



## Scott County Health Department

600 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street | Davenport, IA 52801-1003 | P. 563-326-8618 | F. 563-326-8774  
health@scottcountyiowa.gov | www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health

### **Director's Report to the Board of Health May 13, 2022**

#### Director's Attended Meetings – April 2022

1. Scott County Community COVID Planning Group (4)
2. Scott County Board of Supervisors Agenda Review
3. Live Lead Free Quad Cities
4. Adaptive Leadership Academy (2)
5. CDC All State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Health Department Update Call (2)
6. Mahesh Sharma and Jeremy Kaiser
7. Mahesh Sharma, Lori Elam, and Jeremy Kaiser
8. Local Public Health Administrators
9. United Way Impact Council
10. Scott County High Utilizer Review Team
11. Quad Cities COVID Coalition
12. Scott County Department Heads
13. St. Ambrose University MPH Community Advisory Board
14. Region 6 Public Health Administrators
15. Wastewater Testing Pilot Program with Davenport Public Works, State Hygienic Laboratory, and Dr. Katz (2)
16. Dr. Harre, Scott County Medical Examiner and Staff
17. Scott County Board of Supervisors
18. Radiological Exercise Overview with Scott County Emergency Management Agency and Staff

#### I would like to introduce the following new employee:

Nick Blieu, Correctional Health Nurse	Started April 18, 2022
Ellen Gackle, Community Health Consultant	Started April 29, 2022
Mariah Bryner, Community Health Consultant	Started May 2, 2022

#### I would like to acknowledge the following position change:

Katie DeLaRosa from Medical Assistant to Disease Intervention Specialist	April 25, 2022
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## Assessment

Assess and monitor population health status, factors that influence health, and community needs and assets

### Feedback Sought Regarding Community Health Improvement Plan

Staff partnered with Rock Island County Health Department to seek feedback from the Be Healthy QC Coalition on the status of the 2019 Community Health Improvement Plan related to physical activity, nutrition, and weight. The information gathered will be utilized to update the status and modify the current plan, as well as be used as a starting point for the next Community Health Improvement Plan as work begins this summer.

*Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population*

### Communicable Disease Program

A total of 283 communicable diseases were reported during April. They included three cases of hepatitis C, three cases of campylobacteriosis, two e. Coli infections, and one case each of anaplasmosis, hepatitis B, Lyme Disease, and salmonellosis. In addition, there were 271 cases of COVID-19 reported.

### Rabies Risk Assessments

In April, 33 individuals required rabies risk assessments after exposures to 27 dogs and six cats. Twelve victims were recommended for rabies prevention treatment for a high-risk exposure or a bite above the shoulders and nine started the treatment.

### Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

In April, there were four children receiving individual case management. Of those, one had a blood level less than 15 ug/dL and three had a level between 15-19 ug/dL. These cases receive case management until they meet closure criteria. Three children with an initial blood lead level between 10-14 ug/dL received supportive services for lead poisoning during the month. One child has a blood lead level between 10-14 ug/dL and two have levels less than 10 ug/dL. These children receive public health nursing support until two consecutive blood lead levels equal to or below 5 ug/dL are obtained. Five children attending the department's immunization clinic accepted lead testing services during their April visit. There were no new positives identified during this effort.

Staff conducted a follow-up home visit for a long-term lead case. Staff provided education to the family regarding nutrition, environmental safety, and cleaning protocols. They also toured the property looking for additional sources of lead for remediation. A WIC referral was made for this child and staff is working with contractors to start the next phases of lead remediation to the property.

### Sexual Health Program

Sixty-one individuals received sexually transmitted infection (STI) clinic services during April

2022. Eight clients tested positive for chlamydia and two clients tested positive for gonorrhea, at the Health Department's clinic. In total, 94 cases of chlamydia, 29 cases of gonorrhea, and four cases of syphilis were reported in Scott County during April.

## **Policy Development**

*Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health factors that influence it, and how to improve it*

### Education to Oral Health Partners

Staff presented to the Scott County Oral Health Network regarding tobacco prevention and control grant services and e-cigarette use, especially how it affects oral health. Also discussed were ways that oral health care providers can help address e-cigarette and other tobacco use by creating strong tobacco and nicotine-free workplace policies and making patient referrals to the free Quitline Iowa and My Life My Quit cessation programs.

Staff also attended the Davenport District Dental Society meeting and provided updates to local dental professionals regarding public health and the work I-Smile™ and I-Smile™ Silver have completed in the past six months.

### NEST Participants Receive Presentation

Staff presented to participants of the Scott County Kids NEST Program. NEST is a parent education program with prenatal incentives designed to promote healthier mothers and babies. Topics covered during the presentation were the risks of tobacco, nicotine, and vaping use, especially related to pregnancy and how it affects little ones (i.e. secondhand and thirdhand smoke exposure); safe sleep; and the Period of the PURPLE Cry. The session was recorded and will be shared with other NEST participants.

### National STD/STI Awareness Month Presentations

In conjunction with National STD/STI Awareness Month and in collaboration with the Davenport Public Library, staff conducted a series of health and wellness presentations at three public library locations. The interactive, multi-media presentations educated attendees on the various prevention/intervention strategies related to stopping the spread of HIV and other STD/STIs while also encouraging participants to engage in healthy decision making. Throughout the presentation, participants were given tools and resources that could be utilized for themselves and/or in the recruitment of their social networks to engage in HIV/HCV testing.

### COVID Messaging Continues

The Health Promotion Team continues to promote COVID-19 messages at the local Department of Motor Vehicles office, through radio ads, and on social media. The team has been tasked with identifying ways to expand messaging that will be supported by COVID vaccine equity dollars, and will meet in May to develop a plan. The team is also working to update the Health Promotion Plan.

Puberty Education Begins

Staff started the annual puberty education classes non-public schools this month. The presentation discusses how the body changes as someone grows and moves through puberty. Typically, the school provides a male presenter for the boys and the non-public school nurse consultant provides the education for the girls. Each student is provided with a booklet, toothbrush, and toothpaste.

Bettendorf Business Network Presentation

Staff presented workplace wellness information to the Bettendorf Business Network. There were approximately 50 people in attendance. Connections were made with several employers interested in learning more about the Community Health Assessment and Group Evaluation (CHANGE) Tool and/or Nutrition Environment Measures-Vending (NEMS-V) assessments.

School Nurses Educated on MCAH Program

Staff presented at the Davenport School nurses in-service about the department's Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Program. In addition, the dental audit process and requirements were reviewed.

*Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities, and partnerships to improve health*

St. Ambrose University Nursing Program Advisory Board

Staff attended the St. Ambrose Nursing Program Advisory Board meeting. There was much discussion regarding the decline in nursing enrollment, the large number of open positions at Genesis, and the open positions with the ambulance service. Information was shared regarding the possible merger of Genesis with other entities, and that Specialty Select is planning to move into Genesis East. Also, information was shared about Genesis West closing its emergency room and opening a free-standing emergency room in Bettendorf.

Chocolate Milk Café

Staff met with Tonya Williams with the Chocolate Milk Café. The Chocolate Milk Café recently started hosting monthly lactation support groups in the Quad Cities. Chocolate Milk Café is peer to peer support for Black/African American families breastfeeding/chestfeeding their young.

Zero Suicide Initiative Discussion

Staff met with the local Zero Suicide Initiative coordinators. The initiative is looking to provide evidence based training to community members. This international effort is at the beginning stages of development in Scott County. The initiative is working to create systemic changes by connecting with various agencies/organizations. More information can be found at <https://zerosuicide.edc.org/>.

### Early Childhood Iowa Professional Development Leadership Team

Staff attended an Early Childhood Iowa Professional Development Health, Mental Health, Nutrition (HMHN) Leadership team meeting. The group reviewed the newly launched <https://www.ecieducationpathway.org/> website and discussed how to include Early Childhood Mental Health endorsement options. The team reviewed key websites and links within HMHN agencies, systems within Iowa, and those nationwide. The group was then assigned HMHN Core Competency Documents to be reviewed and updated before the next meeting.

### All Our Kids Network

Staff attended an All Our Kids (AOK) Network meeting. AOK is based in Rock Island County and ensures services for children from birth through age 5 are collaborative, comprehensive, and reflect community need. At the meeting, the AOK Network Coordinator discussed a community growing space initiative. All children, with or without special needs, learn skills (occupational therapy, speech, social-emotional) and become interested in something other than the media. Growing spaces can engage, grow, and support early childhood mental health and development. Green spaces have been shown to correlate with reductions in community violence, increase in life expectancy, and improved mental health. AOK is working to develop a community green space in a Moline neighborhood, near child care centers and churches.

### Scott County Kids Clinical Review/Provider Panel

Staff attended the Clinical Review/Provider Panel. Megan Middaugh from Unite Us Iowa presented to the group. The Unite Us platform is a coordinated care network of health and social service providers that share a secure technology platform that allows organizations to send and receive electronic referrals, address people's social needs, reduce referral time, and improve health across communities. The purpose of Unite Us as a coordinated care network is similar to the QCON Hub. The main difference between the two programs is that Unite Us is statewide and covers many additional states in the US. Joining the Unite Us network has no cost for community-based organizations, such as mental health centers, community health centers, or screening centers. Organizations offering billable services will need a participation agreement to integrate health information data sharing. There may be a fee for those agencies.

### Scott County Oral Health Outreach to Partners

The Scott County Oral Health Network had its quarterly meeting in person at the Administrative building. It was well attended, and meeting topics focused on how to engage the community and improve access to dental care through gap-filling services.

Staff met with Community Health Care, Inc. (CHC) representative to discuss the opportunity for the dental clinic to accept the Iowa Veterans Trust Fund for payment. The CHC staff is on board, and will work on protocols for their clinic to make this work within their system. Staff also discussed a collaboration with Genesis Occupational Health to have oral health representation present at their corporate health screenings in the future, as well as with the

Genesis staff screenings. This idea is being evaluated for the fall screenings that will take place. I-Smile™ Silver materials were shared for distribution.

Finally, staff met virtually with the Dental Hygiene Program coordinator at Carl Sandburg College to discuss partnership opportunities and ways to engage local dental hygiene students in I-Smile™ activities and expose them to dental public health.

#### Maternal Health Collaborations

Staff were invited to participate in the Quad City Health Initiative Planning Taskforce for Low Birth Weight. It has been recognized that there are a significant amount of low birth weight babies born in the Quad City area. Partners from Genesis, UnityPoint-Trinity, Rock Island County Health Department, Scott County Health Department, and CHC will have ongoing discussions about this concern and what can be done to implement change.

The Maternal Health Program has received several letters of commitment from maternal health partners in the area to participate in a maternal health coalition. The coalition is a requirement outlined in the program grant guidance.

*Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health*

#### Medication Administration Audits Underway

Staff has begun conducting medication administration audits in the non-public schools. The audit process ensures that staff administering medications daily in those schools are following the Iowa law in order to protect the student, school, and staff member(s). The audit process also ensures and demonstrates that school staff are able to understand and apply the medication administration principles they are trained yearly. Deficiencies and helpful suggestions are presented to the school as a means of process improvement.

#### CMS Disaster Planning Committee Hosts Panel Discussion

The Quad Cities CMS Disaster Planning Committee hosted a COVID-19 best practices panel discussion in April. This group's focus is to bring together Centers for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS) certified agencies to discuss topics related to preparedness, and to influence the agencies' plans for responding to emergencies. This event brought together perspectives from the hospital system, school, and a long term care facility. The panel members described their experiences during the pandemic and how they continuously adapted. Members of the audience had the opportunity to ask questions in an effort to learn from each other. The panelists and audience members expressed mental health as a result of the pandemic as an ongoing concern for our community.

*Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health*

#### Founded Food Service Complaints

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Complaint Status</b>
Sam's Food, North Marquette Street, Davenport	Adulterated food (moldy refrigerated sandwich)	Resolved
Dynasty Buffet, Elmore Avenue, Davenport	Pest Control (cockroaches)	Resolved
Los Agaves, Utica Ridge Road, Davenport	Contaminated Equip/Cross Contamination	Resolved
La Herradura Mexican Grill, LeClaire	General Facility Sanitation (No water in facility)	Resolved
Coffee Oasis, North Fairmount Street, Davenport	Improper sanitizing of food contact surfaces	Resolved
Village Inn, Harrison Street, Davenport	No hot water in facility	Resolved

#### Food Service Program Closures

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Status</b>
La Herradura Mexican Grill, LeClaire	No water in facility	Resolved & Reopened
Village Inn, Harrison Street, Davenport	No hot water in facility	Resolved & Reopened

#### Temporary Events

<b>Event</b>	<b>Number of Inspections</b>	<b>Status</b>
Adults Only: Night at the Museum (Bettendorf Family Museum)	9	Satisfactory; no violations observed

#### Swimming Pool/Spa Program

<b>Facility Closures</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Status</b>
Maquoketa AmericInn	Multiple identified in December 2021 inspection; underwater lighting not functioning violation remains	Resolved & Reopened

#### Swimming Pool Program Follow Up

Staff visited Sonesta Select (formerly Staybridge Inn) pool and spa to verify the corrective actions to address the identified violations were completed as reported by hotel management. Corrective actions were incomplete. The same management person continued to insist that corrections were complete, when clearly this was not the case. A company vice president who

was present at this reinspection followed up, and after much communication, the violations were corrected.

At the request of the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), staff contacted pool facilities that had not completed their annual registration renewals.

#### Tattoo Permit Renewals

Staff contacted several tattoo establishments on behalf of the IDPH regarding expired tattoo permits, advising the owners to renew or discontinue tattooing services. Both establishments and tattoo artists must have permits.

#### Investigation of Sewage with Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Staff investigated a complaint of surfacing sewage at Lakewood Estates Mobile Home Park on West 60<sup>th</sup> Street in Davenport. Pumps in the lagoon failed, and were out of service for several days. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is the regulating body for this location. DNR did an initial investigation and confirmed proper operation once the pumps were repaired. There was an additional problem with surfacing sewage due to a blockage on a tenant's lot.

#### **Assurance**

*Assure an effective system that enables access to the individual services and care needed to be healthy*

#### First Med Pharmacy Review

In March, 217 inmates received 856 prescriptions. Ninety-eight percent of medical and mental health medications were generic for the month.

#### STI, Hepatitis B, and HIV Outreach and Testing

Staff visited Humility of Homes & Housing to provide HIV and hepatitis C (HCV) testing and administered eight COVID-19 vaccines to individuals experiencing homelessness. Staff also conducted HIV/HCV testing at the Center for Behavioral Health. Sexual health tools and resources were made available for those who were present. In honoring National STD/STI Awareness Week, the clinical services team advertised and expanded the days and times of the department's sexual health clinic.

The Scott County Health Department, specifically the Sexual Health Program, was the Quad City River Bandits' Organization of the Night on April 29<sup>th</sup>. The department team engaged the community by hosting a vendor table equipped with giveaways, a STD trivia wheel, and other sexual health resources. Tickets were made available via raffle for individuals who received testing during the month of April, and or attended any of the various outreach events.



Child Care Centers Receive Support Regarding Asthma and Allergies

Staff met with child care center staff to review the management of asthma and allergies in children, including epi-pen and inhaler use. Child care staff were given the opportunity to review care plan documents and practice with the medication trainers.

Dental Screening at Head Start Locations

Staff completed dental screening at local Head Start sites (Roosevelt, Family Enrichment Center, Annie Wittenmyer, Mid-City, Fairmount Pines). Enrolled students were able to receive preventive gap-filling services including screening, fluoride varnish, and any associated referrals to dental providers. These services were provided twice during the school year (September & April).

Community Baby Shower Planning Underway

Staff was invited to a planning group for a community baby shower later this summer in Davenport. The community baby shower will provide expectant parents with education and information, as well as baby items in a drive-thru event.

*Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce*Mental Health First Aid Training

Staff attended mental health first aid training this month presented by Scott County Kids. This gave them the opportunity to learn how to best respond in situations where someone is facing a mental health or substance abuse crisis. The training was timely, as a staff member encountered a scenario like that the very next day. The staff member was able to appropriately respond to the person and link them to appropriate mental health resources.

High in Plain Sight Training

Staff attended the training, *High in Plain Sight: Drug Culture, Trends, and Identifiers*, presented by Officer Jermaine Galloway, known as Tall Cop, sponsored by Scott County Kids. The training offered an overview of frequently abused substances, including legal drugs that are harder to detect and often not tested for in drug panels. Many of these substances are being labelled as “dietary supplements,” because then the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not regulate them, and there are no age restrictions for purchasing them. Products such as nasal decongestants, cough syrup, and anti-diarrheal medicines are typically safe when used as directed. The issue is that when they are used in an unintended manner, people experience different effects with potentially dangerous outcomes. Officer Galloway also shared information on other controlled substances and drug culture, such as clothing that celebrates drug and alcohol use, popular terms, music, stash hats, and bags. He also discussed the dangers of vaping, as many young people have no perception that it is harmful, and that it can be a pathway to introducing nicotine and other drugs into the school system.

### Department Featured in Video About Public Health Interns

Staff was interviewed by Bonnie Butler, University of Iowa, as part of the College of Public Health's presentation at the Iowa Public Health Association conference. They produced a video in an effort to increase interest in accepting public health interns for health professionals, as well as for students to learn about different possibilities. The interview discussed SCHD's experience with interns, highlighted various projects, and shared the benefits for both the student and the site.

### Healthiest State Workplace Wellbeing Conference

Staff attended the 2022 Healthiest State Workplace Wellbeing Conference, *THRIVING over SURVIVING: Fostering a Resilient Workplace*. Speakers discussed strategies to build emotional and change ability in people and organizations; how to identify, prevent, and overcome burnout; and financial well-being. A panel of Healthiest State Annual Award Workplace Category Winners shared their strategies and efforts to improve the health of their employees.

### 2022 Preparedness Summit

Staff attended the 2022 Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme was *Reimagining Preparedness in the Era of COVID-19*. The conference provided an opportunity to reflect on lessons learned from current and previous responses, and highlighted tools, resources, and learnings that can be applied in the future. The goal was to come together to assess where the preparedness and response efforts fell short, met the mark, or exceeded expectations, and explore opportunities to refocus, plan, and reimagine the future. Staff was able to attend many sessions on topics related to drills/exercises, health equity, listening visits, leadership, workforce development, after action reports, process improvement, resiliency and recovery, and more. It provided a chance to better understand the field of public health preparedness as well as connect with other local leaders in attendance.

### Social Determinants of Health Webinar Series

Staff attended the third session of the Social Determinants of Health Webinar Series, *Taking Action for Health Equity*, presented by IDPH. This session gave examples from two organizations that identified a disparity, and the actions they took to address the issues. The presenter also shared a framework for taking action from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

### Prenatal to Three Collaboration in Action Initiative

Staff attended the webinar, *Government in Action Fireside Chat: Advancing Equitable Outcomes for Future Generations*, to learn approaches taken by local and state government to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity rates, improve outcomes, and advance equity for future generations. The webinar is part of the Prenatal-to-Three Collaboration in Action Initiative, conducted in partnership with the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties Research Foundation, National Conference of State Legislatures, and the National Collaborative for Infants and Toddlers.

Food Standardization Completed

The Food Program team leader completed standardization training with Julie Kraling, the Retail Food Program Lead with the Department of Inspections and Appeals. Standardization takes place over multiple days and includes joint inspections to assure that the food code is interpreted consistently. The department's inspector passed standardization training and earned her certification as the standardization officer for the food inspection program at the Scott County Health Department. The standardization officer will complete a similar process with the department's inspectors.

Elevated Blood Lead Investigator Training

Staff completed an elevated blood lead investigator training. This training was designed for individuals in local health departments who conduct onsite investigations to determine potential lead exposures. The training focused on identification of non-traditional lead hazards, professional interviewing techniques, and less common sampling methods.

*Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research, and continuous quality improvement*

Dental Screening Audits

Scott County dental screening audits were completed and a summary report can be found in Attachment 2.

Sexual Health Program Gathers Feedback

Staff that work in the Sexual Health Program are gathering feedback from target audiences regarding outreach and social media marketing. The team is utilizing focus groups as well as surveys. Information gathered will be used in the department's work as well as shared with the Stop HIV statewide workgroup.

*Build and maintain a strong organization infrastructure for public health*

Infrastructure Workgroups Established

An effort is underway to re-engage the department workgroups that existed prior to the pandemic and to establish several new workgroups based upon identified needs in the department's strategic plan. Staff had the opportunity to select three workgroups where they had interest and all were placed on at least one. Teams will begin meeting in May and include: Health Promotion Team, Health Equity Committee, Legislative Committee, Quality Improvement Council, Workforce Development Committee, Reaccreditation Committee, and the Workplace Culture Committee.

Meetings Attended by Staff

Alexandra Rodriguez, Erin Marshall, Jason Otten, and Kennon Neal, Center for Alcohol and Drug Services, Inc. (CADS)

Ashley Ezzio, Iowa Department of Public Health  
Be Healthy Quad Cities

Bettendorf Business Network  
Bike Safety in Quad Cities Presentation  
Community Baby Shower Planning Group  
Darren Smiley, Silvercreek Consulting  
Davenport Central High School Shades of Success Iowa Students for Tobacco Education and Prevention (ISTEP)  
Don Owens, Iowa Department of Public Health  
Doula Project Focus Group, University of Iowa  
Dr. Jaimie Christophersen, University of Iowa, Intern/MPH Candidate  
Dr. Julie, Life & Family Medical  
Dr. Niral Tilala, Genesis Health Group Family Medical  
Every Step-East MCAH Program  
Food Rescue Partnership  
Genesis Visiting Nurses Association MCAH Program  
Hector Lozano Escamilla, Augustana College Student  
Institute for Person-Centered Care Advisory Board  
Iowa Immunizes Coalition  
I-Smile™ Coordinators  
Jason Jones and Jamey Fah, Pleasant Valley High School  
Live Lead Free Quad Cities  
Quad Cities CMS Disaster Planning Committee  
Quad Cities CMS Disaster Planning Workshop: COVID-19 Best Practices Panel Discussion  
Quad Cities Earth Coalition  
Quad Cities Emergency Planning Committee  
Quad Cities HEARTSafe Coalition  
Quad Cities Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (QCSAPC)  
Quad City Elderly Consortium Monthly  
Quad City Health Initiative-Low Birth Weight Planning Taskforce  
Region 6 Public Health Administrators  
River Way Steering Committee  
Scott County Kids School Health Committee  
Scott County Kids School Social Worker and Counselor Meeting  
Scott County Oral Health Network  
Terry Hanson, Scott County Kids  
Tobacco-Free Quad Cities  
Tobacco-Free Quad Cities Community Education Workgroup  
Tonya Williams, Chocolate Milk Café  
Trinity Muscatine Public Health MCAH Program  
WISEWOMAN  
YMCA of the Iowa Mississippi Valley Child Care and Family Services Advisory Board

Attachment 1: Reports from our database on education the department provided to the community, education the department provided to service providers, media inquiries and press releases/conferences

Attachment 2: School Dental Screening Requirement Audit Summary 2021-2022



## ***Education provided between April 1, 2022 and April 30, 2022***

<b><i>Education To:</i></b>	<b><i>Presentation Date</i></b>	<b><i>Total Audience</i></b>	<b><i>Requesting Organization</i></b>	<b><i>Description</i></b>
<i>Community</i>				
	4/6/2022	50	Bettendorf Business Network	Workplace Wellness
	4/11/2022	4	Upper Iowa University	Hands-Only CPR
	4/25/2022	6	Scott County Kids NEST	Safe Sleep and Tobacco
<i>Service Providers</i>				
	4/8/2022	15	I-Smile and I-Smile Silver (SCOHN)	Tobacco and Vaping Resources
	4/13/2022	11	New Day Child Care Center	Medication Administration



## Media Inquiries between April 1, 2022 and April 30, 2022

<i>Request Date</i>	<i>Nature of Request</i>	<i>Request From</i>	<i>Newspaper</i>	<i>Radio</i>	<i>Television</i>
4/13/2022	Other	Newspaper	Quad City Times		
4/25/2022	Sewage at Lakewood Estates Mobile Home Park	Television			KWQC-TV6
4/25/2022	Sewage at Lakewood Estates Mobile Home Park	Television			WHBF-TV4
4/26/2022	CoVID	Newspaper	Quad City Times		



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May 11, 2022

To: Scott County Board of Health  
From: Leah Kroeger, I-Smile™ Coordinator

### **RE: School Dental Screening Requirement Audit Summary 2021-2022**

It is the role of each county Board of Health, or its designee, to audit all kindergarten and ninth grade school dental screening certificates of students attending public or accredited non-public schools in Scott County, and provide a report to the Iowa Department of Public Health. Below you will find a summary of the findings from the dental screening audit completed in Scott County for the 2021-2022 school year. The results of the audit are due to the Iowa Department of Public Health on May 31, 2022. Data and percentages included in this report are based on the number of students who submitted either a valid Certificate of Dental Screening or a Certificate of Dental Screening Exemption in compliance with the state law.

#### ***Compliance***

Collectively county compliance is 71 percent. Kindergarten compliance returned to 96 percent, while ninth grade compliance continues to be a challenge. During the 2021-2022 school year, 48 percent of ninth grade students complied with the requirement. Davenport high schools continue to have the lowest compliance rates (24%) compared to the other districts. During the 2021-2022 school year, one financial hardship and one religious exemption forms were reported at the high school level.

#### ***Treatment Needs***

This year, treatment needs across the county indicate roughly 18 percent of kindergarten students and 16 percent of ninth grade students require dental care. Enrollment across the county has increased by 73 students; 45 more students enrolled in ninth grade while 148 less children enrolled in Kindergarten. Davenport school district continues to demonstrate the most dental treatment needs with roughly one in four students who submitted a screening certificate requiring dental care (23%).

#### ***Provider Type***

Dentists provided 54 percent of completed dental screenings for kindergarten students, a five percent decline. Dental screening data shows an increase in the number of screenings completed by school nurses (42%) compensating for the difference in dental provider services for Kindergarten students. Due to ongoing COVID restrictions and staff availability, the I-Smile™ program did not provide gap-filling dental screening services in the high schools during the 2021-2022 school year. This continues to negatively impact the number of students complying with the dental screening requirement, especially for those attending a Davenport high school.



### Challenges

In the past year, our community has seen an increase in the number of dentists retiring, many of whom were also Medicaid providers. This has been burdensome for many families looking to establish dental care, as Scott County already experiences a shortage of dental providers. Additional challenges include school COVID restrictions limiting the ability of outside resources and programs to provide services early in the year.

It is important to note that low compliance rates, especially for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students, do not provide an accurate assessment of children's oral health in our community. Significantly less children received dental care, and likely more children are experiencing unmet dental treatment needs as a result that remains unseen.

### Opportunities

Expanded partnership between the medical and dental communities through the promotion of Cavity Free Iowa is essential to improving oral health in our community. In December 2021, Iowa Medicaid expanded reimbursement to physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and delegated qualified health professionals for the application of topical fluoride varnish to children up to age 6. This can provide an opportunity for more children to receive a dental screening within their medical home and be referred for dental care. Our goal is to continue to decrease the number of children with unmet dental needs, reduce healthcare costs, and provide gap-filling services through the I-Smile™ program.

### Audit Results

Certificate Submitted	Kindergarten	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Certificate of Dental Screening	96%	48%
Certificate of Dental Screening Exemption	0%	<0%
Treatment Needs		
No Obvious Problems	82%	88%
Requires Dental Care	15%	12%
Requires Urgent Dental Care	3%	<1%
Screening Provider Type		
Dentist	54%	100%
Dental Hygienist	2%	0%
Nurse	42%	--
Physician	1%	--
Physician Assistant	<0%	--

District	Dental Care Required Beyond Preventive Services				
	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018
Davenport	23%	22%	24%	22%	19%
Bettendorf	11%	16%	15%	13%	12%
Non-Public	10%	8%	12%	7%	7%
Pleasant Valley	11%	10%	8%	10%	9%
North Scott	13%	10%	12%	16%	14%

## DISTRICT RESULTS

## KINDERGARTEN

Grade	Total Enrollment	Students with valid Certificate of Dental Screening	Treatment Needs				Provider Type						Compliance	Treatment Needs	DDS Provider	School Nurse
			No Obvious Problems	Requires Dental Care	Requires Urgent Dental Care	Total	DDS/DMD	RDH	MD/ DO	PA	RN/ ARNP	Total				
K	2151	2073	1693	311	69	2073	1119	50	22	2	880	2073	96%	18%	54%	42%

## 9TH GRADE

	Total Enrollment	Students with valid Certificate of Dental Screening	Treatment Needs				Provider Type						Compliance	Treatment Needs	DDS Provider
			No Obvious Problems	Requires Dental Care	Requires Urgent Dental Care	Total	DDS/DMD	RDH	MD/ DO	PA	RN/ ARNP	Total			
9.0	2399	1160	1018	134	8	1160	1157	3	0	0	0	1160	48%	12%	100%

## County Results

Grade	Total Enrollment	Students with valid Certificate of Dental Screening	Treatment Needs				Provider Type						Compliance	Treatment Needs	DDS Provider	School Nurse
			No Obvious Problems	Requires Dental Care	Requires Urgent Dental Care	Total	DDS/DMD	RDH	MD/ DO	PA	RN/ ARNP	Total				
9.0	4550	3233	2711	445	77	3233	2276	53	22	2	880	3233	71%	16%	70%	27%