

## Department of Health Report for LYNDON

Your local health department is located at the address and phone number above. Come visit or give us a call! At the Vermont Department of Health, we are working every day for your health. With twelve district offices around the state, and state office and laboratory in Chittenden County, we deliver a wide range of public health services and support to your community. For example, in 2015 the Health Department:

**Supported healthy communities:** Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH) was awarded \$45,000 to implement community-based chronic disease prevention strategies related to tobacco use with the goal of reducing the prevalence of youth and adult smoking and reduce exposure to second hand smoke to non-smokers. Strategies included an educational campaign for college campuses and the downtown retailers, and the statewide Counter Balance initiative to counter the tobacco industry's influence in the retail environment. The local office also partners with NVRH to lead a regional effort to reduce substance abuse. This process engages community partners in the implementation of evidence-based prevention strategies to reduce adolescent and young adult substance abuse. The hospital will act as the fiduciary for \$130,000 of funding under the Regional Prevention Partnerships (RPP) Initiative. As in the past, collaborative work continues with the Drug and Alcohol Resistance Team (DART). DART is a grass root organization welcoming community members and service providers from all venues to participate in supporting the community to help support an overall healthy and welcoming community.

**Provided WIC nutrition services and healthy foods to families:** We served about half of all Vermont families with pregnant women and children to age five with WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children). WIC provides individualized nutrition counseling and breastfeeding support. We partner with grocery stores across the state to enable participants to use a debit-like card to access nutritious foods. The average value of foods provided is \$50 per person per month. Our WIC team also provides nutritional classes and support to local groups, libraries and day cares on a regular basis.

**Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease:** In 2015 we responded to 36 cases of infectious diseases in Caledonia. In 2015, \$13,916,297 of vaccine for vaccine-preventable diseases was distributed across the state to healthcare providers. The district office also provides quarterly training for town health officers to help those who volunteer for their community in that capacity.

**Aided communities in emergency preparedness:** In July of 2016 we participated in a large-scale exercise in Barre to allow practice of our procedures for distributing medicine to help keep people from getting sick in case of a public health emergency. For 2016/17, funding continues to assist with training and development within EMS District #5 (local ambulance and first responding units). During 2016 the St. Johnsbury District also assisted in the development and implementation of a Medical Reserve Corp in our area. Approximately \$3,000 was provided for implementation as well as training for volunteers in our area in the event of an emergency. NVRH also received approximately \$35,000 to help support emergency preparedness capabilities at their facility.

