

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
March 13, 2007
DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

DEPARTMENT: Laboratory

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF February 2007

Highlights:

- **Clinical Chemistry:** Michele Breheim and Debbie Herz-Mazius conducted an employee wellness screening February 20th & 22nd in the laboratory using the point of care analyzer. The laboratory began offering clinical chemistry testing to the public on February 27th under an agreement with All Saints. The specimens are collected and processed by the health department laboratory and then transported by courier to All Saints for sample analysis. Four clients were served in February.
- **Microbiology:** We continue to analyze samples as part of the USEPA real-time PCR method validation study in conjunction with our grant related activities. The USEPA study runs through March 23rd. The lab will continue to run the following tests through March 31st: rapid strep testing, throat cultures, urinalysis, RPR (test for syphilis), gonorrhea cultures and urine pregnancy tests.
- **Blood Lead:** Thirty-six Racine Health Department patient samples were screened for lead poisoning in February. There was one elevated blood lead result reported (Class IIA, 10 – 14 µg/dL). An additional 48 samples were screened from children participating in the Head Start program; none of these children had elevated blood lead levels. There are enough supplies to screen approximately 20 – 30 more clients in-house. After that time all specimens will be forwarded to the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene for sample analysis. Sample collection kits for the WSLH were ordered 2-28-07.

Productivity Measures:

Productivity Measures	Monthly	YTD
Clinical Chemistry:		
Patients served	4	229
Tests performed	0	1,250
Microbiology:		
Surface water samples	31	33
Well water samples	15	34
Throat cultures	5	23
Urine pregnancy tests	4	12
Blood Lead:		
Patients served	84	238
Tests	165	411
Samples sent to WSLH	0	0

Outcome Achievements:

- Julie gave oral presentations to the UW-Parkside Department of Biological Sciences Colloquium on February 2nd; the title of the talk was “Using Microbiology to Improve Recreational Water Quality in Racine, WI”, and the Association of Public Health Laboratories on February 9^h, the title of this talk was “Diversifying the Funding Base for Your Local Public Health Laboratory.”
- The laboratory has been awarded two contracts to conduct water quality research beginning in 2007. The first project, headed by UW-Oshkosh, will look at the relationship of algal blooms (Cladophora) to bacterial indicators of water quality and human pathogens (~\$6000/yr for 3 years). The second project, headed by the WI DNR, will utilize newly drafted beach sanitary survey tools to identify contamination sources in Racine and surrounding communities (Oak Creek, S. Milwaukee, Kenosha) which have been recently listed as impaired waters by the WI DNR under the Clean Water Act (~\$35,000 for 2007)
- Julie also submitted an application for additional grant funds to the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network, had interviews with the WI Coastal Management Program (WCMP) and the Great Lakes Protection Fund (GLPF) (grant applications or pre-proposals previously submitted) and submitted a letter of intent to the NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory. It is intended that grant funded research activities should offset the approximately 20 hours per week previously spent on clinical laboratory related duties by approximately May 1, 2007.

MEETINGS/TRAINING FEBRUARY

Date	Staff	Conf./Training Place	Purpose
2/1	S. Anders J. Mandujano	Head Start, Grand Avenue	Blood lead screening
2/2	J. Kinzelman	UW-Parkside	Give Presentation
2/7	J. Kinzelman	Madison, WI	WCMP interview
2/9	J. Kinzelman	City Hall	APHL presentation (phone)
2/15	J. Kinzelman	City Hall	GLPF conference call (grant prep)
2/23	J. Kinzelman	Evanston, IL	GLPF interview
2/26	J. Kinzelman	City Hall	Great Lakes Cities Initiative conference call (grant prep)
2/28	J. Kinzelman	City Hall	Sea Grant Project call