

Environmental Health Monthly Report for October 2015 **Submitted by Stephanie Zmuda, RS**

Accreditation

The adult data collection phase of the community health assessment is almost complete. Here is a quick recap:

- Advance letters mailed to randomly selected survey participants - week of August 31

- Press release by Crawford County Health Partners to local media outlets - September 24

- 1st wave of surveys mailed - week of September 28

- 2nd wave of surveys mailed - week of October 19

- 361 surveys returned (322 from county mailing + 39 from Galion mailing) - October 28

A total of 380 surveys is needed to achieve a 95% confidence interval (CI) for the county, and 91 surveys for the same CI in Galion. HCNO will present the draft report to the Crawford County Health Partners in January, and we'll schedule a community event to present the report and CHA findings.

Food Safety

October was an exciting month in food safety. Ohio Department of Health granted approval on October 15 of the Level 1 certification course in food safety that Karim Baroudi and I developed. I presented the course on October 23 and 28 to a total of 38 students, generating \$950 in revenue. Several measures have been put into place to determine incoming knowledge base, knowledge gained from participation, and participant satisfaction. I will also immediately begin long-term observation of the difference in inspection performance for certified and uncertified persons in charge.

Public Health Nuisances

Seven new public health nuisance complaints were reported in October, six solid waste and one bed bug. The bed bug complaint was more an inquiry about whether there were bed bugs at Galion Goodwill. I spoke with the store manager and learned that there are no bed bugs on the premises, and the proactive processes and procedures that have been followed for years to prevent pest presence on site as well as spread to customers' homes.

Cases previously heard in Crawford County Municipal Court were closed in October upon nuisance abatement at 355 Cherry Street and 436 Hensley Avenue.

Schools

Galion Schools have had recent experience with bed bugs being brought into the school environment. The environmental health and nursing divisions have both worked with school administrators to handle situations as they arise, and provide accurate information to staff, students and their families, and the community in general.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Zmuda, RS