



Clinton County Health Department

133 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York 12901-2926

"Working Together for a Healthier Community"

www.clintonhealth.org



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Administration Division

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News Release

Date: April 2, 2019
For Immediate Release
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Public Health Week Highlights Rural Health

Plattsburgh, April 2, 2019. On Wednesday, as part of *National Public Health Week*, a team from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) will be in Plattsburgh. They will meet with staff of the Clinton County Health Department's Healthy Neighborhood Program (HNP). During their visit, they will join HNP staff on a routine home visit to assess and address health and safety concerns.

"National Public Health Week is a time to celebrate the power of prevention, support health across all policies, share strategies for successful partnerships and champion the role of a strong public health system," according to Loretta A. Santilli, M.P.H. Director, Office of Public Health Practice and the NYSDOH Coordinator for Public Health Week. "Each day of National Public Health Week focuses on a particular public health topic. The focus for Wednesday is Rural Health."

Ms. Santilli notes that the Clinton County Healthy Neighborhoods Program is unique among the 19 other grant funded projects in New York State. "Most of the other Healthy Neighborhood Programs around the State work in more urban settings. A rural community like Clinton County presents unique challenges and the opportunity for innovative solutions to public health issues."

The Healthy Neighborhoods Program has existed in Clinton County since 1985. Public Health Educators meet with individuals and families in their homes. They conduct an assessment survey at each home they visit. Safety products may be supplied but the greatest benefit is the time that outreach staff spend educating, and providing resources that are specifically geared to each household's needs. After the visit, referrals can be made for additional services that might benefit household members.

While outreach staff tailor education to the individual household, there are five main topic areas that Healthy Neighborhood staff are specifically trained to address. These are: injury prevention, fire safety, lead poisoning prevention, indoor air quality and asthma. The program is free to all Clinton County residents. Contacts are made through referrals from other organizations, self-referral or door to door outreach efforts. The program focuses on one municipality in Clinton County per quarter although referrals from anywhere in the County are accepted any time. Approximately 400 homes are visited annually.

For more information about the Healthy Neighborhoods visit www.clintonhealth.org, or to schedule an appointment, contact the Health Department's Environmental Health and Safety Division (518) 565-4870.

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"Persons who have any physical mobility or other needs, call the telephone number above to arrange for accommodations"

National Public Health Week 2019 DAILY THEMES

Monday - Healthy Communities
Tuesday - Violence Prevention
Wednesday - Rural Health
Thursday - Technology and Public Health
Friday - Climate Change

About the Clinton County Health Department:

The Health Department is an accredited full service department serving the residents of Clinton County. The Health Department's Mission is to improve and protect the health, well-being and environment of the people of Clinton County. Visit our website at www.clintonhealth.org or connect with us on Facebook (@clintonhealth), Twitter (@ClintonCountyHD), and Instagram (clintoncountyhealth).

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