

**HOUSATONIC VALLEY
HEALTH DISTRICT**

MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER 14, 2022 - JANUARY 17, 2023



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UPDATE FROM LISA MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

Dear Community,

Happy New Year! We wish you a restful and healthy 2023.

During this reporting period (December 14 - January 17th), our team has been busy with vaccination clinics, partnership outreach and identifying opportunities to continue our outreach efforts in 2023, reviewing and approving environmental health service applications, distributing COVID-19 and Radon at home test kits, and planning additional opportunities for MRC volunteers to get involved.

While seeing high transmission rates for respiratory illnesses, such as COVID, flu, and RSV, it is important to maintain proper hygiene, stay home if you are feeling sick, stay up to date on vaccinations, and get tested if you are experiencing symptoms or have been exposed. Our community health team has been closely monitoring respiratory illness rates among our community and continue to make recommendations based on the trends we are seeing. To view our HVHD recommendations, visit <https://hvhdct.gov/covid-19/covid-19-recommendations/>

COVID-19 Update:

During this reporting period:

- 6 counties in Connecticut were classified as high. CT DPH recommends individuals wear masks when out in the public.
- You can order free COVID tests again by mail. [Click here to order free COVID tests.](#)

The following pages contain reports from each team, which include ongoing activities.



LISA MICHELLE MORRISSEY, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT

The Community Health Division is continually building relationships with community members to serve as an educational resource for residents, businesses, schools, and other stakeholders.

During this reporting period, the Community Health Division completed the following:

- Clinic Outpatient License renewal was approved by DPH until 03/31/2024
- Our team continues to offer weekly COVID-19 and Flu vaccination appointments on Tuesdays in Southbury and Wednesdays in New Milford.
- Resumed COVID-19 testing on Monday and Wednesday in New Milford and Tuesday and Thursday in Southbury.
- Placed our 2023-2024 flu vaccine order.
- We also continue to offer all childhood immunizations in New Milford and Southbury with a flexible schedule to meet the needs of the community. This month we have administered over 10 childhood immunizations in our community
- Partnered with Southbury Senior Center to start offering monthly BP clinics.



Heidi Bettcher, RN, BSN
Community Health Nursing Supervisor



COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT

COVID-19 CLINICS

HVHD held weekly COVID-19 clinics at our New Milford and Southbury locations.

18

Total Number of COVID-19 Vaccine Administered

from 12/14/22 - 1/17/23

3

Total Number of COVID-19 Tests Administered

from 12/14/22 - 1/17/23

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

HVHD conducted blood pressure clinics throughout all 5 towns.

15

Total Number of Blood Pressure Clinics

from 12/14/22 - 1/17/23

FLU VACCINE CLINICS

HVHD offers flu vaccines during their weekly COVID-19 vaccine clinics.

10

Total Number of Flu Vaccines Administered

from 12/14/22 - 1/17/23

CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATIONS

HVHD offers childhood immunizations on a request basis

10

Total Number of Childhood Immunizations Administered

from 12/14/22 - 1/17/23



Public Health Preparedness and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) Report:

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Division aims to build community relationships and prepare our communities to deal with emergency situations. The Division serves as an educational resource for personal and community preparedness through community building and volunteer recruitment.

During this reporting period, the PHEP/MRC Division:

- Met with ASPR Regional Liaison for our annual technical assistance meeting where we discussed our goals for the HVMRC unit and were able to get insight on how to build our unit further
- Submitted PHEP programmatic report as well as HVMC programmatic report to regional lead
- Submitted BP4 PHEP revision to regional lead to reflect staffing changes
- Inquired on staff and employee CPR training. We hope to have sessions for both in the coming months before inviting our community.



Megan McClintock, MS
PHEP/MRC Coordinator



Environmental Health Report:

The Environmental Health Division provides a multitude of services, which include but are not limited to, land use plan review and inspection, food service establishment plan review and inspection, septic plan review and related inspections and daycare inspections.

The Environmental Health Division focuses on the interrelationships between people and their environment, promotes human health and well-being, and fosters healthy and safe communities. This includes providing services such as:

- Food service establishment plan review and inspection
- Septic plan review and related inspections
- Well water testing for portability (through the CT DPH Laboratory)
- Public swimming pool code compliance and inspection



Joe Kametz
Chief Sanitarian



Environmental Health Report

December 14, 2022 – January 17, 2023

	New Milford	Oxford	Southbury	Washington	Woodbury
Potable Water:					
Private Well	0	0	0	0	0
Well Permits	0	1	3	0	0
Sewage Disposal:					
Plan Review	6	2	7	0	7
Inspections	5	3	4	1	3
Soil Testing	9	2	2	3	0
Building Additions	8	4	4	3	4
Septic Permits (to construct)	4	1	4	0	2
Septic Permits (to discharge)	1	1	7	0	1
Subdivisions	0	0	0	0	0
Lot Line Revisions	0	0	0	0	0
Daycare:					
Daycare Inspection	0	0	0	0	0
Daycare License	0	0	0	0	0



Environmental Health Report

December 14, 2022 – January 17, 2023

	New Milford	Oxford	Southbury	Washington	Woodbury
Salons:					
Massage Est. Plan Review	1	0	0	0	0
Food:					
Food Service Establishment Inspection	4	12	13	0	6
Itinerant Vendor Inspections	-	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	0	0	0	0
Plan Review	2	0	0	0	0
Food Establishment Permit	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Permits	0	0	0	0	0
Other:					
File Requests	85	35	57	-	19



Administrative Division:

The Administrative Division is responsible for planning and executing a comprehensive range of administrative services which support office operations. These services encompass the areas of human resource management, financial management, systems and information management, facilities management and support services.

During this reporting period, the Office Manager and Operations Manager completed the following tasks:

- Continued training new Public Health Client Specialist
- Accounts payable, including changing vendors to online accounts and auto pay
- Continued working with auditor for FYE 22
- Worked with Voya to set up for staff retirement
- Worked on new Health insurance for staff
- Assisted the Community Health Team with coordinating appointments for flu vaccines and COVID vaccines.



Jennifer Luis
Office Manager



Grants Updates:

Grant Agency	Program Supported	Award Amount	Award Dates	Project Status
National Assoc of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO)	Professional Development: MRC Unit Leader travel scholarship to Preparedness Summit	\$1,800	April 4, 2022 - April 7, 2022	Completed
Assistant Secretary of Preparedness & Response (ASPR)	Medical Reserve Corps (Respond, Innovate, Sustain & Equip 'RISE')	\$75,000	May 1, 2022 - December, 2022	Awarded; contract pending
ASPR (administered through NACCHO)	Community Health; Vaccination Clinics; MRC (Volunteer Immunization Partnership for Emergency Response 'VIPER') Initiative	\$10,000	March 1, 2022 - September, 2022	Awarded
CT Dept. of Public Health (DPH)	SFY 2022 Per Capita Funding	\$188,658.60	July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022	Awarded
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation & NACCHO	Global Local Health Exchange (mental health workshops) for HVHD constituents	\$20,000	February, 2021 - July, 2022	Awarded
CT DPH	Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)	\$43,472	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022	Awarded
CT DPH	Housatonic Valley Medical Reserve Corps (HVMRC)	\$16,332	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022	Awarded
CT DPH	Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity Grant	\$286,463	March 2, 2022 - February 29, 2024	Awarded; contract pending



Communications Division:

The Communications Division handles internal and external communications. This includes communicating with stakeholders, the media, and staff. This division works closely with other departments to ensure it adequately promotes services, accomplishments, and conveys accurate information to the community. The Communications Division is responsible for enhancing, developing, and promoting the HVHD brand across multiple platforms; accomplished through web programming, multimedia development, public relations, media outreach, social media management, graphic design, and print production.

During this reporting period, the Communications Division completed:

- Collaborated with the Office Manager to collect materials for the State Annual Report due by February 10, 2023
- Created and submitted an advertisement for the 2023 Voices guide
- Continued making content edits to the HVHD website
- Worked with participating towns to distribute at-home COVID-19 test kits and created a social media toolkit
- Drafted and distributed two press releases about COVID-19 and Radon test kits
- Created and distributed the 2022 HVHD Holiday card to over 8,500 contacts
- Created and scheduled social media posts for January and February
- Began to identify outreach opportunities for 2023



Ruth Quattro, MPH
Public Health Communications Coordinator



Communications Statistics:



Press Releases/Advertisements

2

Press Releases were drafted and distributed to 8 media outlets

1

Advertisements were distributed to 3 media outlets



Reports

2

COVID-19 reports were distributed to community partners and stakeholders



Social Media



Facebook Followers: 38



Instagram Followers: 69



Twitter Followers: 10



LinkedIn Followers: 130



Communications Statistics (Cont.):



Google Business Profile

11

Phone Calls

49

People Asked for Directions

20

Website Visits

243

Profile Views

128

Web Searches



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Housatonic Valley Health District



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