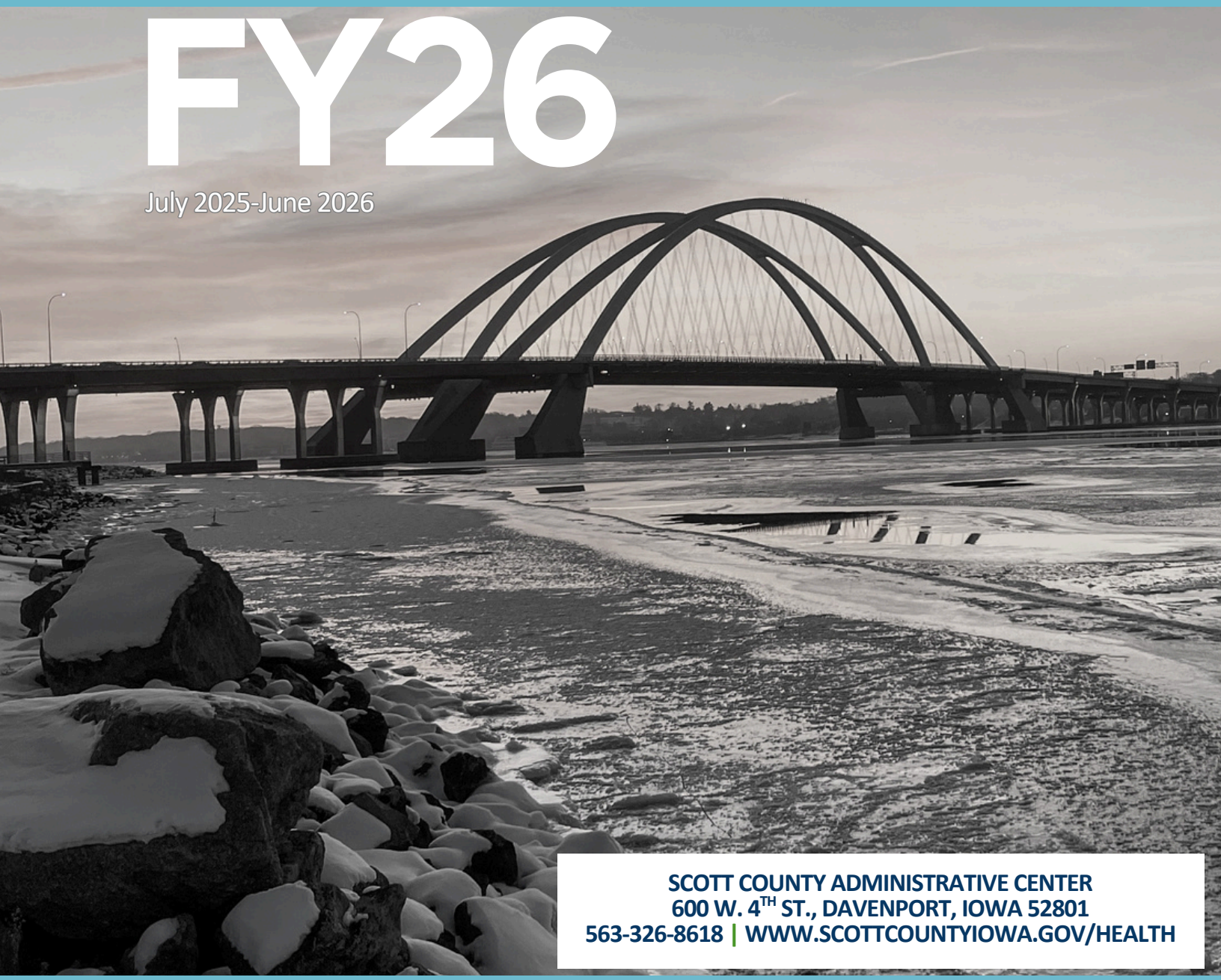
SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

# ANNUAL REPORT

# FY26

July 2025-June 2026



SCOTT COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
600 W. 4TH ST., DAVENPORT, IOWA 52801
563-326-8618 | WWW.SCOTTCOUNTYIOWA.GOV/HEALTH

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# Note from the Director

Dare to be Phabulous are the words on a sign that I have in my office. It was given to me during our initial Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) accreditation journey. There were certainly days in 2017 and 2018 when the work of meeting the PHAB standards felt like a dare – and I would gladly have chosen "truth" if we had been playing the game Truth or Dare.

As we celebrated our August 2025 PHAB reaccreditation with staff and Scott County leaders last fall, I found myself thinking differently about that sign. The truth is the work we have done – and continue to do – to align our work with the PHAB standards isn't a dare at all. It reflects a long-held tradition of innovation, collaboration, continuous improvement, and striving for excellence. These are the truths that have guided our work for many years.

PHAB promotes the use of evidence and forward-thinking approaches to strengthen infrastructure, improve performance, and support both health departments and their partners in delivering high-quality programs and services. Those principles are particularly important during times of change and uncertainty. A strong foundation and clear sense of identity help us remain grounded while the environment around us changes. Continuous improvement challenges us to look at situations from all angles, identify opportunities to improve performance, and stay focused on the outcomes we want to achieve – even when resources are limited. And we know that we are better together. We can accomplish more by working collaboratively, relying on the expertise of others, and leveraging resources.

These principles are woven throughout the PHAB standards, but they were also reflected in what our PHAB site visit team saw when they spent time with us and reviewed our documentation. Their overall impressions of Scott County Health Department included:

- A commitment to continuous improvement. SCHD has shown an admirable commitment to continuous improvement throughout a lot of changes since initial accreditation.
- Strong community partnerships and trust. SCHD appears to have strong community partnerships and serves as a trusted source of information in the community.
- Talented, dedicated, and passionate staff. SCHD has talented, dedicated, and passionate staff focused on the larger picture of public health and the community.

These observations are more than compliments from an accreditation team. They reflect who we are and how we approach our work.




As you read through our FY26 Annual Report, I dare you to look for examples of continuous improvement, meaningful community partnerships, and dedicated staff throughout the work highlighted. Look for the ways our team continues to innovate, adapt, collaborate, and strive for excellence.

I think you'll find some pretty phabulous stories!!! And perhaps that's the real truth: being phabulous isn't a dare for SCHD – it's who we are.

# Board of Health




(from left to right): Mr. Sherwin Robinson, Dr. Kathleen Hanson (Vice Chair), Dr. Michael Franzman (Chair), Ms. Tina Flaherty, Dr. Francis Kane

The Scott County Health Department is governed by the Scott County Board of Health (BOH), which consists of five members appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Current members include Mr. Sherwin Robinson; Dr. Kathleen Hanson, Vice Chair; Dr. Michael Franzman, Chair; Ms. Tina Flaherty; and Dr. Francis Kane. In May 2026, Dr. Ann O'Donnell retired from the Scott County Board of Health after twenty years of service. Dr. Francis Kane was appointed to the BOH in May following her retirement.

To support community health, the BOH routinely reviews, updates, and adopts position statements on important public health issues. These position statements are available online. The Board of Health meets on the third Thursday of each month, at the Scott County Administrative Center. Agendas, minutes and the director's reports for each meeting are available online.

We thank Dr. O'Donnell for her twenty years of dedication to the Scott County Board of Health!



# Who We Are



## Mission

The Scott County Health Department promotes, protects, and preserves health through leadership, service, education, and partnerships.

## Vision

Scott County - a safe and healthy community.

## Accreditation

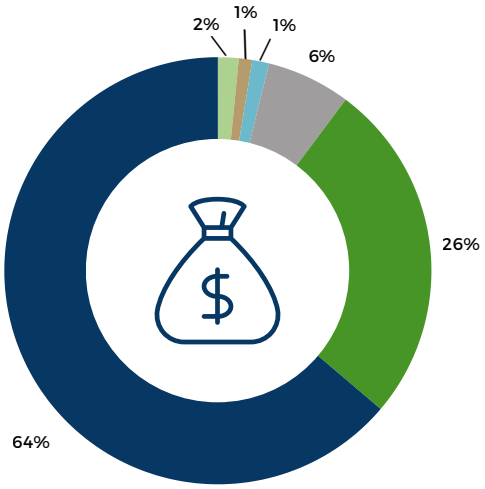
Scott County Health Department achieved initial accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) in November 2018 and reaccreditation in August 2025.

Learn more about us by watching **this video**.

# FY26 BUDGET

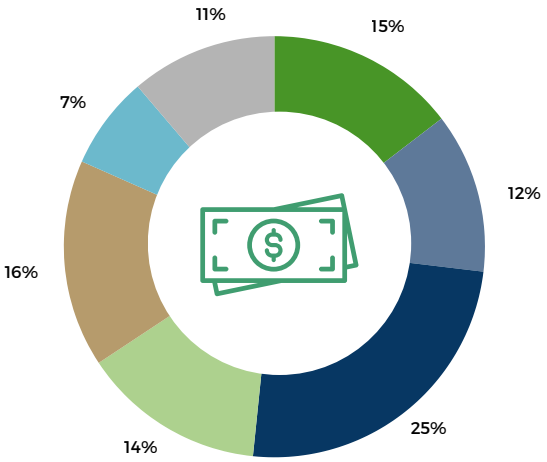
## Revenue:

| Category | Amount |
|---|---|
| Fines, Forfeitures, & Miscellaneous Revenue | $117,440 |
| Charges for Services | $75,529 |
| Medicaid | $95,685 |
| Licenses & Permits | $474,804 |
| Intergovernmental (Grants) | $1,943,546 |
| Tax Support | $4,769,206 |




## Expenditures:

| Category | Amount |
|---|---|
| Administration/Fiscal | $840,276 |
| Clinical Services | $1,090,898 |
| Community Health | $919,603 |
| Correctional Health | $1,849,120 |
| Environmental Health | $1,052,440 |
| Family Health | $1,190,957 |
| Medical Examiner | $532,916 |






Revenue

**$7.5M**

Expenditures

**$7.5M**

# OUR IMPACT

**5,920**
Number of consumers reached with education

**1,031**
Number of food inspections completed

**460**
Number of technical assistance requests from child care homes and centers responded to by SCHD

**34**
Number of psychosocial services provided to prenatal and postpartum clients

**8**
Number of public health preparedness drills/exercises participated in by SCHD

**100%**
Percent of approved septic system installations that met initial system recommendations

**10**
Number of tanning facilities inspected

**59**
Number of tattoo facilities inspected

**84**
Number of indoor swimming pools and spas inspected

**100%**
Percent of water wells that meet Scott County Code: Chapter 24 upon installation

**56,241**
Number of inmate health contacts provided in the jail

**10**
Number of lead environmental investigations completed

**609**
Number of people who received STI/HIV Services

**100%**
Percent of reported rabies exposures that received a rabies risk assessment

**19**
Number of licensed hotels/motels inspected

**204**
Number of communicable disease cases requiring investigation by SCHD

# New Software for Billing Immunizations

In July 2025, the department began to use the Patagonia Health electronic health record system. In addition to being a comprehensive electronic system, it opened an easier way for the department to begin billing Medicaid for immunization services offered through the department's childhood immunization clinic. Previous billing methods required duplication of data entry that would have cost as much in staff time as revenue received. In total, billing Medicaid brought in $10,108 of new revenue which offsets 20% of the year one software implementation costs. If revenue remains the same for the next fiscal year, 42% of the cost of the software will be offset.

# Switch in Mental Health Providers at Scott County Jail

In July 2025, Scott County Jail transitioned to Community Health Care (CHC) Behavioral Health as the mental health service provider for inmates.



CHC Behavioral Health has deepened the connection between facility services and community care. Several individuals have continued their mental health treatment with CHC Behavioral Health after release, supporting smoother re-entry and improved long-term health outcomes. The prescriber who provides services inside the jail brings exceptional value to this post-jail continuity, maintaining permanent appointment slots for former inmates, ensuring timely access to follow-up care.

Overall, this partnership has significantly enhanced the quality, consistency, and accessibility of mental health services for those served within the Scott County Jail.

# Partnership with The Project of the Quad Cities

In early calendar year 2026, the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) ended a long-term contract with a pharmacy that was supporting multiple statewide initiatives. This termination was due to contract performance issues, but disrupted multiple programs across the state including the Benefits and Drug Assistance Program (BDAP) which provided HIV medications at no cost to individuals, including those within the Scott County Jail. This created an unexpected budget concern for SCHD since HIV medications are expensive and necessary to maintain care.

Fortunately, medications have been obtained through a local partner, The Project of the Quad Cities (The Project). The Project provides HIV care to many individuals in the Quad Cities and is able to purchase HIV medications through their 340B pricing program, reducing the cost to approximately half of what the jail would otherwise pay. Many inmates receiving these medications are already established patients with The Project, which has streamlined the process, and ensures continuity following release.

This partnership has been an essential support as Iowa HHS continues working toward a long-term solution and identifying an alternative pharmacy to resume the BDAP Program.

# Expanding Access to STI Treatment Through E-Prescribing

Another way that the department was impacted by the HHS contract termination with a pharmacy was temporarily losing the ability to order medications used to treat sexually transmitted infections (STI). The department had enough medication in stock to continue treatment for approximately two to three months while a longer-term solution was identified. Rather than waiting for a new pharmacy arrangement, clinic staff reached out to other Iowa counties to learn how they were navigating the change and continuing to provide clients with access to STI medications.

The situation led to an innovative option for providing STI treatment. Staff began using the e-prescribing function within SCHD's electronic medical record, Patagonia Health, and began electronically sending prescriptions directly to pharmacies for clients who had health insurance and could obtain their medication through their insurance benefits. This provided an additional option for clients, reserved SCHD's supply for those without insurance, and helped the clinic maintain timely access to treatment. It was also an unexpected benefit from having the department's new electronic health record system.




The HHS STI Program has contracted with a new pharmacy, allowing the department to resume ordering STI medications through the program. However, the sexual health clinic continues using e-prescribing as an option for clients who have health insurance. What began as a challenge resulted in an opportunity to expand the clinic's approach to STI medications, providing clients options to receive timely treatment.

# New Web Page: Health Alerts and Information

A new page titled "Health Alerts & Information" was added to the department's website in June 2026. The page contains information on current or emerging public health issues and relevant guidance for Scott County residents. Examples of topics include communicable disease outbreaks, such as measles and Ebola, as well as other emerging issues, like the cyclosporiasis outbreak and the unusually high increase in tick bites.

Each topic includes sections with important information to know, local exposure risk, recommended actions, and resources. Topics included on the page will be updated to reflect current outbreaks and the risk level for residents of Scott County, keeping the community informed and prepared to act.



# Pertussis Outbreak

In December 2025, more than 100 positive and probable cases of the vaccine-preventable illness pertussis (whooping cough) were investigated by the department's Communicable Disease Team. The cases that month accounted for over 70% of the cases investigated throughout the entire fiscal year. The team worked closely with healthcare providers, local health systems, school nurses, and community members during the response. These connections allowed the team to raise awareness, provide education, and minimize the spread of pertussis.

*Pertussis can cause serious illness, including death, particularly for those who are young or have pre-existing health conditions. The protection from pertussis vaccine begins to fade after several years; everyone is encouraged to talk to their health care provider about whether they are due for a booster to protect their health as well as to help prevent community outbreaks.*

# Update to Animal Bite Follow-up Process

During FY26, SCHD collaborated with the Humane Society of Scott County to update the process for conducting rabies risk assessments following a potential rabies exposure due to an animal bite. The updated process allows for victims with low-risk exposures (below the shoulder bites, those bites where the animal is under quarantine/vaccinated, and/or the bite victim received medical care and a rabies risk assessment from a healthcare provider) to receive written guidance from the HSSC Animal Protection staff on next steps related to their exposure. SCHD's public health nurses then focus their attention on high-risk exposures (above the shoulder bites, bites by an unknown or stray animal, individuals not seen by a healthcare providers, bat/wildlife exposures, etc.) to ensure a full rabies risk assessment is completed and a recommendation for starting or not starting rabies post-exposure prophylaxis is given.

This collaborative, public health approach focuses resources and staff support on high-risk exposures and creates space for additional public health nursing time to be allocated to other public health concerns, including sexual health, immunization, and communicable disease follow-up.






# Youth Preparedness

Emergency preparedness is more than just flashlights and fire drills. It is also preparing for the things that happen on a regular basis, like a car crash. Each year a group of public health and health care partners selects a population of focus for preparedness planning. During fiscal year 2026, that population was youth. SCHD chose to focus on increasing the number of families with children that have an emergency reunification plan and distribute Roth ID tags.

The Roth ID tag is an information tag that can be attached to a child's car seat. In the event of an emergency, the tag pulls from the car seat and becomes an emergency identification wristband. The tag can include general information, such as child name and emergency contact as well as relevant medical information (for example: diabetes, allergies, or asthma).

In FY26, families received a packet along with the tags that contained materials for the family to complete together and resources to learn more. The reunification planning form encouraged families to detail communication methods, meet-up locations, emergency contacts, and more. Almost 100 packets were distributed at community events and at SCHD over the summer. This effort will continue into FY27.




Ready, Set, Safe Packet




Stop the Bleed Kit

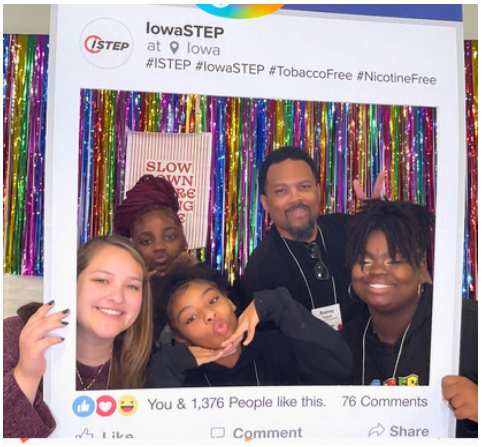
# Stop the Bleed Kits

Stop the Bleed is a national awareness campaign that trains the public to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives. The Service Area 5 Healthcare Coalition, a network of health care and public health organizations including SCHD, used Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant funds to purchase bleeding control kits for schools that requested them. Kits contain non-expiring items necessary to control serious bleeding and prevent further blood loss, including, but not limited to, tourniquets, gauze, trauma shears, gloves, and instructions for kit use. To receive kits, schools must have staff that completed the Stop the Bleed training. For every trained individual, eight kits could be purchased. Health Department staff helped deliver 760 Stop the Bleed kits to 42 non-public schools and public schools in the Davenport, Bettendorf, Pleasant Valley, and North Scott school districts.

# New Tobacco Contract under Iowa's Behavioral Health Service System

SCHD has implemented activities related to tobacco prevention and control for more than 20 years. On July 1, 2025, tobacco prevention and control in Iowa became part of the new Behavioral Health Service System launched by Iowa HHS to combine previously separated service systems that focused on mental health, gambling, substance use, and tobacco into one system. The department was awarded a tobacco prevention and control contract through the Behavioral Health Service System focused on three goal areas:

- Prevention initiation of tobacco use among young people
- Eliminate non-smokers' exposure to secondhand smoke
- Promote quitting tobacco use among young people and adults




In this first year of the new system, the tobacco program was able to continue to provide the same services and resources as previous years, but expanded to collaborate with other behavioral health sectors. Tobacco program staff continued to provide education to youth and adults, and built stronger collaboration with substance use partners and community members, allowing for more opportunities for youth to talk about mental health.

# Food Program Procedure

SCHD's Food Team conducted an in-depth review of SCHD's Food Inspection Program Procedure and adopted a final version during FY26. The review addressed Iowa Code changes related to various establishment types, incorporated additional best-practices including documentation audit activities and the latest version of the FDA Retail Food Program Standards, and updated internal enforcement processes. Full team participation in the revision reflects an intentional focus on program improvement with an outcome of continuing to protect the health of the public and further outlining uniform steps for implementing a strong inspection program. The Food Team conducts more than 1,000 inspections annually and the procedure supports uniform inspection methods amongst the four trained inspectors.

# Foodborne Illness Response June 2026

On a Friday afternoon in June 2026, staff received a  foodborne illness complaint related to a workplace event. The complainant reported that 12-15 people may have consumed the same meal and fallen ill. The state of Iowa defines a foodborne illness outbreak as two or more people from different households being affected. Due to the number of potentially ill people who consumed the meal, staff sprang into action.

Staff interviewed three individuals about the details of the suspected meal, time of the meal, illness symptoms, times symptoms began/ended, and a five-day food history. Additional staff conducted an illness complaint inspection at the licensed food facility that had prepared the meal. During the inspection, staff reviewed foodborne illness risk factors with the facility, some of which include cooking and holding temperatures, glove use, hand washing, facility sanitation methods, cross-contamination risks, and asking about any employees being recently ill.



The information gathered was discussed with Iowa HHS (concerned about the person) and the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing (concerned about the establishment) and the decision was made to collect stool specimens and to complete an environmental assessment at the facility. These additional actions aimed to narrow down which type of food or practices could be the source.

In the end, the stool specimen was negative for any reportable illnesses, the environmental assessment did not identify any areas of concern, and no other complaints were received from others in the workplace group or from individuals not connected to the workplace but ate food from the facility. Iowa HHS and DIAL closed the outbreak investigation and acknowledged that the facility may have been a possible source, but ultimately the investigation was inconclusive. It is not uncommon for investigations to have similar outcomes and the sources of illness remain unidentified; however, illness complaints continue to be treated as a priority. Investigations with staff from several agencies diligently working together to respond to potential illness outbreaks in a timely manner will continue to be the best tool to intervene and hopefully prevent the spread of illness. This investigation was an example of the collaborative process between SCHD, Iowa HHS, and DIAL.




**183**
complaints investigated according to Food Inspection Program Procedure timelines in FY26

## Septic Program: Minimum Lot Size

Living in a rural setting appeals to many Scott County residents. For rural residents, space matters, and that is not just for more green space or distance to a neighbor; it is important for water wells and septic systems. The Health Department has been working closely with Scott County Planning and Development regarding the minimum lot size in rural subdivisions for several years. When lots are small, there are challenges in finding a location for a septic system initially and if a new system is needed in the future. There are all kinds of factors that must be considered for septic systems, including distance from a well, how discharge may flow and impact a neighboring property, and more. When homeowners want to add outdoor living space such as a pool, shed, free-standing garage, etc., space for a septic system (new, existing, or replacement) becomes even more challenging.

In October 2025, the Board of Supervisors approved new lot size recommendations that were developed by Scott County Planning and Development with input from the Health Department. These larger minimum lot sizes will be beneficial when siting septic systems. Scott County has a long history of collaboration; the change in this ordinance is an example of how working across departments can have positive results.

# Tattoo Event Inspections

It had been more than 20 years since a tattoo expo had been hosted in Scott County. That changed in June 2026 when an event with 75 tattoo booths and 127 artists occurred in Davenport. The absence of tattoo expos from Scott County for such an extended period combined with changes to both regulations and technology within the tattoo industry, put department inspectors in new territory.



During event preparation, inspectors worked with the Iowa DIAL as well as the local event coordinators to gather information and create temporary, offsite inspection documents and protocols, eventually leading to the creation of a new a process for supporting events through the planning and inspection phases, ensuring they are safe for the community. Large events like these create opportunities for SCHD to learn, grow, and better protect the health of the public.

# Oral Health Promotion

The department chose oral health as a focus for a FY26 health education campaign. The broad goal was to decrease the number of people who are seen in emergency rooms for tooth pain. Discussions led to one simple thing that everyone can do to maintain good oral health and help prevent this type of visit – brushing teeth.

To craft a campaign message, a slogan of "Just Use It" was created. To put an engaging spin on messaging and outreach, the team decided to use a giant tooth mascot that dental staff use at events. A Facebook contest was held to help name the mascot, and the winning name was Pearl, representing pearly whites, AKA teeth. Footage was captured of Pearl making appearances out in the community and several videos were created and posted on social media with the "Just Use It" slogan featured. It was a fun way to promote oral health and hygiene while making a presence in the community.



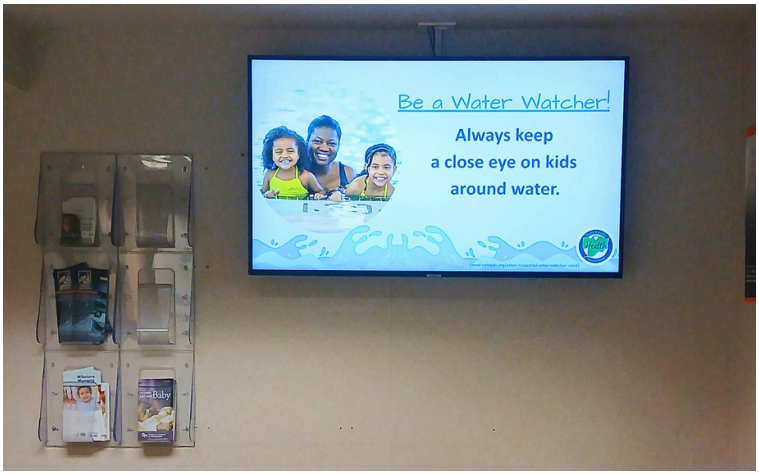

**1,891**
Number of preventive treatments (kids) completed by I-Smile program staff

**1,443**
Number of child dental screenings completed by I-Smile program staff

**350**
Number of adult dental screenings completed by I-Smile Silver program staff

# Using Waiting Room Media to Promote Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness

To engage clinic attendees in SCHD's waiting room, staff created educational presentations for the waiting room television. The content is updated seasonally and tailored to different audiences, including youth and families attending immunization clinics and adults attending sexual health clinics. The youth presentation incorporates age-appropriate jokes and images to enhance engagement, while both the youth and adult presentations include relevant preparedness, safety, and program information, along with QR codes that link to key resources. The presentations can also be updated quickly to incorporate promotional campaigns and emerging public health guidance. Opportunities for education can be found in unexpected places!




### Education Topics

- Preparedness
- Severe Weather Safety
- Vaccines
- Disease Prevention
- Tobacco Cessation

# Staff Education

Over the past year, staff have actively participated in a wide range of professional development opportunities, demonstrating a strong commitment to maintaining high standards and continually enhancing their skills as well as meeting various program and certification requirements. Staff complete work using a framework called the 10 Essential Public Health Services. The American Public Health Association describes this framework as a way to help to promote and protect the health of all people in all communities.

These efforts included attending conferences such as the Quad Cities Regional Disaster Conference and Public Health Conference of Iowa. Additionally, staff participated in training on workplace culture best practices. SCHD staff trained their peers on tools including Microsoft Excel and Canva, which helped staff learn about tools that can be utilized in their everyday work.

**1,854 hours of professional development education**
documented by staff from July 2025-June 2026

# Retirement Recognition

*We thank our retirees for their years of service to public health!*



## Trish Beckman

Trish Beckman was a medical assistant at the Scott County Jail. She retired after serving 20 years at Scott County.




## Dr. Ann O'Donnell

Dr. Ann O'Donnell retired from the Scott County Board of Health after 20 years of service.




## Tammy Loussaert

Tammy Loussaert was an Environmental Health Specialist and had experience working in the tattoo, tanning, septic, wells, and public health nuisance programs. She dedicated 35 years of service to SCHD.

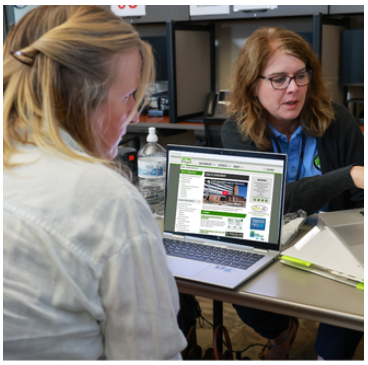


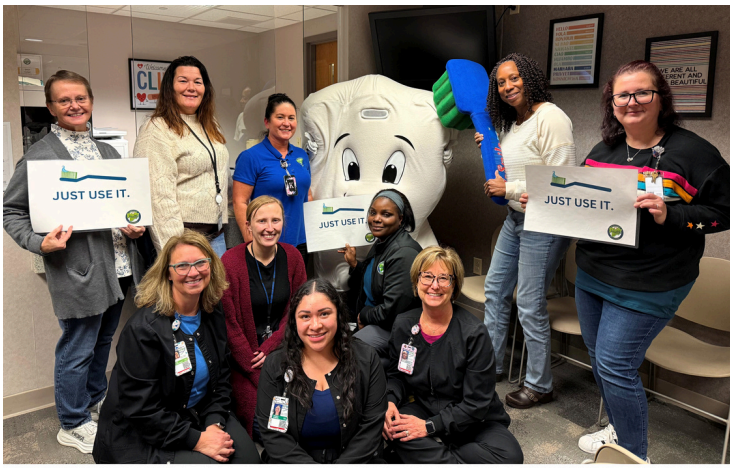
# SCHD
## at work


Scott County
Health
Department








JUST USE IT.
JUST USE IT.
JUST USE IT.






TAPESTRY
farms
INVEST. GROW. LOVE.





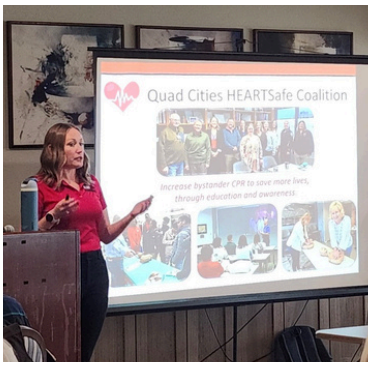

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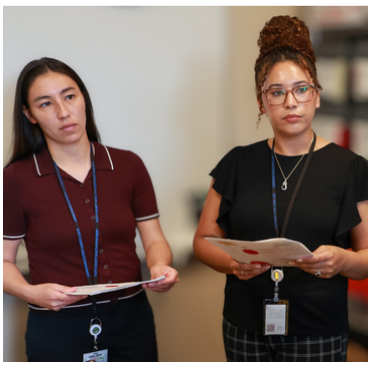





Holiday Inn




Quad Cities HEARTSafe Coalition
Increase bystander CPR to save more lives,
through education and awareness.




City of Davenport, Iowa
Proclamation






QUAD CITIES
CORPORATE GAMES
PRESENTED BY Wellmark.
CHAMPION



# CONNECT WITH US




**Scott County Administrative Center**
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**563-326-8618 | www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health**

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