A REINTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH IN ONEIDA COUNTY

ANNUAL REPORT







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Annual Report

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICER

Dear Colleagues, Partners, and Friends,

I am excited to share the Oneida County Health Department's 2022 Annual Report. Over the course of 2022, we continued to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Just like in 2021, our team once again conducted several community vaccination clinics. OCHD provided 2891 flu vaccines and in partnership with AMI, provided more than 4828 COVID vaccines to our community. We worked diligently to increase access to vaccines and enjoyed hearing community members express their gratitude.

I'm proud of our accomplishments and acknowledge our dedicated professionals. We continued to provide support and services to clients while responding to the changing needs of our community. This annual report highlights how we contributed to the health, safety, and quality of life of our community beyond our pandemic response. In fact, the title of our annual report, A Reintroduction to Public Health, represents our commitment to serving our community.

In times of uncertainty, the department responded with innovative programming that allowed us to meet the ever-increasing needs of our changing environment. From environmental health inspections to substance use prevention to family services, our staff rose to the challenge.

We are looking forward to new opportunities to serve all of you in the years to come.

Thank you for your continued support,

Linda Conlon, MPH, BAN, RN Oneida County Health Officer



Did You Know?

That's Public Health!









Did you know?

Clean air and water can enhance people's quality of life. Oneida County Health Department sells radon and water test kits.



RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS

Did you know?

Before the 1930s, families dined out at restaurants with no food safety standards, which made Salmonella and E. Coli common illnesses. To reduce the burden of these diseases, public health worked to implement the first food safety program, which evolved into the laws and regulations we have today.











Did you know?

Getting your annual flu vaccine can lower your risk of getting the flu. It can also lower the risk of having serious illness from the flu and needing to stay in the hospital.









Did you know?

Motor vehicle injuries are a leading cause of death among children in the United States. Always buckling children in age- and size-appropriate car seats, booster seats, and seat belts reduces serious injuries and death by up to 80%. Oneida County Health Department offers car seat safety checks.

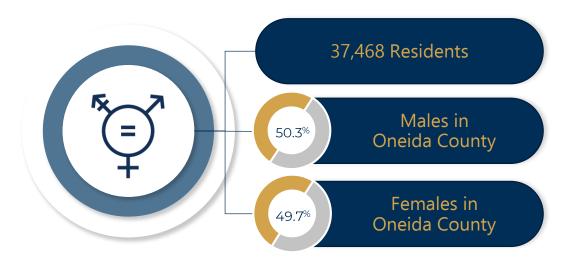


REPRODUCTIVE **HEALTH**



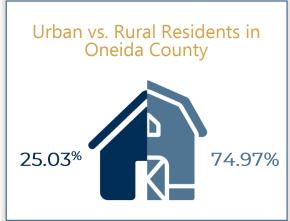


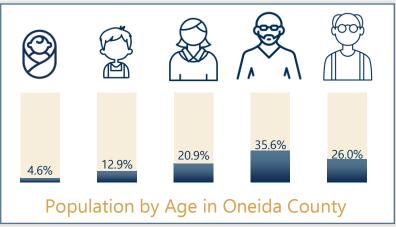
COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

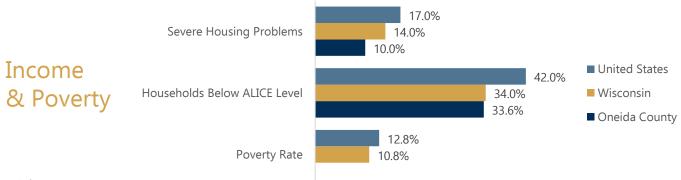


Population by Race & Ethnicity in Oneida County











ABOUT OCHD

OUR MISSION —

To protect, nurture and advance the health of our community.

Our Vision —

Embracing change, partnerships, and best practices to lead Oneida County to a healthy and equitable future.

OUR CORE VALUES

- Sustainability
- Customer Focus/Engagement
- •Promote and Protect Health
- •Continuous Improvement and Innovation

Board of Health Members

Tom Kelly Billy Fried Michael Roach Debbie Condado Amy Slette, MD Marcy Davies, NP William Crump (Sept-Dec 2022) Ryan Zietlow (Jan-Aug 2022)







ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

Pages 1-9___

Organizational Services

- Backbone functions of all internal operations
- Fiscal management of grants, fees, and contracts
- Customer service
- Quality Improvement
- Performance Management



Chronic & Communicable Disease

- Chronic Disease
- Communicable Disease Investigation
- Animal Bites
- Immunizations
- Tuberculosis Case Management
- Sexually Transmitted Disease Testing



Pages 14-16

Emergency Preparedness & Pandemic Response

- Public Health Preparedness
- COVID-19
- Influenza



Pages **17-20**

Environmental Health Services

- Licensing Food/Lodging/Other Inspections
- Testing Kits radon and private well water or bacteria, arsenic &/or nitrates



- Human Health Hazards mold, pests and housing issues
- Lead Program

Pages 21-27

Family Health

- Maternal Child Health
- Reproductive Health
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- · Breastfeeding Peer Counseling
- WI Well Woman Program (WWWP)
- Injury Prevention Car Seats
- Safe Sleep

Pages 28-32

Community Health / Health Promotion

- Community Health Assessment
- Community Health Improvement Planning
- QPR: Suicide Prevention
- Overdose Prevention
- Sexual Violence Prevention
- Tobacco Prevention & Control
- WI WINS







QUALITY IMPROVEMENT



Quality improvement refers to a continuous and ongoing effort to achieve measureable improvements in the efficiency, effectiveness, and performance of quality services or processes, thereby improving health.



PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

BY THE NUMBERS

100%

130%

Increase in community flu clinics available

Increase in flu vaccinations given

Objective: Increase access to flu vaccinations for community members by increasing the number of community flu clinics available by at least 10%.

Outcome					
2021 – 22 Flu Season	2022 – 23 Flu Season				
32 Community Clinics	64 Community Clinics				
887 Vaccinations*	2046 Vaccinations*				

^{*}Vaccines given does not include those given at the open OCHD clinic.



Oneida County Health Department is one of only a few health departments in WI with a staff member certified in Results-Based Accountability (RBA)

BY THE NUMBERS

67%

Staff certified in RBA

Staff trained in RBA

OCHD is committed to being a performance-based organization. Leaders and staff at all levels strive to create a culture in which quality is a shared value, and performance management (PM) and quality improvement (QI) activities are actively pursued and supported.

OCHD utilizes Results-Based Accountability (RBA) as the framework for its performance management activities.

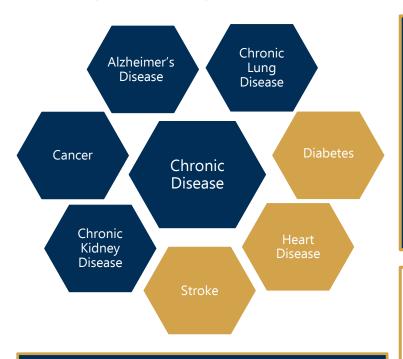
RBA is a disciplined way of thinking and taking action that can be used to improve the performance of programs, services, and systems, as well as improving the quality of life for whole populations.



CHRONIC DISEASE



IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF AMERICANS THROUGH PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF DIABETES, HEART DISEASE, AND STROKE



Medication Therapy Management (MTM)

- Increase patient interest in diabetes prevention and management programs
- Increase blood pressure self-management behaviors
- Improve blood pressure readings
- Decrease medication adherence barriers

The National Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)

- Address the increasing burden of prediabetes and type 2 diabetes in the United States.
- ➤ Partnerships between public and private organizations to offer evidence-based, cost-effective interventions that help prevent type 2 diabetes in communities across the United States.

Healthy Living with Diabetes (HLWD)

- ➤ Evidence-based workshop for people who have diabetes.
- Community-based program offers tools and resources to enhance understanding of what it means to have diabetes.



Chronic Disease Prevention Statewide Gathering

BY THE NUMBERS

3

3

1000+

П.

Pharmacies participating in MTM programs

Sites hosting blood pressure lending program

Education provided through media, billboard ads, Facebook, conferences, clinics

Community Outreach preventative programs HLWD and DPP



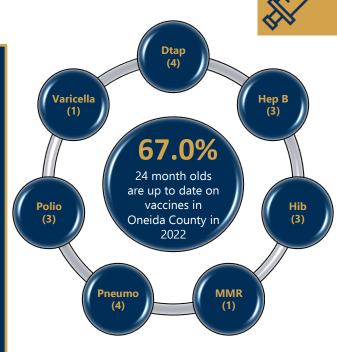
IMMUNIZATIONS

Immunization Program

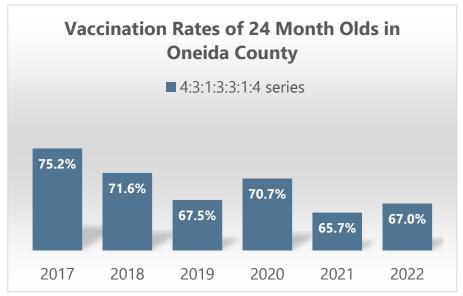
Vaccination, also commonly referred to as immunization, is a simple, safe, and effective way of protecting people against harmful diseases, before they come into contact with them.

Oneida County Health Department (OCHD):

- Is enrolled in the Vaccines for Children Program to offer free or discounted vaccines to children who meet certain qualifications
- Is also enrolled in the Vaccines for Adults Program to provide certain vaccines free of charge to adults who are uninsured or underinsured
- Is the only provider administering Mpox (previously known as Monkeypox) vaccinations in Oneida County
- Offers several private pay vaccines







BY THE NUMBERS

26

10

97

Td and Tdap Vaccines Administered to Clients 12+ at OCHD in 2022

Mpox Vaccines Administered at OCHD in 2022

15

Prevnar20 First Received and Administered to Clients 65+ at OCHD in 2022

Shingrix Vaccines Administered at OCHD in 2022

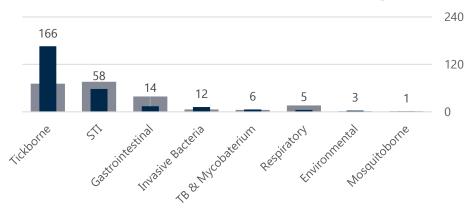


COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

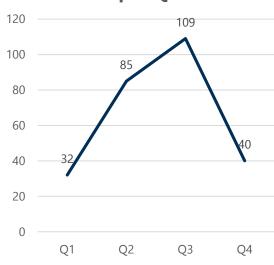


Oneida County Health Department is tasked with investigating certain communicable diseases by Wisconsin Statute 252 in order to prevent and control the spread of disease.

Communicable Disease in 2022 in Comparison to 2017-2019 Average



Communicable Disease Cases per Quarter



Toxic shock syndrome (TSS) is a serious illness most often caused by a bacterium which can produce "toxins." TSS was first recognized in 1978 and was later associated with tampon use in adolescents and young menstruating women in the majority of those cases. TSS is

now known to be associated with other risk factors such as surgical wounds and childbirth.

Oneida County Health Department investigated its first reported confirmed case of TSS in 2022. It was 1 of 12 cases of invasive bacteria that came in.

BY THE NUMBERS

265

530.75

11

Communicable Disease Cases (Not including Hepatitis, COVID, or TB) Staff Hours Dedicated to Communicable Disease Follow-Up

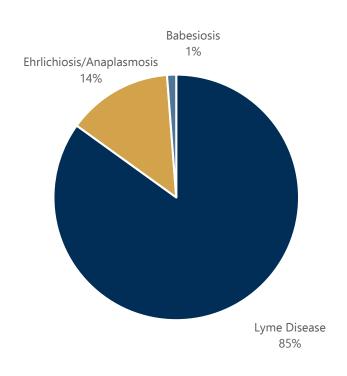
Cases of Giardia

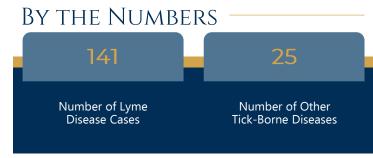
Cases of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning



TICK-BORNE DISEASES







There are many diseases that can be spread by ticks in Wisconsin. Most tickborne diseases in Wisconsin are spread by the black-legged tick (also known as the deer tick). Preventing tick bites is the key to reducing your risk of tickborne disease.

ANIMAL BITE INVESTIGATION



 Oneida County Health Department follows up on animal to human bites in Oneida County to eliminate or reduce the risk of disease.

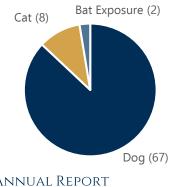
BY THE NUMBERS

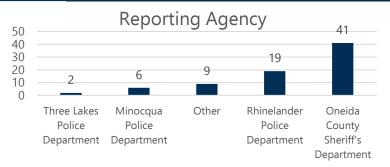
75

48.5

Animal Bite Investigations

Staff Hours Dedicated to Animal Bite Follow-Up

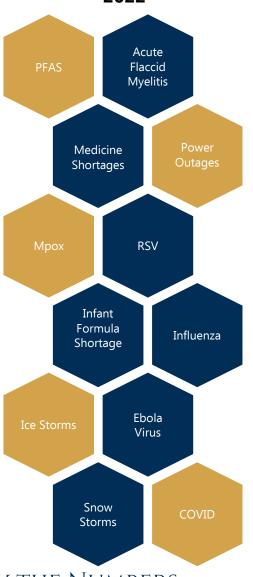




PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP)



Significant Events Identified in 2022



2022 Top Threats and Hazards:

Staffing Crisis/ Shortage

Supply Chain Shortage/Failure Workplace Violence/ Threat Communication/ Telephony Failure

Epidemic/ Pandemic/ Seasonal Influenza

Patient Surge

Cyber Attack

Inclement Weather

Mental and Physical Trauma

Power Outage





- Leveraged healthcare partnerships through NCW HERC
- Utilized emPOWER and Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) data to inform electrical dependent and vulnerable population needs
- WEAVR utilized to track, monitor and recruit community volunteers for community response

BY THE NUMBERS

9

462(1.2%)

191

0.0277 (Low)

Staff Trained in NIMS/ICS

OC Resident Beneficiaries with Electrical Dependency

OC Volunteers
Identified in WEAVR

Overall SVI Score for Oneida County



COVID-19 OPERATIONS

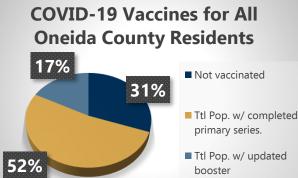


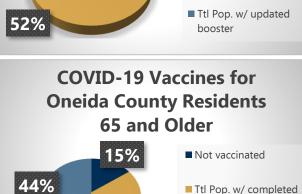
Primary Response Efforts:

Testing

Disease Investigation/Contact Tracing

Vaccination





41%

Changes to quidance

Transition to local response

Support from Grace Foursquare

3rd year of COVID-19 Pandemic Response

OC Residents

1808 vaccinations to OC residents, through OCHD

provided to nonby OCHD

26.7% of OC residents over 65 vaccinated by **OCHD**

1635 COVID test kits provided to OCHD

BY THE NUMBERS

3020

primary series.

booster

■ Ttl Pop. w/ updated

491

Confirmed/ Probable Cases

OC Resident Vaccinations Provided by OCHD

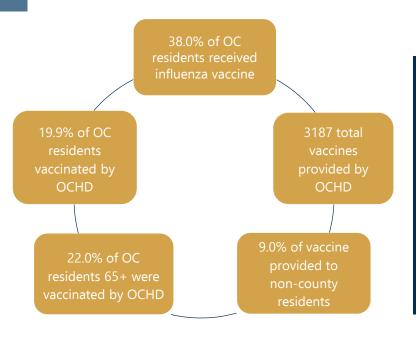
OC Resident Hospitalizations Associated with COVID-19

OC Resident Deaths Associated with COVID-19 (OCME)

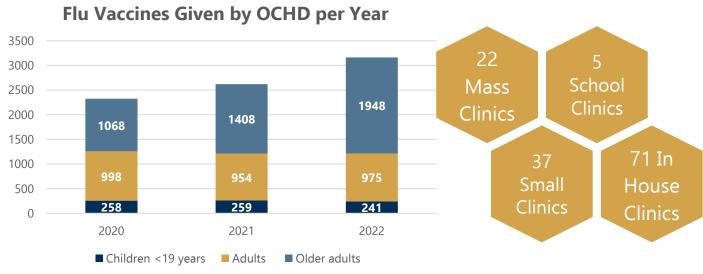


INFLUENZA OPERATIONS





- Instituted the "Pop-Up Clinic" concept
- Continued Mass Vaccination Clinic Exercise Model
- Increase Clinic Capacity
- Substantial support from Grace Four Square Community Building



BY THE NUMBERS

2891 1577 287 22

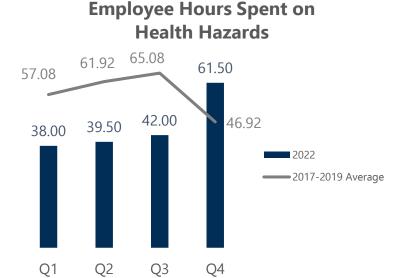
OC Residents Vaccinated by OCHD OC Residents 65+ Vaccinated by OCHD Non-County Residents Vaccinated by OCHD OC Hospitalizations Related to Influenza



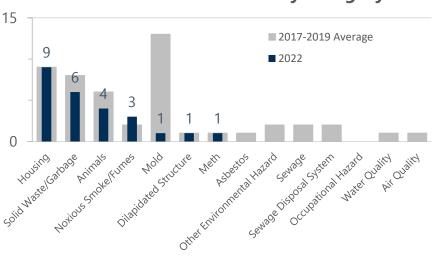
HEALTH HAZARDS



A Health Hazard is a substance, activity or condition that is known to have the potential to cause acute or chronic illness, to endanger life, to generate or spread infectious diseases, or otherwise cause injury to the public.



2022 Health Hazards by Category



Individual health hazards may fit into multiple categories. For example: mold and garbage may be found inside the same property.

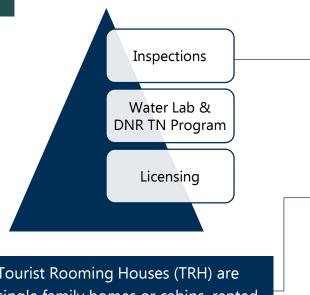
BY THE NUMBERS

181 8 Health Hazards **Active Cases Carried** Currently Posted as Unfit for Human Staff Hours Working on New Health Hazards Over from Previous Health Hazards Year(s) **Habitation**



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

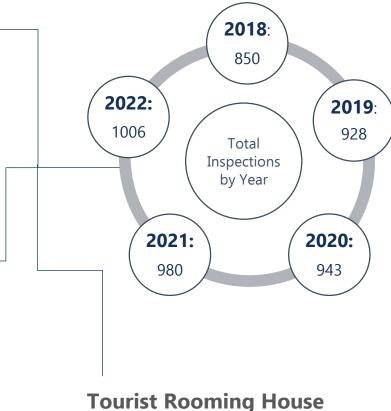




Tourist Rooming Houses (TRH) are single family homes or cabins, rented for overnight accommodations to tourists, on a short term basis.

Pre-Inspections are required for all TRH's getting licenses, or at a change of ownership. Annual inspections and safe water samples are required for all TRH's to maintain their license.

In the past 5 years, the number of TRH's in Oneida County has more than doubled from 236 in 2017 to 506 in 2022.





Inspection Trends (2017-2022)

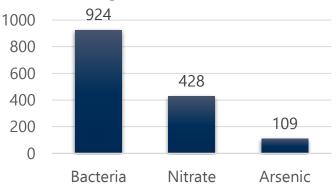
BY THE NUMBERS





OCHD certified water analysis lab offers water testing services to both public and private wells.

Types of Water Tests Completed in 2022



DNR TN PROGRAM

- OCHD is responsible for inspecting and testing approximately 300 DNR transient non-community (TN) wells in Oneida County. A TN well is one that serves 25 or more people at least 60 days out of year. Well water samples are analyzed for bacteria and nitrates annually.
- TN wells tested for bacteria and nitrates: 295
- TN wells with unsafe bacteria levels: 0
- TN wells with nitrates above safe level of 10 mg/L: 1

Trends for TRH licenses and inspections for 2021 & 2022 significantly increased resulting in the addition of another **Environmental** Health Specialist to our staff.



STAFFING: : In 2022, our department gained a new Environmental Health Specialist in June, a summer intern for 12 weeks, and a new Environment Health Technician started in December.



LEAD PROGRAM





Common sources of lead in the home:

- · Dust
- · Soil
- · Water in lead pipes
- · Toys
- · Nutritional supplements
- Dishware
- Fishing sinkers
- · Bullets
- · Residue from parent occupations
- · Paint/hobby materials

BY THE NUMBERS

185

3.5 ug/dL

Lead tests done in Oneida County in 2022

The CDC has lowered the blood lead reference level from 5 ug/dL to 3.5

- Oneida County Health Department (OCHD) provides education to families and health care providers on the importance of lead testing and follow up.
- · OCHD also provides nursing case management for children who do have elevated lead levels, including a home assessment from the nurse.





WISCONSIN WELL WOMAN PROGRAM (WWWP)



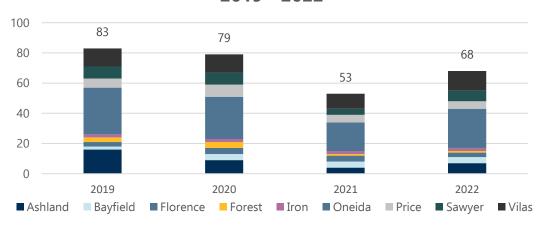
The Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP) provides specified services for breast and cervical cancer screenings with general criteria being:

- Women ages 45-64 years
- Live in Wisconsin
- Are uninsured
- Or have high co-pays or deductibles and meet income requirements



In the spring of 2022, WWWP collaborated with Marshfield Clinic Health Systems to provide access to mammography services in Glidden and Florence, two underserved communities.

WWWP Clients Case Managed by County 2019 - 2022



Of the 68 clients case managed in 2022, **9** clients had further diagnostic testing needed with **4** needing multiple diagnostic tests.

BY THE NUMBERS

O

12

5

 \cap

Number of Counties Case Managed by Regional Coordinator at the Oneida County Health Department

Number of New Enrollments to WWWP Number of Clients that Enrolled in WWWP at Mobile Events Number of Active Clients Diagnosed with Breast or Cervical Cancer in 2022

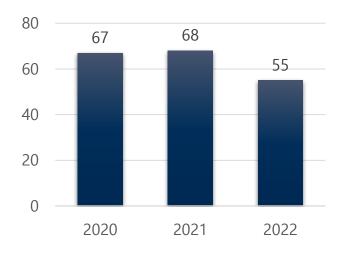


REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (RH)





Appointment No-Shows



Get Yourself Tested (GYT) Event

Oneida County Reproductive Health offered free STI testing for a GYT event in April. Outreach was conducted via press releases and weekly Facebook posts promoting GYT and STI week. Also, RH staff provided an educational presentation, as well as testing at a local AODA treatment center.

Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) Project

The RH nurse met with several area pharmacists to discuss the importance of providing EPT and how they are able to do referrals to OCHD for those who have financial difficulties obtaining the EPT.

The RH nurse also met with local clinic providers to discuss the importance of providing patient education and the EPT program to stop spread of STI(s) in our community.

BY THE NUMBERS

60 28 187 21

Pap Tests Completed HPV Tests Completed STI Tests Completed (Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives)



Telehealth

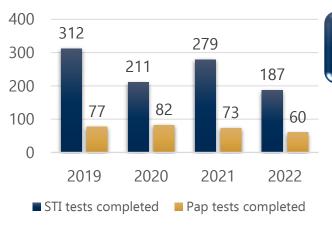
Accessible, Easy and Secure

Oneida County Reproductive Health is now able to care for its clients without being in the same physical space, through Patagonia Telehealth App.

Clients with transportation issues in our rural geographical area can now easily be seen by clinicians through technology.



STI vs Pap Tests Completed



"Friendly and welcoming staff."

"Helpful and knowledgeable staff."

Client Feedback "Staff is absolutely wonderful."

"It's always so easy to make appointments and everyone is so friendly." "I never feel awkward or uncomfortable talking to anyone."



Patient Portal

We now offer clients 24/7 access to their Electronic Health Record through a Patient Portal.

Self Service Functionality with access to:

Lab results, appointment scheduling, health history, prescription history, and ability to send messages to the clinician.



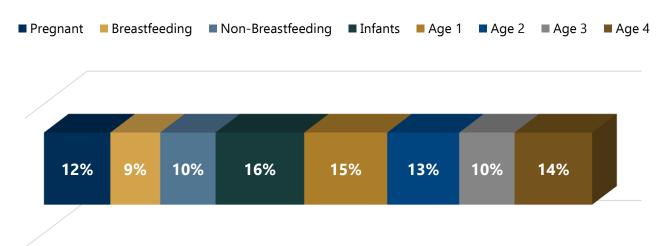
WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN (WIC)



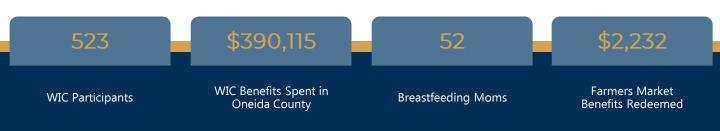
Low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women and infants and children up to age 5 who are found to be at nutritional risk receive:

- Supplemental foods
- Breastfeeding support
- Health care referrals
- Nutrition education
- Referrals/ connections with area resources
- A safe place for families to learn how positive choices can be incorporated into their daily lives.

WIC PARTICIPANTS



BY THE NUMBERS





Fit Families is a program offered by WIC to improve eating and activity habits for 2-4 year olds.

Program highlights for 2022 include:

- 38 participants enrolled, 36 completed program, a 94.7% retention rate!
- Collaboration with Rhinelander District Library and a local childcare to promote the program.



Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program (BFPC)

The program organized a breastfeeding tent to support breastfeeding moms at local events that included:

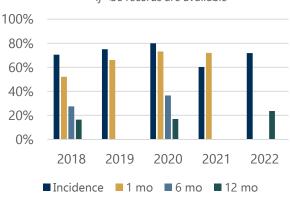
- Oneida County Fair 2nd year
- Three Lakes Festival 1st year

Attendees acknowledged their support:

- "This is so thoughtful and amazing more places should do this."
- "Thank you so much for supporting a place for mother's to feed their babies."
- "This is so great to see!"

WIC Client Breastfeeding Initiation and Duration

* Percentages are not calculated if <50 records are available





Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

WIC participants receive Farmers Market checks during the summer months to increase their access to fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables.

There are two program goals:

- 1. Increase fruit and vegetable consumption
- 2. Increase awareness of where to find fresh, locally grown foods

Each participant over 9 months old was allocated \$30.

- 226 FMNP packages were issued (totaling \$6,870)
- \$2,232 was redeemed



SAFE SLEEP



Oneida County Health Department's Safe Sleep Program provides:

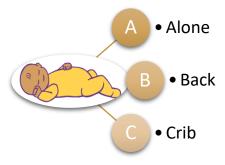
- Community education about safe sleep practices
- A safe place for babies to sleep through our Pack N Play program

BY THE NUMBERS

8

Infant deaths in Oneida County January 2018 – 2022 7

Infant deaths since 2018 were found to be related to unsafe sleep conditions



A safe sleep environment can reduce the risks of all sleep-related infant deaths. No Advice
20%

Correct Advice
55%

Correct Advice
by practices from healthcare providers. Caregivers who received correct advice were less likely to place their babies to sleep on their stomach or side.

SOURCE: Pediatrics, September 2017.







CAR SEAT PROGRAM



Car seat use reduces injury risk for children by 71-82% when compared to seat belt use alone.

Car seat
distribution
plus
education
programs help
reduce the
risk of serous
injury and
death.

och receives grant funding from the Department of Transportation to purchase car seats that can be provided free of charge to qualifying families. Every car seat recipient receives education and car seat installation demonstration from a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST).

Booster seat use reduces risk for children ages 4-8 years old by 45% when compared to car seat use alone.

Seat belt use reduces risk for death and serious injury by about half for older children and adults.

Age by Years*



REAR-FACING CAR SEAT



FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT



BOOSTER SEAT



SEAT BELT

BY THE NUMBERS

74

Car Seats Provided to Qualifying Families 13

Education and Demonstration Sessions Provided to Community Members 1

Car Seat Safety Presentation at a Local School OCHD Car Seat Technician Received Training to Install Specialized Car Seats



OVERDOSE PREVENTION



The Overdose Data to Action Community Prevention Grant (OD2A) aims to prevent harm associated with opioid overdoses, as well as other substance use harm as it relates to the opioid epidemic.

In 2022, a Comprehensive Substance Use Assessment was finalized in Oneida County. Five key themes that emerged:

Limited Access to Treatment and Recovery **Resources**

Connection between Mental **Health and Substance Use**

Limited Access to Treatment and Recovery Resources within the Criminal **Justice System**

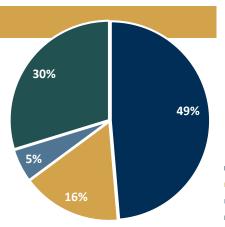
Stigma is the **Number One Barrier for** Individuals Seeking **Treatment**

Improving Social and Community **Connectedness** was identified as a Protective **Factor**

Initiatives to improve access to substance use treatment for those involved in the criminal justice system was advanced in Oneida County. Notably, the Criminal Justice Coordinative Committee (CJCC) was created and the Oneida County Community Response Team (OC **CRT)** expanded first responder deflection programs.

More about the OC CRT:

OC CRT utilizes Peer Recovery Support Coaches (PRSC) and the unique contacts of first responders to deflect individuals experiencing substance use concerns and impacted family members to the care they feel they need.



65% of individuals who participated in the PRSC program maintained sobriety for 60 days or more.

2021-2022 OC CRT

- More than 90 days
- 61-90 days
- 30-60 days
- Less than 30 days

BY THE NUMBERS

Percent of PRSC Clients by Days Sober

13

Diverse Community Sector Collaborations Involved in Establishing the CJCC

Recovery Resource Organizations Participated in the Recovery

35

Peer Recovery Coaches served in Oneida County

100%

Clients said the Peer Recovery Coach Program Helped Them Maintain Sobriety





Reducing Barriers of Recovery

Hygiene kits and **transportation vouchers** distributed to people experiencing substance use disorders and impacted family members.

Oneida County Community Response Team Presented at a Statewide Summit to Showcase

- Establishing community based response teams in rural areas
- Importance of Peer Recovery Support Services as key partners





Light Up the Night for Recovery Event

The annual event aims to reduce stigma and promote harm reduction strategies. In 2022, over **150 individuals** and **35 recovery support agencies** attended.



Rhinelander Police department

Rhinelander Police Department is recognized for their dedication to addressing the substance use concerns within the community. RPD is a member of the COPE Coalition and had a Nalox-Box installed in 2022.



QPR: SUICIDE PREVENTION



126 LIVES

Are lost each day to suicide in the US

861

Wisconsin residents died by suicide in 2020

BY THE NUMBERS

37

OCHD Staff Member was Trained as a QPR Gatekeeper Trainer People Trained as Gatekeepers by OCHD Staff in 2022

QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) is a piece of the CDC's Suicide Prevention Strategies for Action that helps identify and support people at risk. QPR follows the chain of survival elements including: early recognition of suicide, early QPR, early intervention and referral, and early advanced life support (very similar to CPR during a cardiac emergency)

WISCONSIN WINS





BY THE NUMBERS

12
10

Public Outreach to Retailors and Local Leaders in Our Region

• WI Wins uses a science-based strategy to

- WI Wins uses a science-based strategy to decrease youth access to tobacco products and help retailers avoid fines.
- WI Wins uses positive reinforcement to create healthier communities by congratulating clerks who don't sell tobacco to youth and educating those who do.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION (SVP)



The Sexual Violence Prevention (SVP) program aims to work with diverse communities to increase health and safety by addressing the root causes of sexual violence.

2022 Highlights:

Teen Summit 2022

SVP team members and RHS staff accompanied local youth to the Teen Summit in Wisconsin Dells. The summit focus included individual and community healing, anti-violence work, and creating violence-free futures.

"It helped [me] learn that I am not helpless, and that I can make a difference..."

-Teen Summit Participant

Coaching Boys into Men and Athletes as Leaders-Rhinelander High School

Coaching Boys into Men (CBIM), an evidencebased program, and its complementary program Athletes as Leaders, continued in the '21-'22 school year. The programs teach athletes healthy relationship skills and empowers them to take an active role in preventing violence.





CBIM Participants Displayed:

- Improved ability to identify abusive behaviors
- Increased likelihood of intervening when confronted with an abusive situation

BY THE NUMBERS

48+

Students Participated in

Evidenced-Based

Programming at RHS

Youth Attended 2022 Teen Summit in Wisconsin Dells

78%

Percentage of Teen Summit Participants who Feel the Community Lacks Safe Youth-Centered Places

10

Youth Advocates Provided their Expertise in Creating a Theater Ad about Sexual Violence Education.



TOBACCO



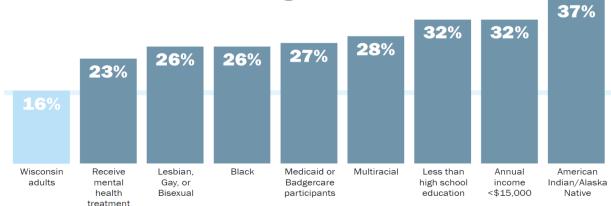
The Northwoods Tobacco-Free Coalition (NWTFC) is a multijurisdictional coalition representing Florence, Forest, Lincoln, Oneida, Price, and Vilas Counties.

The goals of NWTFC are to:

- · Prevent tobacco use initiation
- Eliminate the exposure to secondhand smoke
- · Promote treatment of tobacco dependence
- Advance health equity and eliminate tobacco related inequities

Almost 40% of ALL cigarettes smoked by U.S. adults are consumed by people with behavioral health conditions

Some communities have been targeted more than others and haven't had a fair chance to achieve their best level of health, as shown in the adult smoking rate.



In 2022, NWTFC implemented strategies aimed at decreasing commercial tobacco use among people experiencing mental health and substance use concerns, including:

- Authentic engage of organizations that work with the behavioral health population.
- Presentations and trainings promoting evidence based interventions, like the Bucket Approach and smoke free campuses, within behavioral health treatment.
- Personal meetings with local and state leaders to grow awareness of the problem and strategies to address concerns.

BY THE NUMBERS

5 1000+ 200+ 6

Legislative Meetings
Providing Educational
Advocacy on Systems
Change and Best
Practices

Radio, TV, Billboard, and Theater Ads

Radio, TV, Billboard, and Theater Ads

Related Issues

Tobacco Prevention
Community Events
Related Issues



NWTFC Highlights of 2022

The City of Merrill approved amending the prohibition of smoking in certain areas in June 2022.

- Under the amended ordinance, electronic smoking devices are prohibited in public places and places of employment, in addition to cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, and synthetic nicotine.
- The definition of smoking has been updated to include the use of an electronic smoking device.



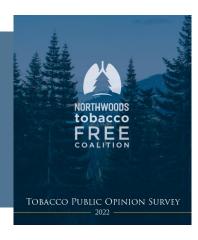


Forest County Health Department utilized Escape the Vape during their National Night Out.

- Escape the Vape is an innovative, interactive approach to vaping prevention.
- There is a sequence of activities, puzzles, and clues that lead youth to discover the risks associated with vaping and develop skills to escape the vape.

NWTFC crafted a public opinion poll that was distributed to all six counties in August 2022.

- Vaping for those under the age of 21 was unanimously listed as the top concern across each county.
- This highlighted concern, along with other themes that emerged in the survey will be utilized in leading the coalition in future work.





* This report focuses on commercial tobacco - mass-produced products sold for profit that contain chemical additives. Native Americans have used traditional tobacco in sacred ways for centuries. By focusing tobacco prevention and control on commercial tobacco, we acknowledge and respect sovereign tribal nations' relationship with sacred tobacco.





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