Early Intervention Program (EIP):** The EIP provides eligible infants, toddlers, and their families with therapeutic and support services. These services are available for families with infants and toddlers with developmental delays¹. Schuyler County Public Health helps families coordinate the care they need for their child. Some of the most common therapies we coordinate are speech, occupational, and physical therapies. Through family support and coordination of care, infants and toddlers in the community are able to get the services they need to develop and grow to their fullest potential.
- **Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN):** Children with Special Health Care Needs program covers children from birth through age 21 with conditions for which they may need extra support services or specialized health care. Children in the program may have physical conditions, behavioral or emotional conditions, or intellectual or developmental delays. They may have one or more conditions such as autism, cerebral palsy, and seizure disorders². Schuyler County Public Health provides families in the community with information and referrals to the services or care their child needs.
- **Preschool Special Education Program:** The Preschool Special Education Program is available for children ages three to five who have a suspected delay or concern with their development. If a parent has a concern with their child's development, they can contact their local school district's Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) in order to get their child

¹ New York State Department of Health. (2017, February). Early Intervention Program. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from https://www.health.ny.gov/community/infants_children/early_intervention/

² New York State Department of Health. (2014, March). Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Program. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from https://www.health.ny.gov/community/special_needs/

evaluated and to get any support or services their child may need.¹ Schuyler County Public Health is an active member of each child's CPSE team and works with the school and the child's parent/guardian to make sure that the child receives the services they need to learn and grow.

2016 Accomplishments

CSHCN and Preschool...

- Care coordination and family support were provided to 60 children and their families (2015-2016 School Year)

Early Intervention Program

- 29 children receiving services through the EI program
- 7 children discharged from the program due to reaching age-appropriate developmental milestones

Goals for 2017

General Children's Program

- Ensure all eligible infants, toddlers, and children whose parents consent are connected with needed services
- Develop a brochure for parents to inform them of the children's programs and the local services available in the community

¹ New York State Education Department. (n.d.). Information for Parents of Preschool Students with Disabilities Ages 3-5. Retrieved March 24, 2017, from <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/preschool/brochure.htm>

Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

What is this?

Community Health Assessment (CHA) is a process used to get a snapshot of how health is in the community, what the community's needs are, and what resources the community has to address issues facing it.¹ A **Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)** uses the information discovered through the CHA process to develop plans and strategies to address the health issues facing the community.¹ Schuyler County Public Health collaborates with Schuyler Hospital and the S²AY Rural Health Network to complete the CHA and CHIP process every three years. We use the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) process to guide the process and to help make sure we include community members and stakeholders in the data collection and decision making process. The Schuyler County 2016-2018 Community Health Assessment/Community Service Plan and the Schuyler County Community Health Improvement Plan: 2016-2018 were completed in 2016 as an update to the 2013-2017 CHA/CHIP. Some highlights of CHIP accomplishments for 2016 can be found in the [Chronic Disease section](#) of this report. For more information on these accomplishments, see the 2016-2018 Community Health Assessment (found at <http://www.schuylercounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/4965>) or read the HEAL Schuyler Annual Report for 2016. The goals for 2017 related to the CHIP can be found in the Community Health Improvement Plan: 2016-2018 at <http://www.schuylercounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/4967>.

Who works on this?

Elizabeth Watson MPH
Public Health Specialist



2013-2017 CHIP Priorities and Focus Areas

- **Priority Area: Prevent Chronic Diseases**
 - Focus Area: Reduce Obesity in Children and Adults
 - Focus Area: Reduce illness, disability and death related to diabetes

2016-2018 CHIP Priorities and Focus Areas

- **Priority Area: Prevent Chronic Diseases**
 - Focus Area: Reduce Obesity in Children and Adults
 - Focus Area: Increase Access to High Quality Chronic Disease Preventive Care and Management in Both Clinical and Community Settings
- **Priority Area: Promote Healthy Women, Infants and Children**
 - Focus Area: Child Health
- **Priority Area: Promote Mental Health and Prevent Substance Abuse**
 - Focus Area: Prevent Substance Abuse and Other Mental Emotional Behavioral Disorders

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2015, November 09). Community Health Assessments & Health Improvement Plans. Retrieved March 27, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/cha/plan.html>

Performance Management Quality Improvement

What is this?

Performance Management Quality Improvement (PMQI) is a methodical process used to improve the quality and performance of health systems. Through PMQI, public health can “save lives, cut costs and get better results.”¹ In performance management, Schuyler County Public Health uses data to improve our performance and to achieve our mission and vision.² Quality improvement (QI) involves our continuous and ongoing efforts to measurably improve our effectiveness, efficiency, performance, and outcomes so we can improve the health of the community.³



Who works on this?

Deborah Dalmat MPH, CHES
Public Health Specialist

PMQI Activities

- **PMQI Committee:** The PMQI Committee works to improve the performance and quality of the services Schuyler County Public Health provides to the community. The committee gathers and analyzes performance data, including community feedback from surveys. The Committee also sets goals for programs, selects QI projects, and reviews program audits to ensure Schuyler County Public Health is providing effective and efficient programs and services to the community.
- **QI Projects:** Two QI Projects were worked on in 2016. The first project sought to increase the effectiveness of agency meetings. For this project, the group developed an effective meeting training and a checklist of responsibilities for meeting facilitators, meeting minute takers, and meeting participants and implemented the training with department staff. As a result of this project more employees found meeting minutes useful and found meetings productive and effective. This training will be provided to new staff during orientation and the key concepts will be reviewed annually with staff. The second project worked to ensure fiscal accountability by improving the process staff use to record program time. This project is still in the data collection stage.

¹ Public Health Foundation (PHF) . (n.d.). Performance Management and Quality Improvement. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from <http://www.phf.org/focusareas/PMQI/Pages/default.aspx>

² Public Health Foundation (PHF) . (n.d.). Performance Management. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from http://www.phf.org/focusareas/performance/Pages/Performance_Management.aspx

³ Public Health Foundation (PHF) . (n.d.). Quality Improvement. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from http://www.phf.org/focusareas/qualityimprovement/Pages/Quality_Improvement.aspx

2016 Accomplishments

- Established performance measures for many of the department's programs
- Staff and Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) members received training on the PMQI Plan
- Established a timeline for the completion of program audits and other items in the QI Activity Schedule
- Implemented customer satisfaction surveys for the following programs: Children with Special Health Care Needs, Immunization Clinics, Communicable Disease, Admitted Patients (Licensed Home Care Services Agency & Healthy Families discharges), Early Intervention, and Watershed
- Received 2 QI Project requests this year: 1 pursued, 1 tabled
- Completed the QI Project to increase meeting effectiveness started in 2015

Goals for 2017

- Establish performance measures for department programs and begin tracking them by the end of the first quarter
- Consistently track performance measures and keep program audits up to date
- Establish a timeline for the completion for the completion of program audits and other items in the QI Activity Schedule
- Implement customer satisfaction surveys for select programs
- Complete the QI Project ensuring fiscal accountability that was started in 2016

Accreditation

What is this?

Public Health Accreditation is awarded by the Public Health Accreditation Board to health departments that meet “a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidenced-based standards.” The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) is “a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the continuous quality improvement of Tribal, state, local, and territorial public health departments.”¹ This voluntary program is meant to help health departments, like Schuyler County Public Health, improve the quality and performance of the services and programs we offer and to help us improve our value to the community and accountability to our stakeholders.²

Who works on this?

Jill Wendela RN, MS
Public Health Nurse

Deborah Dalmat MPH, CHES
Public Health Specialist



Benefits of Accreditation

- The process of pursuing accreditation has been shown to improve the performance of health departments
- The accreditation process helps health departments to:
 - Identify our strengths and places we can improve
 - Strengthen our internal and external collaborations and partnerships
 - Promote continuous efforts to improve quality and performance
 - Prioritize and address potential concerns³

2016 Accomplishments

- Continued to collaborate with five other counties in the S²AY Rural Health Network to identify and compile documents showing that the multijurisdictional region meets the national standards
- Formally submitted an application to PHAB to become an accredited public health department

Goals for 2017

- Finish compiling all required documentation to illustrate that Schuyler County Public Health meets the standards and requirements to become an accredited health department
- Submit all required documentation to PHAB by June 2017

¹ Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). (n.d.). About PHAB. Retrieved March 21, 2017, from <http://www.phaboard.org/about-phab/>

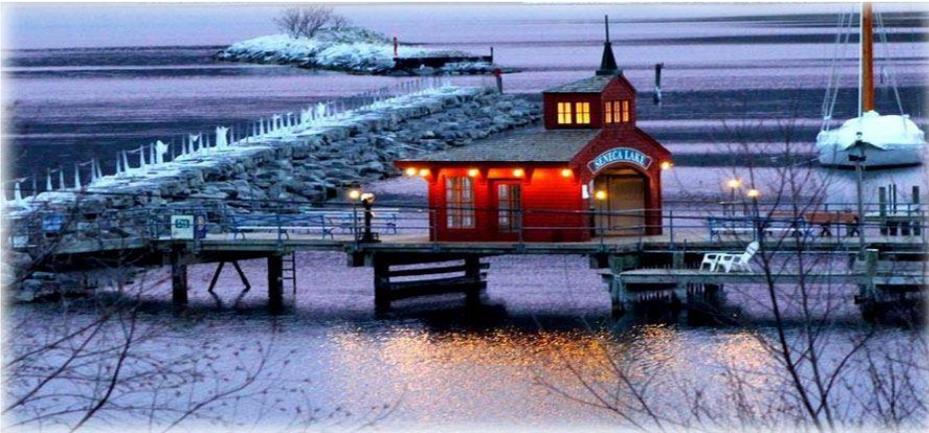
² Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). (n.d.). What is Public Health Department Accreditation? Retrieved March 21, 2017, from <http://www.phaboard.org/accreditation-overview/what-is-accreditation/>

³ Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). (n.d.). What are the Benefits? Retrieved March 21, 2017, from <http://www.phaboard.org/accreditation-overview/what-are-the-benefits/>

Strategic Plan

What is this?

Strategic planning is a process for defining and formalizing an organization's roles, priorities, and direction over a 3-5 year time period. A strategic plan sets forth what an organization plans to accomplish, how it will achieve its goals, and how it will know if it has. The strategic plan provides a guide for making decisions on allocation resources and on taking action to pursue strategies and priorities. A Public Health Department's strategic plan focuses on the entire health department. The Public Health Department programs may have program-specific plans that complement and support the Department's program organizational strategic plan.¹



Who works on this?

Marcia Kasprzyk RN, BSN
Public Health Director

Strategic Plan for 2013-2016 Accomplishments

Schuyler County Public Health completed the 2013-2016 Strategic Plan period with the following major accomplishments not mentioned otherwise in this document:

- Revised job descriptions were completed based on public health core competencies.
- Revised our initial and program-specific orientation processes.
- Staff completed Public Health Core Competencies self-assessments.
- The Workforce Development plan was updated and a 2017 in-service schedule was created based on staff self-assessments results.
- Collaboratively with Schuyler Hospital Primary Care we established a plan for Public Health to be a standing agenda item quarterly on Medical Staff meetings.
- The branding of the Department was completed and many templates were created.
- Staff became members and participated on 6 different community agencies' Board of Directors.

Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 Accomplishments

We also started the process to develop the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan. The following activities were completed:

- Program-specific customer satisfaction data was gathered through surveys disseminated during 2016.
- Information from staff was collected through a comprehensive survey, conducted in July of 2016, in which 100% of staff participated.
- Input from staff was also collected through a SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis completed in December 2016.

¹ Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). (2013, December). Standards & Measures Version 1.5 Standard 5.3. Retrieved March 29, 2017, from <http://www.phaboard.org/wp-content/uploads/SM-Version-1.5-Board-adopted-FINAL-01-24-2014.docx.pdf>

- Community input was sought using the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) process. This process was used throughout 2016 during the development of our 2016-2018 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Additional input was collected from the public, stakeholders, and partners through our Branding Survey, conducted in October 2016, and our Stakeholder Survey, conducted in November 2016.

Goals for 2017

Finalize the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan with the following strategic goals:

- Increase the visibility and credibility in the community and create/maintain a positive perception of Public Health
- Maximize the use of appropriate data, which will improve the effectiveness, and efficiency of Public Health in the community
- Enhance the workforce with the knowledge and skills needed to accomplish agency goals, keeping in mind recruitment and retention efforts

Staff Accomplishments

Donna Miller

**Awarded
Employee of the
Year**

Casey Allen

**Hired as a
Public Health
Specialist**

Chelsea Bailey

**Hired as a
Public Health
Nurse**

Niki Turnmyre

**Completed
Incident Command
Training Series**

Deborah Dalmat

**Became our
PMQI Coordinator and
standardized our branding**

Jill Wendela

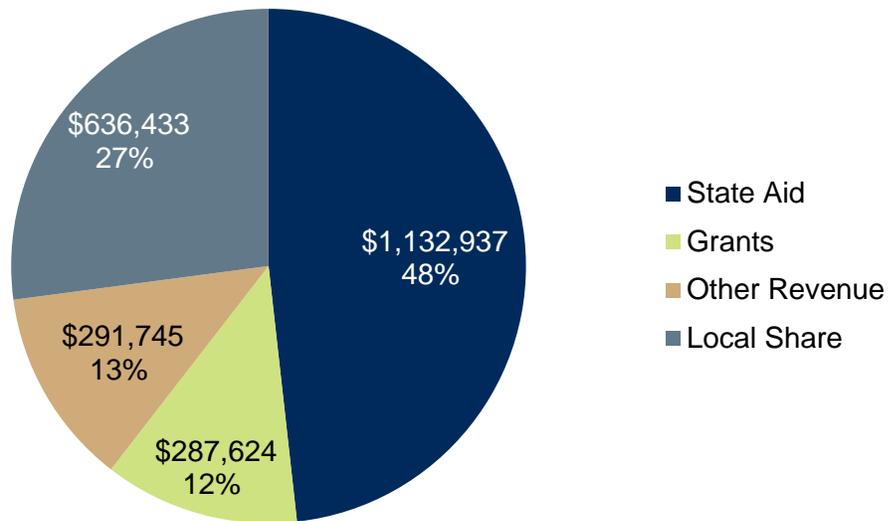
**Was our
Accreditation and Branding
Coordinator**

Elizabeth Watson

**Became a
Chronic Disease Self-
Management Facilitator**

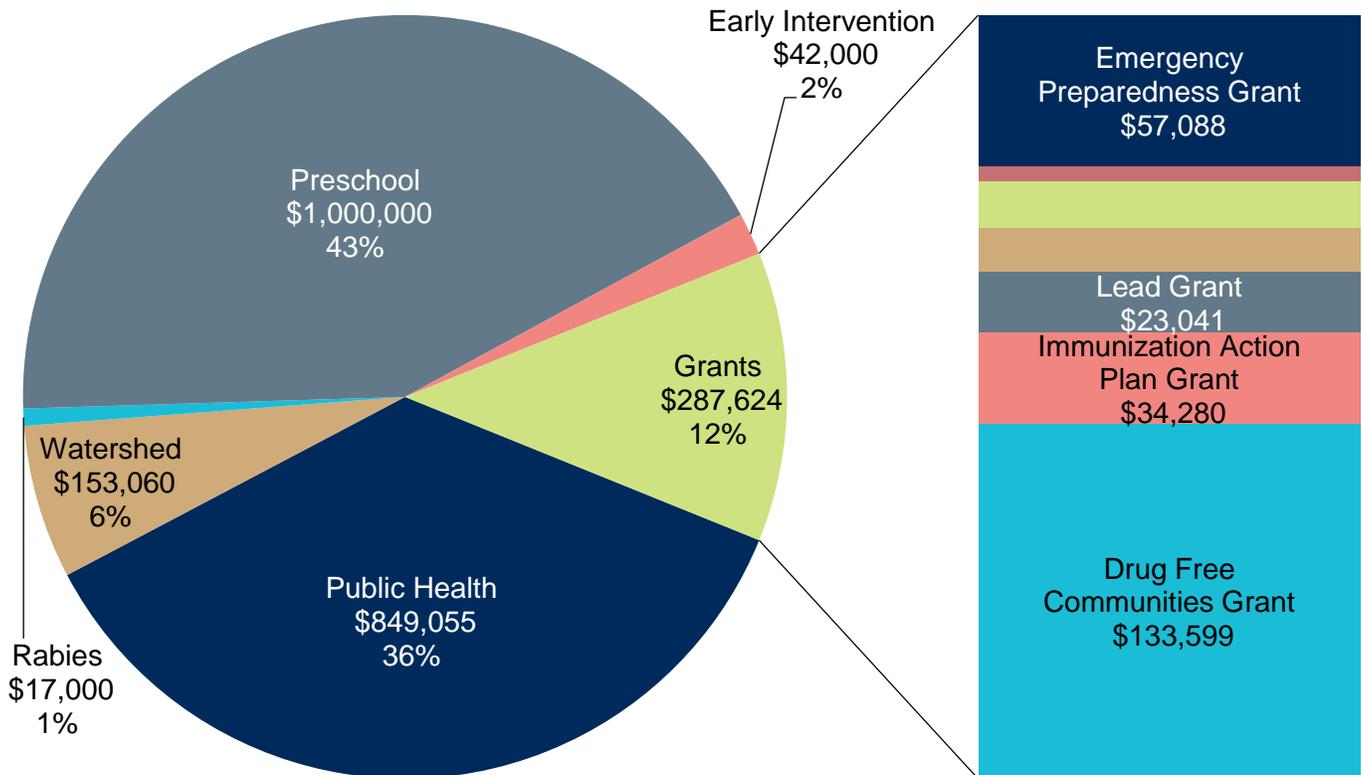
Budget

Revenue



Expenses

- Ebola Grant
\$5,415
- Early Intervention Grant
\$18,001
- CSHCN Grant
\$16,200



Appendix A



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

The Hornell District Office is responsible for protecting public health and safety through the delivery of core environmental health programs and services and through the enforcement of environmental health regulations in Schuyler and Steuben Counties. Duties & responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Issuing permits to the following types of regulated facilities:
 - Food Service Establishments
 - Temporary/Mobile Food Service Establishments
 - Children's Camps
 - Temporary Residences (Hotels, Motels, etc.)
 - Campgrounds
 - Mobile Home Parks
 - Mass Gatherings
 - Agricultural Fairgrounds
 - Public Swimming Pool and Bathing Beaches
 - Recreational Aquatic Spraygrounds
 - Tanning Facilities

- Conducting plan reviews and approvals for:
 - All Regulated Facilities
 - Public Water Systems
 - Realty Subdivisions
 - Alternative Residential Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems

- Conducting inspections/sanitary surveys/complaint investigations at:
 - All Regulated Facilities
 - Public Water Systems at NYS Agriculture & Markets Licensed Facilities
 - Public Water Systems at Licensed Day Care Facilities

- Conducting investigations of:
 - Drownings at Regulated Facilities
 - Food & Waterborne Illness Outbreaks
 - Injuries and Illness Outbreaks at Children's Camps
 - Environmental Conditions linked to Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels

- Overseeing tobacco prevention programs
 - ATUPA (Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act)
 - CIAA (Clean indoor Air Act)

- Providing emergency response at incidents presenting biological, chemical or radiological exposures/hazards and at natural disasters

- Distributing and enforcing the Commissioner of Health's Summary Orders (i.e. bath salts, synthetic cannabinoids, etc.)

Empire State Plaza, Corning Tower, Albany, NY 12237 | health.ny.gov

New York State Department of Health Hornell District Office Contribution to the Schuyler County Public Health Department 2015 Annual Report

In 1921, legislation was enacted that empowered New York State counties to create county health districts. The purpose of a county health district was to consolidate local authority for the oversight of public health work at the county level rather than having public health activities dispersed to the constituent county cities, towns and villages. Counties were not required to create such health districts and as time passed, it became evident that many rural counties (including Schuyler) that had not formed a county health district would face increasing logistical and financial challenges that coincided with expanding public health needs and requirements. County health departments that operate in counties without county health districts are known as "partial services" county health departments.

As a matter of policy, not law; the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) addressed the need to maintain a baseline of environmental health programs/activities in partial services counties by creating District Offices. Nine district offices currently operate in New York State, and in Schuyler County, it is the NYSDOH Hornell District Office (HDO) that provides core environmental health programs and services to County residents and visitors. In partnership with Schuyler County Public Health Department and other state and local agencies, the HDO enforces environmental health regulations and oversees a variety of programs that are designed to protect public health and safety. The attached document provides a summary of HDO's duties and responsibilities and the services provided in Schuyler County and in Steuben County - the other county that is located within the HDO's jurisdiction.

Highlights of the HDO's activities in Schuyler County during the 2016 calendar year included the following:

- Conducted 129 inspections at the County's approximately 92 permanent food service operations and 77 inspections at temporary food service operations.
- Conducted ten sanitary surveys (enhanced inspections) at community water systems (primarily municipalities and mobile home parks) and 42 sanitary surveys at other regulated facilities with onsite water supplies.
- Conducted 15 student aide compliance visits to tobacco retailers to ensure compliance with the Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA).
- Investigated six complaints alleging sanitary code violations at regulated facilities.
- Conducted an inspection at one of the County's two tanning operations (each tanning facility must be inspected within a two-year period).
- Initiated one formal enforcement action (Administrative Tribunal Hearings) to address NYS Sanitary Code violations at regulated facilities.
- Responded to reports of harmful algal blooms (HABs) on Seneca, Cayuta, and Lamoka Lakes.

- Assisted Schuyler County schools with implementation of the Lead in School Drinking Water Sampling and Reporting Program. Under the new legislation and regulations, all school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) in New York State are required to test potable drinking water fixtures for lead contamination and to take appropriate action in response to lead levels exceeding the standard of 15 micrograms per liter.

From January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2016, none of the owners of tobacco retail outlets in Schuyler County illegally sold tobacco products to individuals under the age of eighteen during the HDO's compliance checks.

From January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2016, HDO initiated formal enforcement actions (Administrative Tribunal Hearings) against three public water suppliers for failure to submit monthly water operation reports within the required timeframe (2013 – 0; 2014 – 2; 2015 – 0; 2016 - 1).

No trends or patterns were identified during the reporting period in any aspect of the District's delivery of its core environmental health programs and services, including compliance and enforcement.

Prepared by



Tomas Klaseus, PE

District Director

NYSDOH – Hornell District Office

March 1, 2017



Schuyler County Public Health



Working hand in hand with the community to prevent, promote and protect.

Contact Us

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607-535-8140



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Schuyler County, NY