

## February 2014



### *Points of Interest...*

- Preventive Health and Immunizations in conjunction with Environmental Health, Health Education, and Emergency Preparedness completed an investigation into Hepatitis A in a food handler employed at a licensed food establishment. This event triggered this team to organize and work in unison to investigate, educate, mobilize clinic, and increase surveillance. 74 fast food workers were quickly assessed for protection against Hepatitis A or administered Hepatitis A vaccine within 48 hours. An onsite inspection was completed within 24 hours of report to ensure public/patrons were not at risk. Health Education established event media messaging. Situational updates were provided to Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), Emergency Rooms (ERs), Infection Prevention staff, private physicians, and the management of the food service establishment.
- The Environmental Health Division offered residents free radon test kits during National Radon Action Month. Radon is a naturally-occurring, invisible, odorless gas that is usually harmless outdoors. When the gas is trapped in a building or home, however, it can be a health hazard. Over one hundred test kits were distributed during the month.
- The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program and Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) will be hosting a breastfeeding informational class on March 26th and June 25th from 3:00pm-4:30pm at the Health Department. Target audience is WIC-eligible pregnant women and their support persons. The purpose of the class is to provide information to pregnant women about the benefits of breastfeeding with the intent of increasing local WIC program infant breastfeeding initiation and 6 month duration rates.
- Food facility inspectors were provided with computer tablets as part of the new environmental health software system. Before staff had to complete numerous forms by hand while conducting their inspections. They would then return to the office to file a hard copy of the report in a folder and input the data into a computer. Sharing, analyzing, or accessing that data was laborious and time-consuming. Now, along with the new Environmental Health software system, the integrated system handles all data and communication needs from multiple locations, saving time by eliminating redundant data entry and automating repetitive tasks.
- SCCHD Administration and Health Education staff participated in a pre-planning meeting with Gary Petroni, Director, Center for Population Health Southeastern Michigan Health regarding the 2015 Community Health Assessment Profile for St. Clair County. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the type of survey model available, survey core questions, budget, and set short-term goals and objectives. Additional meetings will be held in the coming months.

