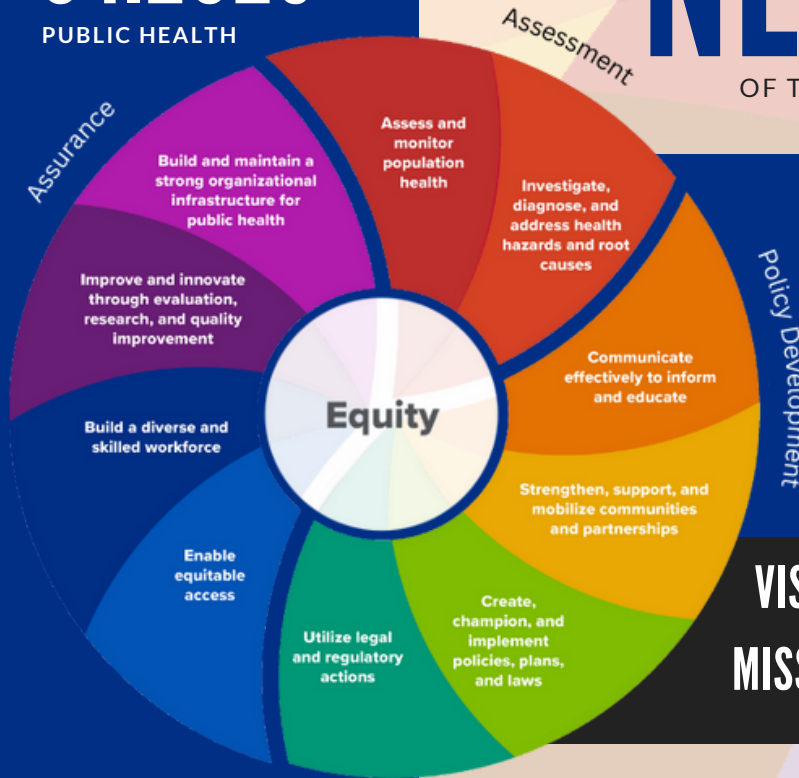


# 04.2023

PUBLIC HEALTH

# NEWSLETTER

OF THE APPLETON PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



## IN THIS ISSUE:

Build a diverse and skilled workforce

Community Partner:  
Public Health Internships

Meet Austin

**VISION:** Health for all, together.

**MISSION:** Facilitate equitable community wellbeing through education, health promotion, and response to public health needs.

## 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve equity, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and overall community conditions that enable optimal health for all and seek to remove systemic and structural barriers that have resulted in health inequities. Such barriers include poverty, racism, gender discrimination, ableism, and other forms of oppression. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve optimal health and well-being.

Each month, the Appleton Health Department Newsletter will feature stories about how we are achieving each of the 10 Essential Public Health Services. This month, we will focus on Essential Public Health Service #8: Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce.

## WHAT WE ARE DOING

Ensuring that we are best positioned to meet the needs of our community, the Appleton Health Department created a full-time Public Health Nursing position from a position that was previously part-time. The increase in hours will be funded with external funding through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services aimed at increasing the capacity of local and tribal health departments. Creating this full-time position will reduce the reliance on limited-term-employees for critical communicable disease investigations and follow-up. In addition to communicable disease investigation and follow-up, Public Health Nurses also provide immunizations, protect families against lead poisoning, conduct home visits related to maternal and child health for new mothers, serve on area coalitions, and provide health promotion to the entire community.

Increasing the number of full-time staff within Public Health Nursing division will provide critical capacity as the Appleton Health Department begins the City's Community Health Assessment work, including launching AARP's survey in conjunction with Appleton's Age Friendly designation.

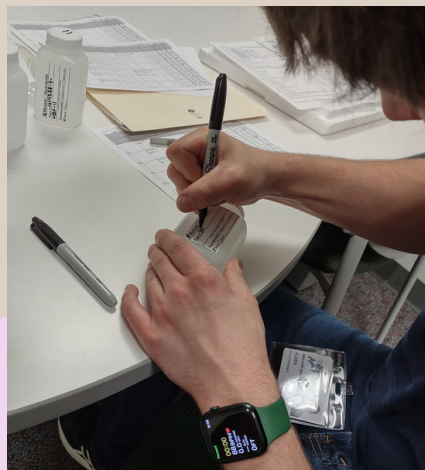
# COMMUNITY PARTNERS



## INTERNSHIPS PROVIDE BENEFITS TO STUDENTS AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The Appleton Health Department is host to ongoing internship opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate placements in nursing and other public health fields. Internships are sourced through grants, student inquiries, our MoU with the University of Green Bay Nursing Program, and university and organization partnerships such as Lawrence University, University of Nebraska Medical Center, the AHEC Scholars Program, and Bellin College. Typically, interns focus on Public Health Nursing but students also spend time learning about Environmental Health, Public Health Preparedness, Weights and Measures, and Public Health Administration.

Currently, we are facilitating the internships of Barb, an undergraduate nursing student from UW Green Bay, and Austin, an Appleton Health Department Environmentalist completing his double master's degree from Texas Tech University. Austin's internship is focused on the [Wisconsin Lead-in-Water Testing and Remediation \(WTR\) Initiative](#). Austin's capstone project includes educating local early childcare centers about this free program, collecting and preparing samples for testing by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, and following up with test results and resources for lead contamination remediation.



Above: Austin prepares water samples for lead contamination testing. Top: Lead contamination in drinking water may be harmful, especially for children under six years old.



# MEET AUSTIN



"My favorite part of the job is seeing businesses start up and then get to that point where they can get their health license. Its very exciting to be able to hand them their health license and say, 'Hey, you worked hard. You did everything you need to do... and you can start your business.'"

Austin Cumber, Environmentalist, has served the City of Appleton for just under a year helping business owners and hobbyists put the last piece of the puzzle in place to start or grow their dreams. He says being an Environmentalist with the Health Department is like combining a Biologist and a Health Inspector. With the variety of tasks the Environmentalists take on, it's easy to see why. From pool sampling and food service inspections to licensing backyard chickens, tourist rooming houses, and tattoo establishments, Austin and his fellow Environmentalists are providing education and public health safety protection across many slices of Appleton life.

Outside of work Austin likes to explore new places and travel, attend sporting events and concerts, and run, often for a good cause.

## BOARD OF HEALTH

## CALENDAR

## RESOURCES

[CDC-10 Essential Public Health Services -Full](#)

[Wisconsin Lead-in-Water Testing and Remediation \(WTR\) Initiative](#)

[AHEC Scholars](#)