



## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

*Essential Service #1. Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community*

### VACCINES

In light of a recent measles exposure in the county, residents are being encouraged to review their immunization status. The Kane County Health Department recommends that residents contact their primary care physician for a copy of their record to make sure they are up to date.

Between Monday, May 20 and Friday, May 24, more than 300 people may have been exposed to

the measles virus at six locations in central Kane County. KCHD teams worked to establish contact lists and made hundreds of phone calls to contact potentially exposed individuals. The department is actively monitoring about 70 people daily for



symptoms. The original case was confirmed on May 28 and is no longer infectious.

Vaccines help prevent infectious diseases and save lives. Vaccines are responsible for the control of many infectious diseases that were once common in this country, including polio, measles, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), rubella (German measles), mumps, tetanus, and the flu. Adults might be in need of a booster shot for certain vaccines given to them in early childhood.

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### **Ten essential services of Public Health**

1. Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community
2. Protect people from health problems and health hazards
3. Give people the information they need to make healthy choices
4. Engage the community to identify and solve health problems
5. Develop public health policies and plans
6. Enforce public health laws and regulations
7. Help people receive health services
8. Maintain a competent public health workforce
9. Evaluate and improve programs and interventions
10. Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health

Link to Departmental Statistics: [kanehealth.com/Pages/Public-Health-Reports.aspx](http://kanehealth.com/Pages/Public-Health-Reports.aspx)

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## Essential Service #4. *Engage the community to identify and solve health problems*

### **KANE COUNTY MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS VOLUNTEERS**

On May 18, 2019, the Kane County Health Department hosted an appreciation event to recognize the amazing work of the Kane County Medical Reserve Corps volunteers in 2018. Volunteers participated in 27 activities, comprising trainings, community events, exercises, and helping the Health Department in many areas, from staffing needs to immunization clinics. Our volunteers worked over 500 hours, bringing around \$13,500 in financial benefit for the public's health. While having lunch and refreshments, volunteers received special awards for their commitment to the health and safety of their communities.



KCHD Executive Director Barbara Jeffers, MRC Service Award Winner Janet Flulfs and Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator Claudia Reginato.

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a volunteer organization that focuses on enabling volunteers to support local communities in health and safety matters. Because the MRC recruits volunteers from the community, each unit is structured in a unique way to face diverse needs more effectively through the knowledge of their particular strengths, barriers and cultural features. MRC units have been an essential resource within all regions nationwide to both advance public health goals and to help communities to be more resilient and prepared to deal with emergencies.

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## Essential Service #2. *Protect people from health problems and health hazards*

### **WEST NILE VIRUS**

Hot, dry weather is soon to appear in Kane County, and along with it, the potential for West Nile Virus. In such weather, the Culex mosquito, the species that carries West Nile virus, breeds in stagnant water. West Nile virus is transmitted through the bite of a mosquito that has picked up the virus by feeding on an infected bird. Most people with the virus have no clinical symptoms of illness, but some may become ill three to 14 days after the bite of an infected mosquito. Only about two persons out of 10 who are bitten by an infected mosquito will experience any illness. Illness from West Nile is usually mild and includes fever, headache and body aches, but serious illness, such as encephalitis, meningitis, and death are possible. KCHD actively monitors for West Nile Virus by setting test traps throughout the county. Visit [kanehealth.com/Documents/Diseases/WestNileTrapMap.pdf](http://kanehealth.com/Documents/Diseases/WestNileTrapMap.pdf) to view a map of the Health Department's trap locations throughout the county. You can view more detailed monitoring results from this and previous years by visiting [kanehealth.com/Pages/west-nile-statistics.aspx](http://kanehealth.com/Pages/west-nile-statistics.aspx)

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