

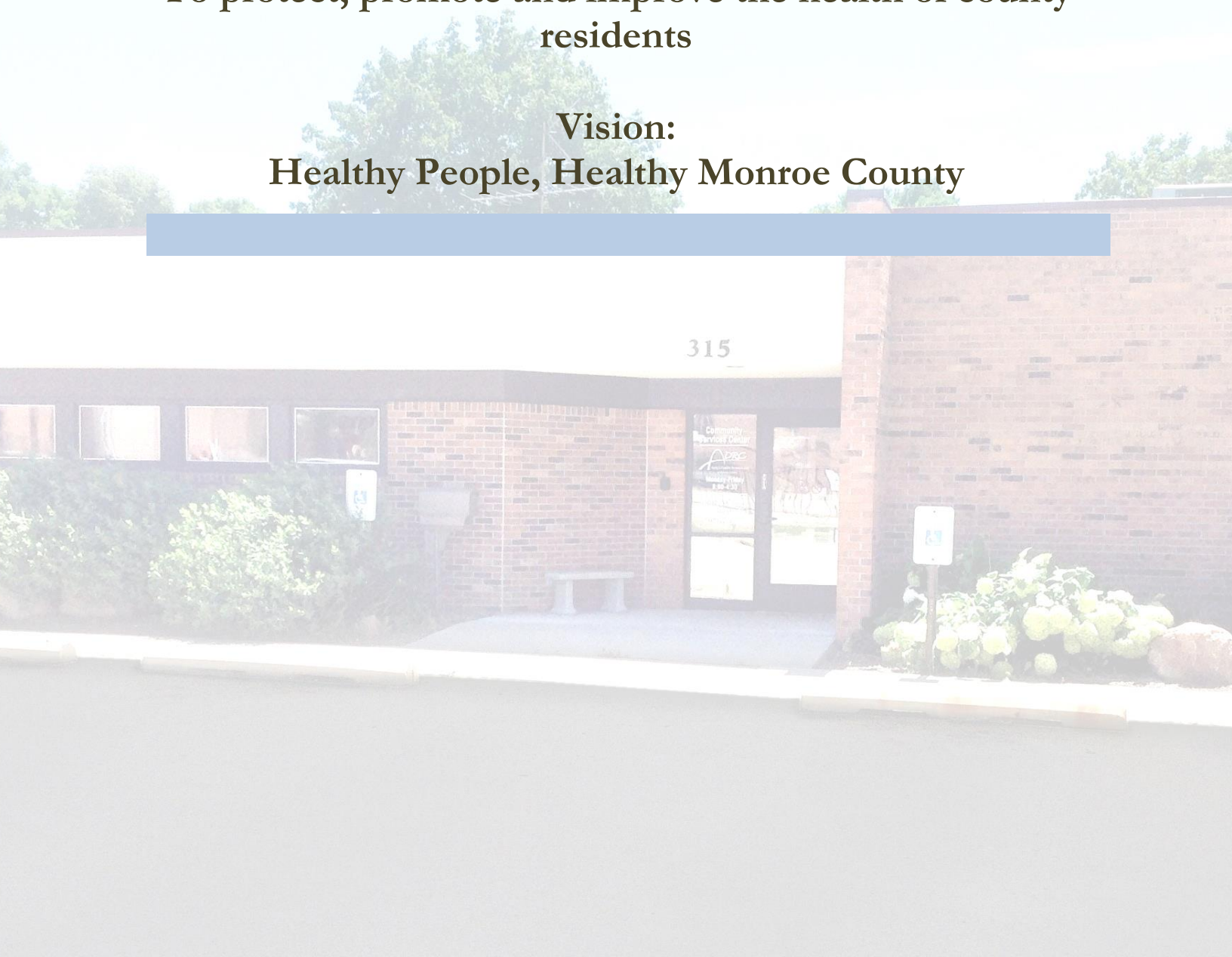
# 2018 Annual Report

## Mission:

To protect, promote and improve the health of county residents

## Vision:

Healthy People, Healthy Monroe County



Monroe County  
**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
*Serving the Community since 1921*

Dear County Administrator Bialecki, Health and Human Services Board Members, County Board Supervisors, Colleagues, Partners and Citizens:

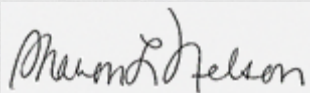
I am pleased to present the 2018 annual report of the Monroe County Health Department. This report reflects the work we have done throughout the year to improve the health of Monroe County, to mobilize and strengthen community partnerships and to ensure that we as a local health department are continuously working to improve the quality of the services we deliver.

Although public health programs and activities may not often be visible, public health staff can be frequently found working behind the scenes on our mission to protect, promote, and maintain the health of our entire population. The 10 Essential Services of Public Health can provide a basic description to others as to what Public Health does and the services provided by our department.

Appreciation is extended to the Health and Human Services Board, the healthcare community, schools and other valued community partners that collaborated with the Health Department in 2018 to improve the health of county residents. This appreciation is also extended to our dedicated health department staff; County Administrator; Dr. Emma Ledbetter, Medical Advisor; and the Monroe County Board of Supervisors. Their contributions to the health of our county citizens are invaluable.

If you have any questions regarding public health in Monroe County, please feel free to call or visit our new location at 315 West Oak Street, Sparta.

Sincerely,



Sharon L. Nelson, RN, BSN, PHN  
Director/Health Officer

## 10 Essential Services of Public Health

- ① Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community.
- ② Protect people from health problems and health hazards.
- ③ Give people information they need to make healthy choices.
- ④ Engage the community to identify and solve health problems.
- ⑤ Develop public health policies and plans.
- ⑥ Enforce public health laws and regulations.
- ⑦ Help people receive health services.
- ⑧ Maintain a competent public health workforce.
- ⑨ Evaluate and improve programs and interventions.
- ⑩ Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health.

# Monroe County Health Department

**Mission:**  
**To Protect, Promote and Improve the Health of County Residents**

**Vision:**  
**Healthy People, Healthy Monroe County**

Monroe County Health Department's primary role is to assure that the health department provides the essential services of public health. In this challenging fiscal climate, management, support personnel, public health nurses, community health educator, and nutritionists have worked hard to achieve objectives and goals in serving Monroe County's residents.

Health department activities for 2018, as they relate to the 10 Essential Services, are noted below:

## ***Essential Service 1:*** ***Monitor Health Status to Identify and Solve Community Health Problems***

- Actively partnered with Great Rivers United Way (GRUW), local and regional partners on 2018 COMPASS NOW, a Community Health Assessment (CHA) of the needs in the Great Rivers region
- Implemented the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) with collaborative efforts of our community partners. Together we addressed priority concerns identified in Monroe County's Community Health Assessment (CHA), focusing on alcohol, prescription drug abuse, nutrition, and mental health concerns
- Tested 24 hour surveillance readiness in order to identify public health problems and threats
- Communicated local data from Wisconsin's Department of Health Services, the County Health Rankings, the Burden of Injury and the Burden of Tobacco Reports to define problems and approaches to address public health concerns
- Utilized various state-wide data systems consisting of: Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR); Real-time Online Statewide Information Environment (ROSIE); Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC), and Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS)
- Continued to implement safety and injury prevention programs based on local data relating to childhood injuries and deaths as identified in the Maternal Child Health Needs Assessment
- Screened 95 children for lead exposure
- Performed 81 Mantoux skin tests, a screening for tuberculosis (TB)

## **Essential Service 2:**

### **Diagnose and Investigate Health Problems and Health Hazards in the Community**

- Conducted 693 reported communicable disease investigations such as Cryptosporidium, Campylobacter, Pertussis, Lyme disease, Chlamydia, Hepatitis C, E.Coli, Babesiosis
- Case managed services for seven individuals identified as having latent TB infections
- Provided information on lead poisoning prevention and treatment for 12 homes that had lead levels greater than 5 mcg/dl
- Investigated 26 reports of animal bites with a potential for rabies exposure
- Provided private well water testing kits for 123 homes; 80 of those homes were tested for bacteria during the August flooding
- Completed water tests on 51 transient non-community (TNC) water systems, re-sampled 11, and conducted/inspected 10 sanitary surveys of water systems in rural churches, parks, taverns and restaurants
- Partnered with Driftless Region Vector Control, LLC in the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases, specifically, La Crosse Virus Encephalitis

## **Essential Service 3:**

### **Inform, Educate, and Empower People about Health Issues**

- Disseminated information from the UW Population Health Institute's Report on County Health Rankings
- Created and distributed news releases on monthly national health observances, health department services, county health rankings, the environment, occupational safety, exercise, radon testing, nutrition, flooding, local data, and more
- Authored and distributed quarterly newsletters, focusing on health messages, local health data, Monroe on the Go (MOGO) monthly health messages and health department services
- Participated in community events promoting positive health habits, including Child Development Days, Stepping On, June Dairy Breakfast, Men's Health Night, National Night Out, Strong Women, Ft. McCoy's Safety Day, and the Senior Expo, providing information to 1690 participants
- Maintained health department website: <http://www.co.monroe.wi.us/departments/health-department> and Facebook page
- Issued 123 water test kits to private well owners to test for arsenic, metals, bacteria and nitrates
- Performed child passenger safety checks and issued 72 car seats to income-eligible families
- Increased nutrition and physical activity habits of preschool children and their families that participate in WIC Fit Families

### ***Essential Service 3 continued . . . .***

- Co-sponsored the “Longest Day”, June 21, 2018 event with Aging Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and Alzheimer’s Association, raising awareness for Alzheimer’s and other dementias and the impact on caregivers, families and those affected by the disease with approximately 200 individuals in attendance
- Conducted a 7-week “Stepping On” falls prevention program for adults 60 and over
- Issued 186 children’s books through the Reading Empowers Development (RED) program for infants and children with the goal of improving literacy
- Provided education on radon and lung cancer risks, distributing 40 radon test kits
- Conducted multiple presentations and education events on topics such as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES); Trauma Informed Community (TIC); medication safety and drug prevention education; tobacco i.e. e-cigarettes and the Bucket Approach
- Presented at the annual Wisconsin Health and Hunger Conference on Monroe County food insecurity

### ***Essential Service 4:***

#### ***Mobilize Community Partnerships and Action to Identify and Solve Health Problems***

- Partnered with Monroe County Safe Communities Coalition (MCSCC) and Monroe County Traffic Safety Commission, Monroe County schools, community volunteers, offering a “Teen Wellness Day” to 300 Monroe County sophomore students with a focus on distracted driving, mental health, and substance abuse.
- Convened Monroe County Child Death Review committee to review unintentional childhood deaths and determine ways to prevent future deaths in collaboration with community partners.
- Actively participated and collaborated with Coulee Region Immunization Coalition (CRIC) to increase immunization rates and protect the public from vaccine preventable diseases
- Partnered with community partners on the Monroe County Nutrition Coalition promoting good nutrition and access to healthy foods
- Participated as a member of the 7 C’s Health Initiative, a multi-disciplinary coalition focusing on preventing and reducing tobacco-related illness in seven neighboring counties
- Served as an active member of the Child Abuse Prevention Task Force
- Partnered with the Tomah Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) to offer flu vaccinations for veterans and their families
- Partnered with the Resources Empowering Youth Coalition to provide education to Monroe County youth promoting healthy choices, informed decisions and positive relationships
- Provided health education at Childhood Development Days at all public school districts
- Partnered with Monroe County Safe Communities Coalition community members to reduce and prevent alcohol, tobacco, and drug use; enhance traffic safety; and promote healthy choices

## ***Essential Service 4 continued . . . .***

- Maintained partnership with Monroe County Planning Council as a resource to address public health concerns
- Collaborated with school systems by facilitating biannual school nurse meetings addressing topics such as immunizations, communicable disease, and maternal child health programs and more
- Partnered with Lugar de Reunion Advisory Committee to improve access to community resources to enhance and support the Latino community
- Co-facilitated a monthly “Memory Café” with Monroe County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to create an environment that supports the reduction of anxiety for those with dementia

## ***Essential Service 5:***

### ***Develop Policies and Plans that Support Individual and Community Health Efforts***

- Worked in partnership with the Monroe County Health and Human Services Board on health priorities that impact the county
- Continued with Performance Management/Quality Improvement efforts to improve delivery of services
- Developed/updated policies and procedures to reflect public health evidence-based practices and accreditation standards and measures
- Developed the 2019-2023 MCHD strategic plan outlining four focus areas (strategic priorities) to improve the highest quality of public health for county residents

## ***Essential Service 6:***

### ***Enforce Laws and Regulations that Protect Health and Safety***

- Applied local ordinance relating to human health hazards (HHH), with the investigation of 11 reports of potential HHH concerns and ordering mitigation as needed
- Collaborated with Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the annual onsite review of the Transient Non Community (TNC) well water program
- Partnered with the La Crosse County Health Department and Wisconsin Wins program campaign, a science-based, state-level initiative designed to decrease youth access to tobacco products; 37 tobacco compliance inspections with licensed Monroe County tobacco retailers, with a sales rate to minors of 2.7%

### ***Essential Service 7:***

#### ***Link People to Needed Personal Health Services***

- Provided Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) program services to 84 pregnant women with an education focus on pregnancy, parenting, birthing, breastfeeding issues, with linkage to local resources resulting in 461 visits
- Promoted the Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP), a program that provides screenings for breast and cervical cancer
- Served 311 women, 240 infants and 520 children through the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, for a total of 1071 participants
- Conducted 160 maternal child visits, providing education on parenting, infant feeding and care, with linkage to local resources
- Distributed 42 Safety for All Kids (SAK) Packs, educating families/caregivers on home injury prevention and safety practices for infants and children
- Enrolled 17 pregnant women in First Breath, a program to help pregnant women quit smoking
- Maintained a loan closet for durable medical equipment such as wheelchairs and walkers, facilitating care within the home and serving county residents
- Provided 30 Pack-n-Play cribs/education to income eligible families in need of a safe sleep environment for their infants
- Offered community influenza vaccination clinics, providing 1,441 doses of flu vaccine to county residents
- Provided 239 immunizations for other child and adult vaccine-preventable diseases
- Promoted the Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line

### ***Essential Service 8:***

#### ***Assure a Competent Public and Personal Health Care Workforce***

- Provided staff training for various programs, assuring competency in responding to the community and department needs
- Served as clinical site for Viterbo University nursing and dietetic students, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse community health education students, and University of Wisconsin - Green Bay nursing students

### ***Essential Service 9:***

#### ***Evaluate Effectiveness, Accessibility and Quality of Personal and Population-Based Health Services***

- Met the requirements of a Level II Health Department per Adm Rule DHS 140 with submission of supporting evidence and Division of Public Health onsite visit
- Maintained evaluation components within various programs providing individual services, such as PNCC, SAK Pack, Stepping On, car seat inspections and crib safety, seeking ways to improve program quality
- Evaluated program benchmark results for immunizations and Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) services

## ***Essential Service 9 continued . . .***

- Participated in Department of Health Services program/grant performance reviews at mid-year and end-of-year
- Collaborated with Monroe County Nutrition Coalition to have two community garden plots at health department worksite promoting fresh vegetables

## ***Essential Service 10:***

### ***Research for New Insights and Innovative Solutions to Health Problems***

- Addressed Monroe County food insecurity by partnering with Second Harvest to implement hunger screenings in local medical clinics.
- Began building a trauma informed community
- Received Bader grant funding to build a dementia friendly coalition
- Partnered with MCSCC and Security Health Plan offering a “Wake Up Call”, which is a life size exhibit of a teen’s bedroom with more than 50 “red flags” that can signal drug or alcohol use, at Cashton, NOW, Sparta schools
- Began the process of creating a dementia friendly community

## **MONROE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Received a grant from Bader Philanthropies, Inc., to develop and implement a comprehensive dementia-friendly coalition initiative with community partners, support local law enforcement with Project Lifesaver equipment for individuals who wander, and conduct community dementia educational workshops
- Received a grant from MCSCC through the Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association and Security Health Plan partnering to prevent prescription drug use and misuse
- Presented at the State Health and Hunger Conference on Monroe County food insecurity
- Received a grant from Tomah Hospital Foundation Board and Monroe County Car Seat Coalition supporting the purchase of car seats for income eligible infants and children, with the overall goal of decreasing childhood injuries and death
- Received a donation from the First United Methodist Church Piece Makers, Tomah, to support Safety for All Kids (SAK) Pack program with the goal of reducing infant and child injuries
- Received funding from Remembering Jesse Parker, Inc. for the purpose of providing infant and toddler car seats, “Pack N Play Cribs for Kids” and books for the Reading Empowers Development (RED) program for income eligible children and families
- Received GPR funding for Communicable Disease Control and Prevention (WI State Statute Chapter 252.185) that was passed in the 2017-2019 biennial budget
- Partnered with ADRC, Alzheimer’s Association to hold “The Longest Day” with former Governor Martin Schrieber
- Addressed Monroe County food insecurity by partnering with Second Harvest to implement hunger screenings in local medical clinics.
- Began building a trauma informed community



**2018 Expenditures and Revenues**  
**January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018**

**REVENUES**

Revenues Budgeted	315	\$899,835.00
Actual Revenues		\$912,887.00

**EXPENDITURES**

Expenditures Budgeted		\$899,835.00
Actual Expenditures		\$852,722.00

2018 Population Estimate  
45,625  
US Census Bureau Estimate - July 1, 2018

# MONROE COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

David Pierce, Chair  
Mary Cook  
Greg Vinslauski  
Emma Ledbetter, MD  
Alan McCoy  
Shelly Egstad, RN  
Marlene Sund, RN  
Mary Von Ruden  
Cyndi Wise

## 2018 MONROE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

### Management

Sharon Nelson, RN, BSN, PHN  
Director/Health Officer  
Pam Rainwater, RN, BSN, PHN  
Assistant Director  
Patricia Hagen MASL, RDN, CD  
WIC Director

### Public Health Nurses

Julie Anderson, RN, MSN, PHN  
Tiffany Giesler, RN, BSN, PHN  
Joy Krueger, RN, BSN, PHN  
Roberta Walczak, RN, BSN, PHN  
(retired 4-1-2019)

### Community Health Educator

Kayleigh Day, MPH, CHES

### WIC

Mary Cheever, BS, Nutrition  
Educator  
Lisa Ewert, WIC Health Screener

### Finance

Candi Bainter, Accountant I

### Office Support

Laura Davis, Medical Records Tech  
Lory Jenkins, Medical Transcriptionist

This report fulfills Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 251.06(3)(h)  
For additional copies of this report, call Monroe County Health Department at (608) 269-8666 or visit our website at:  
<http://www.co.monroe.wi.us/departments/health-department/>