

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

WAUSHARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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MISSION OF WAUSHARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Waushara County Health Department is the official governmental agency that provides public health services to the residents of Waushara County. The agency's first purpose is to protect the health of all Waushara County residents. The public health staff strives to prevent, control and eradicate communicable diseases via the following activities/programs within the county.

Wisconsin State Statute 251 requires that a local Health Department provide at least surveillance, control and prevention of communicable diseases. Waushara County Health Department is a Level II health department as recognized by the state of Wisconsin. The staff works collaboratively with the State Department of Public Health and with local and regional partners to meet the mission of the department and the Core Public Health Functions and the Essential Public Health Services.

In 2007 Waushara County achieved Level III status, the highest level status assigned counties in the state of Wisconsin. This status is based on a 140 review by the state looking at the Statute 140 and requirements that need to be made and maintained by the Health Department in order to achieve this status.

In 2008 the Public Health Department continued to see staff changes. Cindy Emrich, RN, long term school nurse for Tri-County School District, retired in September after 27 years of great service to Waushara County Health Department. Karen Kwiatkowski,

Public Health Tech, after 20 years at the Health Department moved to Wausau. Brenda Ruby, the Financial Office Manager, was snapped up by Human Services to take an assistant position to their Financial Manager. This is a promotion for Brenda and we wish her well. We are sad for all the good byes but also welcome some new faces. We hired Tammy Walker, RN, part-time public health nurse and Sue Lederer, Health Assistant came to us from the Child Support Department to assist in our Food and Recreational Licensing program.

Core Function: Assessment

Essential Service #2: Identify, Investigate, Control and Prevent Health Problems and Environmental Hazards in the Community.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL –

The public health nurses for Waushara County provide health education counseling and referral services in communicable disease control. During 2008, 108 reportable communicable disease cases were investigated.

Waushara County participates in and offers Partner Counseling and Referral Services for HIV/AIDS clients through the state program. In 2009, Winnebago County will provide these services through a contract with the state of Wisconsin in cooperation with Waushara County Health Department. It is no longer feasible, by cost and time, to keep a staff person trained to the level required by the state for the number of cases (usually less than one per year) that occur in Waushara County.

We provided 247 TB skin tests to residents and county employees in 2008. We provide follow up to clients with latent and active TB. In 2008 we had one infectious TB case.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH –

Mr Hinz Supervised the Tri-County Environmental Health Consortium consisting of Waushara, Green Lake, and Marquette Counties. He Implemented the Tri-County Environmental Health Program, which includes the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection Agent Food Safety and Inspection Program and the Department of Health and Family Services Agent Food Safety and Recreational Licensing Program; identifying and solving community environmental health problems; developing and maintaining policies, ordinances, and standards; enforcing ordinances and codes; public health nuisance investigation; environmental hazard investigation; and rabies prevention/investigation. He also maintained a three county agent contract with The Department of Natural Resources-Bureau of Air Management for asbestos compliance inspections, The Wisconsin Bureau of Public Health- Radiation Protection Unit three county Radon Information Center, and the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services- Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

During 2008 Mr Hinz continued his education by completing several online ORA-U courses, completed coursework to become a Certified ServSafe Instructor and Registered ServSafe Examination Proctor, and course work to maintain Asbestos Supervisor

Certification and Lead Risk Assessor/Hazard Investigator. He completed advanced course work on Radon Control in New Homes, and a hands on mitigation course through the University of Minnesota. Mr. Hinz also completed NRPP 45B course work on radon and radon decay product measurement. Further course work included a Food Safety Train-the-Trainer Food Safety Educators workshop. He attended numerous environmental health and Food Safety/Recreational Licensing Conferences, including representing the Wisconsin affiliation at the National Environmental Health Conference in Tuscon, Arizona. Mr. Hinz served as President of the Wisconsin Environmental Health Association (WEHA) and as a member of the WEHA Education Committee. Mr. Hinz participates as a member of the Advisory Committee for the UW-Oshkosh Biology Department and helped support the development of an Environmental Health Major at the University. Currently, Mr. Hinz also participates as a member of the State Campground Code Writing Committee, developing a new campground code for the State of Wisconsin and as a Technical Section Co-Chair in the General Environmental Section for the National Environmental Health Association.

Tri-County Consortium inspectors completed 521 Food Safety and Recreational Licensing Program inspections in 2007, resulting in the identification of 1160 CDC Risk Factors. Although significantly reduced, the majority of the CDC risk factors identified were in the personal hygiene category, including hand washing and bare hand contact with food ready to be served for consumption. It is notable that risk factors identified were significantly reduced. As a result, the Department incorporated a restaurant/retail facility excellence award program and issued certificates to several restaurants/retail establishments.

Tri-County has established an educational program for reduced licensing for temporary restaurant and special organizational permits to non-for-profit organizations and will for the first time, offer Certified Food Manager courses at a reduced cost to Tri-County Environmental Health Consortium licensed facility personnel.

Lead: The department has a partnership with WIC to provide blood lead testing to a cohort of county residents. The nursing staff educates and follows up with parents of children with abnormal test results. If a home inspection is necessary the Environmental Health Specialist provides that service. 307 children were tested and contacted in 2008.

Home Lead Assessments: Two new staff attended training for to become Lead Risk Assessors in 2008. They work closely with families with lead poisoned children that need housing inspections, abatement orders and education to decrease the lead poisoning. We had no children in 2008 that needed home abatement services. We provide educational materials and information when children have a level of blood lead above 5 even though normal is up to 10 mcg per dl.

SAFETY SEAT PROGRAM –

In order to decrease intentional and unintentional injuries the department is the area distributor for this safety car seat program. We have three staff that have received

training as Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. Staff needs to recertify yearly beginning in 2005. To be recertified yearly, technicians have to complete a 100 question written test and participate in a car safety seat inspection where a certified instructor is present. In 2008, more than 74 residents were instructed on proper use of and had a child fitted for the appropriate car seat. We purchase car seats at a reduced rate and assist residents in obtaining a car seat at low cost. We received grant funding (\$1500) to give car seats away to residents that cannot afford to pay for a seat. A new booster seat law was enacted in 2007 requiring children age less than eight, eighty pounds and four foot nine inches tall to be in an appropriate seat. We will have a fourth nurse become a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician in 2009.

FLUORIDE SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM –

Waushara County Health Department has a fluoride supplement program that offers dietary fluoride supplements to children if they live in Waushara County, are between the ages of 6 months to 16 years, and do not have enough fluoride in their drinking water. Before the fluoride supplement is prescribed, the fluoride content of the child's drinking water is determined through a State Lab of Hygiene water test. The dietary supplement is free to qualifying children. Each supplement contains a three (3) month supply and is refilled as needed. This program helps protect teeth against decay. We served 39 children in Waushara County with this program in 2008.

Fluoride varnish program: In 2006 the department began a new fluoride varnish program. Fluoride varnish is painted on the teeth of children 6 months to 6 years to prevent tooth decay. It can be applied three times a year and reimbursed by Medicaid. For those children private pay we offer a sliding fee scale to cover the cost. We have offered fluoride varnish at WIC, UMOS, at the office and at the preschool/four year old kindergarten project at CAP services building. We have provided this service to 96 children at UMOS and 68 Head Start and 4K children in 2008. An average of three applications per year is standard for the fluoride varnish. Fluoride Varnish is also applied to the students in school when we apply dental sealants. In 2009 we are coordinating with a dental hygienist out of Madison, who is planning to provide fluoride varnish to most children in the Wautoma School District.

Core Function: Assessment

Essential Service #1: Monitor health status to identify community health problems.

Essential Service #7: Link people to needed health services

PUBLIC HEALTH VISITS TO MOTHERS AND CHILDREN –

The purpose of this program is to promote infant growth and development, prevent injuries and premature disability. The family is the basic unit of services for public health. The public health nurses provide physical and developmental assessments of new mothers and infants. They provide health information and case management of other health services. They identify family problems and work toward resolution of the problems.

All birth record data is reviewed to identify risk factors, adverse prenatal outcomes and demographics for outreach purposes. All families of newborn infants are contacted by

telephone or by letter or are sent post partum packets and are asked if they would like a home visit. The families receive a copy of our immunization schedule.

WWWP Program-

Waushara County, Marquette County and Green Lake County collaboratively hire a coordinator for the Wisconsin Well Woman Program in our three county area. This program offers age and financially eligible women cancer screening exams for free along with some risk assessment for osteoporosis, depression, domestic abuse, MS, and extended screening tests for diabetes, cholesterol and blood pressure/hypertension.

There were 88 women, ages 35-64, residing in Waushara County that received WWWP services in 2008. The coordinator of the program also facilitates the Tri-County Women's Health Coalition and the Women's Health Event committee. The Women's Health Event was held in Green Lake at the Conference Center in October with over 300 women in attendance from five counties including Waushara County. This event offers educational health talks to women and a health fair with a display of resources of women's health information.

Core Function: Assurance

Essential Service #6: Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and insure safety.

Essential Service #9: Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population-based health services.

The Food Safety and Recreational Licensing Program would fall under enforcement to protect health and was discussed prior in the environmental program section.

IMMUNIZATION CLINICS –

In 2008, along with immunization clinics offered every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, we offer immunizations at the Plainfield WIC clinic the first Thursday of every month. Childhood immunizations are given free of charge. In 2008 we gave 3023 immunizations to 2245 clients. The department records and tracks immunizations given to children and adults with the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) program, an Internet based data system available to all Wisconsin counties, schools and medical providers. We also assess the immunization status of our clients. Home visits are made to Amish families to encourage immunization in that community.

We work with the WIC Program providing on-site immunizations to WIC clients at Plainfield and at Family Health Medical & Dental, Wautoma. We assist them in tracking immunization records of children on the WIC Program.

Core Function: Assurance

Essential Service #7: Link people to needed health services

Essential Service #11: Assure access to primary health care for all

HEPATITIS B VACCINATIONS –

Hep B clinics are provided for Waushara County employees who are identified in the county's bloodborne pathogens exposure control plan. County municipalities that hire new employees also participate in this program. Employers in Waushara County with employees in at-risk positions contract with the health department for this service. Many of our vaccines are given to children with state funding. However, private citizens can request Hepatitis B vaccine and pay on an individual basis. We also provide Hep A to people at high risk residents or traveling. For adults looking for Hep B and Hep A we give Twinrix vaccine which combines Hep B and Hep A.

FLU SHOTS –

The Health Department offers flu vaccine to county residents. In 2008 we vaccinated 1920 people. All participants were charged \$30.00 per vaccination. The department submits electronically to Medicare and Medicaid.

PNEUMONIA SHOTS –

In 2008 the Health Department continued to offer pneumococcal vaccine to county residents. We vaccinated 38 people. This continues to be a requested vaccination. All participants were charged \$45.00 per vaccination. The agency submits electronically to Medicare and Medicaid.

MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINE –

Meningococcal vaccine is now required by law to be offered to incoming college freshman. The vaccine is available in two forms, Menomune and Menactra. The agency has offered this vaccine at cost to residents for several years. Most clients receive the vaccine from spring to early fall as they prepare to enter college. In 2008 we offered the Menactra vaccine as it is considered to have some advantages such as it lasts longer than Menomune. In 2008 we gave 140 Menactra vaccines through private and public funding. This vaccine is also available at physician's offices and at the individual Universities.

OFFICE CLINICS –

We provide clinics on Tuesdays and Thursdays at which time Waushara County residents may come to the agency for the following services: Blood sugar checks, blood pressure checks, weight check, TB testing, health counseling and education, diet teaching, hearing and vision screening and immunizations with doctor's orders. Appointments are encouraged but walk-ins are accepted.

PRENATAL CARE COORDINATION –

Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) is a Medicaid benefit that helps pregnant women get the support and services they need to have a healthy baby. Prenatal Care Coordination services include: Help getting the health care you need, personal support, information on good eating habits, health practices, and help finding needed services in the community. PNCC services help a recipient and, when appropriate, the recipient family gains access to medical, social, educational, and other services related to the recipient's pregnancy. PNCC services are available to Medicaid eligible pregnant women with a high risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes during pregnancy through the first 60 days following delivery. The department served 21 clients in 2008 with the PNCC program.

PREGNANCY TESTING –Reproductive Health

Waushara County Health Department offers pregnancy testing and counseling. For information and appointment call 920-787-6590. Walk-ins accepted upon staff availability. They are no longer free. Clients must have Badgercare, Badgercare Plus, Family Planning Waiver or private pay. 91 residents were served with this program in 2008. We provide presumptive eligibility to encourage early pregnancy services and MA enrollment. Clients are referred to PNCC, WIC, Human Services and private medical practitioners for further needs from this program. We also have a MOU with Women's Health and Resource Center in Berlin for initial contraceptives and follow-up.

CHOLESTEROL SCREENINGS –

Cholesterol screenings are held every 1st and 3rd Monday mornings of the month. We offer full lipid panel testing. In 2008, a fee of \$20.00 was charged per screening. 33 cholesterol tests were done in 2008. In 2009 the dates of screenings have moved to Tuesdays. Our fees are increasing to \$25 in 2009.

LOAN CLOSET –

The agency provides durable medical equipment such as hospital beds, walkers, commodes, wheelchairs, etc., on an as-needed basis, with a \$5.00 non-refundable user fee and minimal monthly rental charges (\$10-\$ 40) to any resident in Waushara County, on a first come, first serve basis. Fees increased in 2009. If a family is unable to provide the user fee or rental charges, the Director of the agency may waive the requirement to pay. In 2008 we served 21 people with equipment. We did not purchase any new loan closet equipment as we received very generous donations from the public and a rental agency that was closing. The car seat rental money plus grant dollars allows us to purchase more car seats.

FOOT CARE CLINIC –

Because of the need in the county, and the popularity of the program the agency has increased its services for this program to four (4) days per month; with additional clinics and home visits as needed. A fee of \$18.00 is assessed for the initial visit and \$13.00 for follow-up visits. In 2009 the fee has increased to \$20 initial and \$15 for follow up visit. The program has been in existence for more than 10 years. In 2008 the department had 69-70 clients utilize this program. This is an increase of 18 clients from 2007.

TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT (TCM) –

Waushara County Health Department offers Targeted Case Management to targeted populations, such as Children with Special Health Care Needs, families with a child at-risk of mental, physical, or emotional dysfunction, and children whose mothers qualified for the Prenatal Care Cooperation Program. We help these individuals gain access to and successfully navigate the health care and social services system. Case management providers conduct a comprehensive assessment of the individual's strengths and needs, develop an individualized plan of care, and provide on-going monitoring and follow-up services. The department served 21 clients with this program in 2008. One of our staff nurses, Ellen Kiiskila, is the parent liaison for our area for Children With Special Health Care Needs.

HEALTHCHECK –

The public health staff provides physical examinations, height and weight checks, vaccinations, test for anemia, blood lead tests, vision and hearing screenings, nutrition assessments, health counseling to parents and adolescents, and referrals to other health care providers if so needed, to individuals from birth to age twenty-one (21) who receive Medical Assistance/Badger Care.

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS –

On alternating months the public health technicians conduct on-site blood pressure clinics in area communities. The communities serviced are Redgranite, Plainfield, Coloma and Hancock. In 2006 we will add the new Saxville Meal Site to our routine blood pressure clinic schedule. In 2008 we added the Wild Rose Meal Site to the blood pressure routine. There is an average of 4-20 participants at each clinic offered.

Falls Prevention Program –

This is a new initiative that the Health Department is doing in partnership with the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) in the Tri-County area of Waushara, Marquette and Green Lake Counties. We have two nurses providing this service through two different programs. One of the programs is Stepping-On, which a fall prevention work shop that is held for two hours a week over a 7 week period. Local experts which include physical therapists, pharmacists, eye care specialists and law enforcement assist by providing information to the participants. Stepping- On work shops are designed to be simple and fun to improve participants balance, strength and sense of security in a community setting. The second program is Sure Step. This program is designed to decrease falls and promote independence. Participants receive a thorough in home assessment. This assessment includes an evaluation of medications, vision, balance, mobility, and an environmental home safety assessment. The participants and their primary care provider receive written recommendations to prevent further falls. Follow up includes monthly phone calls for one year to monitor safety and provide additional education as needed.

Core Function: Policy Development

Essential Service #4: Promote community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.

WAUSHARA COUNTY TOBACCO FREE COALITION –

In 2004 Waushara County received a decrease in grant funding to maintain the Tobacco Free Coalition. In 2007 the Tobacco Coalition no longer meets on a routine basis. However, in 2009 the State of Wisconsin has issued \$20,000 to Waushara County for coalition building, policy development and action among several surrounding counties with legislators toward Smoke Free Wisconsin activities. Health Department participates in the WTWINS compliance check program. Youth participate in this program by assisting the Department with physical, onsite, compliance checks of facilities that are licensed to sell tobacco products to check if they follow the laws about checking ID and not selling to Minors. In 2008, 124 compliance checks were completed. This program is

in cooperative agreement with County law enforcement to provide citations to those that sell to minors. In 2008, the Health Department took on the job of issuing the citations as they can per the ordinance. The Department staff also involves the youth in anti-tobacco initiatives such as the TATU program in the schools where the older students present anti-tobacco information to the younger school children.

In 2009, as stated above, the Tobacco funding is increasing and once again looking for counties to collaborate and form larger coalitions to work on Tobacco policy. Waushara County has chosen to partner with Green Lake, Marquette and Fond du lac for 2009.

The department participates in the First Breath program that promotes smoking cessation for pregnant women. With special grant funding in 2006 the agency began a new program to offer smoking cessation support, education and products to family members and significant other of pregnant women as we find that even if they quit during pregnancy they often relapse after the baby is born. The department continues to get extra funding for tobacco related programs for pregnant women each year.

BIOTERRORISM –

In 2008 Waushara County Health Department continues to receive funds from The Center for Disease Control Bioterrorism Preparedness Grant. The objective for this grant is to help communities to be better prepared to respond to bioterrorism events by participating in planning efforts at the local, regional and state level.

Waushara County is part of the Fox Valley Public Health Preparedness Consortium consisting of the cities of Appleton, Menasha, Neenah and Oshkosh, and the counties of Calumet, Green Lake, Outagamie, Waupaca and Winnebago. Appleton Health Department will serve as the fiscal agent for the consortium. In 2008 Marquette County joined the Consortium. Funding allocated to each consortium is to be utilized to fulfill objectives set by the State Division of Health, in order to develop comprehensive regional public health emergency and bioterrorism preparedness plans. The Fox Valley consortium will work in partnership with emergency management, hospitals, health care providers, first responders, law enforcement, Hazmat (hazardous materials) teams, public safety workers and other regional community and volunteer organizations.

Key activities in 2008 included the last of the Pandemic Flu Planning and funding. Also included in activities were a functional exercise for mass vaccination clinics held at Wild Rose School in August, Competency Testing of staff, a school health surveillance plan with Riverview Elementary and Wild Rose Elementary schools, a SNS table top exercise with all Northeast Regional counties attending and continued planning with our local partners.

SCHOOL HEALTH –

Tri-County, Wild Rose, and Wautoma School Districts contracted with Waushara County Health Department for school nursing. School nursing services were also provided to St. Johns, West Bloomfield and the Amish Schools. In addition to seeing students for injuries and illnesses, the public health nurses, along with the public health techs and volunteers do vision and hearing screenings, and track immunization records of all

students in Waushara County. The school nurses make home visits to students and parents regarding health problems. The other schools in the county receive services when needed. With Cindy Emrich retiring, Cheryl Sorenson, RN, takes on the Tri-County School nursing job. Cheryl Sorenson also provides school nursing for Wild Rose Schools while Ellen Kiiskila, RN, provides school nursing for Wautoma School District.

Shara Smile – In spring of 2007 Waushara County received a grant of \$29,000 to increase access to dental care by providing dental sealants in a school based setting to children throughout Waushara County. The Health Department purchased portable dental equipment and developed a relationship with Family Health Medical Dental Clinic for use of their dental hygienist. Eventually we hired a limited term employee dental hygienist also. In September the Health Department and Dental Hygienist started to visit all the schools throughout the county assessing any second grade student whose parent gave permission, place sealants when appropriate and treat with fluoride varnish. In the summer of 2008 we applied for and received a Seal a Smile Grant. In the fall of 2008 we provided 100 sealants to second graders in Waushara County schools. For the Seal A Smile grant we will provide an additional 145 sealants to children throughout all the school districts in Waushara County.

VISION SCREENING-

In 2008 agency staff screened students in early childhood through 7th grades in all Waushara County schools. 1,452 students were screened in 2008.

HEARING SCREENING –

The agency's public health technicians do the initial and any re-screening required by protocol. Referrals are made to specialists for further evaluation. In 2008 hearing tests were conducted in Waushara County schools to students in early childhood through 5th grades. Once again 1,452 students were screened in the hearing process in 2008.

FLUORIDE MOUTH RINSE PROGRAM –

For 2008 we ordered and distributed the supplies to schools. School children, who do not have fluoridated school water, receive this program. Once a week for 31 weeks, the children swish and rinse their teeth to provide prevention of dental decay. 580 children participated in this program in 2008. We have found that decreased student enrollment in schools has decreased the number of students utilizing this program.

PSYCHIATRIC NURSING –

In 2008 Waushara County Health department contracted for three days per week with Human Services to provide nursing services to their CSP (Community Support Program) clients. The agency billed Human Services for this service.

Core Function: Assurance

Essential Service #12: Foster the understanding and promotion of social and economic conditions that support good health.

Essential Service #4: Promote community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.

MIGRANT HEALTH –

The agency contracted with United Migrant Opportunity Services (UMOS) to provide health care physicals and immunizations in their day care settings in three places throughout the county. The agency provided 200 contacts in our UMOS contract for 2008. This includes physicals, lead testing, fluoride varnish, TB testing, rescreening for hearing and vision and immunizations.

Core Function: Assurance

Essential Service #8: Assure a diverse, adequate, and competent workforce to support the public health system.

Essential Service #10: Conduct research to seek new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

NURSING STUDENTS –

In 2008 Waushara County Health Department again hosted students from UW-Oshkosh College of Nursing who did their clinicals with our agency. The nursing students worked with the agency's public health nurses and learned about public health nursing by experience. The students do an aggregate project, which benefits the community. Projects for 2008 included a Bike Rodeo and helmet safety program which provided over 400 children with helmets and in the fall the students assisted in the TATU (Teens Against Tobacco Use) program which teaches teens how to teach youth about the risks of tobacco use.

Once again we provided a preceptorship for UW-Oshkosh's new Accelerated BSN program. Accelerated students spend 27 hours per week in the agency for up to 6 weeks to get intensive community health training. The accelerated student took on the task of municipal well fluoridation.

Environmental staff provides lectures to the UWO student nurses in the university setting.

Core Function: Policy Development

Essential Service #3: Educates the public about current and emerging health issues.

Essential Service #5: Create policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.

PREVENTION –

In 2008, Baby Packets were sent to all Waushara County parents of newborns. Post cards included in the packets were sent back to the agency indicating knowledge gained and services requested. We recorded 192 births for Waushara County in 2008.

Statistics on infant births in Waushara County for 2008:

Total births – 192

Births to women less than 18 years of age – 5

Births to women with late (3rd trimester) or no prenatal care – 8

Births by plurality – Twins – 4 (2 sets)

Total number of births as first live birth – 65
Total number of home births – 17
Total number of births to women with 1 or more medical risk factors – 88
Total number of births to women who reported smoking during pregnancy - 37
Total number of births to women who reported smoking during pregnancy and infant less than 5 pounds 8 ounces – 3
Total number of women with alcohol use – 2
Total number of births by birthweight:
 Greater than 5 pounds, 8 ounces – 185
 3 pounds, 5 ounces – 5 pounds, 7 ounces – 6
 Less than 3 pounds, 4 ounces – 1
Total number of infants less than or equal to 35 weeks gestation – 6
Total number of infants transferred to NICU or other hospital – 6
Total number of infants with abnormal conditions of newborn – 12
Total number of infants with congenital anomalies of newborn - 2
(This is preliminary data obtained from the SPHERE data system)

The agency participates in the Waushara County Fair and Blue Ribbons Kid's Day each year along with routinely contributing educational articles to the local paper. Our county website includes the annual report and our department activity information. Staff is active on a variety of county and community committees that promote the health and well being of the residents of Waushara County. We are members of the Methamphetamine Task Force (MINTA) which has now evolved into a DEC Drug Endangered Children Team. Staff is asked to assist and speak at other county functions and events.

Fees in many areas will increase by a small margin in 2009 due to increased costs of fuel, human resources and tighter budgets. Waushara County always waives fees when determined necessary on an individual basis.