

# Public Health Sauk County Annual Report 2023



**Together**



**We**



**Thrive**



Sauk County, Wisconsin  
**Public Health Annual Report 2023**

**Mission:**

To enhance the conditions that support optimal health and well-being for all people in Sauk County.

**Vision:**

Everyone in Sauk County lives their healthiest life possible.

**Values:**

- **Equity:** Programs, policies, practices, and operations will align to be inclusive of all Sauk County residents and work to achieve health equity.
- **Empathy:** We strive to understand other's perspectives and circumstances so we can better connect with the people in our community, meet them where they are at, and work together to find solutions to community health challenges.
- **Knowledge:** We value knowledge, increasing the expertise and skillsets of our staff, utilizing data to drive decision-making, and implementing evidence-based practices in our programming.
- **Dedication:** We are dedicated and passionate about improving the health and well-being of our community.

**Departmental Program Summary:**

Public Health Sauk County (PHSC) promotes the well-being of our community so that everyone can thrive. Our work is proactive and preventive to keep our community safe and healthy. PHSC is a Level III public health agency, the highest level recognized by Wisconsin State Statute. Our department is made up of 3 divisions that work collaboratively to make Sauk County a healthy place to live, learn, work and play:

- Environmental Health
- Public Health Programming
- Women, Infant, Children (WIC)

What does PHSC do for you and your community? Our staff works together to provide the following vital public health services:

For pregnant women, kids & families

- Women, Infant & Children (WIC)
- Nurse Family Partnership (NFP)
- Prenatal Care Coordination
- Maternal Child Health Services

Just for kids

- Seal-A-Smile Dental Program
- Rural Safety Days

All ages

- Community Care Vouchers
- Immunizations

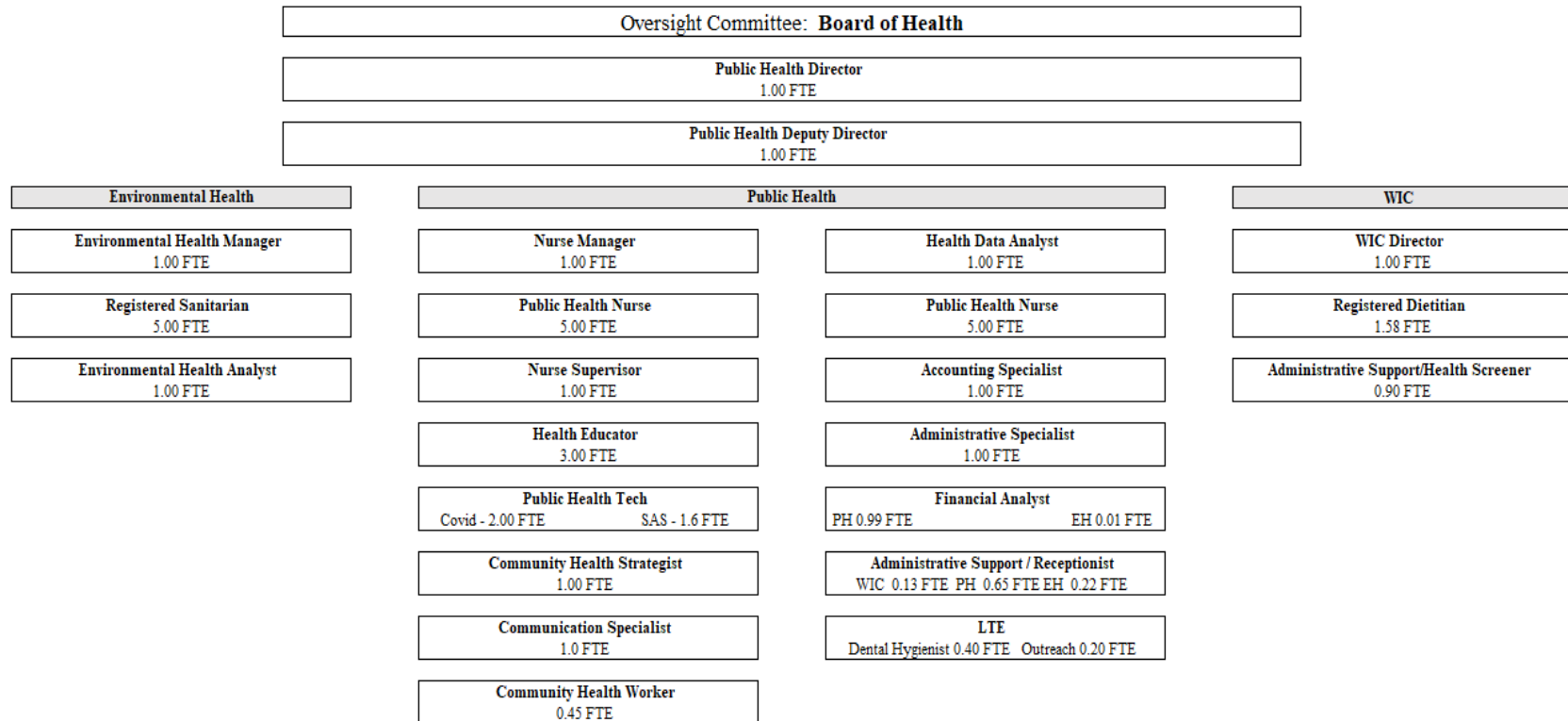
Programs that protect the public from health threats

- Environmental Health
- Communicable Diseases
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- Community Health Education

This annual report highlights some of our programs and services. It is not an all-inclusive list of the programs and services provided by Public Health Sauk County. To learn more about our programs and services, visit <https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/publichealth>

## 2023 Organizational Chart:

# Public Health Sauk County Organizational Chart



## 2023 Goals Review:

In 2021, PHSC conducted a Community Health Assessment (<https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/publichealth/phsc-community-health-assessment>) to identify health needs and priority areas. In 2022, PHSC implemented a new Strategic Plan (<https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/publichealth/strategic-plan>). Our 2023 budget goals and performance management system reflect the CHA data and strategic plan. Here is the progress we made towards these goals in 2023.

GOAL	OBJECTIVE	MEASURES	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED?
			Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
Support an engaged, well-trained, and strategically-focused public health workforce	Encourage individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences to volunteer with or intern for Public Health positions	8 people intern/volunteer with PHSC	No, we had 6 interns/volunteers.
		8 Outreach activities to colleges about non-traditional paths to Public Health	No. Our efforts and activities prioritized high school presentations instead.
		120 students attending career day presentations at local high schools to learn about careers in public health	Yes, 154 students attended presentations.
	Create an environment that encourages staff retention	48 wellness/work life balance resources/activities (e.g. Weekly Wellness Wednesday)	No. 18 wellness activities were held. Working in 2024 to restructure this measure
		Staff retention rate 95%	Yes, 99% staff retention rate.
		24 staff recognitions	Yes, 35 staff recognition activities were completed.
	Provide training to assure a prepared and capable PH workforce	Train 100% of new staff in required ICS training within 6 months of hire	Yes, 100%.
		100% of staff have completed required annual trainings	Yes, 100%.
		All staff report participation in at least one training related to core competencies	Yes, 100%.
	Assure all programs are managing budgets to maximize program potential to deliver goals and objectives.	24 Meetings held budget supervisors	Yes, 32 meetings held.
		Budget reports sent to all budget supervisors monthly	Yes, reports were sent monthly.

Increase awareness of services provided by Public Health Sauk County	Increase outreach efforts to referral partners	12 one-on-one (education) outreach activities to increase NFP referrals	Yes, 12 outreach activities held.
		24 WIC outreach activities	Yes, 24 outreach activities held.
		12 one-on-one (education) outreach activities to increase PNCC referrals	Yes, 13 outreach activities held.
	Assess digital media outreach visitor insights monthly to determine the reach of outreach efforts	42,000 Total website visits on Health website pages	Yes, 55,067 total website visits.
		300,000 social media page impressions	Yes, 1,281,347 social media impressions.
		100,000 On Demand TV Advertising Video impressions	Yes, 503,799 video impressions.
	Continue to provide relevant health information in an accessible manner to all who live, learn work and play in Sauk County	36 CHIP related presentations provided (in person or virtual)	Yes, 58 CHIP-related presentations provided.
		36 press releases and newsletters (or newsletter articles)	Yes, 68 press releases and newsletters submitted.
		12 materials translated to Spanish or other languages as needed	Yes, 21 materials translated.
Provide services to improve the health of Sauk County residents	Improve Health of Sauk County Residents Across the Lifespan (ex: Immunizations, Screenings, Dental/Medical Vouchers)	180 children vaccinated through VFC	No, 157 children received vaccines from Public Health.
		120 adults vaccinated through VFA	Yes, 176 adults received vaccines from Public Health.
		12 vaccine clinics hosted	Yes, 18 vaccine clinics were hosted.
		48 vouchers for medical and dental needs	No, 40 vouchers were given This was an increase over the 32 given in 2022.
	Provide prevention and harm reduction services to reduce substance misuse and related harms	600 Narcan units distributed	Yes, 775 units of Narcan distributed.
		240 response team visits to clients about substance use	Yes, 346 response team visits conducted.
		24 efforts toward policy and systems changes to promote health	Yes, 37 efforts made towards policy and systems changes.
	Refine programs that support healthy environments through	24 tick drags (perform tick drags monthly during tick season)	No, 17 tick drags were conducted. Due to the drought, tick activity was down.

	education, data collection and quality improvement.	390 pool/water attraction inspections completed	No, 359 pool/water attraction inspections completed in the calendar year. The inspection year runs July 1-June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 100% of facilities will be inspected during this time period.
		124 radon kits sold	Yes, 207 radon kits sold.
		36 education encounters during routine food establishment inspections	Yes, 57 educational encounters.
	Improve Health of Pregnant Women and Children Age 0-5	90% NFP retention rate by pregnancy	Yes, 94% retention rate by pregnancy.
		80% NFP retention rate by infancy	Yes, 83% retention rate by infancy.
		90% NFP retention rate by toddlerhood	Yes, 90% retention rate by toddlerhood.
		50% of WIC voucher \$\$ redeemed at Farmer's Markets	No, 47% of WIC Farmer's Market Vouchers were redeemed. This was an increase over the 43% redeemed in 2022.
		50% of WIC moms who initiated breastfeeding are still breastfeeding at six months	Yes, 58% of WIC Moms breastfeeding at 6 months.
	Engage the community in coalitions and other Public Health activities	12 new policy recommendations made by coalitions and review teams	Yes, 14 new policy recommendations were made by coalitions & review teams.
		Attendance at Community Coalition/Committee Meetings will reflect the participation of individuals with lived experience relevant to the health policy changes discussed	Yes, specifically attendance at Partnership for Prevention and SUPER meetings included people with lived experience.
		Contribute towards the implementation of the	Yes, multiple agencies and community partners participated in CHIP activities.

	CHIP in collaboration with partners	Strategic action taken on all three CHIP priority areas	Yes, actions included hosting coalition meetings, offering training and educational presentations to the community, and sharing resources.
		60 coalition/committee meetings held related to CHIP Priorities	Yes, 132 meetings were held.



## **Department Changes & Accomplishments:**

### **Changes:**

In 2023 we received funds from the Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) grant. This allowed for PHSC to hire a Community Health Worker. The Community Health Worker conducts outreach to new and existing referral sources for our home visiting and WIC programs.

Nurse Family Partnership experienced turnover in two nurse home visitor positions in 2023 but were able to find replacements and get them both trained and enrolling new families by the end of the year. Transfer rates for clients who received a new nurse are being maintained at above expectations of the national model. Our new Community Outreach Worker began making connections in the community, coordinating the NFP Community Advisory Board and began co-hosting playgroups each month with the Birth-3 Program. We are eager to see what 2024 will bring with everyone up and running!

WIC resumed in person appointments in August per Federal regulations. Participants do have the option to share height, weight, and hemoglobin levels from their provider. However, getting these measurements from providers has been time consuming for staff. Our WIC program does offer a phone or virtual visit option to those that prefer it. Several families do prefer to come in person for their WIC appointment to monitor their child's growth in between their well child visits with their providers.

We are offering a new self-paced online Narcan training course that is available on-demand. The course takes about 20 minutes to complete. To access the self-paced course, or to sign up for a live training with an instructor, visit: [www.UCanSaveALife.org](http://www.UCanSaveALife.org).

As the response to the national health emergency ended and requirements in testing and reporting changed, our COVID response unit shifted to COVID recovery to better suite the needs of community members. We still provide guidance and outbreak management to local agencies that are required to report and maintain safety standards and infection prevention strategies. Through COVID recovery we have created an Outreach unit to address the needs of the community in relation to pandemic recovery and to increase the knowledge of what services are available through public health to our community members and to promote the different career opportunities available in Public Health at the local, state, and national level.

## Accomplishments:

Every 5 years, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services conducts a 140 Review of Local Health Departments to ensure that departments provide all services required by state statute and rule. Our 140 Review was conducted in 2023, requiring documents be sent to DHS and a site visit was conducted on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to demonstrate that we have the infrastructure in place and program capacity to provide high quality public health services. After review, our Level III status was maintained, the highest level awarded. For more information about the 140 Review process and requirements, visit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lh-depts/requirement-updates.htm>.

Treemanisha Stewart, Health Officer/Director, was recognized by the de Beaumont Foundation as one of the 40 under 40 in Public Health. The de Beaumont Foundation announced its 2023 honorees after reviewing nominations from hundreds of leaders in public health. The new class was selected by a distinguished panel of public health professionals for their leadership and contributions to their community's health. For more information about the 40 Under 40 in Public Health, including a full list of honorees, visit [www.debeaumont.org/40Under40](http://www.debeaumont.org/40Under40).

The Seal-A-Smile Program received 4 Awards this year from the WI Department of Health Services. We were one of only two programs in the state to receive the Seal-of-Excellence Award. The program also received awards for serving 90% of program schools, meeting the 100% screening goal, and exceeding the participation rate of 50%

PHSC staff also shared experience and examples of our work with other public health professionals by presenting at conferences, including:

- Siobhan Allen, Health Data Analyst presented “The Performance Management System: From Foundation to Function” at the 2023 Public Health Improvement Training Conference in Washington D.C. in May and presented “Using ESSENCE Data to Drive Local Health Action” to the WI ESSENCE Users Workgroup in October.
- Jodie Molitor, Health Educator presented at the Annual Wisconsin Public Health Association Conference in May on “Health Equity in Community Health Assessment” and at a Wisconsin Public Health Association Webinar in November on “Just Response”.
- Hannah Erdman, Health Educator presented at the RX and Illicit Drug Summit in April on “Overdose Fatality Review: National and Local Partnerships for Prevention”.
- Sara Jesse, Community Health Strategist, presented in April at the WI Overdose Fatality Review Summit on “The Art of Recommendations”.
- Treemanisha Stewart, Health Officer/Director presented our “Data Strategic Plan” to the WI Southern Region Health Officers in November.
- Treemanisha Stewart, Health Officer/Director and Jennifer Weitzel, Deputy Director presented on Decolonizing Public Health to Juneau County Public Health staff.

## Statistical Summary:



### ANNUAL REPORT 2023

*Making Sauk County a healthy place to live, learn, work and play.*

#### Health & Wellness Programs



Seal-A-Smile Program:  
2,130 children screened,  
4,079 fluoride treatments,  
725 sealants applied, and  
100% of children with urgent dental needs were referred for additional care

Fit Families: 48 participants

WIC Average Monthly Case Load: 1,168

47% of WIC Farmers Market Checks Redeemed

58% of WIC Mothers Breastfeeding at 6 Months

Prenatal Care Coordination Program Babies Born: 24

Nurse Family Partnership Graduations: 27

Nurse Family Partnership Babies Born: 25

Immunizations: 722 doses administered by Public Health Sauk County



#### Coalitions for Community Health Improvement

132 coalition/committee/action team meetings held to address Health Priority Areas identified in 2021 Community Health Assessment (Mental Health, Housing, & Substance Use Prevention & Recovery)

775 units of Narcan distributed

346 response team visits to clients about substance use

#### Environmental Health



After an elevated blood lead level test result, 29 families received education from a Public Health Nurse, and 5 families had home visits conducted by an Environmental Health Sanitarian



Radon Kits Sold: 207

Environmental Health Inspections: 1,575

## Output Measures

Description	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Communicable Disease Follow Up	535	463	430 <i>(Non-COVID Communicable Diseases)</i>	421 <i>(Non-COVID Communicable Diseases)</i>	378 <i>(Non-COVID Communicable Diseases)</i>	480 <i>(Non-COVID Communicable Diseases)</i>
Medical/Dental Vouchers Written	55	57	48	47	32	40
Immunizations Provided (includes COVID 2022 & 2023)	659	809	336* <i>(Non-COVID Vaccines)</i>	274* <i>(Non-COVID Vaccines)</i>	617	722
Tobacco Compliance Checks Made to Establishments	64	70	N/A <i>(not conducted due to COVID-19)</i>	N/A <i>(not conducted due to COVID-19)</i>	N/A <i>(not conducted due to COVID-19)</i>	32
Number of Narcan units disseminated	New measure in 2022. Previously counted # of people trained.				839	775
Number of Response Team Visits to people regarding substance use	N/A <i>Program began in 2021</i>			103	195	346
Number of oral screenings in the Seal-a-Smile program <i>*Note-Paused from March 2020-August 2021 due to COVID-19</i>	1649	2118	734*	1024*	1609	2130
Number of families served in Sauk County Nurse Family Partnership Program	114	122	132	125	127	119
# of accidental child fatalities reviewed by the Child Death Review Team	5	6	4	5	9	6
Percent of children in MCH program who receive Resource Nurse screenings to identify risks	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of children (0-5) screened for elevated blood lead levels <i>*Note-in 2020 changed from reporting WIC children screened to all children in Sauk County screened as WIC nation-wide paused in-person appointments due to COVID response. Primary care providers have continued to screen for elevated blood lead levels.</i>	395	357	487	470	502	648

Number of residents connected to health services through MA MATCH/FPOS	18	10	2	11	20	44
Number of CHA/CHIP meetings facilitated: Coalitions, Action Teams, Steering Committees, and Data Council	New Measure in 2021			22	66	132
WIC Caseload of Clients (average/month)	1183	1133	1139	1092	1108	1168
Fit Families Grant enrollees	50	52	54	50	51	48
Worksite Wellness Activities?	New measure in 2022				6	10
DATCP Routine Inspections	1237	1256	1086	1104	1289	1407
Number of routine food service establishments inspected	486	540	467	461	606	637
Number of routine pool/water attractions inspected	451	371	259	343	385	375
Number of Risk Control Plans Implemented during routine food establishment inspections	New measure in 2023					57
Number of tick drags completed	Began in 2022				16	17
Number of car seats distributed to eligible families	102	86	52	43	91	115

## Outcome and Efficiency Measures

Description	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Immunization:</b> Increase vaccination rates for all residents. Rates for children 0-24 months are a good proxy of immunization success in a community	66%	68%	63%	64%	64%	66%
<b>Reducing Youth Alcohol Use:</b> high school students that currently use alcohol	N/A	43%	N/A	29%	N/A	<i>Data from the 2023 YRBS not available yet</i>
<b>Reducing Youth Vaping:</b> high school students that currently vape	N/A	26%	N/A	34%	N/A	<i>Data from the 2023 YRBS not available yet</i>
<b>Communications and Public Education:</b> The department will update the website & regularly use social media at least weekly to include the latest opportunities to support healthy living and how to connect to resources, as measured by the SCHD website visits annually.	<i>New measure in 2021</i>			474,630	150,806	55,067
<b>Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs):</b> reduce the rate of STIs in the community, with a focus on chlamydia.	284 cases <i>481 per 100,000 population</i>	279 cases <i>473 per 100,000 population</i>	247 cases <i>388 per 100,000 population</i>	297 cases <i>470 per 100,000 population</i>	263 cases <i>416 per 100,000 population</i>	236 cases <i>359 per 100,000 population</i>
<b># of Suicides:</b> Reduce suicide rate (per 100,000 population) (Data suppressed if less than 5)	10 <i>16 per 100,000 population</i>	10 <i>16 per 100,000 population</i>	13 <i>20 per 100,000 population</i>	19 <i>29 per 100,000 population</i>	15 <i>23 per 100,000 population</i>	10 <i>(preliminary data) 15 per 100,000 population</i>
<b># of opioid overdose deaths: Count deaths in Sauk County, includes suicides and accidental</b> (Data suppressed if less than 5)	12 <i>19 per 100,000 population</i>	9 <i>14 per 100,000 population</i>	19 <i>30 per 100,000 population</i>	11 <i>17 per 100,000 population</i>	11 <i>17 per 100,000 population</i>	6 <i>9 per 100,000 population</i>

<b>Nurse Family Partnership (NFP):</b> Retention rate by pregnancy to improve the opportunities for healthy futures of high-risk families.	86%	91%	87%	82%	80%	94%
<b>WIC Participation Rate:</b> 96% of enrolled participants are participating in WIC. The state average is 91.6%.	96%	97%	97%	97%	98%	98%
<b>WIC Enrollment: Increase enrollment during the first trimester of pregnant participants.</b>	56%	50%	53%	46%	53%	51%
<b>WIC Breast Feeding:</b> Breast feeding duration rates at six (6) months.	50%	56%	55%	51%	49%	58%
<b>WIC Fit Families: % of participants met objectives of 1 or less sweetened beverages per week</b>	100%	85%	75%	84%	81%	Data not yet available
<b>WIC Fit Families: % of children completing the program who engaged in 60 minutes of physical activity each day</b>	98%	98%	90%	100%	100%	Data not yet available
<b>Dental:</b> % of children with urgent dental needs referred and connected with dental services	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>PH Workforce:</b> Staff retention rate	New Measure in 2020		80%	88%	98%	99%
<b>Food Service inspections:</b> Maintain percentage of food service establishments	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

inspected through the DATCP program on time.						
<b>Transient, Non-Community Well Water:</b> Percentage of wells tested through the DNR Well Water program.	100%	100%	95% <i>*Some were unable to be inspected due to COVID-19 closures</i>	100%	100%	100%
<b>Lead:</b> Percentage of children with blood lead levels over 3.5 that have been investigated and abated, mitigated, or relocated.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Body Art:</b> Percentage of body art inspections completed on time	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Radon:</b> Number of radon testing kits distributed	145	128	104	66	103	207