

**CITY OF RACINE BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**JANUARY 13, 2026**

**DEPARTMENT: Administrative Division**

**PREPARED BY:** *Bobbi Fergus, MSN, RN – Deputy Public Health Administrator*

**MONTH:** *December 2025*

**Highlights**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
December 2025	Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center / Clinic	Construction of the New Building / Facility in the Lincoln King Neighbor	Discussions are ongoing with City consultants/contractors regarding the parameters of the project specifically information technology, equipment, furniture, window treatments and construction progress.
December 2025	Semi-Quincentennial Planning	Determine Festivities	Numerous Community Leaders and Department Administrators engaged in discussions on how to honor the 250-year celebration. Meetings will continue to determine events/activities in 2026.
December 2025	City Administration	2026 Budget Progress	<p>Two new promotional positions for existing employees in the Community Health and Environmental Health divisions, a Lead Public Health Nurse and a Lead Environmental Health Sanitarian, were approved to support management succession planning and to create promotional opportunities that do not currently exist. Position descriptions are currently being developed and will be posted internally once finalized.</p> <p>The transfer of the Laboratory Coordinator to the Environmental Health Coordinator position has been completed. The individual meets all qualifications and requirements for the role.</p> <p>Work will begin in 2026 to determine the most appropriate location for the Public Health Laboratory within City government. This item is currently pending a meeting with Water and Wastewater leadership to initiate the analysis process.</p>
December 2025	Grants	Funding Updates	Continuing to monitor grants and the federal funding, we are waiting on the Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Supplemental Funding for Syphilis Case management, the current funding is for two full-time positions.

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## Highlights Cont'd.

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December 2025	Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI)	Funding Loss	The CDC recently changed how certain metropolitan areas are classified, and as a result, Racine County no longer qualifies for a specific emergency preparedness funding program called CRI. Beginning July 1, 2026, this funding will be eliminated; however, to allow time for adjustment, we will receive approximately half of our usual funding (\$13,905) for the final six months of 2026. Planning will be needed for the loss of this funding source.
December 2025	Employee Recruitment	Vacancies	The department currently has six vacancies. Leadership continues to work with Human Resources to revise job descriptions and conduct recruiting and interviews. The open positions include two Public Health Nurse positions, a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, a Reimbursement Specialist, a Public Health Educator, and a Research Assistant. Additionally, three employees resigned in November.
December 2025	Wisconsin Senior Leadership Program	Professional Development	The Deputy PHA was accepted to participate in this Senior Leadership Program. The Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB), in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Division of Public Health, is offering a new program to prepare local and tribal health department leaders for the health officer role. Ten senior leaders were recruited and will begin the program on January 12, 2026.