



ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

19 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 150
BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62220-1624
www.health.co.st-clair.il.us

May 12, 2014

James Vest, M.D.
President, Board of Health

Kevin D. Hutchison, R.N., M.S., M.P.H.
Executive Director

Marilyn Green, RDH, MPA
Manager, Marion Region
Illinois Department of Public Health
2309 W. Main St. #106
Marion, IL 62959

Dear Ms. Green,

As you may be aware, our department has applied to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) for national accreditation. PHAB is working to promote and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of public health departments throughout the United States. The accreditation process includes a Site Visit conducted by peer reviewers who are public health practitioners and other public health experts. The site visit provides an avenue for the reviewers to assess how the health department works with community partners to improve the health of the community.

Because of your direct experience with the department and your relationship with our staff, we invite you to participate in a one-hour meeting on Tuesday, June 10th with the site visitors. During this meeting, you and our other partners will have an opportunity to describe your organization's relationship with the health department and your experience with us.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday June 10, 2014, 1:00 PM at 19 Public Square, Suite 150, Belleville, IL 62220 in the third floor meeting room. Please contact Joe Morin by May 23rd at 618-825-4420, or by email at joe.morin@co.st-clair.il.us, to let us know if you are willing to participate and are available on June 10th.

We appreciate your partnership and value your commitment to helping us improve the quality of services we provide to St. Clair County residents. Your participation in our accreditation process will ensure site visitors gain a full understanding of the breadth and depth of our partnerships in the community and the value your organization brings to our local public health system.

I hope you will be able to join us and look forward to our continued journey to improve the quality of life and health of all residents in St. Clair County.

Sincerely,

Kevin D. Hutchison, R.N., M.S., M.P.H.
Executive Director

Administrative/Fiscal
618.288.7708
618.825-4448 fax

Community Health
618.288.7708
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Communicable Disease
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**Environmental/
Emergency Preparedness**
618.288.7769
618.286.0676 fax

Personal Health
618.288.6170
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St. Clair County Health Department

Public Health Accreditation Site Visit

Community Partnership Tip Sheet

When is the date?

June 10, 2014

Where is the meeting?

St. Clair County Health Department, 19 Public Square, Suite 150, Belleville, IL,
3rd Floor Lunch Room

What time is the event?

1:00pm on June 10th, 2014

What is Public Health Accreditation?

Public health department accreditation is defined as the development of a set of standards, a process to measure health department performance against those standards, and reward or recognition for those health departments who meet the standards.

Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB) accreditation process seeks to advance quality and performance within public health departments. Accreditation standards define the expectations for all public health departments that seek accreditation. National public health department accreditation developed because of the desire to improve service, value, and accountability to stakeholders.

Accreditation through PHAB provides a means for a department to identify performance improvement opportunities, improve management, develop leadership, and improve relationships with the community. The process is one that challenges the health department to think about what business it does and how it does that business. It encourages and stimulates quality and performance improvement in the health department. It also stimulates greater accountability and transparency.

PHAB's accreditation standards address the array of public health functions set forth in the ten Essential Public Health Services. The standards address a range of core public health programs

and activities including, for example, environmental public health, health education, health promotion, community health, chronic disease prevention and control, communicable disease, injury prevention, maternal and child health, public health emergency preparedness, access to clinical services, public health laboratory services, management/administration, and governance. Thus, public health department accreditation gives reasonable assurance of the range of public health services that a health department should provide.

Who will be the site team members?

The PHAB site visit team will be three site reviewers from across the country as well as one PHAB accreditation specialists.

- Edward Rivers, Director, Scott County Health Department, Davenport IA
- Kathy Uhlorn, Instructor in Community Health, University of Washington and Executive Board Secretary, Washington State Public Health Association, Seattle, WA
- Angela Mora, Deputy Director, City of El Paso Department of Public Health, El Paso, TX
- Brittan Wood, Accreditation Specialist, Public Health Accreditation Board

Why have we asked you to participate?

Much of the work the Department does is a collaborative process of collecting and analyzing data and information for use in educating and mobilizing communities, developing priorities, garnering resources, and planning actions to improve the population's health. We conduct our work in partnership with other organizations such as yours and include data and information on demographics; socioeconomic characteristics; quality of life; behavioral factors; the environment; morbidity and mortality; and other social, community, and/or state determinants of health status. We invite you to share your experiences with the Department to the PHAB site review team.

What to anticipate during the site review interview?

- There is no need to prepare remarks or presentations. The site visit does not affect (positively or negatively) your relationship with the Department. We want to encourage a candid and open conversation.
- The site review team process is to validate the relationship between the St. Clair County Health Department and its partners.
- The site review interview will be a discussion and dialogue about your agency and its relationship with the St. Clair County Health Department.

What are some possible questions the site reviewers may ask?

- Explain how the department and your organization work together for public health change in the community.
- How does your organization communicate with the department?
- What areas do your organization and the department collaborate for public health improvement?



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Marion Regional Office

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Received

Marilyn
Dear Ms. Green;

On behalf of the Board of Health and staff, I want to express our sincere appreciation for your participation in the PHAB Community Partners Meeting.

The PHAB Review Team was very impressed with the large number attending and noted the breadth and depth of the collaborative relationships of the many partners in our local public health system. In fact, the review team identified the strong relationship between our department and our partners as one of our greatest strengths related to demonstrating attainment of national performance standards. This is a positive reflection of your vision and commitment to working together to promote and protect the health of the public we serve.

The PHAB Review Team will submit a report of their rating of our level of conformance to national performance standards to the PHAB Accreditation Committee. This committee will meet in September and will make a determination on our accreditation status at that time. We will keep you informed of their decision. In the meantime, we look forward to our ongoing partnership in providing needed services in our community.

Thank you again for making time to attend this event and demonstrate your support of a strong local public health system.

Sincerely,

Kevin D. Hutchison, R.N., M.S., M.P.H., C.P.H.A.
Executive Director

*Thank you for coming
and for your support!
Kevin*

Administrative/Fiscal
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