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**Galion City Board of Health**

**Health Commissioners Monthly Report for August 2022**

**Fiscal/Funding**

Jason attended a Police, Fire & Health sub-committee meeting to have preliminary talks about next year’s budget. The three main reasons that the proposed budget for 2023 increased from the current year is because we budgeted a 10% increase in the cost of health insurance and a 3% raise for all staff. The budget includes a larger raise for one staff member whom I believe should be paid more, given years of experience, educational background, and progressively more responsibilities over time at the health dept.

**Building**

Jason learned from city administration that he can get two quotes from contractors for our building repairs and then submit those for approval. The city will then pay those. We are planning to fix the hole in the wall by the front door, which happened last year when a visitor tripped and hit his head on the wall. In addition, there is some weather stripping on the door which came off on the bottom, and the exposed sharp edge scraped a visitor’s heel.

Offices have been rearranged somewhat. Olivia now has her own office, and Lynn now shares an office with Kim, so both nurses are together. That nursing office has also been set up to be used to provide triage.

**IT**

As part of the process of transitioning from ES Consulting to a different IT company, we received two quotes in August for IT services (NetPoint Consulting and SHI International). We previously received a quote from Buckeye IT. The City of Galion uses Buckeye IT now, and we are considering going with them in case it helps for continuity’s sake, but a Health Commissioner from another jurisdiction told Jason that they didn’t have a good experience with that IT company.

**Training/ Conferences**

Jason attended a virtual AOHC New Employee Training.

**Education/ Outreach**

Andy shared a press release with the community about the West Nile Virus since there were some tests in Galion which came back positive.

There were seven child car seats which were distributed during the month. When possible, Jason is now combining some classes if there are multiple people who express interest in a free child car seat.

Jason and Andy attended the annual WIC baby shower at Avita Hospital.

Andy and Olivia attended the Third Friday Outreach for August.

**Performance Management**

Staff continue to work on logging their daily activities with the new codes in HDIS. This is a monumental task, but progress is being made.

**Staff**

We were happy to welcome new Public Health Nurse Kim Ponziani to the dept on August 17th. Her schedule is Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8-4. For other open positions, interviews were completed for the part-time front desk position along with the Director of Nursing position.

**Accreditation**

Jason and PHAB Accreditation specialist Lisa started meeting bi-weekly to help accreditation move forward.

**ODH Updates**

One major update from ODH regarding COVID-19 protocols for schools is that there was a policy rescinded known as “mask to stay, test to play’ (meaning students contagious with COVID-19 could stay at school with certain accommodations). Jason has been in regular contact with the new school principal of St Joe’s.