

**JUNE 2019**

### ***Points of Interest...***

- The Environmental Health Division is participating with other select local health departments in a Michigan vector-borne disease surveillance and prevention program. Funding is being provided by MDHHS to support a weekly surveillance system geared towards identifying populations of potentially invasive mosquitoes capable of transmitting emerging arboviruses. In addition, we will be conducting surveillance for ticks capable of transmitting Lyme disease and other emerging pathogens in Michigan. St. Clair County is unique in that it is on the threshold of potential emerging vector borne diseases with the recently confirmed presence of the blacklegged tick and the Asian tiger mosquito in neighboring counties.
- St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) WIC program hosted two community conversations on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> as part of community data collection for the regional Southeast Michigan WIC Engagement Project. Community participants were provided a warm meal, \$25.00 visa gift card, and balloons and trinkets for their children. The events were well attended and the information gathered will inform the strategies the project will employ to encourage future WIC participants to enroll and stay in the program.
- On June 17<sup>th</sup> the Emergency Preparedness and Response Division held an Emergency Preparedness for Public Health Employees orientation for new SCCHD employees. Nine employees attended. Plans for a fall session for any employees that could not attend or any new hires.
- This summer the St. Clair County Health Department will continue to promote hepatitis A prevention through handwashing and vaccination awareness. A new promotional campaign launched in June and includes two full length bus wraps, handwashing commercials available via online streaming services and before the movies at Sperry's Moviehouse in Port Huron. The focus is during festival season time when the potential for new cases increases. View more here [www.scchealth.co](http://www.scchealth.co).
- The St. Clair County Health Department is now a National Cribs for Kids partner. Cribs for Kids is a not for profit organization in Pittsburgh, PA that provides safe sleep education with the intervention of a safe portable crib to families that need a safe sleep space for their infants, and cannot otherwise afford it. SCCHD now has the ability as a "partner" to purchase pack and plays designed with the ABC's of Safe Sleep at reduced rates. Staff can then provide families, in our community, who lack a safe sleep environment a Pack and Play at no charge! Check it out, [www.cribsforkids.org](http://www.cribsforkids.org).
- SCCHD is currently developing a Whole Community Inclusion Plan intended to enhance public health preparedness and awareness among population groups with functional needs, who are at greater risk of adverse health outcomes during public health emergencies, and to ensure greater inclusion of these "at risk" populations into local plans, planning and exercises. Goals of the SCCHD plan include identifying and developing additional closed Points of Dispensing (based on assessment findings).