

## **NOTICE OF REMOTE MEETING**

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

**May 4, 2021 – 8:30 A.M.**

### **TO JOIN THE REMOTE MEETING: ACCESS WEB LINK OR DIAL PHONE NUMBER**

<https://zoom.us/j/95693512837?pwd=d0ZBWjVhSG9leHN3bFU4NWx0TDcydz09>

1-312-626-6799 (US)

Meeting ID: 956 9351 2837

Passcode: 139883

### **Agenda**

Call to Order and Introductions

Certification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Approval of Minutes

- Health and Human Services Committee Meeting – April 20, 2021

Announcements and Correspondence

Public Comment—Members of the public may speak on topics relevant to the agenda. Individual speakers may be limited to three minutes each.

Department Head Report(s)

Public Health Manager — Starr Grossman

- Covid Update
- 2020 Public Health Annual Report

Health and Human Services Director — Matt Strittmater

- Health and Human Services Budget – First Quarter Forecast

Review and Approve Vouchers

- April 11, 2021 to April 24, 2021

Approval of Attendance at Other Meetings

Reports on Meetings Attended

Adjourn

Prepared by:  
Wendy Gorges, Recording Secretary

Brian Hoffman, Committee Chairperson  
Matt Strittmater, Health and Human Services Director

NOTE: A majority of the members of the County Board of Supervisors or of any of its committees may be present at this meeting to listen, observe, and participate. If a majority of any such body is present, their presence constitutes a "meeting" under the Open Meeting Law as interpreted in *State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village Board*, 173 Wis. 2d 553 (1993), even though the visiting body will take no action at this meeting.

# **SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES**

**April 20, 2021**

**Called to Order: 8:30 a.m.**

**Adjourned: 9:51 a.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisors: Brian Hoffmann–Chair, Curt Brauer–Vice Chair, Bill Goehring–Secretary, Marilyn Montemayor, Vicky Schneider, Wendy Schobert  
Non-Supervisors: Ms. Jeanne Kliejunas, Mr. Larry Samet

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ms. Dianne Oppeneer

STAFF PRESENT: Matthew Strittmater, Mary Jablonski, Michelle Acevedo, Starr Grossman, Tim Gessler, Scott Shackelford, Jackie Moglowsky, Kim Pagel, Kelly Lillegard, Wendy Gorges

PUBLIC PRESENT: Suzanne Speltz, Judi Pool, Stephanie Arndt, Jerry Jorgenson

### **Certification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law**

- The Health and Human Services Committee agenda was posted on April 16, 2021 at 3:56 p.m. in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

### **Approval of Minutes – April 6, 2021**

- Motion made by Supervisor Brauer, seconded by Supervisor Goehring to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Announcements and Correspondence**

- No announcements were made.

### **Public Comment**

- Suzanne Speltz, 3811 Heather Valley Road, Apt. #304, Sheboygan - spoke about COVID vaccinations.

### **Department Head Report – Director Matt Strittmater**

- Staff had a virtual meeting with the Department of Children and Family Secretary Emily Amundson. Sheboygan County shared information with her on the agency's Trauma Informed Care initiative, the Operational Effectiveness process improvement project in the Child & Family Services Division, and some of the new initiatives going on in the youth justice area.
- CPS Out-of-Home Kids – Sheboygan County has shown a decrease of children being placed outside of homes and staying with their families instead.
- The Program Evaluation and Prioritization scores have been entered into a database. We anticipate completing the analysis in the next few weeks, and will then construct the books and walk through them in a future Health & Human Services Committee meeting.

### **Public Health Manager – Starr Grossman**

- Covid Update  
The county remains in the “high” designation category. The current burden rate is 188.6 per 100,000 with a trajectory that has not had any statistically change in the last two weeks. The southeastern region of Wisconsin is at 87.8% of hospital beds are in use and 86.2% of ICU beds are in use. Sheboygan County has 39.3% of the population has been vaccinated with one dose already and 80% of those folks are in the age 65+ category. Sheboygan County has over 30+ registered vaccinators that are available for the community. There is an average of close to 8,000 doses given out weekly when taking a three-week average.

Software Administrator — Kelly Lillegard

➤ **Electronic Health Record Implementation Update**

It is early in the implementation, but things are going well so far. Time and energy has been spent on learning the functionality of the SmartCare product, considering changes to current workflow, and beginning to work on data migration. A formal project plan outlining the remainder of implementation is being finalized. Go-live is currently anticipated in November 2021.

**Health and Human Services Director – Matt Strittmater**

- Human Services Day at the Capitol Review – recording of the Human Services day at the Capitol. Matt chose four things to advocate locally: substance use residential treatment, birth-to-three program, child welfare system, and the youth justice area.
- Consideration of Change in Table of Organization  
Motion made by Supervisor Brauer, seconded by Ms. Kliejunas to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.
- Consideration of Promotion Request  
Motion made by Supervisor Brauer, seconded by Ms. Kliejunas to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.
- Consideration of Vacant Position Request – Public Health Sanitarian  
Motion made by Supervisor Brauer, seconded by Ms. Kliejunas to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.
- Consideration of Equity Adjustment  
Motion made by Supervisor Brauer, seconded by Ms. Kliejunas to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.

**Child and Family Services Manager — Scott Shackelford**

- Consideration of Vacant Position Request – Human Services Professional – LTE  
Motion made by Supervisor Brauer, seconded by Ms. Kliejunas to approve request. Motion carried unanimously.

**Accounting Manager — Mary Jablonski**

- Consideration of Vacant Position Request – Accounting Specialist  
Motion made by Supervisor Brauer, seconded by Supervisor Schobert to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.

**Review and Approve Vouchers**

- February 28, 2021 to March 13, 2021 – clarification from last meeting
- March 28, 2021 to April 10, 2021  
Motion made by Supervisor Brauer, seconded by Supervisor Montemayor to approve the vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Attendance at Other Meetings**

- Supervisor Vice Chair Brauer requested authorization for attending the following meeting:  
Preliminary Meeting WCA Legislators – 04/08  
Motion made by Supervisor Goehring, seconded by Ms. Kliejunas, to approve the attendance of the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- Supervisor Schobert requested authorization for attending the following meeting:  
Finance – 04/14  
Motion made by Supervisor Goehring, seconded by Ms. Kliejunas, to approve the attendance of the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- Supervisor Chair Hoffmann requested authorization for attending the following meetings:  
Administrative Panel – 04/12, 04/19  
Finance – 04/14  
HHS All Agency Staff Meeting – 04/15

Motion made by Ms. Kliejunas, seconded by Supervisor Montemayor to approve the attendance of the meetings for Supervisor Chair Hoffmann. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjourn**

- At 9:51 a.m., Supervisor Brauer moved and Ms. Kliejunas seconded to motion to adjourn the April 20, 2021 Health and Human Services Committee remote meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Prepared by:  
Wendy Gorges, Recording Secretary

Brian Hoffman, Committee Chairperson  
Matt Strittmater, Health and Human Services Director



## Sheboygan County Health and Human Services Division of Public Health 2020 Annual Report

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### Mission Statement and Summary of Responsibilities

The mission of the Sheboygan County Health and Human Services Division of Public Health (DPH) is to strengthen Sheboygan County by encouraging healthy behaviors, preventing disease, and protecting members of our community.

DPH works in a wide variety of program areas including community health promotion, communicable disease prevention, environmental health, lead poisoning prevention, refugee health, emergency preparedness, immunizations, maternal child health and WIC (Women, Infant, and Children Nutrition Program). Our staff includes 9 Public Health Nurses, 3 Environmental Sanitarians, 1 Environmental Lead, 3 Registered Dietitians, 1 Public Health Educator, 2 Program Supervisors, 1 Lead Health Strategist, 1 WIC Director and 6 Support Staff. In March, the acting Health Officer retired and the Community Engagement Supervisor began working in the Health Officer/ DPH Manager position.

In March of 2020 the World Health Organization declared a Global Pandemic caused by SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19. Between March and January of 2021 the Division of Public Health followed up with 10,395 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and approximately 6,000 close contacts. We have also supported 180 facility-wide investigations and provided education, coordination of care and returned over 8,000 phone calls specific to the pandemic. The pandemic response required the addition of twenty Limited Term Employees and consistent support from staff in other Sheboygan County Departments. DPH work assignments and program area work shifted due to the COVID response though communicable disease follow-up for other diseases remained a priority throughout the year.

### Goals and Objectives Achieved in 2020

Below you will find an overview of accomplishments in 2020 from the following program areas within DPH:

**Community Health Promotion:** All local Health Departments are required to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment and subsequently implement a Community Health Improvement Plan that aims to address the highest level health needs in Sheboygan County on a three year cycle. In 2020, we completed the following data components for our Community Health Needs Assessment: Key Informant Report, Secondary Data Analysis, Community Health Survey and Priority Issues Survey. In addition to these traditional portions, we also completed a Mental Health Access Gap Analysis in partnership with Sheboygan Mental Health America and the Center for Urban Population Health.

We continued to implement our 2018-2020 focus areas of Building a Recovery Community, Preventing Suicide, Addressing Issues of Food Security and Building a Trauma Informed Community. The Community Health Improvement Planning is done in collaboration with the following community partners: Aurora, HSHS - St. Nicholas Hospital, United Way, Lakeshore Community Health Care, and UW Extension - Sheboygan County.

In 2020, we were awarded the Opioid Fatality Review Grant. This grant allowed us to contract with an outside facilitator to conduct cross-sector jurisdictional reviews of our Opioid Fatality Deaths, to create prevention and policy initiatives to decrease future overdoses.

We also continued the implementation of multiple grants focused on substance use and abuse to include the AWY Incentive dollars and the WI Governors State Targeted Response to Opioids. Activities under those dollars included working with local taverns and law enforcement on drinking and driving, medication take back day events, distribution of medication lock boxes, community education events, and promotional materials.

The division also helped to shape and partner with the following community initiatives/programs to include: the Community Partnership for Children, Opioid Fatality Review, Zero Suicide, Immunization Coalition, Child Death Review Team, Sheboygan Area School District Growth and Development, Advance Care Planning Partnership, Tobacco Outreach and the School Nurse Partnership. It should be noted that a number of these coalitions met in a limited capacity in 2020 due to COVID-19 recommendations.

**Communicable Disease:** The purpose of the Communicable Disease program is to protect the community from the spread of communicable diseases in order to reduce morbidity and mortality that could result from their spread. DPH achieves this goal through early detection, tracking, investigation, case management and implementation of control measures within the community. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services updated DHS Administrative Rule 145 resulting in the addition of new category I and II diseases requiring case management and follow-up; Of note, 2020 saw the addition of COVID-19 to the category one communicable disease list. DPH responded to over 37,300 reports of communicable diseases within the county in 2020, this response included a review of medical data, case management and referrals to additional treatment, if necessary. Monthly communicable disease in-service opportunities were offered to nursing staff throughout the year as DPH formalized policies and incorporated new disease reporting requirements into daily work. In 2020, Sheboygan County had 1 case of active tuberculosis (TB) disease resulting in contact investigations to identify any additional cases of TB. The contact investigation for this active case included 94 individuals, adults and pediatrics, with 2 clients converting to Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) status. No additional cases of active disease were found during the course of contact investigations. There were 50 cases of LTBI identified and case managed in 2020. Sheboygan county responded to a significant legionella outbreak which resulted in multiple cases of legionnaires and coordination of environmental testing across multiple sites. This outbreak spanned county lines and assistance from the CDC was given to investigate.

**Lead Poisoning Prevention:** In 2020, our lead poisoning surveillance program was uprooted by the pandemic. During the first quarter of the year 34 children at risk for lead poisoning, who reside in Sheboygan County, were provided with age appropriate blood screening tests for lead. These children were seen through our Women, Infant Children (WIC) program. After the first quarter, in person visits through our WIC program were suspended and children were referred to their pediatricians for lead testing. There were 6 elevated blood lead (EBL) inspections done at the homes of newly diagnosed children with lead poisoning in 2020. DPH was able to close 2 properties that had outstanding lead orders in the past year. It was through

the collaboration of DPH, Sheboygan County Corporation Counsel and City Planning and Development that we were able to make these properties either lead safe, declared a human health hazard, ordered citations to the landlords, or had the properties torn down due to their poor condition.

**Refugee:** The purpose of the refugee program is to provide new refugees, resettling within Sheboygan County, with the critical resources needed to assist them in becoming active members of the community. To accomplish this, DPH provides case management activities and health screening to ensure that families are safe, healthy and have access to needed resources within 90 days of resettlement. Historically, Public Health Nurses partnered with Catholic Charities to provide referrals to each refugee for primary care, dental and vision care, as well as any other referrals that would be appropriate including to the Aging & Disabilities Resource Center or WIC programs. Due to changes in legislation at the federal level Sheboygan County has seen a significant decline in families resettling in our community and across the state, resulting in the closure of Catholic Charities Milwaukee and Sheboygan branches. There were no refugee families resettled in Sheboygan County in 2020.

**Emergency Preparedness:** The purpose of the emergency preparedness program is to promote the resilience of vulnerable individuals, children, families and communities impacted by disaster and public health emergencies, and provide expertise in human services preparedness, response and recovery through policy, planning, operations and partnerships. DPH was able to apply nearly every aspect of the Sheboygan County Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plan (PHEP) during 2020. At the outset of the pandemic we established a standing joint information system to coordinate and streamline messaging across systems. We immediately established a pandemic administrative panel to allow for increased dialogue and information sharing with key community partners. We moved into a formal incident command structure and opened an Emergency Operations Center with support from Sheboygan County Emergency Management. Public Health partnered with Sheboygan County Emergency Management and the Wisconsin National Guard to coordinate community COVID-19 testing sites in Sheboygan County to assist local healthcare systems with a three day testing event in May and twice a week testing days beginning in October through the end of 2020. Testing was free to any Wisconsin resident and did not require an appointment.

**Environmental Health (EH):** The EH program is an Agent of the State's Department of Agricultural, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and is responsible for licensing and inspecting all food service and recreational facilities. Licensed and inspected facilities include restaurants and grocery stores, lodging facilities such as hotels and motels, pools, campgrounds, and tattoo and body piercing facilities. Inspection of temporary food events such as the County Fair, Farmers Markets, Hmong Fest, etc. is also the responsibility of the EH program, however, due to COVID, no temporary inspections were completed in 2020. Breakdown of licensed facilities include: 733 food facilities (which includes 71 temporary food vendors), 81 pools, 128 lodging facilities, 14 campgrounds and 16 tattoo/body piercing facilities. In addition to our DATCP contract, the EH program has a contract with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to sample and inspect Transient, non-community wells. Transient, non-community wells are typically found with churches, restaurants, daycare centers, parks, golf courses, and other similar facilities that serve a small transient population. Currently, we inspect 164 transient non-community wells. Aside from our contractual

obligations, the EH program is also responsible for animal bite follow up in relation to rabies (both animal to human and animal to animal). We provide education to bite "victims" and require testing or quarantine of the animal in question. In 2020 we provided follow-up and case management to 117 bite victims. Additionally, the EH program is involved in Sheboygan County's beach monitoring program, provides radon education and radon test kits for Sheboygan County residents, and also provides general education and training on various environmental related issues ranging from bed bugs and mold to air and water quality issues.

**Immunizations:** DPH staff work with community partners to ensure that Sheboygan area children are up to date on the recommended vaccinations: this includes providing reminders and education for parents and health care providers when children are behind on their immunizations. In 2020, 80 percent of children less than 24 months of age received the recommended vaccines by their second birthday, with 27 percent of children less than 24 months of age having incomplete or refused vaccinations (Data may change as providers complete inserting data into the State database). Public Health Nurses work with Sheboygan County public and private schools and daycares to ensure reporting of required vaccines to the State Immunization Program. In 2020, Public Health Nurses educated day care providers about the importance of vaccines and provided reminders to report their daycare Immunization rates to the state of Wisconsin. In collaboration with the Sheboygan County Immunization Coalition, public health staff helped coordinate an educational opportunity for 45 local health care providers to promote adult vaccination. 2020 saw the start of mass vaccination clinics in Sheboygan County for COVID-19 and DPH plans for hosting mass vaccination events throughout the county began. DPH facilitated first phase vaccination efforts in collaboration with the healthcare systems and LTC facilities for all frontline healthcare workers.

**Maternal Child Health:** In 2020, our Maternal Child Health Block Grant was focused on Adolescent Suicide prevention and Health Equity. Strategies implemented to continue this work from previous grant included the reevaluation of staff to be retrained in "Question Persuade Refer" (QPR) continued to offer QPR trainings on suicide prevention to diverse personnel across the county. Prior to the pandemic DPH staff served in the Zero Suicide process with Aurora Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center on a steering committee and a committee to look at coordination of discharge planning. DPH staff supported our local Mental Health America (MHA) during their annual "There is Hope" suicide prevention walk (done differently this year due to COVID19 restrictions). We were not able to meet as the Child Death Review Team, due to restrictions, but completed our Youth Mental Health report as a result of the 2019 reviews. The Health Equity initiative allowed DPH to partner with the HHS Trauma Informed Care (TIC) coordinator to incorporate health equity principles into daily work of staff across the department. This partnership resulted in a base-line training of identified Equity Champions within the department which strengthened continued equity work.

**WIC:** Is a Supplemental Nutrition Program provided for Women, Infant, and Children (WIC). Our program provides Healthy food, health care referrals and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and infants and children up to the age of five who are found to be a nutritional risk. Active and healthy lifestyles are encouraged to promote overall health and well-being.



WIC caseloads have had a slow increase over 2020; with an average of 98% participation rates of our contracted caseload which is a seven percent increase from 2019. The growth in participants is likely due to increased financial strain on parents due to the pandemic and has also been helped by a waiver from USDA that allowed WIC to provide services without physical presence.

Our staff pivoted practice to reach families via telephone calls which allowed us to connect with clients who traditionally may have been “no-shows” for in-clinic appointments due to various barriers. We will continue phone contacts when able for high risk clients (with required data from recent MD visits i.e. height/weight and Hgb/lead screens).

In 2020, \$1,196,512.65 in WIC benefits was spent at local grocery stores and pharmacies, with \$12,198.00 in Farmers Market Nutrition Program benefits spent at local farmers markets and farm stands. We did see a decrease in *usage* of benefits for both grocery stores and farmers market benefits in 2020 mostly due to fears related to COVID. There have also been some increases in FoodShare benefits related to COVID relief efforts, for our WIC participants, and FoodShare recipients have the ability to use Curbside pick-up for groceries, where WIC participants currently do not.

In 2020, 70% of women on the program initiated breastfeeding postpartum; which had been consistent with 2019. We were also consistent with the State average of a 70% initiation rate, however we continue to work to increase breastfeeding initiation rates to the state goal of at least 80%.

In October 2019, the Sheboygan County WIC program received a Federal award from USDA for SNAP-Education, Nutrition and Obesity award of \$15,606 for 2020. This allowed for us to initiate the *Fit Families* program. The *Fit Families* program is a health promotion program offered to WIC families, designed to help parents choose healthy habits for their child and/or family. Parents typically select 1 of 3 common health goals: to eat more fruits and vegetables, move more.. watch less, or make every sip count.. drink more healthy beverages. Monthly contacts are made via phone call or text message and monthly newsletters with recipe and activity ideas are mailed to participants. The yearly caseload is 50 participants; our first year in 2020 we had a total of 37 participants. We are already at our goal of 50 participants for 2021.

#### **Issues and Challenges Ahead:**

- This past year has presented many challenges related to changes in staffing, on-boarding and orientation. Staff leadership capacity is limited due to a number of competing priorities, additional effort will be needed to ensure staff have the support needed to excel within their roles in this ever changing environment.
- As the community needs to shift and Sheboygan County moves closer towards recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic it will be important to have a strong strategic plan to guide efforts and assist in determining which priorities to focus on as additional work is resumed by the DPH team.
- In an effort to continue to keep WIC caseload numbers up and connect with community members who qualify we are exploring options to continue with tele-visits post pandemic in order to eliminate unnecessary time in the clinic when remote services via telephone follow-up and online nutrition education for low-risk clients might suffice.

- Public Health endeavours to make decisions in a data driven way, the pandemic has highlighted the benefits of having an epidemiologist on our staff who could support data analysis, identify trends and explore areas where public health can most effectively support the community. Additional consideration will be given to adding this skillset to our current staffing pattern now and into the future.
- A challenge that we face in local public health departments across the state continues to be inconsistent funding streams that prevent sustainable programming. According to the America's Health Rankings, Wisconsin ranks 48th for public health funding nationally. For example, emergency preparedness funding at the State level and through our regional coalitions decreased consistently between 2017-2019. During the pandemic local health departments were provided just in time dollars to support the pandemic response but lack of consistent funding decreases the ability of local public health agencies to effectively turn the tide on health epidemics and prevent diseases year to year.

### **Review of Sheboygan County Division of Public Health 2018-2020 Strategic Planning Goals**

Goal 1: Build a cohesive team culture and ensure a competent workforce

Strategy 1.1: Strengthen workforce competency and capacity

Strategy 1.2: Strengthen Communication and Relationship Building

Strategy 1.3: Strengthen Leadership

Goal 2: Build a Culture of Community Engagement

Strategy 2.1: Build and Engage in Strategic Community Partnerships

Strategy 2.2: Increase internal and external visibility of public health services

Goal 3: Demonstrate fiscal responsibility

Strategy 3.1: Maximize funding opportunities

Strategy 3.2: Establish effective and efficient processes.

Goal 4: Develop, provide and maintain high level public health services.

Strategy 4.1: Meet the National Public Health Performance Standards

Strategy 4.2: Assure the priority health needs are addressed