



CITY OF WAUWATOSA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

7725 WEST NORTH AVENUE
 WAUWATOSA, WI 53213
 Telephone: (414) 479-8936
 Fax: (414) 471-8483
<http://www.wauwatosa.net>

City of Wauwatosa Board of Health Meeting Minutes February 17, 2009

Present: Maggie Butterfield, Chair; Dr. Leslie Martin, Dr. Chris Shaw, Cheryl Davies, Dr. John Dunn, Dr. Nancy Kreuser, Lori Nielsen, James Beix

Absent: Alderperson Jacqueline Jay

The meeting was called to order at 8:17 a.m. by Chairperson, Maggie Butterfield.

- The agenda was approved as modified. The 11/18/08 Board of Health Meeting Minutes were approved as written. Motion by Dr. Martin, seconded by Dr. Shaw.
- There were no comments from the public
- The Board of Health welcomed new members Cheryl Davies, RD, and Dr. John Dunn. New and existing members shared their backgrounds, education, and interests. Dr. Dunn works as a pediatrician at the 16th Street Clinic; Cheryl Davies is a registered dietician (RD) with the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program in West Allis. She is working toward a certificate in public health from the University of North Carolina.

Maggie Butterfield, Chairperson for the past 10 years, announced that she will be stepping down due to work responsibilities at Children's Hospital. She provided valuable continuity for the health department, and the Board members thanked her for her many years of service. She thanked the WHD for providing excellent service to the community and charged the existing Board with supporting WHD public health efforts. A motion was made by Maggie Butterfield and seconded by Dr. Shaw to elect Dr. Leslie Martin as Chairperson, Dr. Dunn as Co-Chair, and Dr. Shaw and Cheryl Davies will share the Secretary role in order to be in compliance with City ordinance.

Reports:

Administration: Dr. Nancy Kreuser, Health Officer

- Personnel updates: As of the end of December, two FTE consortium personnel are housed in South Milwaukee. Cudahy Health Department is the new fiscal agent. Restructuring discussions to merge 3 existing southeast emergency preparedness consortia are in process and will become effective in 2010. James Beix will remain with the WHD in the role of Public Health Manager and will be responsible for the environmental health division and local preparedness efforts.
- Grant updates: Selected grant allocations are decreasing. The tobacco prevention grant is now focused on a regional approach, of which the WHD is a participating municipality. WHD will continue to provide excellent programming and public health service to the community.

Nursing Division: Lori Nielsen, Nursing Supervisor

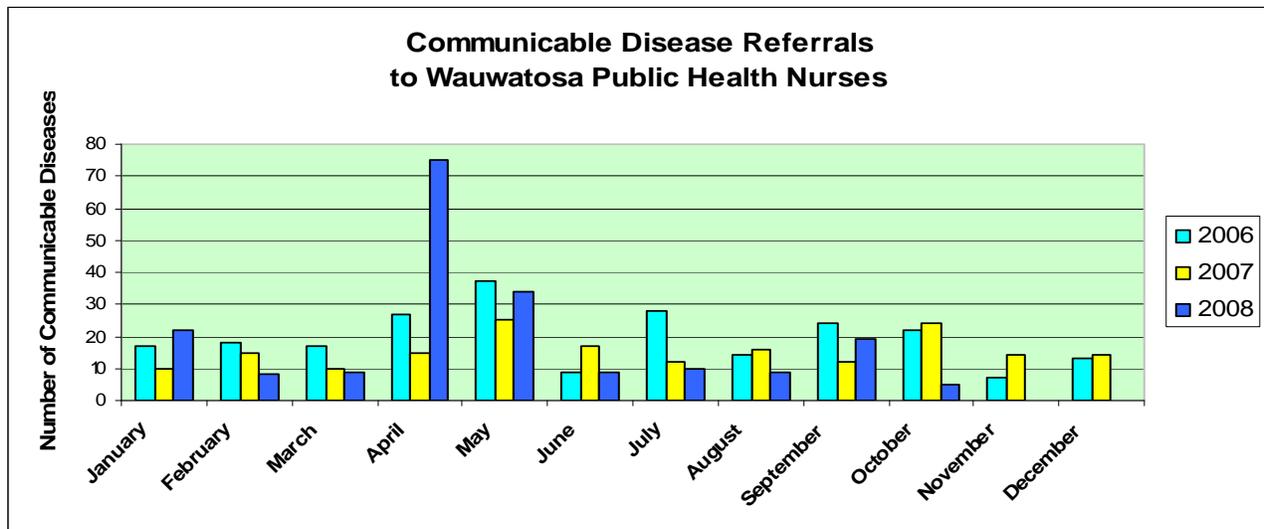
Communicable Disease (CD) Update:

Enteric outbreaks commonly occur during winter months due to many people spending more time indoors. Congregate adult living facilities are places where many of these outbreaks occur. The outbreaks are known as sentinel events or adverse events. In January, the health department investigated 3 adverse events involving enteric illnesses.

- Enteric event # 1: Situation was self-limited with no additional cases after a week. The one stool specimen that was sent to the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene (WSLH) returned negative for Norovirus. The final disposition was classified as 'suspect Norovirus'. Excellent infection control was practiced by the facility.
- Enteric event # 2: This adverse event began on January 17 and continues into February. Over 30 people were symptomatic. This event is unusual in that over 80% of the cases are employees, not people. Employees live in Wauwatosa, West Allis, Milwaukee, Oak Creek, and Greenfield. The outbreak is confined to two units which are interconnected by hallways. Enteric specimens that were sent to the WSLH and the Milwaukee Health Department Laboratory have all been negative to date. The investigation continues.
- Enteric event # 3: The health department was notified of this situation after one of the resident's relatives was informed that social activities and the dining room services were canceled, and residents were to stay in their rooms. The first reported case was January 9 and continued through January 26. residents and staff complained of enteric symptoms. Lab tests confirmed Norovirus as the organism. The WHD talked with the nursing director for education and specimen collection.
- Event #4: An enteric outbreak was reported in December among employees working at a store. Nine employees were ill between November and December. 7 of the 9 employees were interviewed; the sanitarian inspected the facility. No organism was identified despite 2 stool samples sent to WSLH. The final disposition was classified as 'suspect Norovirus'. Most of the employees worked stocking shelves and not working with food.

Dr. Dunn asked if there were infection control individuals in long-term care and other facilities. Lori stated that the larger facilities have a director or infection control person designated who will then report suspected disease to the WHD by law. However, there is some turnover in facilities. In the schools, The school nurse assists in the notification process to the WHD. Dr. Martin inquired if we are seeing an increase in gastroenteritis in the community. Dr. Dunn stated they are seeing it and finding longer lasting symptoms and negative cultures. Lori Nielsen stated although the WSLH tests for a range of organisms, samples are coming back negative for results. The state has no answer as to why. The flu virus circulation is increasing.

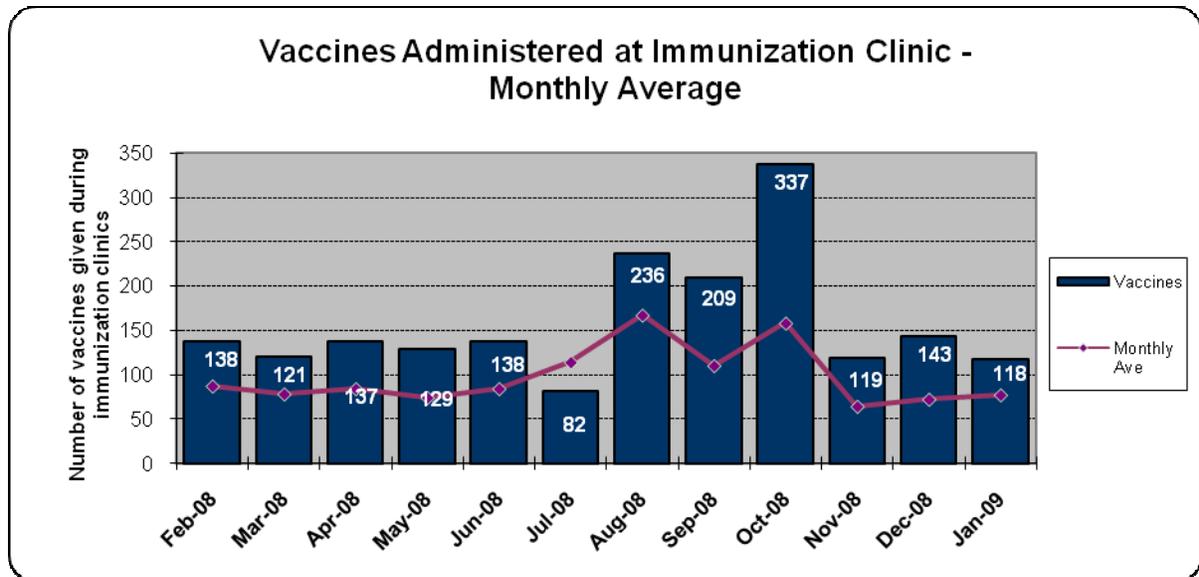
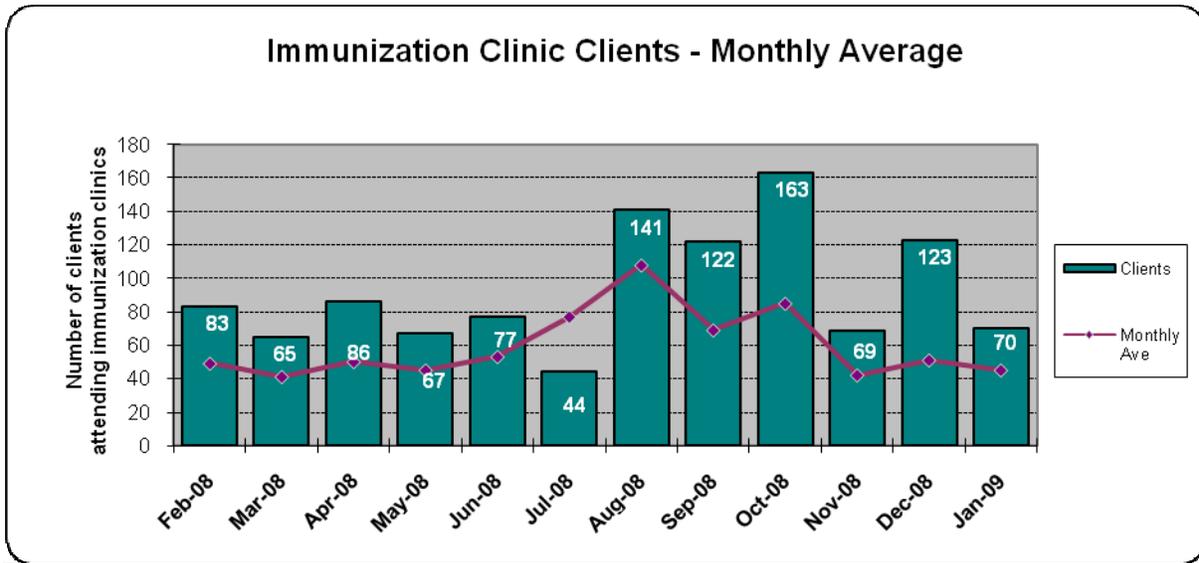
- Event #5: Another adverse event occurred involving a sports team. 11 athletes were diagnosed with 4 different skin infections in January. Affected athletes were excluded from competition and training. The training facility was thoroughly disinfected. The closing of the schools for 4 days due to inclement weather and the weekend assisted in the infection control process.



*** Regional measles outbreak in April 2008. ***

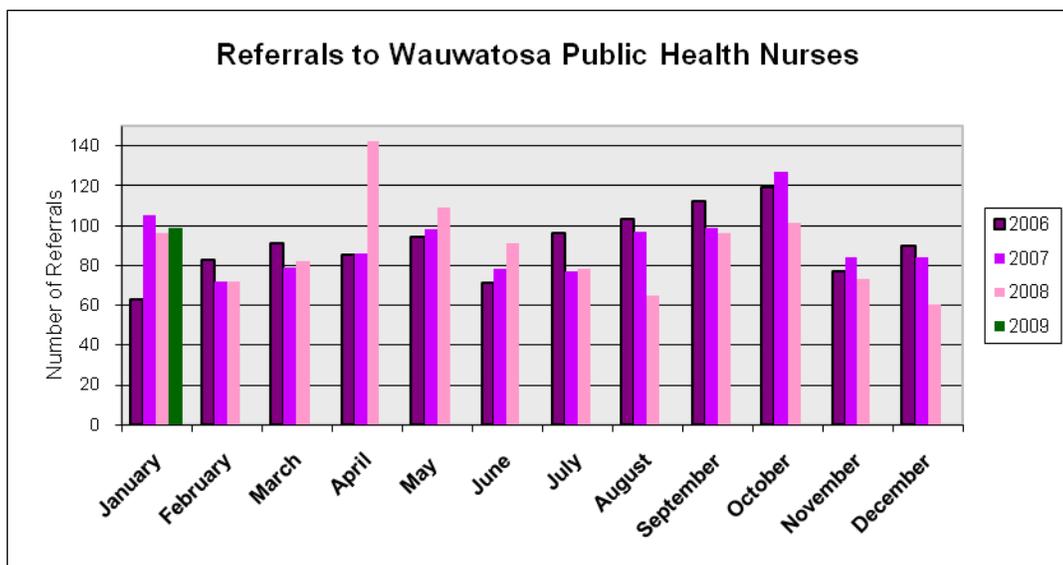
Immunization Program

- Influenza (flu): In Southeastern Wisconsin, flu activity was low but increasing as of February 7th. Planning activities are underway for the 2009 – 2010 flu season; vaccine was ordered and mass flu clinic dates and times have been set.
- A Pertussis outbreak occurred during December and January involving 4 school-aged children. Some were residents and others were not. All were connected epidemiologically through close contact or activities. Dr. Shaw inquired if the children with Pertussis were immunized. Lori stated yes. The children had a long-lasting cough. There are low levels of Pertussis circulating within the community.
- The number of clients seen and the volume of vaccines administered in WHD immunization clinics continue to increase. WHD encountered 42% more individuals and administered 37% more vaccines during immunization clinics in 2008 compared to 2007. See graphs.



Healthiest Wauwatosa 2010 Programs and Initiatives:

- The Physical Activity and Nutrition (PAN) Coalition's activities to date include:
 - Healthy Options in Tosa (H.O.T.) program: PAN members continue on the initiative aimed to work with restaurants in identifying healthy food choices on their menus. The 3 restaurant owners participating in the pilot H.O.T. program were surveyed on what worked well and what could be improved with the program. Results will be analyzed and incorporated into future program initiatives.
 - **Cooking Healthy Soups** programs scheduled for January 29 and February 5 was well received. Froedtert and Medical College dieticians conducted the program at city hall. Participants requested more cooking classes. A second class was added after there was a waiting list from the first class.
- Alcohol / Tobacco / Other Drugs (ATOD) programming: WHD staff assisted Tosa United in developing marketing materials and promoting '**Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness and Collection**'. (See *attached flyer*.) Lori credited Rebecca Huenink, Tosa United Liaison, for her work in addressing issues. The 2007 Wauwatosa Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicated 18.5% of Wauwatosa youth consume prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription.
- Lead program is currently revising its Lead Mini-Grant Initiative after conferring with the Wauwatosa Community Development Department and the regional Housing & Urban Development (HUD) representatives. HUD expectations are more involved than originally proposed. Details will be provided at a future Board of Health meeting.
- Integrated Data Systems: Public health database continues to progress. Bill Lambrecht, IT contractor, is developing the database. Meeting with Bill next week to continue with the programming.
- Access to Care: Public Health Nurses are averaging about the same number of referrals as in previous years. There was a noticeable increase in the number of families seeking supplemental resources such as WIC and other entitlements due to "a change in our financial situation" in January. One referral involved multiple departments and agency contacts. A non-English speaking woman with young children was living in her home that did not have a functioning furnace or water heater. The furnace stopped working due to flooding back in June. The woman did not apply for FEMA or other assistance at that time, possibly due to the language barrier. She was using 5 space heaters and the temperature in the home was 52 degrees. The family was served with an eviction notice by the mortgage company and circuit court effective February 4 due to non-payments. The family is on a low-income housing waitlist, but the estimated time to obtain the housing is 12-18 months. Combined city efforts facilitated the family to have a functional furnace and water heater by the month's end. Additional efforts to locate resources for the family continued into February.



*** Pertussis outbreak in early 2005

Environmental Health Division: James Beix, Environmental Health Manager/Epidemiologist

- Safe Food Crew Program for food handler education will begin this month with the distribution of 30 binders to participating restaurants. With the completion of 5 or more modules, participants will receive a window decal and recognition through the website, City Newsletter, press releases. There may be a train-the-trainer course for food managers by the WHD in March.
- State Agent Inspection Program update: A draft of a letter to pool operators clarifying a federal law change for anti entrapment and expectations was shared. Plan review and progress is expected during the 2009 transition year. The construction is expected to be done and inspected by the Department of Commerce in 2010.
- WI Department of Health Services Restaurant Inspection License fee revision: As state agent for the restaurant inspections, WHD reimburses the state 10% of their fees. The state, in response to their 2008 request for 20% reimbursement of their fees and subsequent denial of this request, responded by substantially increasing their fees for 2010. In order to offset the costs to the WHD, we propose an increase in license fees of \$25 for establishments less than and equal to \$100,000 of sales, and \$50 for those establishments over \$100,000 of sales. Dr. Martin asked when this needed to be done. Jim responded that the license renewals occur April 09. The question was raised if this was a one-time fee versus license fee. It is a license fee. Maggie Butterfield asked if we needed action today. Yes. There was a motion by Dr. Martin and a second by Maggie Butterfield to approve option 4 as recommended by the WHD.
- Dr. Dunn inquired how often inspections are conducted. Jim explained that by state contract, establishments are required to have at least an annual inspection. WHD also conducts follow up inspections and upon complaint. Selected establishments are inspected quarterly based on history and risk. Jim described the inspection process and the difference between the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) critical violations and non-critical violations as well as enforcement action. About 75-80% of establishments have a follow-up inspection. After that, excess inspection fees are assessed at \$100 each. The electronic database accommodates food-related inspections. There was a software incompatibility problem when we changed over to Vista operating system. This is being addressed. Because of the database, we have the ability to trend data and generate selected reports. We are working with West Allis Health Department to enhance the database capabilities collaboratively.

7. Old Business:

- Senior Commission Transportation Study workgroup: Based on a Senior Transportation Study and findings. Small workgroup being formed to study options. Workgroup has met once and is getting organized.
- Legal review of City health ordinances: Completed by Eileen Miller Carter and consisted of updates of language to revised statutes and elimination of codes no longer in use. This will be presented to the Council for revision in the near future.

8. New Business: No new business. Past meetings have been quarterly by statute. With the change of board membership, Maggie recommended every other month for a while.

9. Announcements

The Health Officer, on behalf of the WHD, and Board members thanked Maggie Butterfield for her leadership over the past decade.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for April 21st at 8 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.