



Green County Public Health

Annual Report 2023

Green County Public Health
N3152 WI-81
Monroe, WI 53566
(608) 328-9390
info@greencountywi.org



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Green County Public Health

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GCPH Staff & Organizational Chart	03
Green County Health Committee	04
Mission, Vision, Values	04
Public Health Overview	05
Foundational Public Health Services	06
Public Health Infrastructure	
Community Partnerships	07
Communications	08
Emergency Preparedness & Response	09
Organizational Competencies	11
Strategic Planning	11
Foundational Areas of Public Health	
Communicable Disease Control	12
Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention	14
Environmental Public Health	16
Maternal, Child & Family Health	18
Access to & Linkage with Clinical Care	21
Appendices	22
References	24

STAFF & ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



RoAnn Warden, BSN, RN
Director/Health Officer

Joni Marty, BSN, RN
Assistant Director

Kristin Weber RDN CD CLS*
WIC Director

Jaime Batz, BSN, RN, CLC
Public Health Nurse

Geoff Briggs
Environmental Health
Specialist

Yanet Alba
Public Health Technician

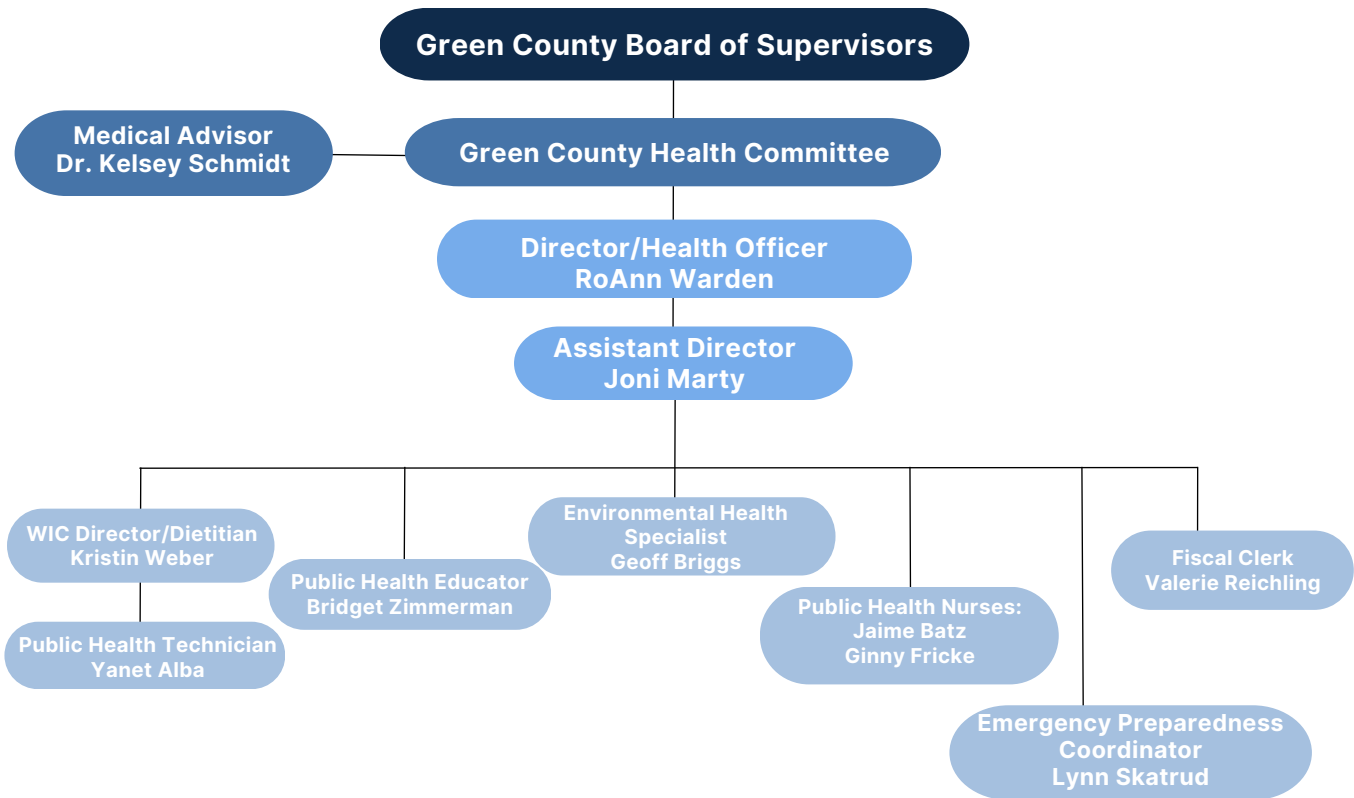
Bridget Zimmerman, CHES
Public Health Educator

Ginny Fricke, RN, BSN, CLC
Public Health Nurse

Valerie Reichling
Fiscal Clerk

Lynn Skatrud*
Emergency Preparedness
Coordinator

*Not shown in picture



HEALTH COMMITTEE



Harvey Kubly and Sam Wilke not pictured.

The Green County Health Committee is made up of five County Board Supervisors, one medical doctor, one nurse, and one dentist. The committee governs the public health department, assesses public health needs, and advocates for the provision of reasonable and necessary public health services. Along with the Health Officer, they develop policy and provide leadership that promotes local involvement and commitment.

Barbara Krattiger - Chair
County Board Supervisor

Joan Winn Rufenacht - Vice Chair
County Board Supervisor

Sue Nelson
County Board Supervisor

Harvey Kubly
County Board Supervisor

Sam Wilke
County Board Supervisor

Vicki Evenson
Nurse

Dr. Julio Rodriguez
Dentist

Dr. Kelsey Schmidt
Medical Doctor

GCPH MISSION & VISION

Mission

Green County Public Health is a leader in enhancing and promoting health through education, outreach, and partnership.

Vision

A Green County community that is kind, inclusive, safe, and supports the health of all.

WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?

Public health is more than just the work of a local health department. Public health refers to the overall health and well-being of a community and all of the people and organizations working towards making that community a healthier and safer place to live, work, and learn. Lots of organizations do public health-related work, such as organizations focused on homelessness, mental health, clean water, or education. All of these things contribute to the health of an individual and the health of a

community, and so they're important to public health.

Public health departments exist to help lead and coordinate efforts to protect and promote health and prevent disease and injury. Public health departments work closely with other community organizations to do this work because we are stronger when we work together and can combine our resources.

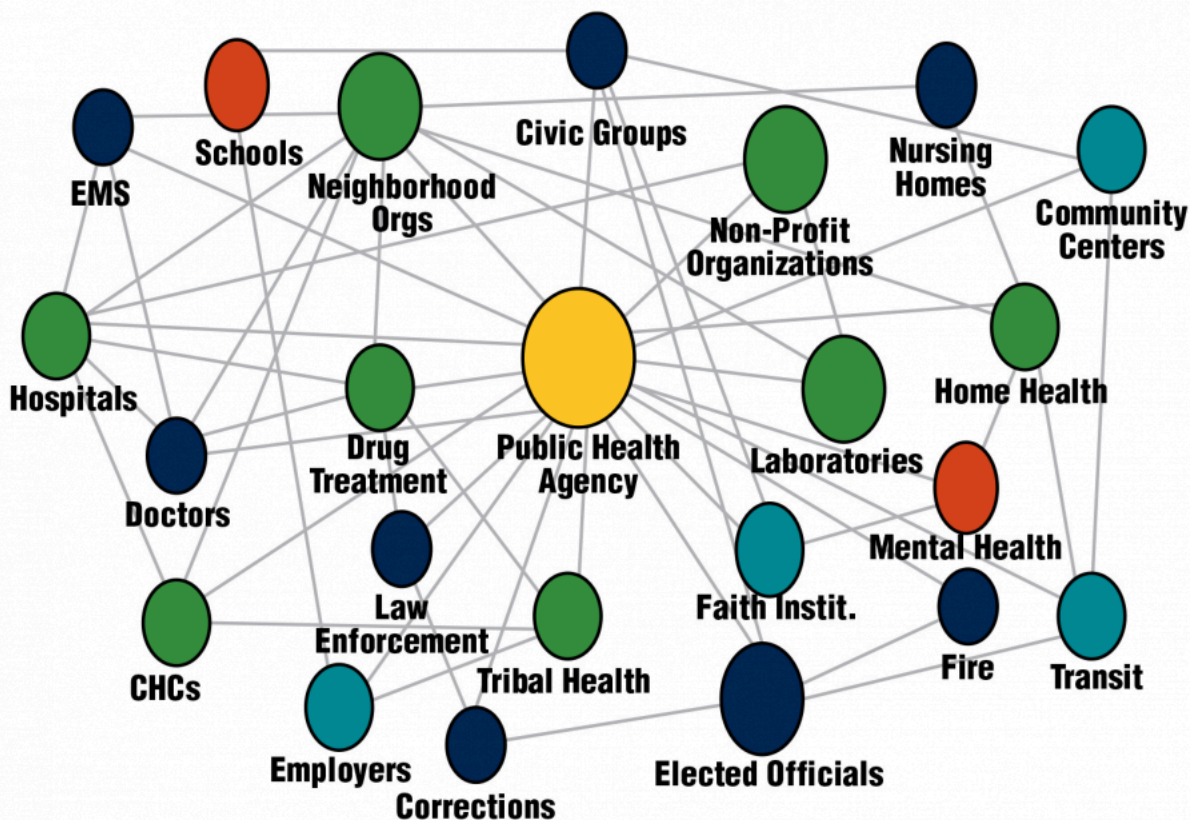


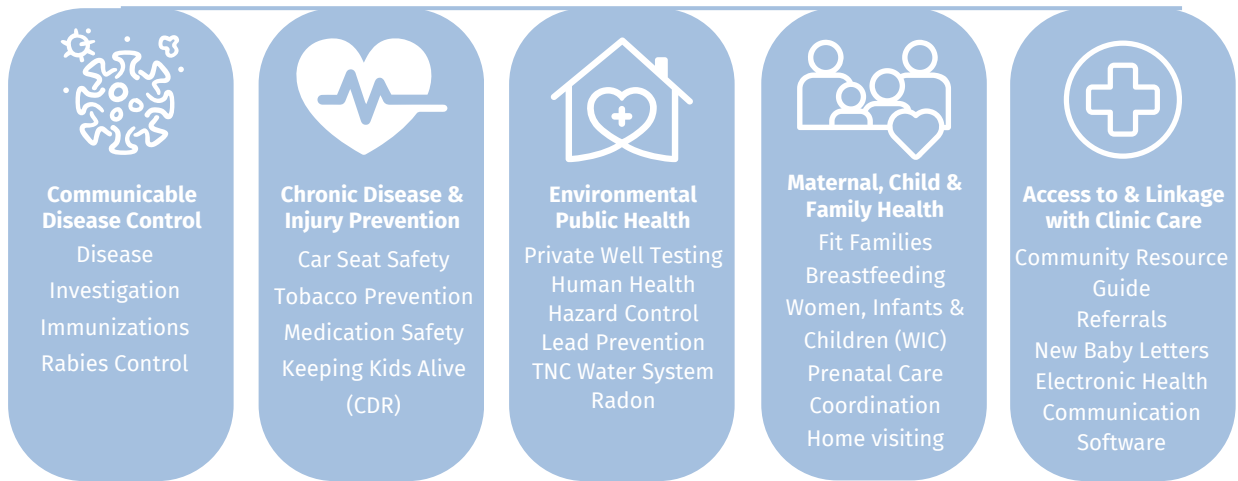
Figure from Region V Public Health Training Center

FOUNDATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The Foundational Public Health Services model defines the minimum services and capabilities that all public health departments should have. This framework was recently updated in 2022 to reflect the growth and changes of modern public health departments. Green County Public Health strives to meet these expectations. This year, our annual report is organized around the Foundational Services model. The Foundational Public Health Services come from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), a national organization that accredits public health departments and helps set standards and recommendations for the field.

FOUNDATIONAL AREAS

COMMUNITY SPECIFIC SERVICES



FOUNDATIONAL CAPABILITIES

<p>Assessment & Surveillance Annual Report Community Health Assessment</p>	<p>Community Partnership Development Green County Healthy Community Coalition Community Events</p>	<p>Equity Woven into all foundational areas and capabilities.</p>	<p>Organizational Competencies Workforce Development Financial Management</p>
<p>Policy Development & Support Partnerships with Decision Makers and Local Leaders</p>	<p>Accountability & Performance Management Health Committee Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Emergency Preparedness & Response Plans, Training and Exercises</p>	<p>Communications Social Media Community Outreach</p>

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Community partnerships are a super important part of public health. We are stronger when we work together and combine our resources. GCPH coordinates and serves on several workgroups, coalitions, and committees related to many different public health topics.

Since the 1990s, Green County Public Health has collaborated with SSM Health Monroe, formerly Monroe Clinic, to co-chair the **Green County Health Community Coalition**. As a part of the coalition, Green County Public Health has the opportunity to connect with organizations and people representing a wide variety of sectors from across Green County. In 2023, the coalition hosted the first Green County Housing Summit to bring people together to discuss housing issues and solutions for Green County. The coalition also brought Parent Cafes to Green County, which allows parents and caregivers to connect with and learn from each other. The coalition held four coalition-wide meetings throughout the year - these meetings allowed coalition members to connect and learn about what's happening in the community, and each meeting featured a guest speaker. Green County Public Health staff presented at the Public Health Operations Conference and during a webinar hosted by the WI Department of Health Services to share with public health professionals across the state about the success and lessons learned from the coalition.

In 2023, 50 people attended the first annual Green County Public Health Open House in honor of National Public Health Week in April. This event was open to all Green County employees and County Board Supervisors. Attendees toured the department, talked with staff, and learned more about the programs and services we offer.



GCHCC Meeting at Kuhn North America



GCPH Open House Attendees

Additional examples of our strong partnerships with community groups are woven in throughout this report because **partnerships are a part of everything we do.**

COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Communication is important to public health in so many ways. GCPH is responsible for informing community members about the programs and services we offer, providing health education, and alerting people to public health threats or emergencies.

Social Media

In 2023, Green County Public Health made advancements in our social media outreach by creating an Instagram and YouTube account in addition to the department's existing Facebook account. These additional platforms allow our department to share health information in unique ways and reach additional community members. Our department shared more than 200 posts across the three platforms, and our most popular post reached 1,000+ accounts.



Filming a YouTube Video

Newspaper & Radio

Green County Public Health participated in 12 radio interviews, wrote 12 newspaper column articles, and submitted 12 press releases throughout 2023. By sharing health information

offline, we can reach people who don't have or don't use the internet and share messages so that community members see them multiple times.

Community Events

Green County Public Health staff attended 20 community events/educational sessions in 2023 and reached hundreds of community members at these events. Staff attended health fairs, went into schools, and attended other community events to connect with community members and provide them with important public health information and resources.

Opportunities like these allow GCPH to meet community members in person and to promote our programs and services.



ADRC Health & Wellness Day

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE



Public Health Emergency Preparedness means working with community partners to promote ongoing community readiness, resilience, and preparedness by assisting the public to take necessary action before, during, or after a disaster or public health emergency.

In 2023, our department conducted three community conversations with older adults across Green County to learn about their emergency preparedness plans, and to get insight on how to improve our department’s communication with older adults. As a result of these conversations, our department developed a quarterly preparedness newsletter that is printed and distributed to ten senior housing locations across the county. Additionally, following this project, the GCPH Emergency Preparedness Coordinator worked with senior housing apartments to develop an emergency alert system and provided emergency preparedness resources to many residents.



GCPH Staff CPR Training

Green County Public Health also took several steps related to preparing for future emergencies, including participating in regional experiences, training staff, and acquiring emergency supplies.

Additionally, staff members attended three “National Night Out” events across three different communities hosted by local law enforcement agencies. At these events, Public Health staff distributed emergency preparedness plans, emergency preparedness fact sheets, and other resources.



Monroe National Night Out

Since 2020, Green County Public Health has responded to the threat of COVID-19 and has adjusted this response based on the stage of the pandemic. In May 2023, the federal government ended the public health emergency declaration for COVID-19. GCPH still monitors the severity of COVID-19 in Green County, answers questions related to COVID-19 and, in 2023, provided at-home test kits to community members. In 2023, GCPH distributed 1,267 free at-home COVID-19 test kits to community members.

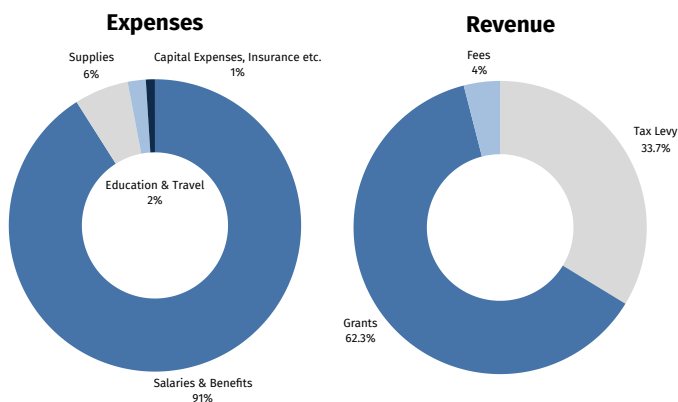
ORGANIZATIONAL COMPETENCIES



In order for our department to perform effectively and efficiently, we need a strong organizational infrastructure. This includes focusing on our financial management, information technology, workforce, and leadership.

The majority of our department’s financial revenue is received from federal and state grants, and most of that funding goes to employee salaries and benefits. In the coming years, COVID-19 grant funds will be eliminated, which will greatly reduce our grant revenue. We are implementing updated accounting methods to further align with GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) policies. These updates primarily apply to grant billing procedures and how expenses are calculated.

In support of the Public Health Infrastructure building work occurring in WI, GCPH participated in two statewide assessments: the WI Foundation Public Health Costing and Capacity Assessment and the WI Public Health Workforce Assessment. Both of these assessments will be instrumental in helping us understand our workforce needs and our capacity to provide the Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) in our community with an estimated cost for what it will take to close the gap between our current level of services and the full implementation of FPHS.



GCPH is committed to maintaining a diverse, skilled, knowledgeable, and passionate public health workforce. Throughout 2023, the GCPH participated in numerous trainings to strengthen the team's capacity to best support the community and achieve its mission. Training topics included Emergency Preparedness, Breastfeeding, Mental Health and Substance Misuse, Maternal Child Health, Coalition Building and Facilitation skills, Grant Writing, Communicable Diseases, Water Quality, and leadership.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

In 2023, Green County Public Health underwent a strategic planning process and published our department's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan. Over the year, staff met and worked with colleagues from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Office of Policy and Practice Alignment, who facilitated this process, and identified areas for growth. Community partners and the Health Committee were surveyed, and their input was used to help develop this plan. Additionally, Green County Public Health developed a tracking tool to monitor our progress toward achieving the goals set in this plan. To view the entire plan, please visit the Green County Public Health website: gcpublichealth.org.



Strategic Planning Session

This plan is a critical piece for building a more robust public health department that prepares us for the future. This is a critical moment for public health, and we're committed to creating a more robust public health infrastructure.

Strategic Priorities & Goals



Community Focus & Partnership Development

Goal 1: Promote community awareness of public health and what our department does.

Goal 2: Promote health and well-being in Green County through partnership with the community.

Goal 3: Strengthen and expand partnerships to improve health and rebuild trust.



Workforce & Organizational Competencies

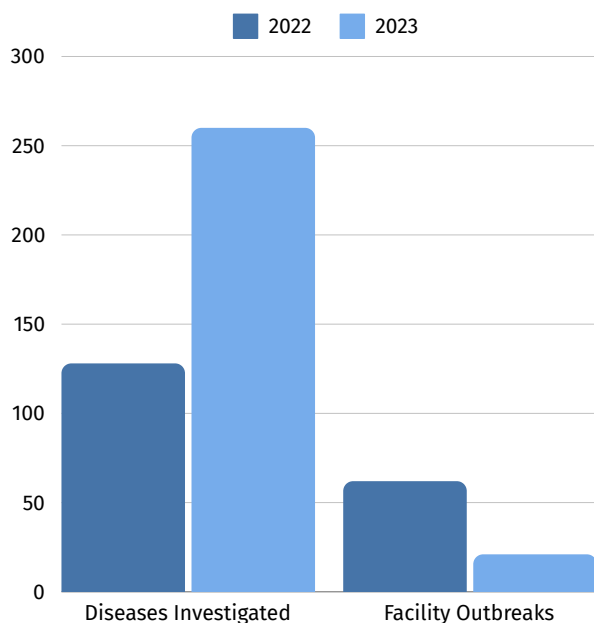
Goal 1: Strengthen staff well-being and train a competent and diverse workforce.

Goal 2: Enhance program management and performance monitoring.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL



Surveillance, investigation and follow-up of reportable communicable diseases are the statutory responsibilities of local health departments. Communicable disease is tracked through a channel of communications at the local, state and regional levels between public health, physicians, hospitals, and labs. This communication channel allows for prompt investigation of possible outbreaks and unusual situations and to implement control measures to minimize further spread of disease.



In 2023, 260 cases of reportable diseases were reported to Green County Public Health. Chlamydia had the highest increase, from 63 cases in 2022 to 93 in 2023. Salmonella also increased from 4 cases in 2022 to 15 cases in 2023. There were fewer disease outbreaks at facilities (such as nursing homes) in 2023 than 2022.

In 2023, 50 tuberculin skin tests were administered, with one positive skin test. Two patients received latent tb treatment through Green County Public Health.

Our **rabies control program** strives to prevent the spread of rabies to humans and pets through education, testing, and quarantine orders. In collaboration with law enforcement and veterinarians, our Public Health Nurses followed up on 91 animal bite orders in 2023. 30% of the offending animals were not current with the Rabies vaccine or were unvaccinated. Three 180-day Domestic Pet Quarantine Orders were issued due to exposure to a rabid or suspected rabid animal. Pet owners faced significant challenges finding a facility to quarantine their pets due to the lack of local facilities in the area and the cost of sheltering. Throughout the year, 13 animals were submitted for rabies testing: 8 bats, three cats, one cow, and one raccoon. Of the animals tested, one bat tested positive for rabies.

The Green County Public Health **vaccine program** is in place to help prevent vaccine-preventable diseases through the administration of vaccines. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the administration of safe and effective vaccines is one of the most successful and cost-effective public health tools for preventing disease. Community members can schedule vaccination appointments with Public Health Nurses at GCPH to get vaccinated against a wide variety of diseases. In 2023, there was an increase in Tdap vaccines given from 60 in 2022 to 114. Additionally, our department works with Green County school districts to ensure children are up-to-date with the WI Student Immunization Law. In Green County, 98.8% of the school-age children in Green County complied with the immunization law, which is an increase from 95% in 2022.



Educational stand-up banner a part of RICE grant outreach

In 2023, Green County Public Health was awarded a Routine Immunization Community Engagement (RICE) Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to increase adult vaccination rates in Green County. GCPH worked with local pharmacies and organizations who serve seniors to provide vaccinations at events and offer vaccine record review services. Our department also began sending vaccination reminders for families with children under the age of 2 who reside in Green County. GCPH is working with Televox to mail out postcards to these families, and 80 postcards were mailed in 2023. The purpose of this project is to increase the number of 2-year-olds who are up to date on their vaccines. In 2023, 72% of 2-year-olds in Green County were up-to-date on their vaccinations.

Every year, Green County Public Health works with local school districts to offer **school-based influenza vaccine clinics** for students in Green County. In 2023, GCPH staff visited every school district in Green County and vaccinated 404 kids at these clinics. Our department also vaccinated nine more kids at a vaccine clinic at our department for kids who missed their school's vaccine clinic day. These vaccine clinics serve as a practice opportunity for conducting large-scale community vaccine clinics in the event of a public health emergency.

To view the full list of communicable disease trends in Green County over the past three years, see Appendix C.

CHRONIC DISEASE & INJURY PREVENTION



One of the core values of public health organizations is prevention. Public Health aims to stop diseases and injuries so people do not need medical intervention. Many illnesses and injuries can be prevented with changes in policies, environment, and habits and by taking precautions.

In 2023, Green County Public Health began offering **child safety seat inspections and child safety seats** again. Green County Public Health's Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) completed 35 car seat inspections and dispersed 45 child safety seats to Green County families to help reduce the incidence of childhood injuries from vehicle accidents. Additionally, Green County's CPST increased outreach efforts to the community through an informational video on properly installed child passenger seats and a promotional flyer shared with community partners. The video is available on the Green County Public Health website with over 59 views. GCPH looks forward to continuing inspections and dispersal of child passenger safety seats in 2024 and training Green County Law Enforcement on car seat basics and how to spot misuse.



Filming Safety Seat YouTube Video

Over ten years ago, Green County Public Health established a **Child Death Review (CDR) team** under the guidance of the Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin Keeping Kids Alive program. The CDR team seeks to understand the risk factors and circumstances surrounding the death of a child, and how to help prevent a death from happening again in the future. This multidisciplinary team consists of members from local human services, public health, coroner, district attorney, law enforcement, health care, and schools. This group met twice in 2023 to review the deaths of four children. In 2024 this group will become a Fatality Review Team to include reviewing overdose deaths as well. To view the list of the leading causes of death in Green County, see Appendix A.



Green County Public Health partners with Better Brodhead to distribute **medication lock boxes** and bags to help prevent the misuse of prescription drugs. In 2023, our department distributed 17 medication lock boxes and bags; this is down from 31 boxes and bags distributed in 2022



Medication Lock Box & Bag

In the past year, Green County Public Health remained active in **tobacco prevention** work. GCPH is a member of the Southwest Alliance for Tobacco Prevention Coalition (SWATP) in partnership with Rock, Lafayette, Grant, and Iowa counties. Despite the fact that tobacco use is declining, the prevalence of vaping, especially among youth, persists. Vapes contain nicotine along with other chemicals that can impact brain growth and development as well as physical and mental health. In 2023, Green County Public Health partnered with the Monroe High School LAUNCH Program to develop an educational vaping presentation for elementary and middle school students. One of the GCPH Nurses mentored three students to help create this presentation, which was shown to 256 5th-grade students from four school districts at the Green County Rural Safety Day. Additionally, GCPH staff provided vaping prevention presentations to three middle school classes, reaching over 20 students.

In 2023, Green County Public Health began working with community partners to address an emerging public health issue. Agencies in Green County learned about reports from community members about adverse health effects following trying food containing **Delta-8**, a synthetic form of THC. Late in 2022, a **task force** was developed in collaboration with partners from law enforcement, AODA, SSM Health Better Brodhead, and Public Health. In 2023, the group conducted an environmental scan to assess the availability of Delta-8 in the community. Following this scan, the group began working on an educational campaign to reach school professionals, healthcare agencies, and community groups working with youth. The workgroup has been partnering with the Wood County Health Department which has been working on this issue long and has found success in their youth prevention efforts.



ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH



The environment that people live, work, and play in significantly contributes to their health. Public health organizations help ensure that buildings and the physical environment are safe and healthy for community members. If there are issues, public health works with the necessary organizations to try to address that environmental health issue.

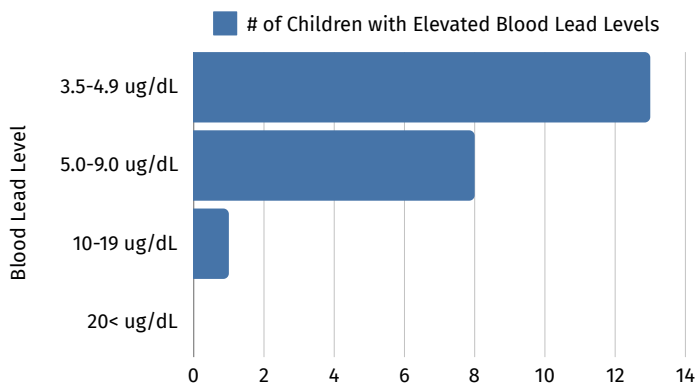
Green County Public Health offers **drinking water test kits** and provides technical support to Green County private well owners. In 2023, our department distributed 147 water test kits, and 71 of these kits were used. In recent years, 17% of private well water tests showed nitrate levels that exceeded health standards. In 2023, Green County Public Health was awarded an Environmental Health Tracking Mini-Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to provide education and outreach around private well testing to Green County residents. With the grant, the department provided targeted outreach to well owners with water quality concerns to inform them of grant funds available to repair or replace their wells. Six applications were submitted and approved for these grant funds, which covered the replacement of the owner's wells.



Outreach at Monroe Home Expo

GCPH contracts with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to monitor, inspect, and sample small water systems that serve rural Green County businesses with their own water systems. These water systems are considered **Transient Non-Community (TNC) Water Systems**; these are defined as wells that serve 25 or more different people at least 60 days of the year (eg. rural churches, taverns, wineries, or golf courses). Wisconsin Chapter NR 809, the Safe Drinking Water rule, is in place to ensure these and other public water systems are monitored regularly and the water they produce is within the maximum contaminant limits defined for Nitrates and Bacteria. There are 35 TNC water systems in Green County. GCPH has worked with two establishments whose TNC wells had nitrate levels above the operating limit. Both establishments have posted signage and provided alternative water sources for drinking. Both systems have applied for grant funding to bring the water they produce to healthy levels.

In 2023, Green County Public Health focused on increasing childhood lead screenings and providing **lead prevention** information. Green County’s Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program increased their blood lead screenings from 63 children in 2022 to 84 children in 2023. An increase in screenings can identify more children who have been affected by unsafe lead levels in their blood, and in turn, Public Health can work with them to prevent further lead exposure. 22 children in Green County had elevated levels of lead. This slightly decreased from 2022, when 24 Green County children had blood lead levels.



A Public Health Nurse contacted each family with a child with an elevated blood lead level. GCPH mails resources to families and conducts educational phone calls, home visits, and/or refers to the Lead Safe Homes Program to decrease ongoing lead exposure. **The Lead-Safe Homes Program (LSHP)** creates safe and healthy home environments free of lead paint hazards for families in Wisconsin. LSHP can provide grants for homes built before 1978 and where families with children and/or pregnant women eligible for Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus live.

Green County Public Health works to recruit eligible homes, identifies lead paint risks in homes, and manages projects to eliminate lead paint hazards from homes. In 2023, one home in Green County was renovated as a part of the LSHP.

Green County Public Health offers **radon test kits** and technical support to Green County residents. In 2023, 88 radon kits were distributed to citizens with 73 kits tested and reported. Green County homes have a relatively high incidence of radon that exceeds health standards. In recent years, more than 60% of radon tests completed in Green County resulted in levels that exceed health standards. Homes with high radon levels can usually be restored to safe levels with a radon removal system installed by a certified contractor.

In 2023, GCPH received eight complaint reports of **human health hazards**. To protect the public from illness and disease, Green County Public Health investigates complaints of the Green County Sanitary Code Public Health Nuisance and Human Health Hazard WI stat. 254. In recent years there has been a declining trend in complaint reports, with most found to be nuisances rather than human health hazards.

MATERNAL, CHILD & FAMILY HEALTH



The health of parents and children is foundational to our communities. People who are pregnant and have young children are especially vulnerable to disease and illness. Public Health offers numerous programs to support parents and children from pregnancy to birth, to early childhood development.

During 2023, the Green County Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for **Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** hired a new Registered Dietitian who is also the WIC Director. The WIC



Kristin, New WIC Director

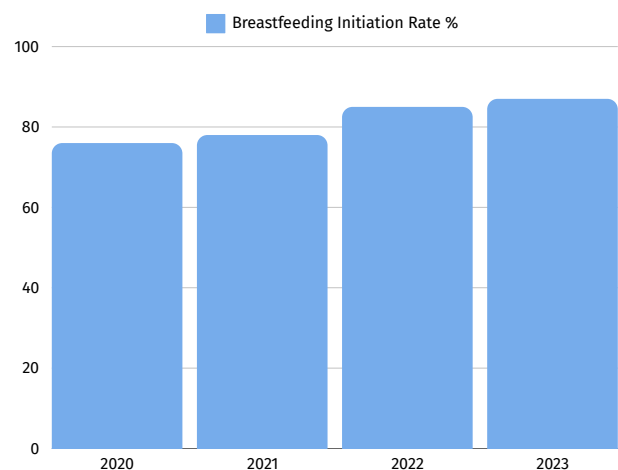
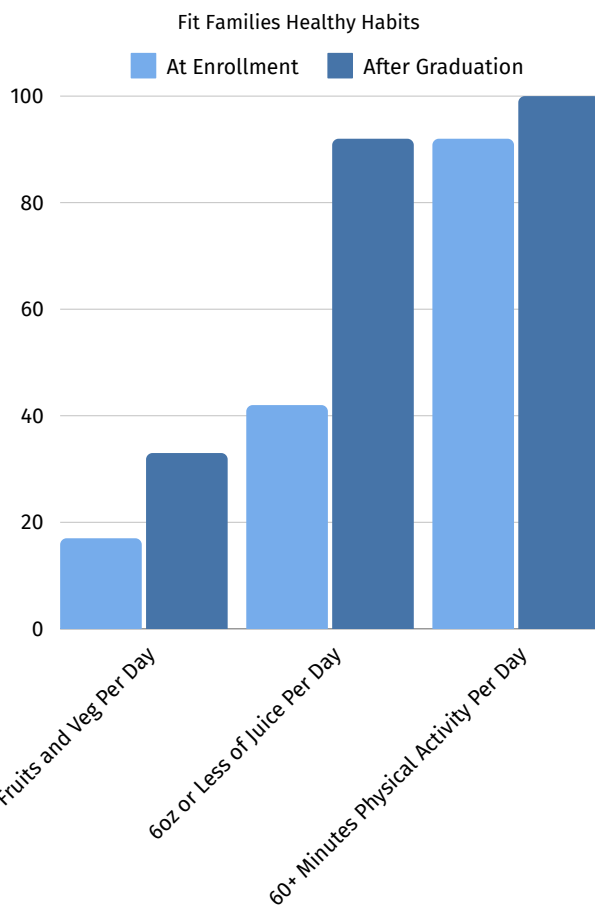
program made 810 nutrition contacts with Green County families, guiding them toward healthy choices. This is an increase of over 200 contacts from 2022. WIC helped 625 unduplicated participants buy \$314,130 worth of nutritious foods and formula at Green County grocery stores. In addition, families were provided with vouchers worth \$2940 to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables directly from local farmers through the Farmers Market Nutrition Program. Families were encouraged to return to in-person appointments in 2023 to get height, weight, and hemoglobin measurements to help identify health concerns and receive support and referrals to a wide variety of health and community services

In order to help meet the needs of participants who are unable to attend in-person appointments, WIC continues to offer remote appointments. We look forward to adding a new online nutrition counseling and education tool, streamlining our paperwork process, and providing WIC outreach throughout Green County in 2024.

Green County Public Health provides access to medical, social, and educational services to pregnant women who are considered high-risk through the **Prenatal Care Coordination Program (PNCC)**. Public health nurses meet monthly with pregnant and postpartum women and infants until they are two months postpartum to provide physical and emotional assessments, care plan development, ongoing care coordination, monitoring, health education, and nutrition counseling. In 2023, 3 people received PNCC services with 18 face-to-face visits; this is an increase from 12 visits in 2022.

Fit Families Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program- Education (SNAP-Ed) is a behavior change program geared toward families of 2 to 4-year-old children with a goal of preventing overweight/obesity in children. Families select nutrition or physical activity goals to work on and have contact with a Fit Families coach each month for 12 months. In 2023, Fit Families coaches worked with 15 families providing 132 nutrition contacts. Fit Families coaches participate in the county’s Healthy Community Coalition and help support healthy food and physical activity choices throughout the community. In 2024, a Registered Dietitian will be added to the Fit Families coaching team.

2023 was a year of growth for Green County breastfeeding families. **Breastfeeding support** is offered through the public health department, WIC, and Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Program. In 2023, 87% of Green County WIC postpartum participants initiated breastfeeding, which was the highest rate on record. 133 lactation counseling sessions were completed by Public Health and WIC Certified Lactation Counselors (CLCs). In 2022, at 6 weeks postpartum, 71 % of Green County WIC participants were still breastfeeding; however, in 2023, that soared to 87%. This compares to a statewide average in 2023 of 77%.



The **Green County Breastfeeding Collaborative (BFC)** led by Public Health, is at the height of community engagement in partnership with SSM Monroe and Stephenson County Health Department. This year, the Collaborative identified that more breastfeeding education and resources were needed in Spanish, and more outreach in the Hispanic community was needed.

Additionally, in 2023, 100% of Green County WIC Hispanic postpartum participants initiated breastfeeding. The Collaborative also provided lactation resources and support to childcare providers from 3 group and 8 family centers on advanced breastfeeding-friendly childcare. Green County Public Health, WIC, and Head Start staff participated in training that Dr. Rebedew from SSM Health Monroe offered.

In 2023, the Green County WIC **Breastfeeding Peer**

Counselor, Naila Mustafa, made 516 contacts with pregnant and breastfeeding WIC participants. This is the most contacts in a

single year since the program’s initiation. The peer counselor, who has lived experience with breastfeeding, is in a perfect role to provide mom-to-mom support. The peer is a pivotal component of the WIC breastfeeding team and, through her efforts, has helped increase breastfeeding rates in Green County. Additionally, breastfed babies and mothers have less illness, lower health care costs, and breastfeeding leads to positive mental health and parental bonding.

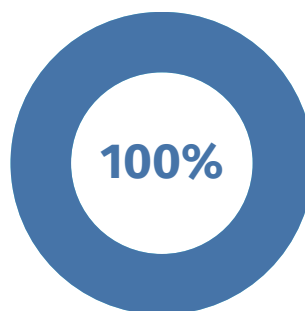


Naila Mustafa

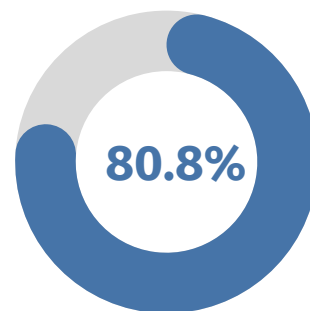
Green County Public Health, in partnership with Reach Green Early Head Start, provides 20 families with comprehensive **Early Head Start** services through the Family Foundations Home Visiting (FFHV) Grant.

Enrollment remained the same at 28 enrollees throughout the year, and 8 of these families enrolled during pregnancy. Families were offered 24 agency-run “Family Fun Events” throughout the year to encourage parent-to-parent connection and support, as well as educational opportunities for parents and children to experience together.

In 2023, in the FFHV program, there was an increase in infants receiving any breast milk at six months of age from 40% in 2022 to 57.1%. Additionally, this year, fewer FFHV families had a regular provider of dental care for their children. In 2023, only 60% of families reported having a regular dental provider, compared to 93% in 2022. Only one local dental clinic takes Medicaid insurance, and this clinic was at capacity for new patients for several months at the end of 2023, which may have contributed to this decrease.



% of Children on EHS Received Timely Developmental Screening



% of Children on EHS Received Their Well Child Visit

ACCESS TO & LINKAGE WITH CLINICAL CARE



Public Health organizations provide a limited number of health care services to fill in gaps and serve as a safety net for people without access to healthcare. Public health also works closely with healthcare organizations to provide referrals, work on prevention efforts, and to share in educational opportunities so that we can better understand what each organization is doing.

In 2023, Green County Public Health began utilizing the **UniteUs software**, brought forward to the community by SSM Health Monroe. This software allows SSM Health to make referrals to GCPH and other local organizations. With consent from clients, UniteUs also allows SSM to relay relevant information to referral organizations to improve the care and services being provided to clients.

For many years, GCPH has mailed congratulatory **letters to parents of new babies** in Green County, including information about GCPH's programs and services. In 2023, this letter was updated and now includes a QR that links to the Green County Community Resource Guide. The piece of mail also includes a brochure titled "All Babies Cry," which was recommended by the Green County Abuse Prevention Team. There were 344 letters mailed in 2023. to view the Green County birth rate trends, see Appendix B.

Each year new medical residents come to Green County, and for many years Green County Public Health has worked with UW Health Belleville and SSM Health Monroe to provide residents with education about public health. During 2023 GCPH staff provided two **educational sessions** to two different groups of residents. These sessions give future doctors a better understanding of public health and what public health organizations do.

In 2023, Green County Public Health overhauled the Family Resource Guide that our department releases annually. The name was changed to the Green County **Community Resource Guide**, additional programs and services were included in the guide, and it was redesigned to be more user friendly. The guide conveniently includes a wide range of services so that community members can find multiple resources in one spot.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

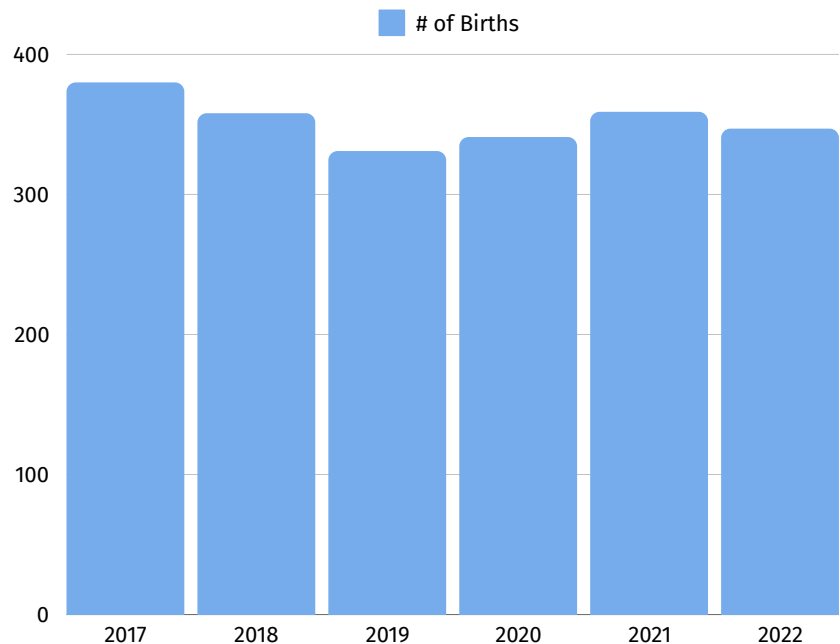
Leading Causes of Death in Green County

Health Indicator	Green County Rate/100,000	Wisconsin Rate/100,000
Heart Disease	172.3	166.4
Cancer	135.6	145.1
Other Causes	121.5	131.5
Accidents	59.2	75.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	38.9	33.7

Data from 2022, most recent data available.

Appendix B

Births in Green County



Source: Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system

Appendix C

Confirmed Reportable Diseases in Green County	2020	2021	2022	2023
Anaplasmosis, A. phagocytophilum	0	1	3	4
Arboviral Illness, Dengue	0	0	0	
Arboviral Illness, WNV Neuroinvasive	0	0	0	1
Arboviral Illness La Crosse Encephalitis	0	1	0	0
Blastomycosis	0	0	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	16	17	14	7
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	1	1	0	0
Chlamydia	63	74	63	93
Coccidioidomycosis	1	0	0	0
Coronavirus, Novel 2019 (COVID-19)**	2,396	3,727	4,555	620
Coronavirus, Novel 2019 (COVID-19)Associated Hospitalizations **				25
Cryptosporidiosis	7	9	6	8
Cyclosporiasis	1	0	1	0
E-Coli Enteroinvasive (EIEC)/Shigellosis	0	0	0	2
E-Coli Enteropathogenic (EPEC)	1	2	1	0
E-Coli Enterotoxigenic (ETEC)	1	2	0	0
E-Coli Shiga Toxin (STEC)	5	6	2	4
Giardiasis	1	2	4	5
Gonorrhea	19	11	7	10
Haemophilus influenzae	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis C, Chronic	2	1	4	6
Hepatitis C, Acute	0	0	0	0
Hospitalized Influenza	37	0	15	15
Infant Botulism	1	0	0	0
Legionellosis	0	1	0	2
Lyme Disease, Erythema Migrans (EM) Rash *	7	6	3	3
Meningitis	1	0	0	0
Multi System Inflammatory in Children (MIS-C)	0	1	0	0
Mycobacterial Disease	0	2	1	2
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Associated Hospitalizations***				5
Q-Fever Acute	0	1	0	0
Salmonella	5	9	4	15
Shigellosis	0	0	0	
Silicosis****				1
Streptococcus A	3	0	1	3
Streptococcus B	6	2	1	9
Streptococcal Infection	2	0	0	0
Streptococcus Pneumoniae Invasive	2	0	1	4
Tuberculosis-BCG	0	0	1	0
Tuberculosis, Latent Infection	3	2	0	5
Varicella (Chickenpox)	0	0	0	3
Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE)	0	0	1	0
Vibriosis, Non Cholera	0	0	1	0
Yersiniosis	1	0	0	1

*2023 Only Lymes Disease with EM rash is reportable

** November 2023 only hospitalized COVID-19 reportable

***November 2023 RSV hospitalizations is reportable

****2023 Silicosis is reportable

REFERENCES

Public Health Accreditation Board. "The Foundational Public Health Services." Available at <https://phaboard.org/accreditation-recognition/version-2022/>.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services. "Local Health Department Annual Reports Best Practices Guide." Available at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03503.pdf>.

Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC). "Monroe Photo Database." Available at <https://www.swwrpc.org/photo-database/monroe>.