

FEBRUARY 2022

Points of Interest...

- In January, Outreach staff assisted residents in completing 5 MI Bridges applications, 17 Medicaid referrals, and 38 non-Medicaid referrals. Staff also attended 10 community events helping to connect people with needed resources, resulting in 253 face to face interactions.
- As COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continue to decline across the state, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has updated their guidance. Moving forward, the COVID-19 cycle can be broken down into three key phases:
 - Response - Local and state public health implement rapid response to a surge. The public may be advised to increase masking, testing and social distancing.
 - Recovery - Post-surge. No immediate resurgence predicted. Local and state public health will monitor conditions that could lead to future surges.
 - Readiness - A surge in cases is expected, with implications on severity of illness and hospital capacity. Increased communication to the public regarding possible new risks.
- The Environmental Health division is participating as a steering committee member on an East China Township – DTE Energy Riverfront Redevelopment Plan for the soon to be decommissioned St. Clair coal-fired power plant. The 480+ acre study area, much of which is owned by DTE, includes over 3500 feet of frontage on the St. Clair River. Goals of the project include restoration of the natural environment and improved environmental sustainability. The project is being funded by a \$25,000 EGLE coastal management grant and DTE match.
- St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) was selected as a partner organization to which premium soap packs will be distributed for use in underserved/underrepresented communities. The Outreach program will distribute to clients and at events. Over 2,000 bars of soap arrived this month.
- Three brands of powdered infant formula, Similac, Alimentum and Elecare were recalled on 2/17/22, for possible Cronobacter contamination. FDA is investigating. To identify if you have a package affected by the recall, check the number on the bottom of the container. If it starts with digits 22 through 37 and contains K8, SH or Z2, and has an expiration of April 1, 2022, or later, it should be thrown out or returned for a refund. St. Clair County WIC clients can call (810) 987-8222 or 1(800)-26-BIRTH with questions. Consumers, parents or caregivers can also contact the FDA (888)-INFO-FDA or Similac (800)-986-8540.
- SCCHD Nursing staff began traveling to homebound seniors' homes to administer COVID-19 vaccine boosters. Approximately 30 residents had requested this service.