

**HOUSATONIC VALLEY
HEALTH DISTRICT**

MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER 16 - DECEMBER 13, 2022



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UPDATE FROM LISA MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

Dear Community,

As we wrap up 2022, I would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support. Without your partnership and the efforts you make to support your community's health and wellbeing, we would not be able to do the work that we do.

Before we close out the year, I want to acknowledge some of the great things we have accomplished together, from implementing weekly vaccination clinics; to supporting environmental health through food inspections, subsurface sewage efforts, and much more; to gathering volunteers to assist with blood drives and vaccination clinics; to our admin staff and their tireless efforts to support our community through information gathering. Every time that I've been able to interact with a community member, whether they are a concerned parent, curious intern, or even just a friendly face, I am reminded how dedicated and invested our staff and community are to promoting health and wellbeing.

Some exciting things to look forward to in 2023 include **distributing radon test kits** to residents on Fridays during the month of January 2023, continuing **vaccination clinics, community health programs, opportunities for volunteers** to get involved, and continued **environmental health services** to ensure that we are keeping our community safe and healthy.

We are excited to promote health programs, engage with the community in a meaningful way, and continue providing top-notch public health services in the coming year.

I wish you a healthy holiday season and a safe new year, and I very much look forward to our continued partnerships in the new year.

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



LISA MICHELLE MORRISSEY, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS



**It is my pleasure to introduce some new staff members!
Join me in welcoming:**

Jennifer Brellis as our new **Public Health Client Specialist**. Jennifer brings with her more than 20 years experience in customer service and public relations. Having graduated from Branford Hall Career Institute as a Certified Medical Biller and Coding Specialist her background is mostly consistent with administrative billing and financial services, holding positions in primary care, behavioral health, ambulatory surgery and specialty offices.

As a Health Client Specialist, Jennifer is empathetic and understanding to the unique health and social issues within the community. Her other passions include cooking, refurbishing furnishings, and camping with her family.



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:

- Continues to offer COVID-19 immunization on Tuesdays in Southbury and Wednesdays in New Milford.
- Flu vaccines being offered for appointments and walk-ins on Tuesdays in Southbury and Wednesday in New Milford.
- Offering COVID-19 testing 2 days a week in New Milford and 2 days a week in Southbury by appointment
- Attended SMART (Southbury and Middlebury Acting Responsibly Together) Elephant in The Room Series on drug addiction.
- CVP site visit on 11/17/2022 and no issues noted during the visit.
- Continue to offer childhood immunizations by appointment.



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.

48

Total Number of COVID-19 Vaccine Administered

from 11/16 - 12/13

1

Total Number of COVID-19 Tests Administered

from 11/16 - 12/13

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

HVHD conducted blood pressure clinics throughout all 5 towns.

15

Total Number of Blood Pressure Clinics

from 11/16 - 12/13

FLU VACCINE CLINICS

HVHD hosted over 40 clinics at area schools, town halls, and senior centers.

32

Total Number of Flu Vaccines Administered

from 11/16 - 12/13



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:

- Attended Torrington Area MRCs training to support and enhance our MRC Volunteers
- Working on our RISE award and collaborating with the American Red Cross to get our volunteers and potentially community members for those who need to be certified



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

November 16 – December 13, 2022

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



Environmental Health Report

November 16 – December 13, 2022

	New Milford	Oxford	Southbury	Washington	Woodbury
Food:					
Food Service Establishment Inspection	8	5	14	4	9
Itinerant Vendor Inspections	-	0	0	0	0
Complaints	1	0	0	0	0
Plan Review	0	0	0	0	0
Food Establishment Permit	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Permits	1	0	0	0	0
Other:					
File Requests	78	33	54	-	38



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:

- Continued working on the 2023 Communications Strategic Plan
- Began compiling information for the SY22 Local Health Department Annual Report due to CT DPH on February 10, 2023
- Coordinated clinical schedule with the Community Health Team for the month of January
- Worked with local advertising agencies to coordinate ads for 2023



Ruth Quattro, MPH
Public Health Communications Coordinator



Communications Statistics:



Press Releases/Advertisements

0

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: 68



Twitter Followers: 10



LinkedIn Followers: 130



Communications Statistics (Cont.):



Google Business Profile

4

Phone Calls

36

People Asked for Directions

17

Website Visits

236

Profile Views

110

Web Searches



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Housatonic Valley Health District



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