

Galion City Health Department Monthly Report September 2014

Core Public Health Services

All local health departments (LHDs) should be responsible for providing the following services in their district, directly or by contracting with another LHD

1) Environmental health services* such as water safety, school inspections, nuisance abatement, and food safety

- Food safety – Several options for environmental health services were investigated in September. Ms. Joette M. Moore, RS, has agreed to work as an independent contractor performing food inspections in Galion from October 14 through December 31, 2014, pending Board approval.

2) Communicable disease control, vaccination capacity, and quarantine authority*

3) Epidemiology services for communicable disease outbreaks and trending* and disease prevalence and morbidity/mortality reporting*

- Crawford County General Health District (CCGHD) employee Michael Graves, RS, MPH, is being trained as a Level 1 Epidemiologist. He has access to surveillance systems including the Ohio Disease Reporting System so he can monitor on Galion's behalf conditions that may indicate an event of public health significance. GCHD nursing staff will continue to investigate individual cases of communicable disease and follow up, but Michael will lead outbreak investigations within the county.
- Information received from CDC and ODH reference Ebola is routinely distributed to local health care partners. Our department participated in a CDC Ebola Update teleconference on October 8 with staff from Crawford County.

4) Access to birth and death records

5) Health promotion and prevention (health education* and policy, systems, and environmental change)

6) Emergency preparedness, response, and ensuring safety of an area after a disaster

7) Linking people to health services to make sure they receive needed medical care*

- Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) – The quarterly time study, which is the basis for program reimbursement, was conducted during the week of September 10-16. Additional staff will be placed on the MAC roster to maximize service provision as well as reimbursement.

8) Community engagement, community health assessment and improvement planning, and partnerships

- Tim Hollinger, Cinda Kropka of Avita, and Ms. Zmuda met on September 18 to begin collaboration on the next Crawford County-wide community health assessment. A broad list of stakeholders was subsequently developed, and invitations will be sent out by October 17 to help identify individuals and agencies that have an interest in financially supporting the effort. That group will then select a firm to conduct the assessment.

9) Other operational items

- Staff worked with the developer of a new Crawford 211 website to provide information about the services offered by the department.
- Dr. Sarah Metzger of Avita Health System has agreed to become our Medical Director beginning October 14, 2014, pending Board approval.

*Services mandated by state of Ohio (ORC, OAC)