May 2014

Points of Interest...

- Nursing staff participated in the St. Clair County (SCC) Community Resource Fair (CRF) on May 14th. Vaccinations were offered to interested participants. Vaccines administered included: Tdap (32); Hepatitis B (26) and Hepatitis A (6). Vaccine costs were billed to those insured (32/44 clients or 73%); Vaccines were free of charge to those uninsured. Vaccine records were assessed via the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR) which allowed clerical staff to ensure or eliminate over vaccination and misuse of resources. 44 clients were serviced with 64 doses administered. In addition, Nurses also offered other health screenings. Totals included: Blood pressures (109); Blood sugars (98); and BMIs (69). 46 referrals were provided to link clients back to Primary Care Providers/services. 32 clients were informed about Healthy MI Plan. The Health Department was the only agency providing health screenings at this year’s event. SCC hosts the largest CRF in the state.

- The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) approved the annual self-assessment of the Health Department’s Non-community (small public) Water Supply Program. The assessment specified compliance with all minimum program requirements. The DEQ commended the efforts of the Environmental Health (EH) Division in providing effective drinking water supply services for County residents and guests.

- Analysis of the Prenatal Tobacco Quitline by Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Tobacco and Prevention Control section revealed St. Clair County (SCC) had the second highest number of prenatal callers in the state (counties and cities), encompassing 15% of all Quitline calls. Maternal Infant Health and Women Infants Children (WIC) Nurses are credited with this outstanding achievement. Their efforts to modify at-risk client behavior and promote healthy infant outcomes are to be commended.

- EH recently submitted a tick for analysis that was identified as a Black-Legged Tick. This is significant in that this is the first time this potential Lyme disease transmitting tick has been detected in St. Clair County. In Michigan, cases of Lyme disease have now been reported in both the upper and lower peninsula, although most incidences are still acquired out-of-state. It is anticipated, however, that the number of cases reported will continue to increase due to the expanding range of the Black-Legged Tick.

- St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) remains attentive to emerging CDC advisories surrounding Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS CoV). A FAQ sheet has been added to the website, determination of hospital planning has been established, SCCHD staff have been updated, and the medical community informed on current situation, infection prevention strategies, reporting and proper testing protocols.

- Eligible WIC clients’ ages 6 through 35 months are being provided an oral assessment and fluoride applications via WIC Registered Nurses. The fluoride varnish program is in collaboration with Dr. Saluja and the Michigan Community Dental Clinic (MCDC). WIC clients without a dental home are being referred to MCDC and Dr. Baribeau in the community. Since the program’s inception on April 24th, almost 100 children have had an oral assessment and fluoride applied. Medicaid reimbursement rates for the oral assessment are $14.00 and $25.00 for the fluoride application.