

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOW DO PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES KEEP EAU CLAIRE SAFE?
May 6th-12th is National Nurses Week 2016

Eau Claire, WI, May 6th, 2016 – The Eau Claire City-County Health Department joins the American Nurses Academy in recognizing May 6th-12th as National Nurses Week 2016. The theme of the week is “Culture of Safety-It starts with you,” which celebrates the ways registered nurses promote safety within the workplace. For Public Health Nurses the workplace expands beyond the walls of the Health Department and extends to the whole community. This week is a time to reflect on how the Public Health Nurses keep members of the Eau Claire community safe.

While most nurses care for one patient at a time, public health nurses care for entire populations. By working with whole communities, public health nurses are able to educate people about health issues, improve community health and safety and increase access to care. Yesterday in Eau Claire a Public Health Nurse: visited an Amish family to assess a newborn baby; gave vaccinations an immigrant needed to apply for citizenship; made multiple phone calls to investigate a possible communicable disease outbreak; provided education to a pregnant client on infant safe sleep; worked with community members to plan trainings to help prevent suicides...and that was all before noon.

Services Public Health Nurses provide for Eau Claire address the needs of the whole community. “Public Health Nurses are vital to the health of our community,” says Lieske Giese, Director/Health Officer of the Eau Claire City-County Health Department. “The work of our Public Health Nurses fulfills the mission of the health department: ‘Keeping people in all Eau Claire City/County communities safe and healthy.’”



If you are interested in learning more about what Public Health Nurses do to keep our community safe, check out the Health Department’s posts throughout this week on [Facebook](#). You can also learn more about Health Department services by visiting our website at www.ehealthdepartment.org. **Take the time this week to ‘Thank a Nurse.’**

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**Services provided
by Public Health
Nurses in 2015**

**The Year in
NUMBERS**

1879

vaccinations given to infants,
children and adults

146

Safe Sleep toolkits were
distributed to healthcare and
community providers

829

reportable communicable
diseases followed up on

158

women received prenatal
care coordination
services

26

nursing students completed
clinical practice experiences with
public health nurses

992

women and men received
contraceptive services