

Health Department  
CLAFAYETTE  
COUNTY

729 Clay Street, Darlington, WI 53530  
[www.lafayettecountyhealthdepartment.org](http://www.lafayettecountyhealthdepartment.org) | 608.776.4895

Home Health  
Serving Lafayette County  
Since 1973.



Public Health  
Serving Lafayette County  
Since 1938.



# Lafayette County Health Department

## Letter from the Director

I am pleased to share with you Lafayette County Health Department's 2016 Annual Report

Although much of what we do may not often be visible, public health and home care staff were frequently found working behind the scenes on our mission to promote, protect and preserve health while providing care to people of Lafayette County.

The public health staff worked hard to fulfill not only our mandated programs, but many other prevention based programs. In early 2016, the Health Department initiated the Lafayette County Rural Safety Coalition. This coalition group was formed to evaluate and implement prevention programs based strongly on the recommendations of the Lafayette County Child Death Review Team. The Coalition took on the planning for the 12<sup>th</sup> Lafayette County Rural Safety Day in September. We are very grateful for the many donors that made that day and future programs possible.

Lafayette County Home Care officially closed its doors on December 31, 2016. The program continued to struggle financially and it was decided by the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors to phase the program out after 43 years of service to the public. While this was a very hard decision and a large change for the department, we feel very strongly that our residents will still be able to have those services provided to them in their homes from other Home Care agencies.

Most of 2016 was spent under interim director, Maura Trimble. I began my role as Director/Health Officer on August 1, 2016. Previously, I had spent the past 8 years working as a Public Health Nurse for Lafayette County Health Department. We had many staffing changes with the closure of homecare but have been fully staffed since September.

Thank you to the Lafayette County Board of Health members for their time and dedication to our agency. We are blessed with talented and caring people who support our efforts. I also want to acknowledge the hard working staff and thank them for their flexibility through all of the changes this past year has brought us.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. Feel free to contact us at the Health Department if you have ideas you wish to explore. I believe our future is bright here in Lafayette County and look forward to continuing to serve you.

Healthy Regards,

*Annie Timmerman* RN, BSN - Health Officer/Director



## **THE TOP 10 ESSENTIAL SERVICES OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

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

In 2011, we decided to take a new approach to our agency's goals. Instead of adopting annual goals, we are taking a broader approach, and have adopted a 5-year strategic plan which includes our Mission, Vision, Values, Initiatives and Objectives.

*Each component of our overall plan has a different time-frame, and all of them together will hopefully drive our agency toward our overall goals to promote, protect and preserve health.*

To see our full strategic plan visit our website at [www.lafayettecountyhealthdepartment.org](http://www.lafayettecountyhealthdepartment.org).

## **OUR MISSION**

**“Promoting, Protecting & Preserving  
Health while Providing Care  
with Partnerships  
throughout our Communities”**

## **OUR VISION**

**“Live Well Lafayette”  
People of all ages, abilities & cultures  
living, playing and working together.**

## **OUR VALUES**

**Prevention & promotion  
Collaboration Social justice & diversity  
Quality care to those we serve  
Data-driven, science-based services  
Skilled, appreciated & innovative employees**

# Lafayette County Health Department

729 Clay Street, Darlington, WI 53530  
608.776.4895 | Fax: 608.776.4885 | lafayettecountyhealthdepartment.org

## 2016 Health Department Staff

**Annie Timmerman RN, BSN**  
*Director/Health Officer (08/2016)*

**Danielle Steger RN, BSN**  
*Home Care Supervisor/Administrator*

**Maura Trimble RN, BSN**  
*Interim Director/Health Officer*

**HOME CARE NURSING STAFF**  
Marian Olson RN  
Danielle Steger RN, BSN

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING STAFF**  
Lee Gill RN, PHN  
Annie Timmerman RN, BSN  
Christy Gilbert RN, BSN  
Danielle Steger RN, BSN

**HOME HEALTH AIDES**  
Erin Hastert CNA/PH Technician  
Lisa Wolfe CNA (PRN)

**Troy Moris**  
*Registered Sanitarian/Env'l Health Consultant*

**CONTRACTED STAFF**  
Barb Ritchie - *Occupational Therapist*  
Susan Burke - *Physical Therapist*  
Jodi Christopher - *Physical Therapist*  
Stephanie Cleary - *Physical Therapist*  
Marcy Christensen - *Physical Therapist*  
Katie Flannery - *Physical Therapist*  
Michael Parks - *Speech Therapist*  
Colleen Keen - *Registered Dietitian*

**Kari Liddicoat BS**  
*Administrative Deputy*

**Lisa Wolfe**  
*Home Care Billing Specialist*

**Erin Hastert**  
*Public Health Technician*

## Board of Health

## Medical Advisor

**2016**  
**Robert Boyle, Chair**  
**David Hammer**  
**Carol Korn**  
**Tony Ruesga**  
**Lois Finnigan**  
**Chris Fortin**  
**Kristie Lueck**

**Dr. Martin Cleary**  
Family Health/Memorial Hospital of  
Lafayette County



## What does Lafayette County Health Department do for you and your community?

Dozens of things, but most people don't realize how many vital services they receive from their local health department. The benefits have become such an integral part of the American standard of living that most people take them for granted.

# Protect, Educate & Provide

Public Health is the science of protecting and improving the health of communities through education, promotion of healthy lifestyles, and research for disease and injury prevention. Public Health focuses on improving the health of the general population through broad-based interventions, as opposed to the health care system, which primarily focuses on the treatment of individuals. The population-based services provided by public health departments are a major contributor to the overall improving of a community's health status.

## Protects

### ***THE COMMUNITY FROM HEALTH THREATS, THE EVERYDAY, AND THE EXCEPTIONAL.***

The Lafayette County Health Department guards multiple fronts to defend you and your community from any health threat, regardless of the source, and works to prevent disease outbreaks. The Health Department's Environmental Health Program ensures the tap water that everyone drinks and the air everyone breathes is safe. Public Health Staff are ready to respond to any health emergency or environmental hazard.

## Educates

### ***YOU AND YOUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT HEALTH ISSUES.***

The Lafayette County Health Department provides information that allows people to make healthy decisions every day, such as: exercising more, eating right, quitting smoking or simply washing their hands to keep from spreading illness. The nurses provide information through public forums in our community, public service announcements in the media, programs in schools, health education in homes and clinics, and detailed websites. During a public health emergency, the Health Department provides important alerts and warnings to protect you and your community's health.

## Provides

### ***HEALTHY SOLUTIONS FOR EVERYONE.***

The Lafayette County Health Department offers the preventive care needed to avoid chronic disease and to help maintain health. Public Health Nursing provides flu shots for all residents, and helps mothers obtain prenatal care that gives their babies a healthy start. The Health Department also helps provide children with immunizations, prevention education and good nutrition to help them grow and learn. Health Promotion is also our mission when we coordinate and participate in community health fairs and health screening.

## Our 2016 Programs & Services

### **PREVENTION PROGRAMMING**

Lafayette County Health Department implements programs and coalition work with preventive strategies based upon the “Let’s Get Healthy, Lafayette County” Community Health Needs Assessment and community health improvement plan. We deliver public health services to citizens by qualified health professionals in a manner that is family centered, culturally competent and consistent with best practices. Examples of prevention programming and coalition work include: *Highway Safety Committee, Lafayette County Emergency Preparedness Task Force, Child Death Review, Live Well Lafayette, Sharps Container Program, Rural Safety Coalition & Quarterly Newsletter*. The Health Department is also involved in many health fair and community education events such as: *Lafayette County Dairy Breakfast, Lafayette County Fair and Senior Affair*.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE (PH P&R)**

These federal grants allow local health departments to train staff in many activities such as: Incident Command Roles, Epidemiology for disease follow up, mass clinic operation and communication skills during a crisis. The Health Department must also plan and participate in exercises throughout the year to evaluate our level of preparedness. The grant objectives, as defined by the Federal government, have been stratified for the 2015-2016 Grant. The Public Health staff are more equipped to handle crisis and/or epidemics whenever they may present.

### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM (CSP)**

Community Support Program (CSP) provides residents of Lafayette County, who suffer from chronic mental illness, medication management services in attempt to reduce the impact of suffering and health disparity of mental illness. Public Health Nurses (PHN), provide medication management, and skilled nursing services through Lafayette County Human Services in an ongoing effort to serve the needs of mentally ill residents within Lafayette County. During 2016, PHN's assisted 15 unduplicated county residents in proper medication management enabling these residents to live more full and independent lives. PHN's also meet with case managers on a weekly basis, meet with the psychiatrist on a bi-weekly basis, perform client education and skilled nursing assessments, while acting as a clinical liaison between the client and health care providers.

### **TOBACCO CONTROL & PREVENTION**

In 2016, our staff was very busy taking action against tobacco use, focusing on decreasing our youth’s access to tobacco products. Lee Gill, public health nurse, works with area teens in programs such as FACT (Fight Against Corporate Tobacco) and YLC (Youth Leadership Conference). The continuation of Lafayette County’s involvement with the Youth Leadership Conference allows middle through high school students to explore their abilities to resist negative peer pressure to become positive leaders in the effort to educate and discourage youth from ever using tobacco products.

## **ORAL HEALTH**

Oral health is essential to the general health and well-being of all Wisconsin residents. In order to establish a sound foundation for dental health for area youth, we conduct fluoride programs that are safe and effective in preventing and controlling dental caries. The Fluoride Varnish program partners with Southwestern Community Action Program (SWCAP) targeting four year old students enrolled in Head Start. Twice each academic year, we visit with participating students to check their teeth and gums, then apply the fluoride varnish. The Fluoride Rinse program in association with local school districts focuses on first through fifth grade students. During the school year, participating students are provided with a weekly fluoride mouth rinse that is conducted while they are in school.

## **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROGRAM**

We track communicable diseases through a channel of communications at the local, state and regional levels between public health, private physicians, hospitals, schools and labs. This communication channel allows for prompt investigation of possible outbreaks and unusual situations, and to implement control measures to minimize further transmission of disease to others. In 2016, Lafayette County staff received approximately 102 reports of communicable diseases.

| Cases of Reportable Disease for 2016 |    |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|---|
| AFB Smear                            | 1  | Influenza-Novel Influenza A          | 1 |
| Blastomycosis                        | 1  | Legionellosis                        | 2 |
| Campylobacteriosis                   | 10 | Listeriosis                          | 1 |
| Chlamydia Trachomaitis Infection     | 27 | Lyme Disease (B.BurgdorferI)         | 4 |
| Cryptosporidiosis                    | 7  | Lyme Laboratory Report               | 7 |
| E-Coli                               | 2  | Metal Poisoning (non-lead)           | 2 |
| Ehrlichiosis, E. Chaffeensis         | 1  | Mumps                                | 1 |
| Giardiasis                           | 4  | Mycobacterial Disease                | 1 |
| Gonorrhea                            | 1  | Pertussis                            | 2 |
| Hepatitis B, Chronic                 | 1  | Q Fever, Unspecified                 | 1 |
| Hepatitis B, Unspecified             | 1  | Salmonellosis                        | 4 |
| Hepatitis C, Chronic                 | 5  | Shigellosis                          | 1 |
| Histoplasmosis                       | 1  | Streptococcal Disease, Invasive, GrB | 1 |
| Influenza-Associated Hospitalizatton | 4  | Syphilis Reactor                     | 2 |
|                                      |    | Tuberculosis                         | 2 |
|                                      |    | Varicella                            | 3 |

## **IMMUNIZATION FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS**

Immunizations are one of the most important public health victories of the 20th century - defeating or sharply reducing diseases such as smallpox, polio, measles, diphtheria, rubella, and pertussis (whooping cough).

In 2016, the Lafayette County Health department gave a total of 1769 immunizations for the 0-18 age group, and 558 to the 19 and up age group. For a total of 2327 immunizations.

Lafayette County Health Department receives grant money to work on every child by 2. Our 2016 objective was to have 61% of all children turning 2 up to date on immunizations. We fell short at 59% but our late up-to-date result was 67%, meaning 8% became up to date shortly after their 2nd birthday.

Each week we hold clinic hours on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings (by appointment).



**Since 1900, the average life span of persons in the United States has lengthened by greater than 30 years; 25 years of this gain are attributable to advances in public health.**

-Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

### ***MCH GRANT (Maternal Child Health) Child Death Review***

Injuries are a significant public health problem in the nation, Wisconsin, and Lafayette County, causing needless pain and suffering as well as emotional and financial stress. Each year, injury accounts for over 50,000 hospitalizations in Wisconsin. The leading causes of injury deaths in Lafayette County are motor vehicle crashes, falls, and self harm. In 2014 Lafayette County Health Department created a Child Death Review (CDR) team. This team has been formally recognized by Lafayette County Board of Supervisors and consists of professionals from many agencies with team coordination being done by a public health nurse. The goals of a CDR team are to improve understanding of how and why children die, identify the need to influence policies and programs, improve child health, safety and protection and ultimately to prevent other child deaths in our county. The CDR team meets quarterly and reviews deaths of children from age 0-21.

Lafayette County Rural Safety Coalition was developed in early 2016. It was decided by the Lafayette County Child Death Review Team to develop a coalition that can work on the prevention programs to keep Lafayette County residents safe from injury related deaths. The mission statement of the coalition is to "Provide safety education to all Lafayette County residents – through cooperating with Area businesses, County agencies, educational agencies and professionals." The coalition hosted the 12<sup>th</sup> Rural Safety Day event in September. It was attended by nearly 500 fourth and fifth grade students. This event was very successful and consisted of education on ATV/UTV, Water, Animal, Fire, Weather, Seatbelt, PTO, Electrical, and Grain safety.

### ***WIC (Women Infant & Children)***

WIC is the special supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children. WIC helps income eligible pregnant and breast-feeding women, women who recently had a baby, infants and children up to five years of age who have health risks due to inadequate nutrition. The program improves pregnancy outcomes by providing or referring women to support services necessary for full-term pregnancies. The program also reduces infant mortality by reducing the incidence of low birth weight (infants under 5 ½ pounds are at greater risk of breathing problems, brain injuries and physical abnormalities) and provides infants and children with a healthy start in life by improving poor or inadequate diets, ultimately saving the family from long-term medical costs. The WIC Program provides essential health programs for women during the prenatal period that extends throughout the life of the child. In 2016, an unduplicated count of 403 individuals (women, infants, children) residing in Lafayette County received WIC.

### ***TRANSIENT NON-COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS (TNC)***

In 2016, LCHD was contracted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to annually partner in ensuring that county establishments who provide their own private well water to the public be safe for human consumption and use. By definition "Transient Non-Community Water Systems" serve at least 25 people for at least 60 days/year, but not the same 25 people over 6 months. These establishments are better known as: campgrounds, restaurants, taverns, churches, parks, golf courses, etc... We worked with close to thirty facilities to ensure the well water served or available to the public met the acceptable standards set forth in the Federal Safe Drinking Water ACT (SDWA). Specifically, two water samples were collected at each facility: 1) to test for the presence of total coliform bacteria; and 2) to measure Nitrate levels. A positive presence of coliform bacteria would indicate that the well structure is compromised and the potential for contaminants to enter the water column exists. One particular coliform: Escherichia coli, better known as E. coli, indicates fecal contamination from a warm blooded source: either animal or human; possibly an unlined manure pit or a poorly functioning septic tank. In humans, E. coli can lead to abdominal cramps along with severe diarrhea. Elevated Nitrate levels in well water samples are an indication of excessive nitrogen from fertilizers or animal wastes combining with oxygenated water. Nitrate levels above the Maximum Concentration Level (MCL) of 10mg/L are considered to be unsafe for infants less than 6 months of age and pregnant women or women who may become pregnant. Results for 2016: 27 out of 29 facilities met the SDWA standards on initial sample collection, for an 93% compliance rate. Totaling 52 visits for the calendar year. The remaining facilities made corrections to their systems and have come into compliance.



## CHILDHOOD LEAD TESTING

There is no safe level of lead in the human body; even very low levels of lead exposure can cause permanent brain damage and negatively affect health throughout the child's life, especially those between 6 months and 6 years of age. Many lead hazards still exist in homes and the environment, including paint, vinyl mini-blinds, chalk, candlewicks and others. These hazards are commonly present during painting and remodeling of pre-1978 housing. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines lead poisoning as a blood level of 5 or greater. In Lafayette County, children with a lead level of 5 or greater are provided with follow-up and consultation by a Public Health Nurse. Follow-up may include phone calls, home visits, consultation with the primary health care provider and a home lead risk assessment. The ultimate goal is to reduce environmental lead exposure and lead poisoning.

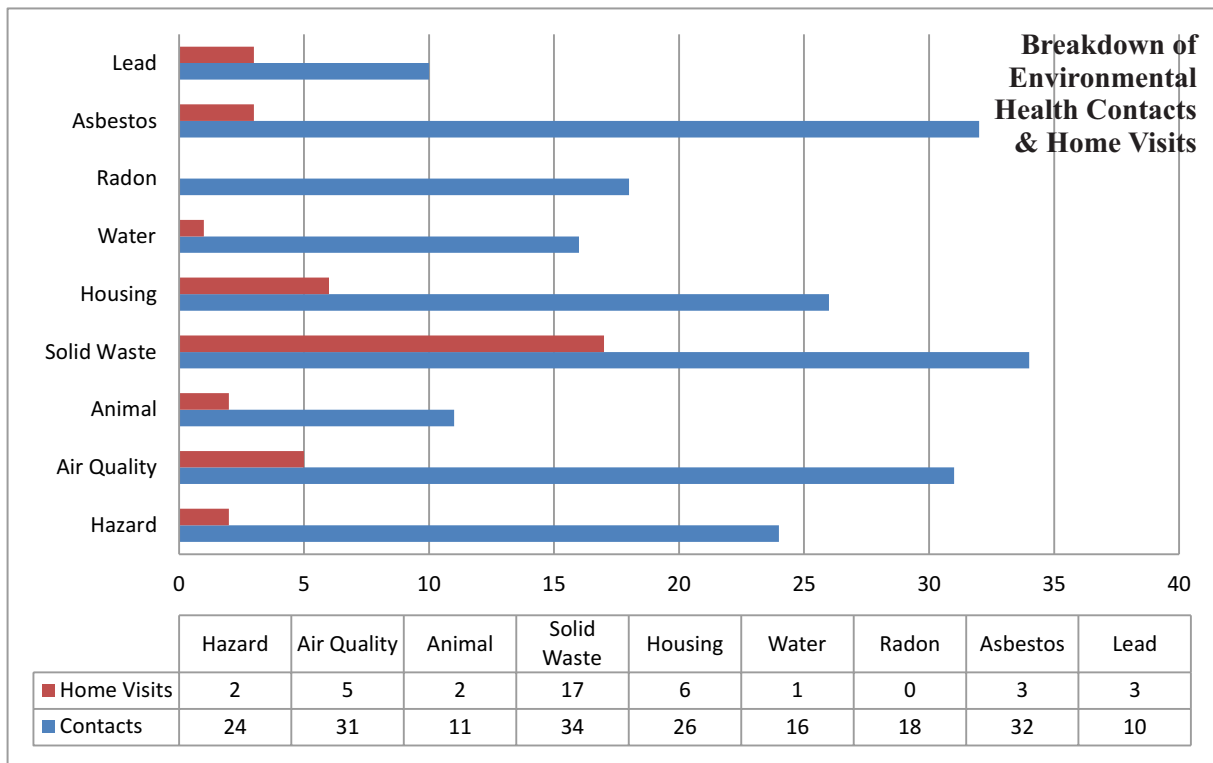
### Lafayette County Children Tested in 2016:

Total Number of Blood Tests: 102  
Home Investigation Inspections: 3

## COMMUNITY HUMAN HEALTH HAZARDS

To protect the health of the citizens of Lafayette County, we investigate situations with the potential of a human health hazard and bring them to resolution. Enforcement of the State of WI Human Health statutes is the role of Lafayette County Board of Health, County Health Officer and Environmental Sanitarian. In 2016, 37 home visits were conducted to investigate complaints of human health hazards. Additionally, 267 other contacts were made. To help avoid future Human Health Hazards, the Lafayette County Health Department participates in the following programs:

- Sharps container program
- Arboviral prevention
- Radon & water testing



## **RABIES PREVENTION PROGRAM**

Rabies is a viral disease affecting the central nervous system. The rabies virus is transmitted from infected mammals to humans (typically via a bite) and is invariably fatal once symptoms appear. It is important for bite victims to notify their local health department (or local law enforcement when public health staff are unavailable) whenever a bite occurs to ensure that the biting animal is appropriately and legally observed or tested for rabies. It is also vital not to release or destroy a biting animal until a public health official or an animal control officer is consulted. The victim's physician should also be notified promptly.

In 2016, our staff worked closely with local law enforcement agencies, veterinarians, bite victims, animal owners and health care providers to successfully complete 54 reports of animal bites. 114 contacts were made in total from those reports.

## **SCHOOL HEALTH**

The health, well-being and safety of children in school districts are a top priority for the Health Department. Nurses from the Lafayette County Health Department provide school nursing services for students in 6 of the 7 school districts in Lafayette County. Our Public Health Nurses (PHN's) play a crucial role in a child's health care needs at school, home and in the community. School nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety; intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student and family capacity for adaptation, self-management, self-advocacy and learning. Healthy children are successful learners. School Nursing Services provided include: Immunizations, hearing & vision education, fluoride mouth rinse, employee health, lice screening and follow up, communicable disease follow up, emergency nursing, human growth & development education, blood borne pathogen prevention education, and much more.

## **LOAN CLOSET**

The Lafayette County Health Department houses a Medical Equipment Loan Closet. Through the loan closet, people are able to borrow various pieces of medical equipment to use in their homes. The service offers a nice alternative to people within the county who do not have the money to pay for expensive equipment, or for people who need equipment on a very short-term basis.

The following equipment is available through the LOAN CLOSET:

- Wheelchair
- Walker/Wheeled walker
- Bath Bench
- Toilet Elevation
- Walking canes
- Commode
- Crutches

The loan closet is funded by donations from residents in the county. We ask for a small donation when an individual borrows a piece of equipment, and are always accepting donations for used equipment that is in good shape to use in the loan closet.

## **ZIKA - OVITRAP STUDY**

An important aspect in the management of emerging vector-borne diseases is tracking and controlling populations of potential vectors. An ovitrap survey for *Aedes albopictus* was conducted between June 20 and Sept 9, 2016 in Wisconsin. The University of Wisconsin Medical Entomology Laboratory and Wisconsin Department of Health Services coordinated with local public health offices representing 20 counties in southern and western Wisconsin to survey for eggs of potential vectors of the Zika virus. A total of 225 traps were set out for all or part of the survey, (27 of them from Lafayette County) with each trap monitored weekly for mosquito eggs. Eggs were hatched in the lab and identified in the fourth instar larval stage. No *Aedes albopictus* (Skuse) or *Aedes aegypti* were identified in any of the ovitrap collections.

Two species were identified in the survey. These mosquitoes, *Aedes triseriatus* and *Aedes japonicus* (also called *Ochlerotatus japonicus*) are potential vectors of arboviruses that occur in Wisconsin. Although potential vectors of Zika virus were not identified in this survey, results indicate that the potential for La Crosse virus transmission by *Ae. japonicus* is now widespread in Wisconsin. Because this mosquito is a major vector in other regions in the U.S., monitoring for changes in LACV incidence by county is indicated.

## HOME CARE PROGRAM

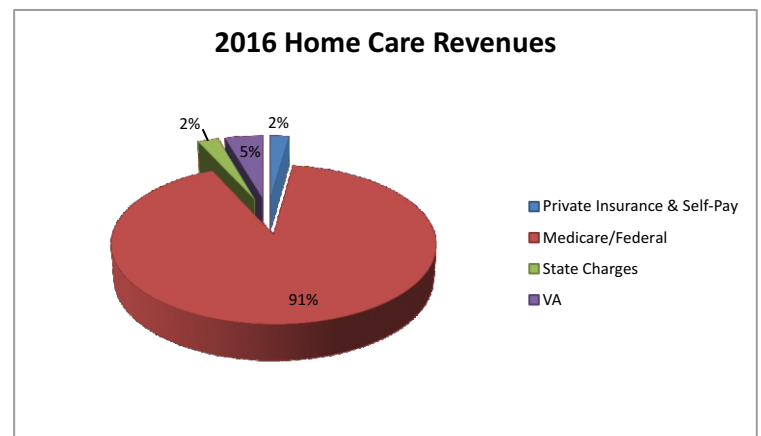
Home Care allows Lafayette County residents to receive professional care in their own home, under the direction of their family physician. Our Home Care Program is licensed by the State of Wisconsin and is Medicare and Medicaid certified. As a result of our certifications, we must meet and follow many regulations and quality of care standards. Under the direction of a physician, Home Care involves skilled nursing and therapy services as well as personal care from certified nursing assistants. Home Care is an extension of skilled services a patient receives in the hospital or nursing home. Our Registered Home Care nurse can help with IV medications, wound dressing, health assessment and patient teaching. The RN is also crucial in trouble shooting any issues or identifying any complication that may arise for a patient. She can be a crucial link to the patient's doctor. The Physical Therapist can help get the patient back up and walking to be active again. Our certified nursing assistant can help with personal cares such as a bed bath or shampoo. Home Care is an important link in the health care system in delivering quality skilled services to patients with the goal of having them return to living life as healthy individuals.

Skilled care and assessment, Instructions and support other care givers, Injections, Therapy services (Speech, Physical and Occupational Therapists), Care of and instruction in IV medication therapy, Medication instructions, Ostomy and catheter instruction and care. Diabetes, diet and insulin instruction, Tube feedings, Wound care, Blood drawing and MORE!

In 2016 the Lafayette County Health Department's Home Care Agency employed 1 Home Care Supervisor/Administrator, 1 Full-time Registered Nurse, 2 Certified Nursing Assistants and 1 Billing Clerk Specialist to manage their case load. In 2016, the Home Care staff made:

- 533 Skilled Nursing Visits
- 95 Aide Hours
- 156 Physical Therapy Coordinated Visits
- 12 Occupational Therapy Coordinated Visits
- 1 Speech Therapy Coordinated Visit
- 797 Total Visits

With an unduplicated census of 56 patients. Home Care provides a valuable service to our residents to help them remain in their homes as long as possible. Due to the lack of funding for this program, 2016 will be the final year of Lafayette County Home Care. Home Care Services can be billed to an individual, Private Insurance Company, Medicaid, or Medicare. The vast majority of the Home Care's revenue comes from Medicare billing. Below you can see the break-down of the various revenue sources from 2016.



# 2016

## Financial Summary

| <i>Public Health</i>     | Amount     |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 2016 Revenues            | \$ 179,100 |
| 2016 Expenses            | \$ 423,721 |
| 2016 Levy                | \$ 292,571 |
| 2016 Balance at Year End | \$ 47,950  |

| <i>Home Care</i>         | Amount       |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 2016 Revenues            | \$ 116,556   |
| 2016 Expenses            | \$ 252,710   |
| 2016 Levy                | \$ 100,000   |
| 2016 Balance at Year End | (\$ 136,154) |

| <i>Total Agency</i>      | Amount     |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 2016 Revenues            | \$ 295,656 |
| 2016 Expenses            | \$ 676,431 |
| 2016 Levy                | \$ 392,571 |
| 2016 Balance at Year End | \$ 11,796  |