

Galion City Board of Health Health Commissioners Monthly Report for August 2016

Fiscal/Funding

We received word that we were awarded grant funding in the amount of \$15,000 for a joint grant application written for Community Health Improvement Planning. This was a joint venture with Crawford County Public Health. It is a reimbursement based fund. The two parties (GCHD & CCPH) have agreed to split the monies evenly. Therefore, GCHD will have \$7,500 toward our CHIP.

Galion City Council approved our request for additional funding to purchase vaccine. We may need to request this again due to the need growing even more than anticipated.

Rural Health Care HCF Funding approved for \$1,143.93.

Administrative Policies/ Procedures

Continued work on administrative policies and procedures is being done.

IT

Still awaiting word from the City Law Director regarding previously discussed issues from our former IT contractor.

Training/ Conferences

Public Health Combined Conference (Fall) September 21-23, 2016

Health Educators Institute October 20-21, 2016

Accreditation Learning Community September 22, 2016 (Olivia will be attending)

Emergency Preparedness

Met with Crawford County EMA Director, Tim Flock, and Crawford County Public Health Planner to discuss PODs (Points of Dispensing) and how we want to move forward with planning and GIS mapping of facilities

Education/ Outreach

Come Home to Galion

GCHD is once again participating in the Come Home to Galion event Planning. We will be in charge of the childrens contest (last year was "Wash your Paws for Santa Clause"). We are looking for another theme for this year. We will also be co-coordinating with the historical society to bring a contest for businesses "A Miracle on Harding Way" (a play on words "A Miracle on 34th Street"). This should be fun for all. Events are planned for December 3, 2016. If anyone is interested in helping out or walking in the parade with us please let Trish know.

Accreditation

Strategic Planning

After the completion of the CHIP, we will need to begin working on our Strategic Plan. The Board of Health is an integral participant in this process and we will need to have participation from the Board. We are awaiting tentative dates from the contractor.

ODH Updates

Vaccines for Children Deputization

- The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program provides no-cost vaccine for eligible children through 18 years of age who are Medicaid eligible, uninsured, or American Indian or Alaska Native. Underinsured children are also eligible for VFC vaccine, but only at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Center (RHC). In Ohio, about ten percent of VFC provider sites are FQHCs or RHCs, both of which have limited access and capacity to serve the entire underinsured population. In many states, including Ohio, a FQHC or RHC has extended access to VFC vaccines for underinsured children through deputization arrangements (sometimes referred to as “delegation of authority”) with local health departments. In 2008 and 2013, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) initiated delegation of authority agreements with all local health departments to provide underinsured children with VFC vaccine. The delegation of authority agreements completed in 2013 remain in place. However, some of the leadership has changed with local health departments. As a result, ODH is initiating new VFC deputization agreements in 2016 to assure understanding and compliance with federal VFC guidance.
- CDC requires that the VFC awardee (ODH), the deputizing FQHCs or RHCs, and qualified local health department VFC-enrolled providers all sign this MOU which conforms to a CDC-provided template. ODH, is glad to announce that the Tuscarawas County General Health District will act as the deputizing Rural Health Center for this current MOU.
 - Many thanks to Health Commissioner, Katie Seward, for taking on this role.
- All local health departments that provide VFC vaccine to children are strongly encouraged to participate. Local health departments that do not participate in this agreement will not be authorized to provide VFC vaccine to children who are underinsured and will be unable to serve as a safety net for eligible underinsured children. Local health departments who are also an authorized Federally Qualified Health Center do not need to complete this agreement as they are already authorized to administer VFC vaccine to underinsured children.

Zika

Effective September 16, 2016, Zika will become a Class B reportable disease.