VOL. 1 | ISSUE 1 PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS



Prevent. Promote. Protect.

80 State Highway 310 - Canton NY - 315-386-2325



SHREDDING THE STIGMA EVENT

On August 24th, St. Lawrence County Partners 4 Substance Use Prevention held an opioid awareness and stigma event in Waddington. The event included a presentation by Tony Hoffman, former pro BMX Racer; a panel discussion of local individuals sharing their story of substance use disorder, and the impact of stigma; and a dedication for those struggling with substance misuse and those lost to overdose. The event included many family friendly activities such as games, bounce houses, a petting zoo and meals from food trucks. The 4-hour event was a huge success, drawing a diverse crowd of about 300. Thank you to all those in attendance and to our partners, St. Lawrence County Community Services, St. Lawrence County Corrections, Seaway Valley Prevention Council, Community Health Center of the North Country, and North Country Freedom Homes, who helped to make this day so successful.



COMBATING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC:

The Public Health Department has received funding to help combat the opioid epidemic communities are facing. The funding is being used to increase the number of providers in our area who provide treatment, help reduce the stigma associated with substance use, and provide education and support to health care providers, community partners, and residents. A county-wide taskforce, now known as St. Lawrence County Partners 4 Substance Use Prevention (P4SUP) was established to help carry out these activities. P4SUP meetings bring together a variety of individuals including treatment specialists, educators, law enforcement, first responders, public health officials and concerned citizens. P4SUP is dedicated to working towards a healthy, safe, and informed community free of substance use, misuse, and resulting problems.

P4SUP meets the 2nd Friday of every month in Canton at 10am **Meetings are open to all.**

For more information contact Jessica Ayotte at jayotte@stlawco.org or 229-3422

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) LEAD GRANT TO KICK OFF

St. Lawrence County received \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help remove and address lead hazards in 52 housing units occupied by low-income families with children. Most of the funding will be used on housing rehabilitation, while the rest will be spent on public education and awareness. The Public Health Department is currently rolling out an awareness campaign to provide information to residents on the hazard lead based paint poses to increase lead testing in young children and improve cleaning practices in older homes.

This grant supports the Public Health Department's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program's (LPPP) goal to increase awareness of the risk of lead poisoning to children.

The LPPP tracks and monitors the blood lead levels of all children who are tested, and provides education and a home visit to those families with children who have elevated blood lead levels.

The HUD grant allows the Public Health Department to provide additional outreach and education to families, providers, and community partners including digital and print media and materials. certification training. presentations and spreading awareness at community events.

Our hope is to assist families with children with elevated blood lead levels to receive the help and education they need in order to make their environment lead-free.

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL **PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

National Preparedness Month is recognized in September to promote family and community disaster and emergency planning now and throughout the year.

Tips for preparing for an emergency:

- 1. Recognize risks in your area, like extreme winter weather.
- 2. Make a plan to follow in the event of an emergency, such as an evacuation route from every room in your home.
- 3. Practice your plan with your family and friends, this way everyone will know what role they play.



NEW VACCINATION LAW

On June 13th, 2019 Governor Cuomo signed legislation removing nonmedical exemptions from school vaccination requirements for children in any public, private or parochial child care center, day care agency, nursery school, kindergarten, elementary, intermediate or secondary school.

Public Health Law 2164 prohibits a school from permitting any child to be admitted to such school, or to attend such school, in excess of 14 days without sufficient evidence that the child has received all age appropriate required vaccinations.

Specifically, children entering or attending school or day care **MUST:**

- Receive the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series to attend or remain in school/daycare within 14 days of the first day of school or day care.
- Parents/guardians must show that their children have appointments for all follow-up doses within 30 days after the first day of school or day care.

Vaccine FAQ's can be found at: https://www.health.ny.gov/preventio n/immunization/vaccine safety/frequ ently asked questions.htm



SLC Public Health Immunization Clinic: **Every Wednesday** *by appointment only* Call 315-386-2325