Jill actively reaches out to all families in the community who would benefit from comprehensive home visitation. She proactively applies creative outreach approaches to engage nearly all the families she meets in home visitation services. Jill demonstrates excellent assessment skills and develops interventions that build on the strengths of the families she serves. Families refer to her as “our nurse” and one program participant recently submitted a letter to the program describing how Jill and her home visitation team made a significant impact on her life, helping her embrace her pregnancy and transition from drug abuse to reunification with her other children.

Jill embraces partnership with multi-disciplinary community-based providers and implements solutions that are sustainable. She collaborates with community-based home visitation staff to provide comprehensive services to families, recognizing that each partner brings unique and valuable skills to the partnership to tackle the complex challenges faced by families. Jill’s home visitation team is highly effective, working together to address families’ health, social, and parenting needs, thanks to her openness in pursuing a collaborative approach. She stands out as a true leader of the team. She supports her public health nursing colleagues by helping them identify and apply effective nursing interventions for their clients and leverage program resources. On her multidisciplinary home visitation team, she lends her nursing skills to enhance her teammates’ social welfare and child development services to families.

“Jill is a true steward of Milwaukee’s families,” said Anna Benton, Family and Community Health Manager. “She studies each situation, identifies gaps, and proposes solutions to ensure families receive needed services—we are so lucky to have her.”

A recent example of her commitment to the families she serves was when a pregnant client and her partner were seeking childbirth classes. Jill helped identify the appropriate contacts to enroll. Upon learning that these classes would not be available to the client, Jill contacted the class instructor and borrowed the course videos and materials for the client to use at home, and provided health education follow-up and discussion. Another example was a young single mother with a premature baby and no resources for any appliances or furniture. Jill, together with her home visitation team, continues to provide comprehensive and effective care to the families she serves.

continued on page 2
As the season begins to turn from Summer to Fall in Milwaukee, one can look forward to many things from the crisp Fall days, changing colors to reminiscing about the start of a new academic year. I’ve shared with you my vision in expanding the role of the MHD to serve as an educational platform for graduate students interested in hands-on urban public health activities. Our partnerships with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship Program and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Prevention Service Fellowship Program have been key in the development of a diverse group of exceptionally bright and talented young professionals, and in turn have assisted the MHD in access to the latest public health methods and practices.

The University of Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship program is a two-year service and training program targeted to those who have completed Masters degree programs, preferably in public health. The program provides fellows with practical field assignments in community based, non-profit, governmental and health service organizations. The MHD has been the placement site for six fellows beginning in 2004 with Ben Jones, who recently accepted a position as epidemiologist for Waukesha County. DeAnna Byrd and David García were placed at MHD in 2005 and worked on a variety of public health issues including HIV/AIDS prevention and cancer awareness / prevention. David is currently working at a non-profit organization in Seattle, WA, while DeAnnah is pursuing a Ph.D. in public health at UCLA.

Current Population Health Fellows include Morgen Alexander-Young and Sabrina Smiley, both beginning their second year in the program, and Amanda Schultz who joined the program in July ’07. Morgen is working on numerous projects including a perinatal hepatitis B prevention and quality improvement project, as well as an evaluation of the Milwaukee County Child Neglect Protocol. Sabrina, who splits her time between MHD and Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, coordinated the Community Voices piece of the Milwaukee Alliance for Sexual Health (MASH) program. While new to the department, Amanda is actively involved in the planning and development of a new men’s health initiative, and has also assisted in grant writing activities.

In addition to having Population Health Fellows at MHD, we are fortunate to be a placement site for the CDC Public Health Prevention Service Fellowship. At the end of August Malinda McCarthy completed her two-year PHPS fellowship with the MHD where she was instrumental in getting the new Empowering Families of Milwaukee (EFM) home visiting program off the ground. Mindy recently accepted a position at the CDC where she will continue her public health career. We are fortunate to have a new PHPS Fellow, Lisa Ciazza, who joined MHD at the beginning of October. Her efforts will be focused on reduction of infant mortality and teen pregnancy and other public health issues in which she has personal interest.

As you know, work continues towards the establishment of a School of Public Health in Milwaukee, which will focus on public health research and workforce development. Meanwhile, these two exceptional educational programs, already in place, will provide highly trained and skilled early-career public health professionals to assist the department in areas of mutual need and interest. In return, I ask for your support in the mentorship and educational experience development of these fine young professionals.

Meet our new UW Population Health Fellow

Amanda Schultz

We are pleased to introduce the newest member of our fellowship team, Amanda Schultz. Amanda is a recent graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health. Amanda has a two year assignment at the MHD. She is currently conducting formative research to guide the creation of a Men’s Health Division in the MHD, and is in the process of authoring multiple position papers that will synthesize current epidemiology of men’s health with evidence-based practices and community perceptions. From this information, she will provide recommendations for effective ways to promote and improve the health of males in the city of Milwaukee. Additionally, she is working on the City of Milwaukee’s Community Assessment, focusing on community member involvement in the planning process. Amanda is also working at Walker’s Point health clinic where she is assisting in the creation and evaluation of a Latino Health Coalition to strengthen the health and well-being of the Latino community.

Welcome aboard, Amanda!

Award, continued from page 1

visiting team, connected with local businesses to acquire, move, and furnish the entire apartment to enable the baby to come home to a safe and nurturing environment.

Jill is an invaluable asset to public health nursing and we are proud to have her as part of the MHD’s Empowering Families of Milwaukee program. Her performance in her first year as a PHN demonstrates a sincere commitment to promoting and protecting the health of families at risk for adverse prenatal, birth, and childhood outcomes in Milwaukee.
Newborn Screening Month

by Jill Paradowski

Did you know that every baby born in Wisconsin is screened for 47 disorders at birth? Newborn screening is one of the least expensive ways to prevent developmental delays and many serious illnesses. Every child born in Wisconsin can get the best possible start in life by being screened at birth for potential health problems.

Wisconsin law requires babies to be screened before leaving the hospital, unless parents object to the screening for religious reasons. Screening involves a simple blood test performed by the State Laboratory of Hygiene that can give information about 47 different disorders, including Cystic Fibrosis, Sickle Cell Disease, and some very rare disorders that can be difficult to diagnose any other way. If a disorder is found, treatment can begin immediately to prevent problems with growth and learning. Early treatment can even help prevent more serious problems such as coma, seizures, or even death. Parents should be sure to get their infant’s results from their healthcare provider.

The MHD has had a grant from the State since 1989 to do newborn screening follow-up. The program assures that any infant in Milwaukee who requires follow-up testing from newborn screening, receives the testing and follow-up. Jill Paradowski (x8845) is the coordinator and Stacy Berdan (x6609) is the whirlwind PHN who does the home visits to locate the infants and assure treatment and follow-up. Be sure to call with any questions or visit the website at www.slh.wisc.edu/newborn.

Annual Health Fair Reaches Record Number of Milwaukee Residents

by Danyel McNeil

The MHD’s Medical Assistance and Outreach Program, with assistance from Disease Control and Prevention and volunteers from several MHD programs hosted the 7th Annual Back-to-School Family Health Fair at South Division High School on August 17, 2007. The event was officially begun with a press conference by Mayor Tom Barrett, MPS Superintendent William Andrekopoulos, State Representative Pedro Colon, and Alderman James Witkowiak. There were 3,192 individuals comprising 575 families who received health information or direct services on that day. 26 zip codes were represented; 53204 and 53215 represented approximately 75% of the total number of families. Here are some of the preliminary figures:

- 440 children’s immunization records were printed; 304 immunizations were given on that day to 184 children
- 40 children received lead tests; a few hundred had their blood lead testing records checked.
- 47 full health physicals were performed (asthma, blood pressure, ENT, height and weight – every screening you get at the doctor’s office). 31 of the 47 had NO INSURANCE and were referred to eligibility specialists for Badger Care
- 174 children had vision screenings; 16 were given vouchers to receive the corrective lenses needed.
- 75 full dental screenings were conducted; 4,000 toothbrushes were distributed
- 300 ANTI-TOBACCO pledges were gathered from teens and adults; another 350 took ‘stop smoking’ information
- 342 children were finger printed for IDENTAKID
- 50 families filled in the free or reduced cost lunch applications

Parents who participated in the health fair were given backpacks full of school supplies for each child in attendance
Serving the Public

Kudos to Richard Gaeta for the advice he gave to the County of Kenosha’s Lead-Free Communities Partnership during their start-up phase. Anna McCleary sent in a note saying “thanks to everyone’s help we are off to a good start.”

Kudos to Kandy Perez for going beyond the call of duty by helping a property owner on an EBL investigation and cleanup.

Kudos to the staff of the Lead Prevention Project on behalf of families they assisted with home window replacement. Their contribution helped offset the cost of window replacement that some of these families would not have been able to afford. In addition to kudos received from families, Ruth Brennan, RN, MPS Head Start Coordinator, was grateful to staff who assisted in screening almost 90 children at a weekend clinic.

Kudos also to Tom Brandt from a property owner whose property was inspected for paint chip hazards after a neighbor’s complaint. The property owner was “delighted” with Tom’s professional behavior and clear communication.

Valuing Others

Kudos to the ZMB support staff (OAs and AAs) for helping to send out a very important mass mailing to area grocery store operators. Great teamwork!

Raquel Filmanowicz sends kudos to Nick Popowycz in IT for his assistance in resolving a long-standing technical network project that impacted our Mac computers.

Deadline to submit kudos for the next Healthy Times is January 4th.
Please forward directly to Oscar Rincones at: orinco@milwaukee.gov

Plain Talk Milwaukee Initiative Summer Youth Ambassador Completion Celebration

Chantera Satterwhite (r) receives the top recruitment award from Dr. Vivian Chen of MHD.

At the end of a summer full of hard work, Plain Talk Milwaukee held an awards ceremony for the high school students who finished the Plain Talk training for becoming “walkers and talkers.” The Plain Talk program trains youth ambassadors to talk with their peers about participating in the Plain Talk program, about abstinence and sex, and behaving responsibly. The Plain Talk program was designed to increase parent/teen communication about sex, and to emphasize the responsibility adults have to make sure teens in their communities have the information and the tools they need to avoid pregnancies and STDs.

Youth Ambassador Kynesha Patterson (r) and her mom, Felicia Patterson

CHIP Interns Sweep the Board!

by Shaira Hanf

Once again the MHD was an active participant in the six-week Community Health Internship Program (CHIP) sponsored by the Milwaukee Area Health Education Center (AHEC). CHIP interns are college students whose career goals are in the health field. Out of 19 potential projects submitted by our staff members for the students to review; 15 were chosen, which meant that the MHD was able to entice about half of the total number of interns to work on our health projects. Some of the projects chosen by the students were Communicable Disease Surveillance submitted by Angie Hagy; Effectiveness of Food Safety Training submitted by Paul Zemke, Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology submitted by Kathy Blair and the WIC Nutrition Education Project submitted by Nancy Castro. The students arrived ready to work on Monday, June 11 and tackled their projects with enthusiasm.

One of the requirements for the CHIP program is that all students prepare a 5 minute visual Power Point of their project and present it to the group. The interns then voted on the best presentations and it was a first, second and third place MHD Intern sweep! Congratulations to Ann Weske, Ryland Salsbury, and Hank Brand for their winning presentations on Recreational Water Quality and West Nile Virus Monitoring, Milwaukee Plain Talk Initiative, and Community Health Assessment Themes. These students then gave their presentations to all of the students and their mentors at the CHIP Completion Celebration Program on Friday, July 20.
MHD Launches Community Health Assessment

Results of study to guide health priorities, policy

by AHEC Interns Norma Jean Simon and Hank Brand

The MHD has begun its tri-annual, citywide community health assessment. This year MHD has chosen the model Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) established by the National Association of City and County Health Organizations as its framework to complete the most comprehensive community health assessment to date. Unique to the MAPP process is that it aims to involve all levels of the community including residents, businesses, faith-based organizations, healthcare providers, and government agencies. At the first meeting on June 22nd, a diverse steering committee of over 20 community organizations established a vision for a healthy Milwaukee. This vision will serve as the leading tool in formulating goals and strategies relevant to improving the health of Milwaukee.

Over the next six months a total of four comprehensive assessments will be conducted and completed. The steering committee will be responsible for completing two of the four assessments and sub-committees have been assigned to complete those that remain. The first sub-committee, Community Themes will survey the community directly to identify the needs and desires of Milwaukee residents through focus groups, surveys, interviews and town hall meetings. Three focus groups have already been conducted analyzing responses from public health nurses and high school students. Additionally, a survey was conducted at Milwaukee’s annual Summerfest festival to identify the top five issues that affect the health of Milwaukee residents; over 150 surveys were completed. The focus of the second sub-committee is the Community Health Status Assessment. This assessment is data-intensive and is designed to evaluate the actual health of Milwaukee residents. Many statistics and health indicators have already been collected from over 15 local and national community health and behavioral risk surveys or assessments. These statistics have been organized into a working document entitled the Community Health Profile. Additionally, two other assessments will be completed; one which evaluates the Local Public Health System and the second which looks at trends, factors, events and other ‘forces of change’ which influence the health and quality of life of the community in the upcoming years.

After the assessments are completed, the steering committee will formulate goals based on the most urgent needs in Milwaukee’s communities and implement action plans. It is the hope of the MHD that MAPP can be a continuous process, one which solidifies community partnerships and is in a constant cycle of evaluation, planning, and implementation to achieve the most positive health outcomes.

Health disparities in Milwaukee are serious problems, but they can be solved with recognition and commitment. With this comprehensive, multilevel intervention strategy, it is our goal that persistent health issues will be addressed. This is our time to come together as a community to coordinate our precious resources, and squarely confront and restore the health needs of our community.

Immunization Program’s New Home

The Immunization program has settled in quite nicely to their new space on the 1st Floor of the Zeidler Municipal Building.

Just for Fun by Marlene Jamel

Find 12 words associated with the circus

ANSWERS TO LAST ISSUE’S PUZZLE

BEAR ELEPHANT FANS LION MIDGET RINGMASTER STAND TAMER TIGHTS TUMBLER TROUPERS

The Immunization program has settled in quite nicely to their new space on the 1st Floor of the Zeidler Municipal Building.
Milwaukee Launches Annual West Nile Virus Campaign

by Oscar Rincones

Mayor Tom Barrett and Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker launched Milwaukee’s West Nile Surveillance (WNV) Program at a press conference on July 10th at Red Arrow Park. The event marked the start of the City of Milwaukee Health Department’s annual push to increase the general public’s awareness of WNV and practical ways to reduce mosquito breeding.

The MHD urged citizens to limit outdoor activities during the dawn and dusk periods of the day (peak mosquito activity times), wear long-sleeved clothing and long pants, use repellent containing DEET and repair any access in windows and door screens at home. Also stressed was the need to eliminate pools of stagnant water and removing opportunities for water to stagnate.

Prevention efforts designed to limit the spread of WNV were highlighted through demonstrations as well. Demonstrations included targeted larvicide application in city catch basins and mosquito trap placement in area recreational parks and lagoons for surveillance purposes. Health officials also mentioned the importance of “reporting networks” that are in place to capture cases of WNV infection in humans.

Although no human cases of WNV have been reported in Wisconsin in 2007 and no mosquito pools tested have come back positive, the MHD did document a record 92 mosquito pools that tested positive in 2006 (4 times more than in previous years).

WNV observation efforts generally continue through the beginning of the colder months of the year, which varies by your location.

More information on WNV may be found at www.milwaukee.gov/health.

Three MHD Sections Merge at Summer Meet & Greet Picnic

by Anna C. Benton

On August 29th, the Family and Community Health staff (MCH, HEH, and Men’s Health) came together for a picnic at Southside Health Center. Approximately 100 employees attended, and the picnic was a great success. Although it was held indoors due to weather, staff crowded into the classroom of SSHC, and spilled out into the hallways, playing games, eating, winning prizes, and enjoying each other's company. Most people brought a dish to share, so there was a wonderful variety of main dishes, appetizers, and desserts. To get to know each other, staff played a game where they filled in a worksheet asking questions such as “What is your favorite food?” and “If you were a spice, what spice would you be?” and had to find somebody who had given the same answer on their own sheet. These forms were collected and used in a raffle with 26 fabulous prizes. Family and Community Health has a lot to be proud of this year, and it was great to be able to celebrate our successes and get to know each other better.

IT Introduces Dilbert to ZMB-1

Information Technology has a new home on ZMB’s 1st floor, where they are enjoying a little more leg room and a little less noise. Even though they’re not as visible as they were on the 3rd floor, you can still reach them easily by calling the HelpDesk at x3478 or emailing help_helpdesk@milwaukee.gov.
October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

by Kathy Blair

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and Oct 10th is Healthcare Day. Domestic violence (DV) also known as Intimate Partner Violence, is a serious medical issue that impacts many of our clients. What is DV? The World Health Organization defines DV as “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against another person, or against a group or community that either results in, or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm…or deprivation.” Key elements of DV include physical assault, sexual assault, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, psychological terror tactics, and stalking. Intimate partner violence occurs in the context of a relationship that is, or at least was at one time, characterized by intimacy. Any individuals in heterosexual or same sex relationships, who are married, divorced, separated, dating or co-habiting can experience intimate partner violence. In 2003, the Center for Disease Control reported that 1,300 deaths (33% of all female homicide victims) in the United States occurred as the result of domestic violence.

DV adversely affects both victims of IPV and children who witness DV. In addition to the direct trauma that children may incur during disputes, child witnesses of domestic violence have been shown to be at risk for developmental delay, sleep disorders, school failure, oppositional defiant disorder, depression and child abuse. Children who witness IPV are also more likely to participate in abusive relationships with their own intimate partners, further perpetuating the cycle of violence.

Health care providers are in a unique position to help victims of abuse: if they know how to detect intimate partner violence they can provide victims with the referrals and support they need. Unfortunately health care systems aren’t always aware of or connected to community resources.

In Milwaukee, several community organizations are dedicated to helping individuals in intimate partner violence situations. One of the oldest organizations in Milwaukee, the Task Force on Family Violence (TFFV), has been a leader in addressing this issue since 1975. TFFV is a private, non-profit organization that provides programs and services for all adult victims of abuse, children who have been abused or have witnessed domestic violence and female perpetrators of violence. TFFV programs include the Court- house Advocacy Program, Legal Emergency Assistance Program, Children’s Advocacy Program and Child Witness to Domestic Violence Project, Ending Violence through Education, and When Violence Comes to Work.

Agency services are provided in English, Spanish and Russian.

Because of the relationships we develop with our clients, public health workers are in a position to identify families in DV situations. If a client discloses abuse, referral to a community organization such as the TFFV is appropriate. TFFV advocates can help clients develop safety plans, learn options available to make crucial decisions, refer them to community resources for food, clothing, housing, health care, counseling services and job referrals, file restraining orders, and accompany them to court.

If you would like to learn more about TFFV programs and services or to refer an individual contact the Office of Advocacy and Administration located at 1400 North 6th Street, at 414.276.1911. You can also visit their website at www.tffv.org or email info@tffv.org.

Youth Take Charge at State Fair

Youth Take Charge is a nutrition program designed to teach school-age children about healthy eating and nutrition. Nutritionist Yvonne Greer was in charge of the MHD’s participation in this program, which is part of the Milwaukee County Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition.

Holy Cathedral Kids Praise Dancers entertain the crowd

Youth Take Charge Peer Educators demonstrate how to prepare healthy foods

In 2003, the CDC reported that 1,300 deaths (33% of all female homicide victims) in the United States occurred as the result of DV.
**PERSONNEL·LY SPEAKING**

- **New Hires**
  - Lisa Case, PHN
  - Legenda Gooding, PHN
  - Joan Gray, Clinic Asst.
  - Laruthiea Jones, PHN
  - Rita Kitto, PHN
  - Lunette Lawrence, CD Spec.
  - Mai T. Lee, EHS1
  - Kathryn Mogen, EHS1
  - Debra Mortwodt, PHN
  - Alicia Pacala, PHN Coord.
  - Oscar Rincones, OA1
  - Kathryn Schlipmann, PHN
  - Laura Vanderbilt, Graphic Des. II
  - Janet Woolfolk, PHN
  - Boux Xiong, EHS1

- **Promotions**
  - Sara Mishefske, to HEH Div. Mgr.
  - Sanjib Bhattacharyya, to Chief Molecular Sci.,
  - Nora Deberry-Johnson, to OA III
  - Nicole Shokatz, to EHS II

- **Resignations**
  - Maria Andino-Otero, Diet. Tech
  - Jamie Berg, EHS1
  - Sherry DeVries-Williams, PHN
  - Amy Doczy, CD Prog. Supv.
  - Patricia Lee King, MCHVP Prog. Mgr.
  - Clarissa Nerat, EHSII

- **Transfers to/from Other City Departments**
  - Patricia Fauteck, Tobacco Cont. Prog. Coord. to MPS
  - Nancy Gielow, OA III to DPW
  - Panola Hall, OA III to Library
  - Nateida Jarnigan, Compliance Analyst, from City Hall to ZMB
  - Michael Mannan, EHS II to DNS
  - Kathy Raukman, Acct. Asst. II ADM to DER
  - Michelle Stein, Hlth. Personnel Ofc., from MHD to DER
  - Betty Washington, Clinic Asst. from WIC to DNS

- **Transfers within the MHD**
  - Patrick Doorneck, EHS I from NWHC to ZMB
  - Annie Jones, Acct. Asst. II from ZMB-HR to ZMB-Admin
  - Cynthia Smith, Acct. Asst. II from Lab to ZMB - Admin
  - Susan Thaller, PHN, from ZMB to KHC
  - Mary Walker, PHN from ZMB Lead to SSHC

**Key to Abbreviations**

- **ADMIN** Administration
- **B&G** Buildings & Grounds
- **CEH** Consumer Environmental Health
- **CLPP** Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Prog
- **DCD** Dept. of City Development
- **DCP** Disease Control & Prevention
- **DNS** Dept. of Neighborhood Services
- **EHS** Environmental Health Specialist
- **F&CHS** Family & Community Health Services
- **F&M** Foods and Measures
- **H&V** Heating and Ventilating
- **H&E** Home Environmental Health
- **ITS** Information Technology Systems
- **KHC** Keenan Health Center
- **MHD** City of Milwaukee Health Department
- **NFP** Nurse Family Partnership
- **NWCH** NorthWest Health Center
- **OA** Office Assistant
- **PHA** Public Health Aide
- **PHN** Public Health Nurse
- **PHS** Public Health Specialist
- **SSH** Southside Health Center
- **TBC** Tuberculosis Control Clinic
- **ZMB** Zeidler Municipal Building

**Deadline for Next Issue**

Please email articles to Oscar Rincones by January 4th at orincones@milwaukee.gov

**Just for Fun**

Find 12 words associated with STARS

- G
- C
- A
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(Answers will be in the next issue of Healthy Times)