

**HOUSATONIC VALLEY
HEALTH DISTRICT**

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 10 - JULY 12, 2022



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UPDATE FROM LISA MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

Dear Community,

Happy Summer! On July 1, we entered a new Fiscal Year and it is important to note the updated Fee Schedule, located at www.hvhd.us/environmental-health/, and this year's Board of Directors Meeting Schedule, located at www.hvhd.us/about-us/board-of-directors-2/, have been posted on our website.

To read our FY21-22 Annual Report, visit www.hvhd.us/about-us/hvhd-reports/.

Our Environmental Health Team has been busy conducting weekly public beach water testing, in addition to their regular inspections, permit distribution, etc, within towns that fall under our jurisdiction.

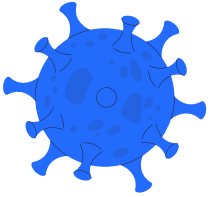
Our Community Health Team has been busy getting ready for the upcoming Flu Vaccination season and has been coordinating with town officials, schools, and senior centers to compose a Flu Vaccination Clinic schedule. It is also important to note that our COVID-19 Vaccination and Rapid PCR Testing schedule has changed for the summer. You can find the updated summer schedule by visiting <https://hvhd.us/covid-19/>.

We are excited to announce that HVMRC will be hosting a Blood Drive on August 24th from 1:00 - 6:00 pm at the New Milford VFW. If you are interested in volunteering, visit www.hvhd.us/emergency-preparedness/medical-reserve-corps/ and click on "Blood Drive".

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



LISA MICHELLE MORRISSEY, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



COVID-19 UPDATE

During this reporting period (June 10 - July 12, 2022):

- The Connecticut State Department of Public Health significantly changed its reporting of COVID-19 data and the pared down datasets are made available each Thursday.
- Following a thorough discussion on June 28, 2022, an overwhelming majority of the FDA advisory committee voted in favor of including a SARS-CoV-2 omicron component in COVID-19 vaccines that would be used for boosters in the U.S. beginning in fall 2022. The FDA panel has cautioned that their recommendation doesn't necessarily mean everyone would get a tweaked booster — they might be urged only for older adults or those at high risk from the virus.
- On June 19, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) ACIP recommended COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 6 months to 5 years. Federal regulators now have authorized the Moderna vaccine for children ages 6 months through 5 years, and the Pfizer vaccine for children ages 6 months through 4 years.
- On June 15, 2022, an expert U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) panel voted that the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective for children ages 6 months and older. The FDA's panel voted unanimously—21-0—that the benefits of Moderna's vaccine outweigh its risks for kids ages 6 months through 5 years of age. They also voted unanimously that the benefits of Pfizer's vaccine outweigh risks for kids ages 6 months through 4 years.



CONFERENCES/TRAININGS

During this reporting period (June 10 – July 12, 2022):

- The PHEP/MRC Coordinator, Community Health Nursing Supervisor, and the Director of Health attended the QPR Training of Trainers on June 28th.
- The PHEP/MRC Coordinator and the Community Health Nursing Supervisor prepared to present their findings at the NACCHO Conference in Atlanta, GA from July 18 – July 21st.





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:

- Worked with community stakeholders, our Public Health Communications Coordinator, and Community Health team members to create a flu and COVID-19 vaccination clinic schedule for the Fall.
- Onboarded a new intern
- Began interviewing clinical personnel to support upcoming vaccination clinics
- Prepared presentation about the "Coping During Times of COVID-19" grant-funded program for the NACCHO conference from July 18 - 21 in Atlanta, GA
- Participated in the Narcan trainer program and earned certification
- Participated in the QPAR trainer certification class
- Implemented additional Senior Center educational programs
- Conducted a med administration class for a daycare center
- Collaborated on the COVID-19 After Action Report with the Public Health Communication Coordinator and the PHEP/MRC Coordinator



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.

72

Total Number of COVID-19 Vaccine Administered

from 6/10 - 7/12

3

Total Number of COVID-19 Tests Administered

from 6/10-7/12

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

HVHD conducted blood pressure clinics throughout all 5 towns.

11

Total Number of Blood Pressure Clinics

from 6/10 - 7/12

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMS

HVHD conducted community health programs at senior centers and virutally.

4

Total Number of Community Health Programs

from 6/10 - 7/12



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:

- Working on securing more blood drive locations for the towns served
- Assisting with the regional PHEP coordinator on Region 5 POD plans and other PHERP annexes to make plans throughout our region universal
- Met with Red Cross to make introductions and see the services they provide that can improve our preparedness services
- Met with Americorps to make introductions and collaborate on different capabilities our organizations can provide each other
- Received certification for training Opioid Overdose and NARCAN use. This will be used to help teach volunteers and to spread the knowledge in our community.
- Received certification to be a QPR Suicide Prevention Instructor. This will also be used to help teach volunteers and community members to be able to use the knowledge in real-world events
- Assisting in the Global Local Health Exchange Program with our Community Health team to help coordinate volunteers and assist with any deliverables that need to be met
- Submitted all financial budgets to meet grant deliverables in a timely manner



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

June 10 – July 12, 2022

	New Milford	Oxford	Southbury	Washington	Woodbury
Potable Water:					
Private Well	0	0	0	0	0
Well Permits	4	2	5	1	2
Sewage Disposal:					
Plan Review	16	2	7	3	2
Inspections	5	1	3	3	3
Soil Testing	11	4	7	3	2
Building Additions	22	10	8	15	17
Septic Permits (to construct)	11	5	13	5	4
Septic Permits (to discharge)	3	0	5	0	3
Subdivisions	0	0	0	0	0
Lot Line Revisions	0	0	0	1	0



Environmental Health Report

June 10 – July 12, 2022

	New Milford	Oxford	Southbury	Washington	Woodbury
Food:					
Food Service Establishment Inspection	10	0	0	0	0
Itinerant Vendor Inspections	-	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	0	1	0	1
Plan Review	2	0	0	2	0
Plan Revisions	0	0	0	0	0
Permits	0	2	1	0	0
Temporary Food License	1	0	1	2	0
Seasonal:					
Public Pool Inspections	0	0	0	0	0
Public Beaches: # of Sample Collected	6	6	-	6	-
Other:					
File Requests	149	51	70	22	37



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:

- Monitored Environmental Health database and assisted when necessary
- Reviewed renewal applications for food establishments, salons, and pools
- Assisted the Community Health Nursing Supervisor with interviewing candidates for vaccinator positions
- Reviewed and updated the employee handbook



Jennifer Luis
Office Manager



Marvalee Washington-Allen, MS
Public Health Operations 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:

- Created an HVHD style guide, branding guide, and communication timeline for material distribution
- Redesigned the weekly HVHD COVID-19 report to align with the CT DPH data distribution changes
- Worked with the Community Health Team to create a 2022-2023 Flu Vaccination schedule
- Implemented the July and August social media calendars
- Contacted local news and radio stations to coordinate advertisements for the upcoming Flu Vaccination season
- Revised the COVID-19 Back-to-School recommendations to align with the current guidance.
- Compiled materials and composed the FY21-22 Annual Report



Ruth Quattro, MPH
Public Health Communications Coordinator



Communications Statistics:



Press Releases

0

Press Releases were drafted and distributed to 8 media outlets

Reports

5

COVID-19 reports were distributed to community partners and stakeholders



Social Media



Facebook Page Likes: 24



Total Instagram Followers: 60



Twitter Followers: 10



LinkedIn Followers: 105



Communications Statistics (Cont.):



Google Business Profile

17

Phone Calls

31

People Asked for Directions

48

Website Visits

230

Profile Views

129

Web Searches



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Housatonic Valley Health District



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