

JULY 2023

Points of Interest...

- In June, the Outreach team attended 7 community events resulting in 2,008 face-to-face interactions. The following was also provided: 32 Medicaid referrals (assisting individuals with finding a doctor or specialist within their insurance network); 198 community referrals (including food, clothing, shelter, and legal aid); 4 Medicaid insurance applications (providing comprehensive health care services to low income adults and children) and 5 educational sessions were delivered to Blue Water Clubhouse. Topics included Allergies & Asthma; Head Lice, Bed Bugs, and Scabies; and the FreshStart program smoking cessation series.
- The Michigan House and Senate recently introduced State Sanitary Code legislation which would replace our local Environmental Health Code requirements with those established statewide. This proposed legislation would require all homeowners with an on-site sewage disposal system to have it inspected and their septic tank pumped every 5 years. If passed, there will be a massive increase in workload for local health departments in the tracking, evaluation, and enforcement of the new requirements. Local public health has had very little input into its development and has major concerns over the feasibility of implementing the requirements.
- Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) RNs, Social Worker, and Children's Special Health Care Services (CHSCS) Coordinator hosted a Talking is Teaching training session in July. Riley Alley from the Great Start Collaborative trained staff to be Trusted Messengers in promoting this initiative in our county. "Talk, Read, Sing" aims to transform everyday places where families spend time into language-rich environments. Laundromats, grocery store chains, nature trails, physician's offices, libraries, and other businesses around the community will display creative materials that encourage families to talk, read, and sing while they engage in everyday activities.
- Social Workers are currently working with summer school students to have mental health check-ins. These groups are occurring at Roosevelt, Crull, Phoenix Academy, and Port Huron High. These groups will last three weeks.
- Interviews for the Nurse Practitioner positions for the new school-based health centers have begun. The part-time Social Worker position is still open. To view the job posting, visit [here](#).
- The WIC breastfeeding support team, in collaboration with MSU extension, established a Comfort Station at the 2023 Goodell's 4H Fair. This provided a private, comfortable space where breastfeeding mothers could relax and provide nourishment to their babies.
- In collaboration with Odyssey House, a Narcan dispensing box is now located outside the main doors of the St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD). The box contains only Narcan, opens similar to a newspaper stand box and is free to anyone. Staff will monitor and replenish as needed Monday-Friday.