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**Galion City Board of Health**

**Health Commissioners Monthly Report for June 2021**

**Fiscal/Funding**

Olivia is keeping us in line with the grants, purchase orders, etc. We met with the state auditor on June 22nd and went over the items that he was to review. He discussed questions with us, and we gave him feedback for clarification. Record keeping and sunshine laws for public records and records retention was discussed as well. Eunice sent a link for me to take the online training on Wednesday, July 14th.

Emily made me aware on June 21, 2021 that the Ohio Public Health Combined Conference was occurring as a virtual event that day. The problem was that I hadn’t changed Trish’s status at AOHC to me, but that is all straightened out now. It is mandatory for the Health Commissioner to attend so Olivia explained that we had money for training and she rushed a PO through to get me registered.

**Emergency Preparedness**

GCHD is still offering the COVID-19 Moderna two dose vaccine. The state still wants LHD’s to vaccinate our communities, promote the vaccine, and go to the people to get it done. This has not proven to be highly effective in Galion; vaccinating less than 10 new people at various locations. Emily has made cards for both the GPD and FD staff to give to homebound people in need of the vaccine. GCHD will continue to promote the availability of the vaccine for anyone who wants it.

I renewed my application to participate on LEPC for Crawford County. I volunteered to be on the Board for COTS (Central Ohio Trauma System) which requires quarterly attendance in Columbus. Blythe needed to step down because she had been on it for the last 3 years. The coalition’s mission is to improve outcomes related to trauma, emergency services, and disaster preparedness.

**Communicable Disease**

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| --- | --- |
|  | Confirmed Communicable Disease by Type |
|  | Sexually Transmitted Infections | 4 |
|  | Vaccine Preventable Illness | 0 |
|  | Bloodborne Pathogens | 0 |
|  | Enteric Illnesses | 0 |
|  | Other Illnesses | 10 |
|  | Vectorborne Illnesses | 0 |
|  | Total | 14 |
|  |  |  |

**Sexual Health Clinic**

•3 new PrEP patients (HIV prevention) enrolled in June in our clinic alone •We met with the new EIS (Early Intervention Services) work group from Third Street to plan for Region 2 services going forward — Expansion of HIV testing, outreach and improved provider prescribing and awareness of PrEP. New HIV diagnosis should be minimal with PrEP!

•1 pregnant syphilis case in our region (possibly a second as of 6/30/2021)

•1 pregnant newly diagnosed HIV + case in June in our region •We received notice from the state that our piece of funding from the federal dollars that have been earmarked for STD prevention will fund approximately 160,000$ per year over a 5 year grant cycle. This is an increase from about 27K on the STD grant alone! The CDC has recognized the serious public health threat and continued rise in STDs, namely syphilis and congenital syphilis cases (see severity of above statistics).

These cases are being seen across ALL demographics.

•Additional funding as above = additional personnel to do this work. Outreach, testing and education.

•We will be on campus at OSU/NCSC once weekly in the fall to provide outreach to students and faculty.

•We received our first payment from our contracted 340b pharmacy, Avita. (We contracted to assure ease and enter a management system for the expensive medications that we prescribe for HIV prevention). Our payment, after fees, for 11 filled scripts, was approximately $12,300.

We are thankful to be able to use this money to enhance our STD/HIV prevention program and continue to provide comprehensive services going forward.

**Staff**

A lunch staff meeting was held on Friday June 25th. We discussed the need to keep doing outreach reports, surveys, and documenting events for the accreditation purposes. We discussed scheduling a time to watch the “Preparing for the Site Visit” webinar together once we receive a date. We discussed some issues that may need to be put on the BOH agenda, such as clarification of a salaried position/exempt/non-exempt employee.

**Accreditation**

GCHD has completed the pre-site review questions. We have been in touch with Triona Neff our Accreditation Specialist at PHAB to extend our readiness for a site review online or in-person to expedite the process. We have yet to hear back from PHAB other than they are trying to coordinate the site review between the site visitors.