



Scott County Health Department

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Director's Report to the Board of Health February 13, 2026

Director's Attended External Meetings –

- American Public Health Association Legislative Update
- Brian Renfro, Chancellor, Eastern Iowa Community College District
- CDC Response Team: All State, Territorial, Local, & Tribal Health Department Update (3)
- Childhood Lead Advisory Workgroup
- City of Davenport, City of Bettendorf, and Scott County
- Continuing Conversations with Large Iowa County Health Directors
- Humane Society of Scott County
- Iowa Counties Public Health Association (ICPHA)
- ICPHA Board
- Iowa Health and Human Services (HHS) Public Health Office Hours
- Iowa HHS Behavioral Health Town Hall
- Iowa HHS Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Contractors
- Iowa HHS Collaborative Service Areas and HHS Regions Update
- Iowa HHS Environmental Health Legislative Lunch and Learn
- Iowa HHS Environmental Programs Update
- Iowa Legislature House Education Committee
 - HF 2171 – Striking elementary and secondary student immunization requirements
- Iowa Legislature House Health and Human Services Subcommittees:
 - House File 2056 – Dispensing of hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin through a standing order in the state
 - House File 2368 – Iowa medical freedom act
 - House Study Bill 605 – Requirements for immunization exemption notifications by public health agencies
 - House Study Bill 622 – Alignment of delivery of health and human services programs and services, aging and disability service, and volunteer services
 - House Study Bill 694 – Health-related matters, including health-related professions, nutrition, medication, and taxes on certain products
- Iowa Legislature Senate Health and Human Services Subcommittees:
 - Senate Study Bill 3082 – Alignment of delivery of health and human services programs and services, aging and disability service, and volunteer services
- Iowa Legislature House Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee:
 - Presentation on Medicaid, the Rural Healthcare Transformation Plan, the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act, and Welfare Reform

- Iowa State Association of Counties Legislative Update (4)
- Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory Wastewater Testing Update
- Live Lead Free Quad Cities
- Michele Cullen, MercyOne Genesis Visiting Nurse Association
- New to Public Health Iowa Cohort Graduation
- Project Renewal Board
- Quad City Health Initiative Executive Committee
- Scott County Constellation Energy Radiological Exercise Dress Rehearsal
- Scott County Kids Executive Decategorization Board
- Scott County Kids Fiscal Committee

Recognition of Years of Service with the Department:

Amy Haut, Public Health Nurse	3 years	February 27
Andy Swartz, Environmental Health Specialist	4 years	February 21
Ray Miller, Environmental Health Specialist	5 years	February 1
Lashon Moore, Clinical Services Manager	23 years	February 24
Amy Thoreson, Director	27 years	February 22

Assessment

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

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

Communicable Disease Program

Ten confirmed communicable diseases were reported during January. They included one E. coli infection, five cases of pertussis, two cases of campylobacteriosis, one case of salmonellosis, and one case of shigellosis.

In follow-up to the January Board of Health meeting, staff analyzed hand, foot, and mouth Disease (HFMD) reports in the School Health Reporting System after a sharp increase to 658 year-to-date cases in December 2025, compared with 34 cases during the same period in 2024. The increase is likely due to duplicate reporting, as schools may submit reports for each day when a student is absent, creating multiple entries for a single case. In addition, many reports are based on parent-reported illness rather than provider-confirmed diagnoses. As a result, the data likely reflect HFMD-related absence days rather than true case counts, indicating a need for additional education for school nurses to standardize reporting and improve data accuracy.

Animal Bite Program

In January, 13 individuals required rabies risk assessments after exposure to six dogs, three cats, and two bats. One dog exposed two individuals, and one bat exposed two individuals. Ten victims were recommended for rabies prevention treatment for a high-risk exposure or bite above the shoulders, and two victims started treatment.

Sexually Transmitted Disease Program

Forty-three individuals received sexual health services at the department during January. Two clients tested positive for chlamydia and one client tested positive for gonorrhea at the department's sexual health clinic. An additional two clients tested positive for chlamydia, one client tested positive for syphilis, and one client tested positive for HIV in the department's express clinic. In total, 68 cases of chlamydia, 21 cases of gonorrhea, six cases of syphilis, and one HIV case were reported in Scott County during the month. There were 28 additional syphilis cases and two additional HIV cases investigated and determined to be out of jurisdiction, not identified as a case, or had a pending result. These cases were closed, referred, or remained open pending additional results.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

In January, there were 15 lead poisoned children on the department's caseload. Three cases met closure criteria. The remaining 12 children will continue to receive public health nursing services until two consecutive blood lead levels equal to or below 10 ug/dL are obtained. Of these 12 children, two had blood lead levels between 15-19 ug/dL, six had blood lead levels between 10-14 ug/dL, and three had blood lead levels less than 10 ug/dL.

Six children utilizing the department's immunization clinic accepted lead testing services at their January appointment; testing did not result in identification of lead poisoning.

Staff conducted an initial lead inspection at a Davenport property in response to a current child residing at the rental property with an elevated blood lead level. Both interior and exterior hazards were identified. Staff also conducted an initial lead inspection at a secondary property (home child care location) associated with a current child with an elevated blood lead level. The areas of the home utilized for childcare services were inspected for lead-based paint hazards. Both interior and exterior hazards were identified. Staff will work with the property owners to address the hazards.

Policy Development

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

Community Health Fairs

Staff attended The Summit's Annual Well-Being Fair and provided information on tobacco/cessation services, dental resources, and STI/HIV testing information and resources to 100 attendees.

Staff attended the 38th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. event hosted at the Clinton Community College. Staff shared information on Hawki/Medicaid and I-Smile services to over 100 attendees that were present at the event.

Staff attended the Garfield School Family Fitness event and shared information on Hawki/Medicaid and I-Smile services with attendees.

Preparedness in the Youth Population Health Promotion Strategy

Community Health and Family Health teams have started a new Health Promotion Strategy focused on preparedness in the youth population. This strategy will take place over the next six months. The kick-off meeting entailed picking a target population and messaging ideas. The team decided that the messaging would focus on family reunification after a disaster or emergency.

School Connections on Tobacco and Vaping

Staff met with Davenport Central High School and Bettendorf High School representatives to discuss bringing tobacco and vaping education for their health classes and potentially provide a presentation to students who are caught on their first offense vaping. Administration of each school expressed interest and will have continued conversations to schedule presentations for those students.

Lactation Classes

Staff taught a lactation class at Pregnancy Resources to three individuals. In addition, staff hosted an evening, virtual lactation class for three WIC participants.

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

Tour of YWCA Quad Cities Center

Food Rescue Partnership stakeholders toured the YWCA Quad Cities Center. Amy Schaefer, Executive Director, shared their success of switching to a choice-based food pantry and showcased many of the other services provided by the YWCA Quad Cities Empowerment Center such as free laundry and showers, internet and printer access, and more.

HEARTSafe Coalition 2025 Data

In collaboration with MEDIC EMS of Scott County, the Quad Cities HEARTSafe Coalition (QCHC) released calendar 2025 data. QCHC Stakeholders educated 3,465 people about Hands-Only CPR. In Scott County, 60% of people in cardiac arrest received bystander CPR. This is the highest percentage within the last 10 years.

SPOTS and OD2A-S Team Collaborate

Staff working under the Syndemic Prevention Outreach and Testing Services (SPOTS) and the Overdose Data to Action in States (OD2A-S) grants met to discuss ways to partner with each other on shared initiatives. Staff discussed the process for referring clients in Scott County from sexual health services to substance use services and vice versa. Staff on these grants will continue to communicate and collaborate when appropriate moving forward.

PHAST Team Continues to Develop

The Scott County Public Health and Safety Team (PHAST) brainstormed ideas for a vision and mission statement to guide the team's efforts. These will be finalized at the February meeting. The team also started discussing data, including reviewing suspected overdoses recorded on the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) by MEDIC EMS in the month of January. This is a tool the team will monitor routinely to better understand where and when overdoses are occurring in Scott County and how to respond to them.

Tobacco Free Quad Cities Coalition

Staff facilitated the Tobacco Free Quad Cities Coalition meeting. Partners discussed joining the Iowa Health Initiative (IHI) Coalition, who is looking for organizations to join them in support of a \$1.50 increase in Iowa’s cigarette tax, along with increased taxes on vape products and nicotine. The IHI Coalition will not be lobbying.

Healthy Pregnancy Coalition

The Healthy Pregnancy Coalition met to discuss mental health trainings and the 2026 Promise walk for preeclampsia. Mary Angerer from MercyOne Genesis Cancer Center was the guest speaker for the coalition meeting who shared information and materials about the Care for Yourself Program.

Collaboration with Community Programs

Staff met with Suzane Tanner at The Group to discuss Bright Beginnings, Family Connects, and Nurse-Family Partnership. These programs provide ongoing support to individuals and families during the pregnancy and/or post-partum period.

Staff met with Nana Ogoru, the Executive Director of Akwabaa QC, to talk about working with refugee and immigrant populations and how to better educate them on maternal related topics.

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

Assistance Provided Regarding Pedestrian Crossing

Staff facilitated a meeting between Sears Seating and the City of Davenport to discuss improving pedestrian crossing. Sears Seating was interested in improving the safety of the pedestrian crossing at South Concord Street for their staff. Both organizations expressed a willingness to make improvements.

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

Education Provided to Bridal Expo Vendors

Staff attended the annual Jaycee’s Bridal Expo planning luncheon to discuss requirements for licensure for vendors wanting to provide food and/or beverages to the public during the community event.

Verified Swimming Pool Program Complaint

Facility	Reason	Status
Double Tree Hotel, East 2 nd Street, Davenport	Availability of testing supplies to monitor chemistry readings	Resolved

Verified Food Service Complaints

Facility	Reason	Status
India Mart, Cumberland Square, Bettendorf	Expired products available for customer purchase	Resolved
Cody Mart, North Cody Road, LeClaire	Expired products available for customer purchase	Resolved

Edison’s Gastropub, Tanglefoot Lane, Bettendorf	Cross contamination and improper food contact surface cleaning/sanitizing	Resolved
Bi Bim Bap Asian Bistro, Competition Drive, Bettendorf	Tobacco use in food preparation areas	Resolved
Valley Country Café, Valley Drive, Bettendorf	Cross contamination	Resolved
Pancheros Mexican Grill, Utica Ridge Road, Davenport	No hot water	Resolved
Carriage Haus, West 3 rd Street, Davenport	No functioning restrooms	Resolved
Jiang’s Hot Pot, East 53 rd Street, Davenport	General sanitation	Resolved
Village Inn, Harrison Street, Davenport	No hot water	Resolved

Food Service Program Closures

Facility	Reason	Status
Pancheros Mexican Grill, Utica Ridge Road, Davenport	No hot water	Reopened
Village Inn, Harrison Street, Davenport	No hot water	Reopened

Pre-Opening Tattoo Inspections

Staff conducted pre-opening inspections for new tattoo establishments in Bellevue (Jackson County) and Clinton (Clinton County). Both establishments met all requirements and were issued a permit to operate by the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing (DIAL).

Assurance

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

Community Outreach Testing

In January, staff conducted two HIV/STI testing events at Scott County Jail. Staff also provided education and testing at CADS for both the morning and evening classes. During these events, HIV/STI/HCV testing was offered to 30 individuals. Anyone who tested positive was either treated in-house or referred for follow-up treatment.

Oral Health Direct Care Services Provided

The oral health team offered dental direct care services at six elementary schools, three preschools, two WIC clinics, the department’s immunization clinic, Scott County Jail, MercyOne Genesis Family Medical, and MercyOne Genesis Diabetic FloodPlex (food pantry) during the month.

Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce

Advanced Food Inspector Bootcamp

During January, staff attended the three-session 2026 Advanced Inspector Bootcamp facilitated by the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO). The sessions focused on topics like root cause analysis (finding the source in an outbreak), Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) plans, food safety culture, food ingredients, using today's technology to control rodents, etc.

Child Obesity Conference

Staff attended the *2026 Improving Health Outcomes Through Preventing Childhood Obesity Conference*. The sessions included: The Current State of Childhood Obesity and Highlights of Select Strategies and Collaborations that May Achieve Greater Impact; Using Machine Learning to Predict Childhood BMI from the First 1,000 Days of Life; Student-led Lessons in Nutrition, Movement, and Mindfulness that Stick; State Level Program Support for School Nutrition and Physical Activity; Produce Your Path: A Virtual Nutrition Intervention; Switching Physical Activity Interventions in School to More Pragmatic and Sustainable Strategies: Suggestions from SWITCH Interventions in Iowa; The Association of Infant Formula Type with Growth Outcomes: Does Formula Choice Matter?; Promoting Participation for Recess Success; and Collaborating to Prevent Childhood Obesity and Chronic Disease Using Policy, Systems, and Environmental Public Health Strategies.

Supporting Student Learning

Staff from six county public health departments (Black Hawk, Grundy, Jefferson, Marshall, Scott, and Wapello) provided an overview of the county's community health assessment (CHA) process and shared data with the students in the University of Iowa's College of Public Health course, *Method for Program Implementation and Evaluation*. Student groups will review the CHA and other related data to identify needs of their assigned county. They will then select a health problem in the county and present a proposed program plan to address the problem, followed by an evaluation proposal for the program they developed to the local health department.

Postpartum Psychosis Webinar

Staff attended the webinar, *Supporting Patients with Postpartum Psychosis and Identifying Atypical Signs*, which provided an overview of atypical presentations of postpartum psychosis as well as strategies for successful follow-up and treatment.

Winter Weather Outdoor Play Webinar

Staff viewed a webinar that shared how early childhood programs can prepare for winter weather outdoor play so children can enjoy it safely and comfortably. Outdoor play provides physical, mental, and emotional health benefits, even when the weather is cold, wet, or windy. Early childhood programs can prepare to be outdoors by knowing weather conditions and risks, ensuring children have appropriate clothing, and observing children closely for signs of comfort.

Onsite Wastewater Training

Staff attended the Des Moines Area Community College's *Onsite Wastewater Training for New County Sanitarians*. This training covered the basics of septic system requirements, types of septic systems, and septic program management.

Film Regarding Vaccine Pauses and Their Impact

Staff participated in a virtual screening of the film, *Forgetting to Remember, Lessons from a Vaccine Lost*. The film examines the cautionary tale of the military's adenovirus vaccine program, which was discontinued due to lack of funding for facility and equipment updates. When vaccines were paused, adenovirus outbreaks occurred, military recruits became ill, and eight died. The vaccine was reintroduced, but it took ten years to start vaccinating again. The film offers viewers an opportunity to consider what might happen if routinely recommended vaccines are no longer available. The viewing also included a panel discussion from the director and cast.

Lunch and Learn Discusses Social Emotional Learning

Staff participated in a lunch and learn presented by EveryChild, *Social Emotional Learning in Early Childhood, Ties to Occupational Therapy and Mental Health*. The presenter shared ways in which occupational therapy can be a proactive and preventative approach to support emotional regulation, learning readiness, mental health, and resilience for children.

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

Midwest Food Standards Network

Staff attended the Midwest Food Standards Network meeting, a new partnership that was formed that includes food inspection contractors in Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, and Nebraska. The goal is to establish a regional network centered around the Food and Drug Administration's Voluntary National Retail Food Program Standards to foster collaboration and build up quality regulatory food programs and to share resources to help jurisdictions comply with the standards. The next meeting is scheduled for October 2026.

Constellation Energy Radiological Exercise Dress Rehearsal

Staff participated in a radiological exercise dress rehearsal at the Scott County Emergency Operations Center. Many local, state, and federal partners participated or observed the exercise. Staff serve in a variety of roles: dosimetry control officers (DCOs), public information officer (PIO), and Emergency Support Function #8 (ESF #8) – Public Health and Medical Services lead. A DCO distributes dosimetry kits and educates first responders on how to use the dosimeters to monitor their radiation exposure during an incident. PIOs coordinate community messaging and the ESF #8 lead has primary responsibility coordinating evacuation of individuals with special health needs, as well as notifying special populations such as day care centers, recreational facilities, etc. that exist in the emergency planning zone (EPZ) if there are specific recommendations (shelter in place, evacuate, etc.). An evaluated exercise will be held with FEMA evaluators in late February.

Changes to Dental Care Services Based Upon Review

Staff adjusted service locations for dental direct care services. HHS's approval of the department's exception to policy request to operate the Maternal Health program without a nurse, results in less availability of oral health services in WIC clinics. Few WIC participants had accepted services when they were regularly offered in that setting. The I-Smile team will now visit participating childcare centers serving 0 to 2-year-old children three times per year to ensure adequate service availability in the service area.

Similarly, dental services offered in medical clinics have seen very low participation. The I-Smile Silver team will no longer have a weekly presence at medical clinics but will work to enhance referral relationships and education about oral health to medical providers. To maintain a presence at a medical clinic, HHS would like I-Smile Silver staff to serve at least five people per day with half of them having Medicaid coverage to pay for services. To date, the program has not generated that level of participation at any co-located clinic settings.

Fourth Quarter 2025 Community-Based Screening Services Quality Assurance Report

The department received the fourth quarter 2025 Community-Based Screening Services (CBSS) Quality Assurance Report. There was a slight increase in testing (7,668) among the CBSS test sites in the fourth quarter of 2025 compared to the fourth quarter of 2024 (7,557). The positivity rate for chlamydia in the fourth quarter of 2025 remained unchanged from the fourth quarter of 2024 at 6.6%. The positivity rate for gonorrhea decreased from 2.5% in the fourth quarter of 2024 to 2.2% in the fourth quarter of 2025.

Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health

Department Infrastructure Teams

Health Equity Committee

The Committee is planning for another year of Brave Conversation sessions. To support staff in addressing a variety of needs of members of the public served by SCHD, community partners are being identified to spur conversations on the topic of homelessness/housing and comprehensive resources for individuals in need. Plans are underway to include a learning component and a discussion session for each topic.

Health Promotion Team

The Health Promotion Team has partnered with OnMedia to develop a marketing campaign for the Oral Health Promotion Strategy. The Preparedness and Youth Health Promotion Strategy kicked off in January and a component of it will involve the education and distribution of 600 Roth ID tags, child car seat tags used for reunification purposes. The team has surveyed staff regarding promotional materials and plans to conduct an inventory assessment prior to making recommendations on future purchases. Plans are underway to promote National Public Health Week in April via the department's newsletter and social media.

Public Health Policy Committee

With the Legislative Session underway, members of the Public Health Policy Committee have been actively monitoring legislation introduced, attending subcommittee/committee meetings, and engaging with elected officials.

Quality Improvement Council

The Quality Improvement (QI) Council has two QI projects underway – one focused on interns/students and the other on events. The team continues to monitor customer satisfaction survey ideas and is working to secure a trainer for staff to learn QI tools, as well as plan for a future All Staff meeting where staff will learn about Focused Conversations.

Workplace Culture Committee

The Workplace Culture Committee assisted with logistical planning for the all-staff training, *Your Best Self at Work*, held in early February. Heather Woody will be the facilitator and has worked with the department previously. She will also be doing some team-specific work.

Workforce Development Committee

The Workplace Development Committee continues to engage in the Quality Improvement project regarding student learning experiences. In addition, the committee is planning for two upcoming workshops regarding various computer programs. These workshops will feature staff as presenters. These workshops are in response to needs identified in the 2025 Workforce Development Survey.

Meetings Attended by Staff

2026 Healthiest State Conference Planning Committee

Anthony Wittemeyer, Bettendorf High School

Bettendorf Wellness Committee

Bi-State Regional Commission

Community Action of Eastern Iowa Health and Mental Health Services Advisory Committee

Care For Yourself Contractors

Catie Dysert, Iowa Healthiest State Initiative

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Contractors

DIAL Food Contractors

Food is Medicine Workgroup

Food Rescue Partnership

Iowa Academy of Science Chapter

Iowa Environmental Health Association

Live Lead-Free Quad Cities

Max Debaillie, Sears Seating and Gary Statz, City of Davenport

Michele Cullen, MercyOne Genesis

Midwest Food Standards Network

Muscatine County Board of Health

National Association of County and City Health Officials Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Learning Community

Nana Ogoru, Executive Director of Akwabaa QC

Nicole Carkner, Quad City Health Initiative

OD2A-S Capacity Coordinator Community of Practice
OD2A-S Local Public Health Community of Practice
Physical Activity Policy Research and Evaluation Network Workplace Workgroup
Public Health Conference of Iowa 2026 Planning Committee
Quad Cities Behavioral Health Coalition Outcomes Team
Quad Cities Breastfeeding Taskforce
Quad Cities Chamber Meetup
Quad Cities Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Disaster Planning Committee
Quad Cities HEARTSafe Coalition
Quad Cities Housing Cluster
Quad Cities Regional Disaster Conference Planning Committee (2)
Quad Cities Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
Quad Cities Trauma Informed Consortium
Quad Cities Youth Conference Planning Committee
Quad City Emergency Planning Committee
Quad City Regional Incident Management Team
Region 5 Healthcare Coalition
Region 6 Local Public Health Contractors
River Action's Ride the Island Committee
River Way Steering Committee
Rodney Tatum & Lisa Reid, Davenport Central High School
Scott County Kids School Health Committee
Scott County Public Health and Safety Team (PHAST)
Scott County SPOTS/OD2A-S Collaboration Planning
SNAP and Medicaid Table Talk
Stephanie Soebbing, LivWell Seniors
Suzane Tanner, Mercy One Genesis VNA Bright Beginnings Program
Tobacco Free Quad Cities
Tobacco Grantee Check-in/Sharing
University of Iowa Method for Program Implementation and Evaluation Class Project
Introduction
US-67 Centennial Bridge Public Feedback Open House
YMCA Iowa Mississippi Valley Child Care and Family Services 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



Education provided between January 1, 2026 and January 31, 2026

<i>Education To:</i>	<i>Presentation Date</i>	<i>Total Audience</i>	<i>Requesting Organization</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>Community</i>				
	1/6/2026	40	Northeast Elementary Preschool	Oral Health and Hygiene
	1/28/2026	100	The Summit of Bettendorf	Tobacco, Dental, and Clinical Services Programs



Media Inquiries between January 1, 2026 and January 31, 2026

<i>Request Date</i>	<i>Nature of Request</i>	<i>Request From</i>	<i>Newspaper</i>	<i>Radio</i>	<i>Television</i>
1/2/2026	Measles	Television			WQAD-TV8
