

May 2016

Points of Interest...

- St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) Nursing division staff has been actively promoting SCCHD services, educating community members and administering vaccines during the last month. Events included:
 - *Community Resource Fair* – Adult vaccines administered
 - *Lake Huron PHO Annual Insurance Symposium* – Children’s Special Health Care Services
 - *Community Mental Health* – Adult Immunization education update for staff and clients
 - *County Retiree Luncheon* – Adult Immunization education
- The WIC program will be participating with *Project Fresh* again this year. *Project Fresh* is a WIC initiative that collaborates with local farmers to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to WIC clients through the local Farmers Market. Through promotion, education and outreach the WIC staff were able to increase their *Project Fresh* 2015 redemption rate by 7.37%! That success has increased St. Clair County’s allocation to 121 *Project Fresh* coupon booklets worth \$20.00 each and will be distributed to current WIC clients (except infants, one per family) on a first come, first serve basis.
- The Environmental Health division has begun the beach monitoring season. Utilizing grant funding, eight beaches (Chrysler, Conger-Lighthouse, Fort Gratiot County Park, Holland, Keewahdin, Lakeport State Park, Lakeside and Marine City) will be analyzed for water quality over a 15 week period. In addition to the standard method, two beaches will also be monitored using an experimental rapid testing technology that allows for results in less than four hours.
- With *Safe Sleep* grant dollars, Cindy Koepf RN was able to start up a *Sleep Swaddler/Sack exchange program* at SCCHD. The program identifies clients who would benefit from an infant sleep swaddler in MIHP, WIC and Outreach and is designed for the parent to exchange the swaddler for a larger size sleep sack as the child grows - all at no cost! Automatic alerts and reminders have been incorporated into the electronic medical record of the client to encourage exchange and continuous safe sleep.
- The Environmental Health division is partnering with the *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* (NOAA) on a project to monitor for the phytoplankton that contributes to harmful algae blooms. Three sites (Black River, Belle River and Lake St. Clair) will be sampled and analyze weekly throughout the year. The SCCHD is the only local health department to participate in Michigan.
- *St. Clair County Smoke Free Community Team* (SFCT) members voted and approved a new name change (*formally Smoke Free Team*), an identifying mission and vision that will guide us through our work on the Region 10 PIHP Prevention Grant. A new logo is in the works:
 - Mission: *SFCT is dedicated to protecting public and environmental health by working to eliminate smoking-related hazards through prevention, education, and advocacy.*
 - Vision: *SFCT envisions a smoke-free environment for a healthier tomorrow.*