

# **Steuben County Public Health**

## **2016 Annual Report**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**Steuben County NY**

**Promoting, Protecting and Preserving Health  
Through Partnerships with People and Communities**

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## A Message from the Director

I am pleased to present the Steuben County Public Health Department's 2016 Annual Report. This report reflects another year of hard work and dedication of the entire public health team and describes the programs and services provided throughout the past year supporting and facilitating better health for all: healthy people, strong families, and vibrant communities.

### **Significant Health Department activities in 2016 included:**

- ❖ Continued engagement of partners and the community in health improvement activities
- ❖ Focused efforts on updating the 2016-18 Community Health Needs Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan and our Strategic Plan
- ❖ Re-tooling our mission, vision and values statement
- ❖ Intensive work towards seeking accreditation with Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)
- ❖ Trained relevant staff in administration and data entry of the Patient Activation Measurement (PAM) tool for Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP)

As a Licensed Home Care Services Agency, the department is able to conduct operations and programs which require home visitation such as nursing visits to new mothers and infants, to families of children identified with elevated lead levels, and to individuals diagnosed with tuberculosis infection or disease. The Department also operates as a Diagnostic and Treatment Center permitting clinic activities for immunizations, HIV testing and tuberculin skin testing. Both licenses are necessary to complete the core work of a local health department as required by Public Health Law.

The work of public health continues to require current scientific knowledge, collaboration with diverse partners and engagement of the community combined with progressive leadership, cutting edge technology and a well trained workforce. We are committed to serving our community with those tools in order to assure Steuben County is a healthy place to live, work and play.

Respectfully,

Darlene R. Smith, MS  
Public Health Director



## Mission, Vision and Core Values

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### **Mission Statement**

Steuben County Public Health will:

- Conduct a periodic comprehensive assessment of the health needs of our county
- Act as a resource through collaboration, education and service
- Promote health
- Prevent injury and disease
- Enhance and protect the quality of life within our community

### **Vision Statement**

To support and facilitate better health for all: healthy people, strong families, and vibrant communities.

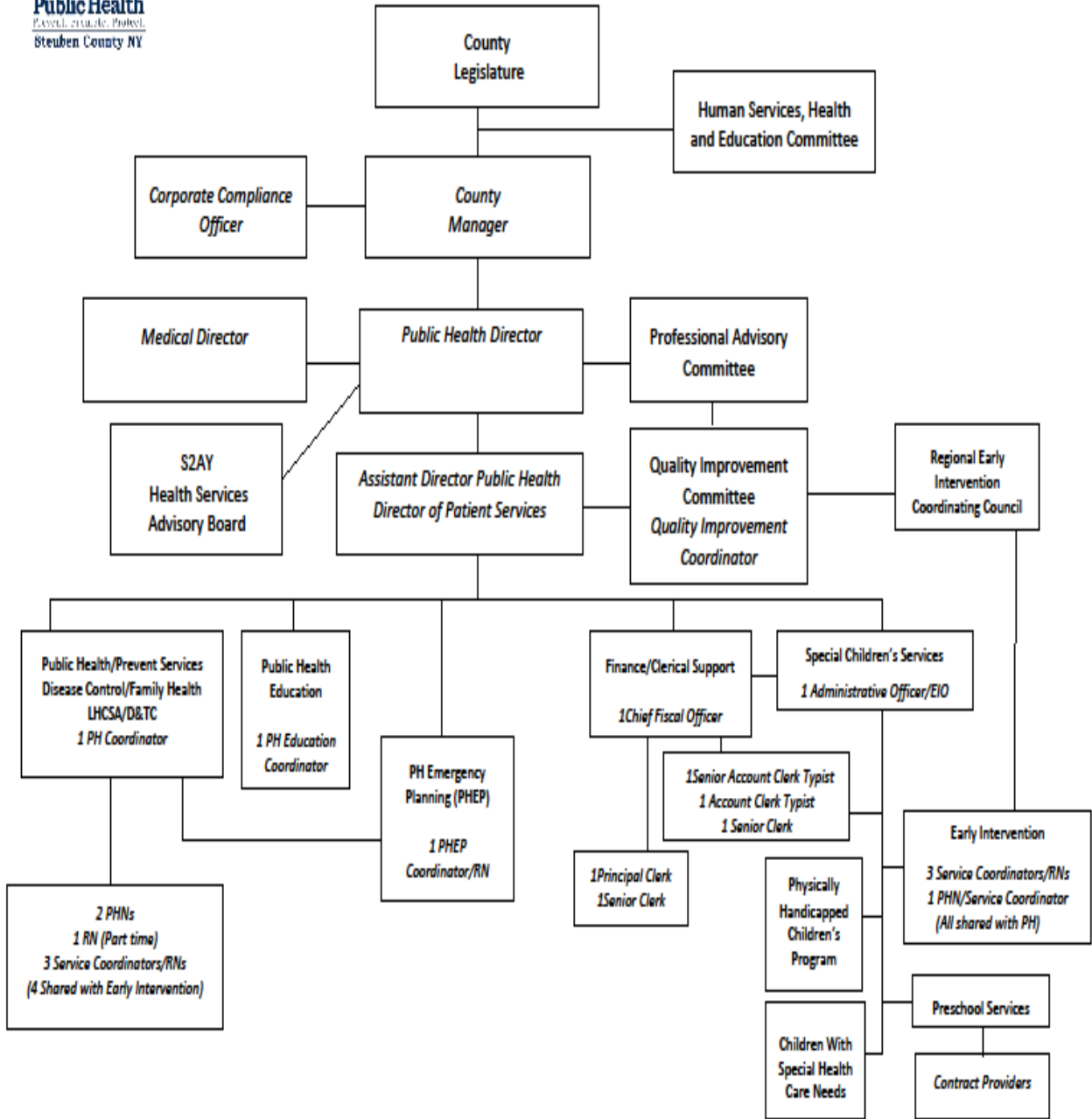
### **Values**

Quality  
Collaboration  
Empowerment  
Responsiveness  
Effectiveness  
Service



**Public Health**  
SAFER. HEALTHIER. PROSPER.  
Steuben County NY

### Steuben County Public Health Organizational Chart



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January 2017

## Public Health Staff

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### Administration

Darlene Smith	Director of Public Health
Victoria Fuerst	Director of Patient Services, Assistant Director of Public Health
Dennis O'Connor, M.D.	Medical Director
Christine Congdon	Chief Fiscal Officer
Diane L. Kiff	Administrative Officer

### Support Staff

Virginia Hargraves	Senior Account Clerk Typist
Terry Moss	Principal Clerk
Kim Gotshall	Account Clerk Typist
Shirley Davis	Senior Clerk
Cynthia Lewis	Senior Clerk

### Public Health Staff

Gail Wechsler	Public Health Coordinator
Deb Matthews	Dog Control Officer

### Nurses

Dawn Lindsey	RN
Jo-Anne Taylor	RN
Anne Roser	RN/Service Coordinator
Karen Dgien	RN/Service Coordinator
Danielle Lang	RN/Service Coordinator (1/4/2016-4/29/2016)
Brittney Christensen	RN/Service Coordinator (Began 6/2016)
Krystal Potter	RN/Service Coordinator (Began 6/2016)
Kathy Ingham	RN Contract Nurse for DSS

### Public Health Education Coordinator

Lorelei Wagner	MPH, CHES
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### Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Karen Travis	RN
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## Essential Service 1: Monitor Health Status to Identify and Solve Community Health Problems

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 1 activities include assessing the health status of the community through formal and informal needs assessments and data analysis. Steuben County Public Health collaborates with a diverse group of community partners to address community health problems. In this section, the agency's community health assessment, community health improvement planning and leading health indicators are featured.*

### **Community Health Assessment & Community Health Improvement Plan**

Steuben County Public Health completes a Community Health Assessment (CHA) in conjunction with area hospitals routinely as directed by New York State guidelines. The most recent CHA was completed in 2016 and resulted in the current Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP collaborative team called Smart Steuben includes representatives from Steuben County Public Health, Arnot Health, Corning Hospital, St. James Mercy Hospital, the S2AY Rural Health Network, the Steuben Rural Health Network, Southern Tier Tobacco Awareness Coalition (STTAC), the Center for Tobacco Free Finger Lakes, the Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency (FLHSA), Cornell Cooperative Extension, Finger Lakes Community Health (FLCH), Steuben County Legislature, representatives from Genesee Valley BOCES and Arnot Health working on the Creating Healthy Schools and Communities grant, WIC, and Child Care Aware of Steuben and Schuyler through Pro Action.

The goals of the 2016-2018 CHIP are to:

1. Reduce obesity in children and adults
2. Reduce heart disease and hypertension
3. Increase early childhood health



The complete 2016-2018 CHA can be viewed on the Public Health website on the Community Health page at [https://steubencony.org/Files/Documents/publichealth/steuben\\_county\\_cha-csp-chip\\_final.pdf](https://steubencony.org/Files/Documents/publichealth/steuben_county_cha-csp-chip_final.pdf).

The CHIP is included as an attachment to the CHA or can be found on its own on the same webpage at [https://steubencony.org/Files/Documents/publichealth/steuben\\_county\\_chip\\_final\\_-\\_111016.pdf](https://steubencony.org/Files/Documents/publichealth/steuben_county_chip_final_-_111016.pdf).

## Essential Service 2: Diagnose and Investigate Health Problems and Health Hazards in the Community

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 2 includes provision of epidemiological identification of emerging health threats and active investigation of infectious disease. The following programs/activities are highlighted in this section: seasonal influenza, communicable disease control, immunization program, rabies and lead poisoning prevention.*



### **Immunization Clinics**

The Health Department strives to reduce or eliminate indigenous cases of vaccine preventable diseases through administration of vaccines. In 2016, a total of 1019 vaccines to prevent infectious diseases were given to 637 people. Tuberculosis (TB) skin tests were administered to 101 residents. In total, 738 residents were served by RN staff at our clinics.

#### **2016 Outcomes:**

- 98% of school aged children in Steuben County were in compliance with the immunization requirements
- 53.4% of Steuben's 2 year olds met New York's benchmark immunization standards
- No major childhood vaccine preventable diseases outbreaks were reported in Steuben

### **Lead Poisoning Prevention Program**

Steuben County Public Health partners with the NYSDOH District Office in Hornell to provide lead poisoning prevention (LPP) education, investigate sources of lead poisoning and develop a plan for lead remediation with families of children with elevated lead levels.

#### **2016 Outcomes:**

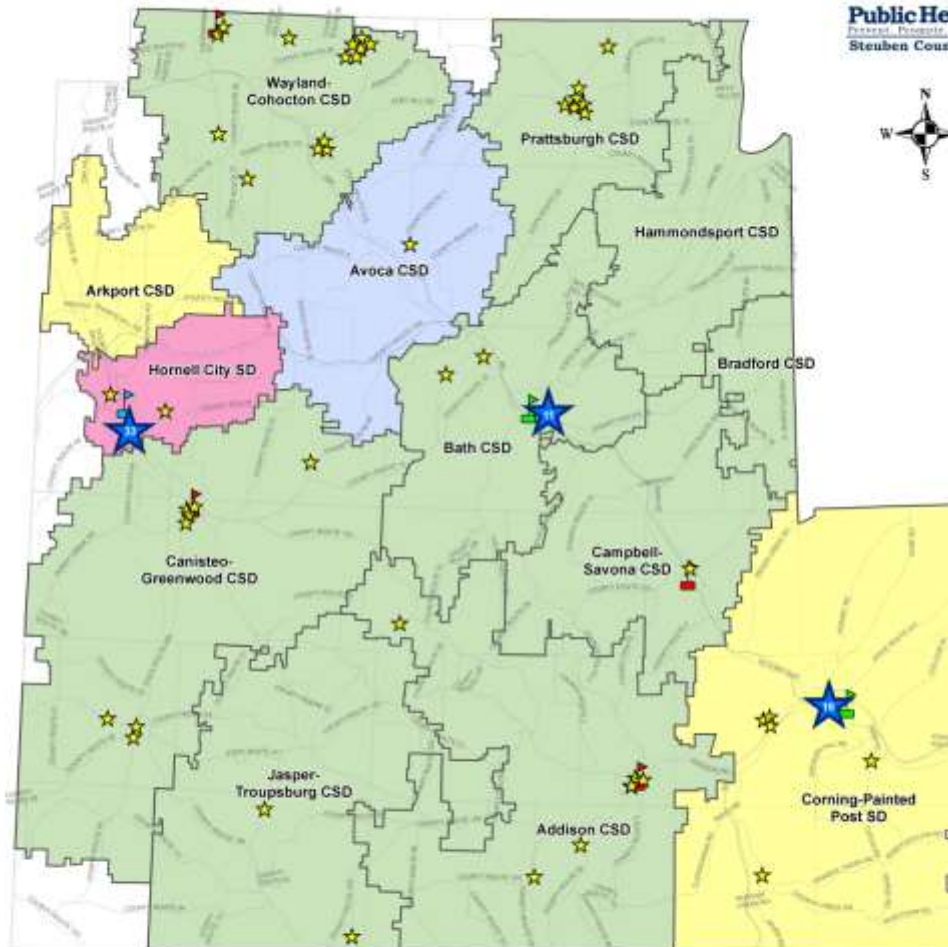
- 33.5% rate of lead testing for children ages 1 and 2 years.
- Held finger stick lead testing clinics at 2 Head Start sites
- Developed a lead testing reminder photo frame magnet; distributed 3100 to pediatricians and family practice providers to give to parents when ordering a lead test
- Offered COLA monies to 3 large practices to help support purchase of Lead Care II analyzers for finger stick lead testing in their offices. 2 offices completed purchase in 2016.
- Presented Lead Poisoning Prevention Education to multiple community based organizations, providers, and town boards.
- PH distributed 500+ "lead bibs" to Corning Hospital for inclusion in newborn materials.
- 4809 homes, built before 1978, are considered to be in fair or poor condition.



# Steuben County Public Health 2011-2015 Lead Map



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### Percentage of Children in School Districts with Free or Reduced Lunch

School Year 2015 - 2016:

Percentage of Children	Number of Districts
30% - 34%	0
35% - 39%	2
40% - 44%	0
45% - 49%	0
50% - 54%	1
55% - 59%	0
≥ 60%	1

### Residences of Children with EBLLs ≥ 10mcg/dL

\*EBLL = Elevated Blood Lead Level

2011 - 2015:

- ★ Single Residence
- ★ Multiple Residences

Please note:

- Many areas of Steuben County contain lead-based paint in the home and surrounding soil.
- Steuben County lead testing rates are <50% for 1 and 2 yr. old children.
- It is mandatory for 100% of 1 and 2 yr. old children to be screened.
- If all were compliant, the number of residences with EBLLs would be significantly higher.

### WIC Sites

Children Enrolled  
Fiscal Year 2015:

- ▲ <100
- ▲ 100-300
- ▲ 300-450

## **Communicable Disease Services**

Communicable disease activities involve surveillance to confirm reports of cases and follow-up to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. When necessary, staff from the Hornell District Office of the New York State Department of Health and staff from this agency cooperate in the investigation. There were no outbreaks of communicable diseases in the county in 2016.

In 2016, Zika virus emerged as a worldwide threat to public health, due to it causing microcephaly and other neurological abnormalities in infants born to women who were infected with Zika virus during their pregnancy. While Steuben County may not have the *Aedes albopictus* mosquito responsible for transmission, Public Health is required to respond to travel-associated cases. As required by the New York State Department of Health, Public Health developed a Zika Action Plan and arranged for virus testing for 12 women and 2 men. One of the males tested positive for Zika virus.

\*= cases / investigations

<b>Disease</b>	<b>2016</b>
Babesiosis	1
Campylobacteriosis	33
Cryptosporidiosis	7
E. Coli Non-0157	4
Ehrlichiosis	1
Giardiasis	5
Haemophilus influenza	3
Hepatitis B, Chronic	7
Hepatitis C, Acute	4
Hepatitis C, Chronic	61/88*
Latent TB infection	15
Legionellosis	2
Lyme Disease	80/190*
Meningitis, Aseptic	2
Pertussis	5
Salmonellosis	19
Strep, Group A-Invasive	3
Strep, Group B-Invasive	7
Strep. Pneumoniae	9
Tuberculosis	1
Zika Virus	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>271/392*</b>

## **Sexually Transmitted Disease Lab Reporting**

Public Health nurses assess and evaluate reported positive gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis lab reports, and establish whether the patient is infected and has been treated adequately. County residents seeking STD testing are referred to either Family Planning in Bath, or Planned Parenthood in Corning and Hornell; the total number of referrals for the year was 9.

### **2016 Outcomes:**

Positive cases of:

- 23 Gonorrhea
- 4 Syphilis
- 282 Chlamydia



## **Rabies Program**

Animal bites are reported to the health department and follow-up is conducted to assure that measures are taken to prevent rabies transmission.

### **2016 Outcomes:**

Public Health Nurses conducted follow up of 370 reports of animal bites with post exposure treatment for 55 persons exposed to rabies, a 25% increase from 2015. There were 80 animals submitted for testing to the NYSDOH lab; of those 11 were positive for rabies.

Public Health provided free rabies clinics in Bath, Corning and Hornell with the cooperation of veterinarians, animal handlers, nursing staff, and volunteers. Free vaccine and supplies were made available to local townships to hold additional clinics. The following clinics were conducted by the county and the townships:

<b>2016 Clinic Sites</b>	<b>Other Animals</b>	<b># Dogs</b>	<b># Cats</b>	<b>Total</b>
Addison	0	85	31	116
Avoca	1	141	64	206
Bath - Town	0	54	27	81
Bath–Public Health	0	105	44	149
Bradford	0	48	27	75
Cameron	0	37	4	41
Campbell	0	131	26	157
Canisteo	2	143	37	182
Caton	0	143	73	216

Cohocton	0	110	33	143
Corning--Public Health	0	108	66	174
Erwin	0	52	12	64
Finger Lakes Humane Society	0	0	339	339
Fremont	0	67	31	98
Greenwood	0	43	17	60
Hartsville	0	50	31	81
Hornby	0	125	43	168
Hornell Humane Society	0	89	33	122
Hornell--Public Health	0	87	54	141
Howard	0	82	23	105
Jasper	2	94	14	110
Lindley	0	58	16	74
Prattsburgh	0	76	27	103
Pulteney	0	60	16	76
Rathbone	0	93	19	112
Savona	0	89	14	103
Thurston	0	101	43	144
Troupsburg	1	47	14	62
Tuscarora	0	80	24	104
Urbana	0	104	55	159
Wayland	0	139	39	178
Wayne	0	44	10	54
West Union (Rexville)	0	66	11	77
Wheeler	0	59	15	74
Woodhull	0	108	32	140
<b>Clinic Sites</b>	<b>Other Animals</b>	<b># Dogs</b>	<b># Cats</b>	<b>Total</b>
TOTALS-2016	6 Animals	2918	1364	4288

## Essential Service 3: Inform, Educate and Empower People about Health Issues

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 3 includes social marketing, targeted media public communication and providing accessible health information resources to reinforce health promotion messages and programs. The following activities are highlighted in this section: general health education and the Steuben County Public Health managed website.*

The Public Health Education Coordinator provided education to target groups and the public through a variety of methods in 2016. Car seat check events, Strong Kids Safe Kids, Health Fairs, table displays and formal presentations reached almost 1400 people with a variety of topics. Car seat and helmet distribution and education, sugar sweetened beverages, lead poisoning, vaccinations, radon, dental health and overall Public Health programs were targeted throughout Steuben County.

### **Health Education**

#### **2016 Outcomes:**

- Conducted multiple blast faxes and emails to healthcare providers
- 12 appearances on WENY Midday Makeover
- Wellness Matters Newsletter published 6 times a year
- 355 posts to Steuben County Public Health Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/SCNYPublicHealth](http://www.facebook.com/SCNYPublicHealth)) with 745 followers/95,800 views
- Public Health's main page of the website ([www.steubencony.org/publichealth](http://www.steubencony.org/publichealth)) was seen by nearly 204,000 new visitors
- National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP) and Freedom From Smoking (FFS) classes and the Bath Baby Café continue to be offered.



## Essential Service 4: Mobilize Community Partnerships and Action to Identify and Solve Health Problems

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 4 involves convening and facilitating community groups in undertaking defined preventive and population focused activities in order to capture the full range of potential resources to solve community health problems. Highlighted in this section are: Southern Tier Diabetes Coalition, Smart Steuben, Southern Tier Tobacco Awareness Coalition, and the Worksite Wellness partnership.*

### **Community Partnerships**

The Public Health Education Coordinator served as the chair for the Southern Tier Diabetes Coalition, which includes representatives from Public Health in Steuben, Chemung and Schuyler, Arnot Health, Guthrie, the Bath VA, Novo Nordisk, Cornell Cooperative Extension, the S2AY Rural Health Network, the Steuben Rural Health Network, American Diabetes Association, and Diabetes on Target. The coalition participated in Diabetes Alert Day with representatives tabling and presenting at the Steuben County Office Building, Guthrie Centerway, Elmira Wegmans, Corning Hospital, the Bath VA, and the Arnot Mall. Approximately 65 people were educated about diabetes and individual risk at the County Office Building that day. The coalition also hosted the annual Diabetes Fair at the Arnot Mall in October. Approximately 35 vendors tabled at the fair, ranging from local organizations to national organizations. Nearly 170 people registered for prizes during the event. Arnot Health offered blood glucose, blood pressure, and COPD screenings. Guthrie provided foot assessments and partnered with Corning Community College nursing students to offer blood pressure screenings.

Public Health leads the Smart Steuben team that works collaboratively on the CHIP initiatives outlined on page 6.

As a member of the Southern Tier Tobacco Awareness Coalition (STTAC), Public Health supports and encourages businesses, municipalities, housing complexes, and media outlets to consider smoke-free or tobacco-free policies for their grounds or other aspects of their business. In 2016, three new tobacco free policies were implemented in Steuben County through the Hornell YMCA, Village of Riverside, and the Institute for Human Services, Inc.

Representatives from Public Health departments in the S2AY Network region, along with other partners, met monthly in 2016 to strategize worksite wellness goals. A smaller group consisting of Public Health, the Steuben Rural Health Network, and the Cancer Services Program of Steuben convened to work on Worksite Wellness efforts specific to Steuben County. Additional members added include representation from the Southern Tier Tobacco Awareness Coalition (STTAC) and Creating Healthy Schools and Communities through Arnot Health.

## Essential Service 5: Develop Policies and Plans that Support Individual and Community Health Efforts

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 5 involves providing leadership for systematic community and state level planning for health improvement; development and tracking of measurable health objectives as a part of continuous quality improvement strategies and development of codes, regulations and legislation to guide the practice of public health. Highlighted in this section are the agency’s strategic plan, Community Health Improvement Plan and Emergency Preparedness.*

### **Strategic Planning & Community Health Improvement Plan**

The Strategic Plan was set in place beginning in 2014, outlining goals for the department to achieve for optimum performance and function. The progress chart found at [https://steubencony.org/Files/Documents/publichealth/steuben\\_county\\_public\\_health\\_sp\\_2016\\_progress.pdf](https://steubencony.org/Files/Documents/publichealth/steuben_county_public_health_sp_2016_progress.pdf) details the goals of the Strategic Plan along with the progress made in 2016. Some of the items were previously completed and is identified in the status column.

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) was originally expected to run from 2013-2017. New York State Department of Health updated guidelines for a new Community Health Assessment to be completed by December 2016 and for a new CHIP to be put in place. The new CHIP is titled for 2016-2018, but went into effect in January 2017. Within the completed CHA is the CHIP progress report for 2016. This can be found on the Public Health website under the Community Health page, and the progress report starts on page 23 of the CHA found at [https://steubencony.org/Files/Documents/publichealth/steuben\\_county\\_cha-csp-chip\\_final.pdf](https://steubencony.org/Files/Documents/publichealth/steuben_county_cha-csp-chip_final.pdf). The priorities are to reduce obesity in children and adults and to reduce hypertension and heart disease. An additional priority to decrease early childhood health was added in 2016 going forward. For more information on the New York State Prevention Agenda, please visit [http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention\\_agenda/2013-2017/](http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention_agenda/2013-2017/)



## **Public Health Emergency Response Planning**

Steuben County Public Health continues to review and plan for potential All Hazard events including those of a biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear or explosive nature. These may be naturally occurring, large-scale communicable disease outbreaks or natural disasters.

Our community partners:

- Western Region Health Emergency Planning Coalition (WR HEPC)
- Southern Subregional (SSR) and Finger Lakes Area Planning (FLAP)
- Finger Lakes Public Health Alliance (FLPHA)
- Human Needs Task Force (HNT)
- Local Emergency Preparedness Council (LEPC)
- Corning-Painted Post (C-PP) Partners Meeting
- Southern Tier/Finger Lakes Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (ST/FL VOAD)
- Finger Lakes Chapter of the American Red Cross
- ServNY and ServSTEUBEN MRC (both volunteer databases)
- Region II MRC All Hands Conference Calls

2016 Outcomes:

- Performed drills, exercises, formal education and newsletters with staff and volunteers.
- Public Health participated in the national Great NorthEast ShakeOut Earthquake drill and Western Region Emergency Communication Knowledge and Information Test (WRECKIT)
- Participated in development of an Operational Plan to the Intermunicipal Agreement between 9 counties.

### **ServSTEUBEN MRC:**

- ServSTEUBEN MRC (Medical Reserve Corps) is our local county volunteer management system consisting of both medical and nonmedical volunteers. This database assists with registering, credentialing, deploying and maintaining records/contact information of both medical and non-medical volunteers in Steuben County. Currently, we have 295 registered medical and non-medical volunteers in this database.
- Completed and began distributing the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of our ServSTEUBEN MRC Handbook.





## Essential Service 6: Enforce Laws and Regulations that Protect Health and Safety

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 6 involves full enforcement of sanitary codes, especially in the food industry; full protection of drinking water supplies; enforcement of clean air standards and timely follow-up of hazards. Highlighted in this section are: the areas of responsibility that our District Office in Hornell oversees as Steuben County Public Health is a partial service health department.*

### Environmental Health



**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
Governor

### Department of Health

**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 through the enforcement of environmental health regulations in Steuben and Schuyler 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, Cabins, 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 Permitted Facilities
  - Realty Subdivisions
  - Alternative Residential On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems
  - Public Water Systems
  
- Conducting inspections/sanitary surveys/complaint investigations at:
  - All Regulated Facilities
  - Public Water Systems at Agriculture & Markets licensed facilities
  - Public Water Systems at licensed Day Care facilities

- Conducting investigations at:
  - 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 or physical injury hazards
- Distribution and enforcement of the Commissioner of Health's Summary Orders (i.e. bath salts, synthetic cannabinoids, etc.)

**New York State Department of Health Hornell District Office Contribution to Steuben County Public Health Department 2016 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 Steuben) 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 Steuben 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 Steuben County Public Health 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 Steuben County and in Schuyler County - the other county that is located within the HDO's jurisdiction.

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

- Conducted 440 inspections at the County's approximately 392 permanent food service operations and 140 inspections at temporary food service operations.
- Conducted 54 sanitary surveys (enhanced inspections) at community water systems (primarily municipalities and mobile home parks) and 104 sanitary surveys at other regulated facilities with onsite water supplies.
- Conducted 118 student aide compliance visits to tobacco retailers to ensure compliance with the Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA).
- Worked with Steuben County Public Health to conduct lead-based paint risk assessments of private Steuben County residences in response to referrals of children with elevated blood lead levels. There were six assessments in 2016.
- Investigated 28 complaints alleging sanitary code violations at regulated facilities.
- Conducted inspections at 11 of the County's 16 tanning operations (each facility must be inspected within a two-year period).
- Initiated 11 formal enforcement actions (Administrative Tribunal Hearings) to address NYS Sanitary Code violations at regulated facilities.
- Responded to a report of a harmful algal bloom (HAB) on a private pond near Cameron Mills.
- Assisted Steuben 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, the HDO initiated seven formal enforcement actions (Administrative Tribunal Hearings) with the owners of tobacco retail outlets that illegally sold tobacco products to individuals under the age of eighteen (2013 – 2; 2014 – 2; 2015 – 2; 2016 - 1). In all cases, the HDO's charges were sustained by the Administrative Law Judge and fines were imposed. None of these tobacco retail vendors had a second sale of tobacco products to a minor during that same four-year period.

From January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015, the HDO initiated formal enforcement actions (Administrative Tribunal Hearings) against 15 public water suppliers for failure to submit monthly water operation reports within the required timeframe (2013 – 3; 2014 – 4; 2015 – 6; 2016 - 2).

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

## Essential Service 7: Link People to Needed Personal Health Services

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 7 involves assuring effective entry for disadvantaged people into a coordinated system of clinical care; linkage to services for special population groups; ongoing care coordination; targeted health information to high risk population groups and technical assistance for effective worksite health promotion/disease prevention programs. Highlighted in this section are the agency's Early Intervention program, Special Children's Services, Jail Health, Maternal Child Health, Certified Lactation Consultants, and Worksite Wellness.*

### **Maternal & Child Health**

The agency welcomes and encourages prenatal, postpartum, and pediatric referrals for the purpose of providing health guidance and teaching in the home. Services include prenatal health education, preparation for parenting, and postpartum health education. Women and children with needs beyond education are referred to appropriate agencies.



#### **2016 Outcomes:**

We received 296 patient referrals and made 113 visits in 2016.

### **Jail Health**

This department continued to collaborate with the Sheriff's department in 2016 for optimal jail health. The nursing staff provided HIV counseling and testing as well as testing for other sexually transmitted diseases to inmates who request it. Hepatitis A/B vaccinations and other adult vaccines are provided for these clients through the VFA program.

#### **2016 Outcomes:**

- 85 inmates attended our jail clinics
- 83 HIV screening tests performed
- 82 Gonorrhea screening tests performed
- 82 Chlamydia screening tests performed/5 cases identified
- 75 Syphilis screening tests performed
- 1 Trichomonas screening test performed
- 20 Hepatitis C screening tests performed

### **Special Children's Services (SCS)**

#### **Children with Special Health Care Needs Program (CSHCN)**

The CSHCN Program is a public health program that provides information and referral services for health and related areas for families of CSHCN. There is no cost to families.

## Physically Handicapped Children’s Program (PHCP)

PHCP provides financial assistance, paying co-pays and deductibles for medical services and referrals for medical care for children (newborn-21 years old) who have or are suspected of having a disabling condition or serious chronic illness. Parent payments are based on income guidelines. Providers bill Medicaid and private insurance companies for services. New York State reimburses the county for 50% of the remaining balance. In 2016, we had 7 new referrals and 6 reapplications.

## Preschool Special Education

Children 3 – 5 yrs. old having or suspected of having a disability are eligible for referral to school districts’ Committee on Preschool Special Education. Evaluations are arranged with approved special education evaluators. An individual education plan is developed recommending either center-based programming with related services or community-based related services. Services may include Special Education, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Psychology, Social Work or Occupational Therapy. Transportation is provided to center-based programs. There is no cost to families and 407 children received services in Preschool in 2016.

## Early Intervention (EI)

Early Intervention is a free, statewide program for providing early identification, screening, evaluation, special services, and service coordination for infants, toddlers and their families at risk for developmental delays. Children birth to 3 years old with suspected developmental delays, a diagnosed disability, or condition affecting development are eligible for EI. Eligibility Criteria includes premature infants, low birth weight infants, growth deficiency/nutritional problems, parental substance abuse, suspected developmental delay, at risk factors or parental concern. Service Coordinators work with families in their homes to meet the special needs of each child and family and refers families to other community services such as Medicaid, SSI, or medical insurance. Services provided may include Special Instruction, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Psychological Services, Social Work, Occupational Therapy or Nutritional Services.

<b>Early Intervention</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
New Referrals	175	198
Children Receiving Services	388	359
Closed	136	188

## Essential Service 8: Assure a Competent Public Health Care Workforce

**Introduction:** *Essential Service 8 involves educating and training personnel to meet the needs for public and personal health service; adoption of continuous quality improvement and life-long learning and active partnership with academic institutions. In order to provide the highest quality public health service, the Steuben County Public Health department strives to ensure that all our staff possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform their jobs effectively and efficiently. Highlighted in this section is Workforce Development.*

### **Workforce Development**

In 2016, staff members were trained collectively on the following topics throughout the year:

- Effective Meetings
- Performance Measurement and Management
- Branding
- Community Health Assessment
- Palliative Care
- Local Resources, including 2-1-1 HELPLINE and Mental Health
- Public Health Accreditation
- Car Seat Safety
- Quality Improvement
- Radon
- Ethics
- HIPAA Compliance

Individual staff members completed training specific to their respective program areas as well.



## Essential Service 9: Evaluate Effectiveness, Accessibility & Quality of Personal and Population Based Health Services

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 9 calls for ongoing evaluation of health programs to assess program effectiveness and to provide information necessary for allocating resources and shaping programs. Measures for assessing this essential service indicate a need for strengthening Steuben County Public Health activities in this domain. Highlighted in this section are our activities related to pursuit of accreditation with the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB, and the professional advisory committee meetings.*

### **Public Health Accreditation**

Steuben County Public Health, along with five other local county health departments – Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates – worked collaboratively to set the foundation for a multijurisdictional accreditation application to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) to become nationally recognized. Throughout the year, the counties met to identify documents or examples of joint efforts that met measures spanning 12 domains of Public Health work:

- Domain 1: Conduct and disseminate assessments focused on population health status and public health issues facing the community
- Domain 2: Investigate health problems and environmental public health hazards to protect the community
- Domain 3: Inform and educate about public health issues and functions
- Domain 4: Engage with the community to identify and address health problems
- Domain 5: Develop public health policies and plans
- Domain 6: Enforce public health laws
- Domain 7: Promote strategies to improve access to health care
- Domain 8: Maintain a competent public health workforce
- Domain 9: Evaluate and continuously improve processes, programs, and interventions
- Domain 10: Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health]
- Domain 11: Maintain administrative and management capacity
- Domain 12: Maintain capacity to engage the public health governing entity

A statement of intent for the counties to apply for accreditation jointly was submitted to PHAB in June 2015. The counties applied for accreditation in June 2016, and the documentation to support the application will be fully uploaded to PHAB by June 2017. For more information on accreditation or PHAB visit [www.phaboard.org](http://www.phaboard.org).

## Essential Service 10: Research for New Insights & Innovative Solutions to Health Problems

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***Introduction:** Essential Service 10 includes continuous linkage with appropriate institutions of higher learning and research. Highlighted in this section is Steuben County Public Health's participation with the S2AY Network and Finger Lakes Health System.*

### **S2AY Rural Health Network**

The S2AY Rural Health Network is a unique horizontal network comprised of the Public Health Departments of eight contiguous rural counties (Steuben, Schuyler, Seneca, Ontario, Wayne, Yates, Chemung and Livingston), along with a legislator, consumer and provider from each county. This network has been in existence since 1997 and began with three founding counties (Steuben, Allegany and Yates). The area served covers 4,668 sq. miles of rural upstate New York and 528,493 people.

#### **Our objectives:**

- Developing comprehensive cost-effective health care systems, including dental care, that increase access to care and fill gaps in service delivery.
- Increasing and strengthening cooperation through affiliation, coalitions or partnerships that enhance and coordinate the array of needed health care services.
- Improving the financial viability of rural health care providers and in the existing health care economy.
- Increasing community involvement and locally-generated, innovative solutions to health care system issues.
- Increasing the number of health care personnel trained and practicing in rural communities.
- Strengthening the accountability of local providers for improvements in key public health and/or health care outcomes in the communities they serve.

#### **Major network activities:**

A wide variety of Public Health Quality Improvement and Assurance initiatives, including Corporate Compliance, In-service Training, over 200 joint policies and procedures, and staff committees on Public Health, Home Care and Finance. A Quality Coordinator has been employed by the S<sup>2</sup>AY Network and shared among counties to assist member counties with Quality and In-Service Training. Significant effort has been focused on the preparation and submission of the joint accreditation application to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) for six of the eight Network Counties, which includes Steuben County.



Steuben County Public Health partnered with the Network, NYSDOH, six hospitals and five senior meal providers to implement an initiative focusing on reducing sodium in hospital and senior meals in five counties. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in Steuben County. High blood pressure is a leading contributor to heart disease and reducing sodium consumption is an evidence-based approach to prevent and treat it. The recipes for all senior and hospital meals were analyzed to determine sodium content. Environmental scans were done at all hospitals (Ira Davenport, Arnot Ogden and St. Joseph's (all Arnot Health System), Schuyler, Soldiers and Sailors and Guthrie Corning Hospital). In the first year, the initiative reduced sodium in targeted meals by almost 12%, and in the second year sodium in targeted meals was reduced by over 20%. In the third year the participating hospitals exceeded the 30% sodium reduction goal and the senior meals programs reduced sodium by 14.5% overall. Results and findings are posted on the Network's website.

Navigators enrolled 2,250 Steuben County residents in health insurance. The Network also provides a Community Health Advocate for Steuben County. Advocates help people with all types of health related problems, including problems with access, prescriptions, co-pays and understanding health insurance coverage and needs. Over 700 people and small businesses were served through this program in 2016.

Participation and leadership on various groups, such as NYSARH, R-AHEC, the Finger Lakes Perinatal Network, the New York State Oral Health Coalition, The Finger Lakes Performing Provider System (FLPPS) and the Care Compass Network, and the Common Ground Health (formerly the FLHSA) Partnership on the Uninsured. The Network staff co-chairs the Steuben County Task Force on Underage Drinking.

With the help of the Network, Steuben County undertook the task of assessing the health of the county and its residents. After the compilation of county and regional data by Common Ground Health, and analysis of additional data and holding focus groups by the Network, the CHIP committee Smart Steuben started to develop a CHIP work plan. The Network made sure that the CHA/CHIP met the guidelines for both NYSDOH and the IRS, as well as adhering to any necessary accreditation needs. This included the use of evidence based interventions suggested by the NYSDOH. The Network worked with Steuben County Public Health, county hospitals, and other community partners in this process.

Joint regional efforts focused on worksite wellness, farm to cafeteria, breastfeeding and hypertension.

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## Budget Summary 2016

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
PHN Salaries & Administration	\$1,012,534	\$1,079,955
STD	\$4053	\$3,641
Immunization	\$14,501	\$14,901
Lead	\$2,433	\$5,085
Tobacco	\$3,984	1,819
Injury Prevention		\$1,198
PH Emergency Preparedness	\$77,446	\$82,050
Sodium Reduction Grant	\$116,649	\$73,227
Diabetes Coalition	\$2,724	\$3,322
Rabies	\$46,051	\$44,690
TB	\$1,537	\$1,897
Comprehensive Health Study	\$1,000	\$1,000
PHCP	\$9,354	\$5,653
Preschool	\$4,320,124	\$4,623,272
Early Intervention	\$265,540	\$370,339
SCS Salaries & Administration	\$473,314	\$575,957
Totals:	\$6,351,244	\$6,888,006
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Patient Fees, Medicaid & Third Party Payers	\$686,992	\$950,823
State Aid	\$664,237	\$567,242
Other NYS Aid	\$2,284,903	\$2,451,712
Grants	\$374,143	\$346,745
Other	\$122,623	\$229,652
Total	\$4,132,898	\$4,546,174