

AUGUST 2018

Points of Interest...

- The St. Clair County Health Department's (SCCHD) WIC program was awarded the 2018 Loving Support Award of Excellence, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). The award program was established to recognize local WIC agencies that have provided exemplary breastfeeding promotion and support activities. The intent is to provide models and motivate other local agencies to strengthen their breastfeeding promotion, support activities and ultimately increase breastfeeding initiation and duration rates among WIC participants.
- The SCCHD Pandemic Event Plan has been submitted for review by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Emergency Trauma Preparedness (BETP). Discussion continues on how to assimilate this plan into the Mass Vaccination Plan and Control of Communicable Disease Plan across the State, as well as fold in the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)/Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) components where appropriate. The goal is to have enough detail for clarity, direction, and guidance, but not too much as to inhibit creative problem solving in response to unexpected situations.
- The Environmental Health Division, with support from the Health Education and Nursing Divisions, held a two hour presentation for local Boy Scouts to obtain their Public Health merit badge requirement. 16 boys participated in troops from Capac, Croswell, Port Huron, Lakeport and Marysville. Among the topics discussed included the role of a public health department; immunizations; air and water pollution; prescription drug abuse and vaping/E-cigarette prevention; lead awareness, careers in public health; and a tour of the Health Department. They were very appreciative for the opportunity to learn about our services and the important role we have in our community.
- On August 28, Dr. Mercatante, Medical Health Officer participated with the St. Clair County Sherriff Department and other law enforcement agencies in an opioid symposium with Congressman Paul Mitchell at the St. Clair County Intervention Center. The symposium's goals was to allow the Congressman to help advocate for our communities with grants and additional aid that may be available. Discussion focused on opioids and what each agency is seeing, working on and suggestions for relief that Lansing may be able to offer.
- On August 29, Diane Lois, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator presented a Public Health Emergency Response training for all SCCHD staff. This refresher reviewed the health department's role in public health emergencies. Earlier this month an Emergency Preparedness for Public Health training was also delivered to all new employees.