



NORTH SHORE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

*Serving the communities of Bayside,
Brown Deer, Fox Point, Glendale,
River Hills, Shorewood and Whitefish Bay*

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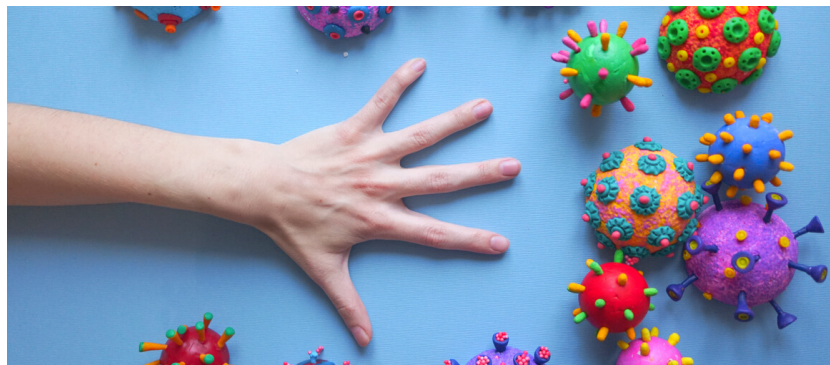
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MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICER

Thank you to our very talented core staff, COVID-19 response team, interns and volunteers that have each played a critical role in fulfilling the mission of the North Shore Health Department in 2021. / p1



COVID-19 IN 2021

THE PANDEMIC CONTINUED TO DEMAND OUR TIME. THIS YEAR WAS MARKED BY UNPRECEDENTED MASS VACCINATION EFFORTS.

Check out how many COVID-19 vaccines our health department administered in 2021. / p5

#PUBLICHEALTHMATTERS



MOVING FORWARD

BROADENING OUR SCOPE
OF WORK IN 2022

COVID-19 will remain an important part of our work, while also shifting our focus to other critical areas of public health. / p12



35 NEW LICENSES

2021 WAS ANOTHER BUSY
YEAR OF INSPECTIONS

Restaurants, retail food, public pools, & hotels combined for 35 new license inspections in the North Shore / p9

A MESSAGE FROM NSHD INTERIM HEALTH OFFICER

Dear North Shore Residents, Partners, and Friends,

The past year has been one of change. Our priorities adjusted as we moved through a second year of pandemic response, including multiple modifications in COVID-19 mitigation and response activities. We continued to adapt as new information became known about this virus, which involved constant need for public education and adjustments to our guidance. In addition, we have undergone many changes in our own team here at the North Shore Health Department, as transformations to the public health workforce have happened across the state.

Our core mission continues to be to establish partnerships in the community and work with these partners to assure, promote and protect the health and safety of the people in the North Shore.

While 2021 was spent in a large part responding to COVID-19 cases, providing guidance and contact tracing education, community education, business follow-up, and assistance to vulnerable populations in Long Term Care Facilities, childcare centers, schools and other settings, we have continued to provide our core services:

- Communicable Disease Prevention and Control
- Chronic Disease Prevention and Management
- Environmental Health, including licensing and inspection for restaurants, retail food establishments, hotels and public pools
- Injury Prevention Across the Lifespan
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The COVID-19 specific work:

- Established a robust COVID-19 vaccination program, expanding to school-based clinics and booster clinics as recommendations were made for expanded age groups and additional vaccinations.
- Ongoing education to community members and partners regarding changes in isolation, quarantine, mitigation and vaccination guidance.
- Continued support and education surrounding testing availability in our area.
- Provided isolation guidance to over 10,000 North Shore residents and quarantine guidance to contacts of those testing positive.
- Maintained strong partnerships with our schools to provide guidance and support as they move through the changes brought about by COVID-19.
- Established plans for the next steps in community assessment and recovery from the effects of COVID-19, improved public health workforce development and stronger partnerships within the community. These plans will continue to be developed and adjusted as we respond to changes in guidance and expectations from the CDC and Wisconsin Department of Health Services surrounding COVID-19 response.

It has been an honor to serve in the role of Interim Health Officer and I want to thank each of our very talented core employees, COVID-19 staff, intern staff and volunteers that have each played a critical part in fulfilling the mission of the North Shore Health Department.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Platt, RN, BSN

NORTH SHORE HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION

The mission of the North Shore Health Department (NSHD) is to work in partnership with the communities we serve to assure, promote and protect the health and safety of the people in the North Shore. The NSHD provides public health services for the seven Wisconsin communities of Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, Glendale, River Hills, Shorewood and Whitefish Bay, with a total population of approximately 67,695.

The North Shore Health Department has two offices located in Brown Deer and Shorewood. Residents can utilize services at either location. The NSHD is advised by a Board of Health comprised of representatives from each of the seven communities in the North Shore, along with a medical advisor. The Village of Brown Deer serves as the fiscal and administrative agent for the NSHD.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Public Health Essential Services for Health Departments

1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assure a competent public and personal healthcare workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Research for new insights and innovate solutions to health problems.

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Department is guided by our Strategic Plan and our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), available in the Reports section of our website. The CHIP outlines the health priorities of North Shore residents based on the results of the 2019 Community Health Assessment (CHA). The priority areas include mental and emotional health, substance free living, injury prevention, physical activity and nutrition. The COVID-19 pandemic also became a priority in 2020 and continued to be a focus of our department in 2021.

In 2022, the North Shore Health Department will begin another Community Health Assessment, which will inform the creation of the next Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

A communicable (or infectious) disease is an illness transmitted through direct contact with an infected individual or animal – or indirectly through contact with a vector, such as a mosquito, tick, or plant, with blood or bodily fluids, or by breathing in an airborne virus or bacteria. As part of Wisconsin State Statute, 252 – Communicable Diseases, the NSHD is required to follow up and respond to all Category I and II diseases and conditions considered to have significant public health impact.

Wisconsin local health departments investigate all suspect, probable and confirmed cases of reportable communicable diseases to prevent and control the spread of disease in the community. In 2021, the NSHD responded to 579 suspect and probable disease incidents and conditions, not including COVID-19. A total of 501 of these were confirmed disease cases (see tables below).

Disease Investigations*

	Number	Rate per 10,000
Bayside	25	55.8
Brown Deer	203	162.3
Fox Point	37	53.4
Glendale	130	97.3
River Hills	9	56.2
Shorewood	89	64.2
Whitefish Bay	78	52.2
Other	8	--
Total	579	85.5

*Confirmed, Probable & Suspect
Excluding COVID-19

Disease Cases*

	2020	2021
Food or Water-borne illness	30	35
Hepatitis - A, B, C	12	23
Mycobacterium - non-TB	20	37
Vaccine Preventable**	8	<5
Sexually Transmitted Infections	323	360
TB - Active	0	0
TB - Latent	7	15
Vector-borne (mosquito & tick)	5	5
Influenza Hospitalization	39	<5
Strep	16	8
Other	7	11
Total	467	501

*Confirmed & Probable

**Pertussis, Varicella (chicken pox), Mumps, etc.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (STIs)

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) are Category II reportable diseases that require monitoring and investigation by local health departments. There are five reportable STIs in Wisconsin, with chlamydia and gonorrhea being the two most prevalent. Public Health Nurses conduct interviews with confirmed cases of reportable STIs to assess if people have been appropriately treated and assure notification has taken place with their partner(s). Chlamydia is the most commonly reported STI in Wisconsin and the North Shore, and gonorrhea is the second most commonly reported.

In 2021, the rate of gonorrhea in the North Shore was 15.8 per 10,000, compared to 13.1 cases per 10,000 in 2020. The rate of chlamydia in the North Shore in 2021 was 35.3 per 10,000, compared to 32.9 per 10,000 in 2020. For comparison, in Wisconsin in 2020, the rate of gonorrhea was 17.5 per 10,000 and the rate of chlamydia was 44.9 cases per 10,000.

Immunizations

	Flu Vaccine	Other Vaccine
Bayside	19	0
Brown Deer	69	32
Fox Point	38	<5
Glendale	29	7
River Hills	11	0
Shorewood	72	8
Whitefish Bay	81	15
Other	258	23
Total	577	88

COVID-19 vaccine data not included. See next page.

The NSHD maintains an immunization program to prevent and control vaccine-preventable diseases. Under this program, the NSHD provides immunizations to residents without medical insurance and to those whose insurance does not cover immunizations. We offer immunization clinics at both of our offices, and work with families, schools and daycare providers to ensure enrolled children are up-to-date on their immunizations and compliant with the Wisconsin Student Immunization Law.

In 2021, 78 percent of children in the North Shore aged 24 months had all required vaccinations (HepB, DTaP, Hib, PCV13, Polio, MMR and Varicella) and 76 percent of children aged six had all required vaccinations, according to Wisconsin Immunization Registry data.

As part of our effort to prevent influenza, the NSHD provides flu immunizations at our department and to homebound residents. The NSHD provided 577 influenza immunizations in 2021.

THE NURSES AT NSHD PERFORMED 32 TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTS IN 2021.

Although many educational programs have moved away from requiring a Tuberculosis skin test (TST), replaced by the recommended questionnaire that assesses risk, some still require it. Since TSTs require nurse administration and reading, many clinics no longer provide these inexpensive tests, opting to only do the more costly blood tests to assess for TB exposure. NSHD provides this hard to find service for a nominal fee to students and teachers in a variety of programs, including healthcare and education.

ANIMAL BITES AND RABIES CONTROL

The NSHD works with police departments in the North Shore to promptly investigate domestic animal bites for potential rabies exposure. The Health Department is responsible for ensuring that the biting animal is appropriately and legally isolated, observed, and tested for rabies. The NSHD conducted 50 domestic animal bite investigations in 2021. None of these investigations resulted in a rabies case. The NSHD also assisted with testing of wild animals, such as bats, which may have come in contact with humans. The NSHD tested two bats in 2021 and one tested positive for rabies.

Animal Bite Investigations

Animal Type	Number of Bite Follow-Ups	Rabies Status
Domestic	50	0 positive
Wild	4	1 positive

COVID-19 RESPONSE

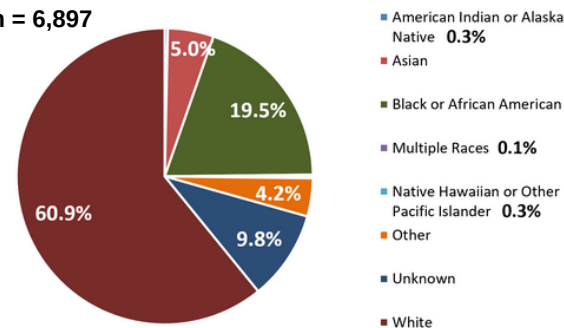
Total Cases*

	Number	Rate per 10,000
Bayside	397	885.8
Brown Deer	1,569	1,254.5
Fox Point	677	976.3
Glendale	1,476	1,105.0
River Hills	169	1,054.9
Shorewood	1,125	811.7
Whitefish Bay	1,484	992.4
Total	6,897	1,018.8

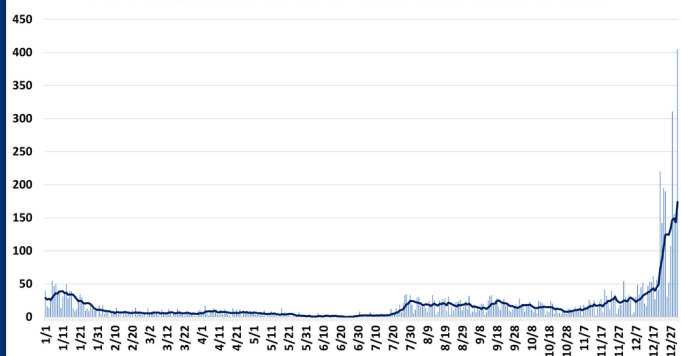
*Includes Confirmed (PCR) & Probable (Antigen) cases

COVID-19 CASES (CONFIRMED + PROBABLE) BY RACE

n = 6,897



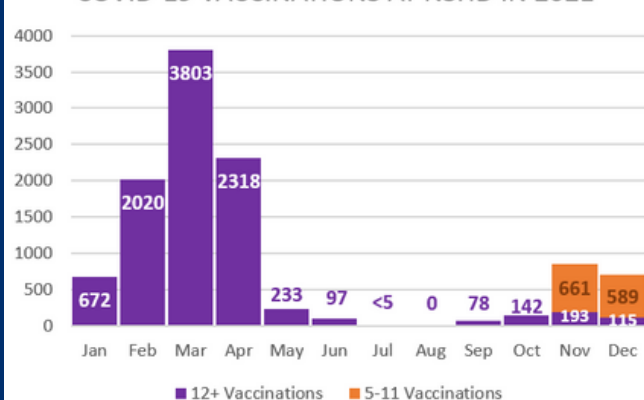
NEW COVID-19 CONFIRMED + PROBABLE CASES BY DAY & 7-DAY ROLLING AVERAGE IN THE NORTH SHORE IN 2021



COVID-19 VACCINES ADMINISTERED AT NSHD

Dose Number	Vaccines Administered 5-11 years	Vaccines Administered 12+ years
1	667	4,972
2	583	4,221
3/Booster	--	480
Total	1,250	9,673

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS AT NSHD IN 2021



We held first and second dose pediatric (5-11 years) COVID-19 vaccine clinics at the following schools:

- Shorewood
- Cumberland - Whitefish Bay
- Parkway & Glen Hills
- Stormonth - Fox Point-Bayside
- University School of Milwaukee

Vaccines Administered by Type (12+)

8,476	Pfizer
602	Moderna
595	Janssen (J&J)

LIFECOURSE HEALTH PROMOTION & HEALTHY AGING

Newborn Baby Visits & Breastfeeding Consultations

2021	27
2020	18

Car Seat Installations

2021 | 79

Car seat installations are performed by a Certified Car Seat Technician at North Shore Health Department or North Shore Fire & Rescue.

STEPPING ON FALL PREVENTION

Held one Stepping On workshop in 2021 consisting of one session per week for seven weeks.

12 ATTENDEES

people who are age 60 or older & live independently



“Stepping On” is a high-level, evidence-based program proven to reduce falls and build confidence in older people. Evidence has shown Stepping On to reduce fall risk among participants by 31%. Stepping On workshops are designed specifically for people who are at risk of falling, have a fear of falling, or who have fallen one or more times.

Workshops are facilitated by trained leaders and provide a safe and positive learning experience. Classes are highly participative and offer mutual support so that participants build confidence in their ability to manage their health behaviors, reduce their risk of falls, and maintain active and fulfilling lives.

We partnered with North Shore Fire & Rescue (NSFR) to hold one Stepping On workshop in 2021. Between NSFR and our department, there are two trained leaders that are able to instruct Stepping On workshops.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

NSHD provides free blood pressure screenings at our Shorewood Office, the Dolan Community Center in Brown Deer, and the Lydell Community Center in Whitefish Bay. Check our website for when these clinics are being offered:
www.nshealthdept.org/Clinics.

ELDER REFERRALS

NSHD follows up on referrals we receive regarding health concerns of older adults, including neglect concerns, hoarding, unsafe living conditions, and fall risks. We work in partnership with the Milwaukee County Department on Aging and/or North Shore Fire/Rescue to conduct home visits. These referrals often result in linking older adult residents to other resources in the area to maximize their independence and protect their health and safety.

In 2021, we received and followed up on 11 elder referrals.

NORTH SHORE VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths*

Leading causes of death in the North Shore according to primary cause of death indicated on the death report

	2020	2021	2021 rate per 10,000
Heart Disease	107	97	14.3
Cancer	107	91	13.4
Unintentional Injuries	44	39	5.8
COVID-19	57	28	4.1
Stroke (Cerebrovascular Diseases)	29	23	3.4
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	12	18	2.7
Alzheimer's Disease	22	16	2.4
Hypertension	7	9	1.3
Pneumonitis	<5	9	1.3
Diabetes Mellitus	18	9	1.3
Nephritis	9	6	0.9
Suicide	5	6	0.9
Chronic Liver Disease & Cirrhosis	5	6	0.9
Septicemia	6	5	0.7
All Other	164	134	19.8
Total Deaths, All Causes	599	496	73.3

Births*

Year of Birth	Total Number of Births in North Shore
2021	686
2020	452
2019	699
2018	749

Source: SPHERE, State of Wisconsin, 2021

Source: Vital Records, State of Wisconsin, 2021
North Shore Total Population = 67,695 according to 2020 U.S. Census

*Birth and Death data are estimated from preliminary birth and death certificates

OVERDOSE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM

A locally based, multi-disciplinary process for understanding the risk factors and circumstances leading to fatal overdoses and identifying opportunities to prevent future overdoses. The basis of OFR – like all fatality reviews – is that overdose fatalities could have been prevented with the right action, timing, intervention, and/or response.

Wisconsin OFR
Overdose Fatality Review



The North Shore Health Department is part of the Milwaukee County OFR team and also conducts additional reviews specific to overdose fatalities that occur in the North Shore.

In 2021, we hosted two virtual OFR meetings and reviewed four overdose fatalities that occurred in the North Shore. Local partners that attended the meetings include local police departments, North Shore Fire & Rescue, Rogers Behavioral Health, Medical College of Wisconsin, and the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office.

-Medical College of Wisconsin,
Wisconsin & Milwaukee County OFR Teams

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Beach Water Testing

Water samples collected	85
Elevated bacteria level - Advisory	6
Klode	4
Atwater	1
Doctor's Park	1
Beach Closures - high bacterial level	0

Status posted on dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Beaches from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Lead Level Screening

Children 6 years and younger blood lead level results received by NSHD	638 children 731 samples
Children w/ initial screening ≥ 5.0 mcg/dL	10
Children w/ confirmatory screening ≥ 5.0 mcg/dL	<5

We also responded to seven environmental hazard complaints.

Radon Testing

# of Radon Test Kits Sold by NSHD	25
# of Radon Test Results Received for North Shore Municipalities	30

Test Result	% of Tests
<4pCi/l	67%
4-7 pCi/l	23%
8-19.9 pCi/l	7%
> 19.9 pCi/l	3%



What is radon?

A cancer-causing radioactive gas that comes from the natural breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water. You cannot see, smell or taste radon. It can get into any type of building and cause radon exposure. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. It is critical to test your home for radon, and if the radon level is elevated, action should be taken to lower it. More information is available on our website: www.nshealthdept.org.

Source: EPA, A Citizen's Guide to Radon

NORTH SHORE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

155	Restaurant Licenses Issued
83	Retail Food Establishment Licenses Issued
3	Farmers Markets & Temporary Event Licenses Issued
75	Pool Licenses Issued
13	Hotel Licenses Issued
33	Re-Inspections
23	Complaints

Source: Wisconsin HealthSpace

The NSHD oversees the North Shore Environmental Health Consortium (NSEHC), which serves as an agent of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP). The NSEHC protects the public's health through enforcement of sanitary regulations and fostering sanitary practices in certain public establishments. The NSEHC provides licensing and inspection services for restaurants, retail food establishments, temporary food vendors, pools and hotels.

In 2021, one Registered Sanitarian completed all the inspections and licensing for the seven North Shore municipalities. This included 35 inspections for new licenses, in addition to the annual inspections that are required for establishments that were already in operation.



NORTH SHORE
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM
A Licensing and Inspection Program of the North Shore Health Department



COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

41

Weekly Email
Healthy Highlights

2

Digital
Newsletters

15

Digital COVID-19
Vaccine Update
Newsletters

8

Articles written
for local village
magazines

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH AND ENGAGEMENT

2400

Social Media
Followers

1800

Number
of Posts

580K

Total
Post Reach

10.3K

Top
Post Reach

38K

Link
Clicks

1100

Post
Shares

84% of followers are females, with 34% age 35-44 and 26% age 45-54.

Whitefish Bay and Shorewood had the highest number of people interacting with our social media.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

2

National Night
Out Events

4

Farmers Markets

1

Community Bike
Rodeo

1

Presentation at
Brown Deer
Senior Center

PHONE & EMAIL COMMUNICATION

We communicated with thousands of people in 2021 to provide education and support concerning a variety of public health and environmental topics. A significant number of incoming phone calls to our general number were in respect to COVID-19, including isolation and quarantine questions, vaccination inquiries, and business and school guidance questions. We also reached out to thousands of individuals notifying them of their positive COVID-19 test results and assisting them with isolation and quarantine protocol.

PARTNERSHIPS

The work we do would not be possible without our valuable community partners.



LOCAL UNIVERSITIES

Cardinal Stritch University
Alverno College
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
UWM Zilber School of Public Health



MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERS

Prevent Suicide Greater Milwaukee
Milwaukee County Opioid Fatality Review Board
REDgen
Light and Unite Red



HEALTHY AGING PARTNERS

Milwaukee County Department
on Aging Wellness Committee
Milwaukee County Falls
Prevention Coalition
Shorewood Elder Services
Advisory Board
Shorewood Dementia Capable
Community workgroup



NORTH SHORE AREA FIRST RESPONDERS

North Shore Fire & Rescue
Bayside Police Department
Brown Deer Police Department
Fox Point Police Department
Glendale Police Department
River Hills Police Department
Shorewood Police Department
Whitefish Bay Police Department

OTHER LOCAL PARTNERS

Health Connections, Inc.
Area K-12 schools, libraries and
municipal government agencies
Wisconsin Association of Local
Health Departments and Boards

Safe Kids Coalition
Immunize Milwaukee!
Milwaukee Co. Breastfeeding Coalition
Respite Care Association of Wisconsin

NSHD collaborated with schools, businesses and community organizations on COVID-19 guidance, disease investigation and vaccination.

NORTH SHORE HEALTH DEPARTMENT MOVING FORWARD

FOCUS FOR 2022

COVID-19 will remain an important part of our work in 2022, as we anticipate authorization of the vaccine for those less than five years of age, and additional vaccinations may be necessary for those five years and up. We still have COVID-19 specific staff on board to lead these ongoing COVID-19 response efforts. However, our department as a whole is shifting our focus to other critical areas of public health, including

- Mental health and substance use
- Life-course health and well-being
- Public health emergency preparedness
- Health equity
- Community engagement
- Workforce development
- Our Community Health Assessment (CHA) that occurs every five years, which will help guide our focus as we move forward.



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North Shore Health Department



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www.nshealthdept.org

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Twitter and Instagram,
and visit our website.



NORTH SHORE HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2021

STAFF

Health Officer/Director - *Vacant* - Our Nurse Supervisor, Kathleen Platt, is currently serving as the Interim Health Officer.

Public Health Nurse Supervisor - Kathleen Platt

Public Health Nurses - Kala Hardy, Chris Cordova, Andrea Warren

Public Health Specialist - Kayla Bonack

Environmental Health Specialist - Brad Simerly

Administrative Coordinator - Danelle Kirschling

Public Health Assistants - Joseph McMahon, Tanya Bohacheff

COVID-19 Contact Tracing Team - Seven COVID-19 contact tracers worked with NSHD in 2021 and many of them also assisted at our vaccination clinics.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Staff - Three staff members were hired specifically to assist with our COVID-19 vaccine clinics.

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board, with representatives from each of the seven communities, helps direct the Health Department's activities. In addition, a medical advisor serves on the Board of Health.

Bayside - Ellen Frieber Schupper, MBA

Brown Deer - Rosalyn McFarland, DNP, APNP, FNP-BC

Fox Point - Chelsea Holtz, DO

Glendale - Debesh Mazumdar, MD

River Hills - Christopher Okunseri, BDS, MSc, MLS

Shorewood - Kristine Peterka, DNP, RN

Whitefish Bay - Christopher Simenz, PhD, CSCS

Gary Lewis, MD Medical Advisor, Chair

TWO LOCATIONS

Brown Deer Office
4800 W. Green Brook Dr.
Brown Deer, WI 53223

Shorewood Office
2010 E. Shorewood Blvd
Shorewood, WI 53211

CONTACT US

Main Phone Line: (414) 371-2980
Email: nshd@nshealthdept.org

Website: www.nshealthdept.org
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon-Fri

*Serving the communities of Bayside,
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River Hills, Shorewood and Whitefish Bay*