

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Essential Service #7: *Help people receive health services*

Vaccination Clinics

The Kane County Health Department held two free MMR (Measles – Mumps – Rubella) back to school vaccination clinics in July and August. The first was at the Aurora KCHD offices on July 18. Another clinic was held August 2 at Hosanna! Lutheran Church in St. Charles during their “School Supply Give Away.” The costs of the clinic were covered by a grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health. Volunteers from the Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) assisted. In addition, the MRC participated in Safety Day at the Mooseheart Field House in Mooseheart on August 3. They provided education on the importance of immunizations and well as promoted and recruited for the MRC.



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

Essential Service #3: *Give people the information they need to make healthy choices*

Opioids: Abuse and Disposal

KCHD held a seminar for senior citizens on opioids abuse and proper disposal of unwanted medications on June 21 at the Senior Services Assoc. Inc. in Elgin. Seniors are vulnerable to medication abuse due to confusion over multiple medications. In addition, unwanted medication or unattended medication can prove tempting to younger people, and should be kept out of reach. The KCHD also distributed medication neutralization kits. The product, a powder called DisposeRX, is meant to be used by customers who no longer need their prescription painkillers or are concerned that someone else might take their pills. When mixed with warm water and prescription medication in a pill bottle, DisposeRX creates a solid that can then be thrown out safely in the trash, without the risk of contaminating groundwater.



Essential Service #8: *Maintain a competent public health workforce*

POD Training

On July 19, more than 50 staff and members of the Medical Reserve Corps participated in a Point of Dispensing (POD) training at Elgin Community College. The training was designed to provide everyone with the basic information needed to become more familiar with the roles and responsibilities performed at a POD. A POD is a makeshift clinical facility that is designed to dispense vaccines/antibiotics to a large population in the event of an emergency. It is a public health mission and a role of the Kane County Health Department to be able to set up, manage, and staff POD sites in order to provide these lifesaving medications to Kane County residents using guidance from the Illinois Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Consultants from Mier Group and Resilience International conducted the orientation and exercise for the group.

