



Department Highlights –

Emerging Infectious Diseases and Summer Mass Events Emergency Preparedness

Emerging Infectious Diseases – Our Health Department has an Emergency Response Team that we keep in-the-know & trained in global health and happenings including the expectations as they come down from the CDC to NYSDOH to our Local Health Department.

This level of preparedness focuses on early detection, rapid response, and maintaining resilience in health systems to stop pathogens before they spread. Currently we are alert to:

- HPAI
- Hantavirus and most recently,
- Ebola Virus Disease (Bundibugyo virus)

The summer season brings about much travel – people coming into Essex County to visit and enjoy our beautiful mountains, lakes and rivers; attend our camps and enjoy many of our events. As an example – one event that has state-level attention is commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, which will significantly increase visitation to Fort Ticonderoga. As we know, events occur throughout the county and increase risk of outbreaks to which our Departments responds to contain with healthcare providers and our Environmental Health District Office.

Bike Helmet Fittings and Car Seat Checks Galore!

Throughout the month of May and June, the Essex County Health Department, in partnership with Safe Kids Adirondack, continued providing bike helmets and safety education to Pre-K through 1st grade students in Newcomb, Minerva, Schroon Lake, Keene, Boquet Valley, and Willsboro CSD (all other Essex County schools were served in 2024). Each student receives bike safety education and a free, properly fitted helmet!

The Essex County Health Department is partnering with all Early Head Start and Head Start sites throughout the county to provide free bike helmets and car seat checks for families during pick-up times.

Pictured here are Essex County Health Department staff and Safe Kids Adirondack President Holly Kipp with children from Schroon Lake during a recent bike helmet fitting and safety education event.



ECHD Program Data – MAY (unless otherwise noted)

Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Improvement Planning (CHIP)

CHA/ARHN/Data Meetings – 0

CHA/CHIP Partner Meetings – 1

CHA Training/Webinars – 0

NYSACHO CHA/CHIP Workgroup – 1 (minutes reviewed)

Key finding and priorities from the 2025 CHA and 2026-2030 CHIP were presented to the Well Fed Essex County Collaborative. Additional presentations are still planned in June for the Public Health Advisory Committee and the Lake Placid Rotary Club.

Work with partners continues, including plans to reconvene the Community Health Coalition in the fall.

Communicable Disease

Communicable Disease Surveillance/Epidemiological Investigations

Respiratory Illness investigations (Flu, COVID, RSV, TB) - 9

GI Illness (Water/Foodborne) Illness Investigations - 3

STI/Hepatitis & HIV Investigations – 4

Arthropod-borne (Mosquitos and Ticks) Disease Investigations – 24

Food Safety/Outbreak Investigations – 0

Other investigations – 0

*Highlights, campaigns, trainings – 2 (Measles Preparedness, Hep C Elimination)

Immunization Program

Clinics in the community - 0

Individuals immunized – 0

Healthcare provider, school nurse, day care provider or other public health detailing activities: 3 healthcare provider calls, 6 provider e-mail interactions regarding immunizations; 8 in-person school nurse interactions, 6 school nurse e-mail communications regarding immunizations.

Public Health Nurses manually added immunization records of 6 children from local school districts/private schools and 1 adult to NYS vaccine registry.

Pre K/ K school visits concentrating on pro- immunization messaging and education, oral care, rabies and tick-borne disease awareness and prevention: St Agnes school 26 children and 12 parents reached.

Immunization trainings completed - 4

Screening Services

HCV Screenings - 0

HIV Screenings – 0

TB Screening - 0

STI Screening Services – referrals and/or services rendered – 0

Rabies Prevention Program

Rabies Vaccine Clinics – 1 (Jay)

Pets Vaccinated – 91

Rabies investigations - 28

Specimens submitted for testing – 9 (3 positives – 1 raccoon, 1 skunk, 1 fox); fox incidents occurred end of May and specimens submitted 6/1/26

People approved for rabies post exposure prophylaxis – 7

Next Rabies Clinic: **Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at the Knights of Columbus in Chesterfield from 6-7:30PM**

Emergency Preparedness & Response

Real World Events, Drills & Exercises – 0

Training/Continuing Education – 4

Volunteer Coordination – 0

Plan Updates/Revisions – **2 complete** (Public Health Preparedness & Response Plan and Emergency Communications Plan)

Meetings/Coalitions/Community Engagement– **2** (Capital District PHEP Coordinators Monthly Meeting & Quarterly HEPC)

*Highlights, campaigns, activities – Staff worked to update the list of Essex County Cooling Centers, which can be accessed using the NYSDOH Cooling Center Finder at <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/weather/cooling/>

The screenshot displays the New York State Department of Health website. The top navigation bar includes links for Individuals/Families, Providers/Professionals, Health Facilities, Health Data, About Us, and Search. The main content area is titled "Cooling Centers" and features a collage of images showing people in various settings: a library, a swimming pool, and a community center. Below the images, there is a "Translations" section with a language selector. The "Cooling Center Finder" tool is prominently displayed, featuring a map of New York State with blue dots indicating cooling center locations. A red box highlights the "Cooling Center Finder" link in the left sidebar, with a red arrow pointing to it. The tool itself includes a search bar, filters for "Cooling & Clean Air Centers" and "County Filter", and a list of cooling centers with details such as name, phone number, and address. A "View List" button is also visible on the map.

Chronic Disease

May 4, 2026 – May 29, 2026 Reporting Period

Public Health Detailing - # 0

Coalition/Collaboration Interactions/Meetings & Highlights

- Coalitions Coordinated by ECHD
 - Well Fed Essex County Collaborative - 2
 - TURN (Tobacco Use Reduction Network of Essex County) - 2
- Long Term Care Committee Meeting - 1
- Colorectal Cancer Campaign and Outreach Meeting with the Erie County Public Health Director and Staff - 1

- The Erie County Public Health Director attended the presentation “A Behind-the-Scenes Look at Creating a Comprehensive Colorectal Cancer Screening Awareness Campaign” offered at the New York State Public Health Partnership Conference by the ECHD Communications Specialist that she requested a meeting with her team to review this innovative campaign and its success. The ECHD Communications Specialist, Lindsay Java, and Chronic Disease Outreach Coordinator, Molly Lawrence, met with the Erie County Team on May 18th.

- UVM Health Network – Elizabethtown Community Hospital “Senior Social” health fair event at the Knights of Columbus in Port Henry – 58 people attended from 12 area towns.

Trainings and Webinars - 2

Campaigns & Awareness - 7

- World No Tobacco Day – May 31st, a press release was issued
- National Physical Fitness and Sports Month
- National Older Americans Month
- National Stroke Awareness Month
- Skin Cancer Prevention and Awareness Month
- Don’t Fry Day – May 22nd
- #getfitessexcounty – May Muscle Hustle



Community Opioid Overdose Prevention Program (COOP)

Narcan Kits Distributed – 2 (not including those distributed from Community Care Kiosks)

SUDOR Submissions/ODs – 1 Non-Fatal; 0 Fatal

2026 ODs Non-Fatal/Fatal* – 10 (8 Non-Fatal/2 Fatal)

Community Care Kiosks – Three (3) Community Care Kiosk Locations remain in place in Port Henry (MLS Consignment Shop), Elizabethtown (DMV), and Lewis (Public Safety Building).

Total items dispensed in May (through May 22, 2026:

Location: DMV/ MLS Consignment/Public Safety	May
Tubby Tester	3
Personal Hygiene kits	8
Sunblock	0
Emergency plan	0
First Aid Kits	28
Forehead thermometer	10
CAP packs	14

Narcan kits	43
Fentanyl test kit	1
Location: DMV/ MLS Consignment/Public Safety	May
Xylazine test kit	2
Tick kits	45
Deterra bags	14
Nail kits	16
Gun locks	26
Shoe Deodorizer	18

Environmental Health

Air, Water and Food Health & Safety

Air Safety/Quality/Excessive Heat Alerts - 0

Public Water Notices

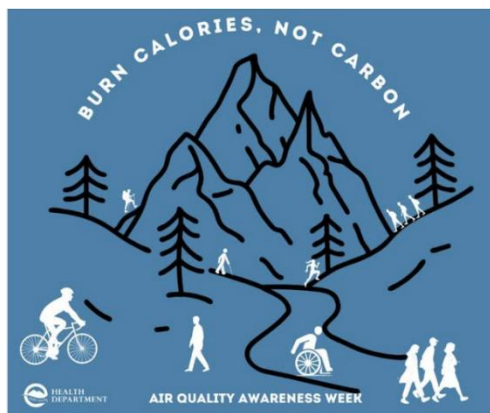
Boil Water Orders – 1 (Schroon)

Blue-Green Algae Notices – 0

Climate and Health

Activities - Meetings were held with the NYSDOT, MJ Engineering and the towns of Lewis and Willsboro to review preliminary findings and recommendations from the active transportation traffic safety studies in each town. The survey for the Town of Willsboro was approved for publication and promotion, and is being promoted on the Essex County website, Essex County Health Department social media, and Town of Willsboro resources.

The Town of Keene passed a resolution securing a state and local agreement with the NYSDOT for \$100,000 for an active transportation traffic safety study along the high use Rt. 73 corridor and encompassing high risk hiker/visitor parking areas in town.



Observances - May 4th- 8th was Air Quality Awareness Week

A poster for the NY Route 22 Safety Study Community Survey. At the top, it has logos for Essex County, NY, New York State Department of Transportation, and Willsboro. The title "NY ROUTE 22 SAFETY STUDY" is in large, bold letters. Below the title, it says "COMMUNITY SURVEY NOW OPEN" and "You live here. We want to know what you think." There is a QR code in a circular frame. To the right of the QR code, it says: "We invite members of the community to share their experiences and insights by completing a short survey about travel conditions along NY Route 22 in the Town of Willsboro. Your feedback on driving, walking, and biking is essential in helping us identify current challenges and opportunities for improvement. By participating, you'll play an important role in shaping future transportation planning and safety enhancements in our community. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and help us create a safer, more accessible NY Route 22 for everyone." At the bottom, it says: "The Town of Willsboro, along with Essex County and the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), is working on a safety study along NY Route 22 from the Village Meat Market to Noblewood Park. The Town's Comprehensive Plan highlights the importance of safe and accessible multi-modal transportation options for residents and visitors alike. By evaluating existing conditions, identifying challenges, and exploring opportunities for improvements, the study will provide a roadmap for implementing future projects that support economic strength, public health, and community connectivity. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to creating a safer, more welcoming, and more resilient transportation system for the Town of Willsboro. All comments, questions, and concerns can be sent to NY22SafetyStudy@mjteam.com."

Family Health

Baby Steps to Bright Futures

Babies born & families offered the Program – 20 (5 pending)

Families enrolled in the program – 3

DSS Collaboration Families - 0

Families that sent a packet as unable to reach or declined the program – 12

Referrals out to programs and services – 1



Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Lead Cases open (elevated lead levels in pregnant women or children) & ensure appropriate follow-up care:

Active Children - 18

Pending confirmatory testing - 6

Released with confirmatory testing stating capillary testing was falsely elevated – 0

Released due to not following up on venous confirmatory testing – 1

Car Seat Program

Car seat check clinics – 4

Car seats checked - 0

Car seats issued as new & installed – 0



Other Upcoming Car Seat Events in addition to Tech Check Tuesdays (all events are open to the public)!

- June 3rd – **Ticonderoga Head Start** Car Seat Check – 1:30pm – 2:30pm
- June 8th – **Ausable Forks Head Start** Car Seat Check – 1:30pm-2:30pm
- June 9th – **Early Bridges (Westport)** Car Seat Check Event – 1:30pm-3pm
- June 10th – **Moriah Head Start** Car Seat Check – 12:30pm – 2:30pm
- June 11th – **Lake Placid Head Start** Car Seat Check – 1:30pm-2:30pm
- June 26th- **Keeseville WIC Clinic** – 10am-2pm
- June 29th – **The Clubhouse Daycare – Willsboro** – 3pm-5:15pm

School Nurse Stetho-Scoop Monthly Meeting – 4 School nurses directly engaged with zoom meeting, and meeting summary went out to all **29** school nurses/school immunization admin in county regarding current respiratory disease activity, vaccine updates/2025 rates, and upcoming educational opportunities. Planning and engagement ongoing for upcoming annual (August) School Nurse In-Service.

Sexual/Reproductive/Relationship Health Program

Schools/Camps/Groups – **3**

Classes/Students – **4/90**

CAP Pack Distribution (not including Kiosks) – **30**

Children's Services

Early Intervention

Referral received in to the program - **9**

Children found eligible & enrolled (have a plan) - **32**

Children awaiting evaluation - **8**

Speech Therapy - **7** receiving; **18** waiting

Occupational Therapy - **7** receiving; **4** waiting

Physical Therapy - **5** receiving; **2** waiting

Special Instructional Services - **9** receiving; **1** waiting

Preschool Program

Children in process of evaluation, referrals - **21**

Children enrolled - **84**

Children waiting for services

Counseling - **2**

Occupational Therapy - **12**

Physical Therapy - **2**

Speech Therapy - **18**

Special Education/Itinerant Teacher - **8**

Children Attending Center Based Classrooms

In County - **19** Out of County - **4**

Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs (CYSHN)

Children enrolled – **42**

The Essex County Children's Services Department was proud to attend the Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY Autism Walk at the Clinton County Fairgrounds. This year's carnival-themed event brought the community together in support of the Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY's mission to enrich the lives of individuals and families in the autism community by providing resources, creating opportunities for connection, and advocating for an inclusive world where everyone can thrive. Funds raised during the event help support local autistic individuals and families through monthly meetups, scholarships, grants, and expanded programming across Clinton, Essex, and Franklin Counties. Throughout the day, Essex County Children's Services staff connected with families, discussed the programs and services offered throughout Essex County, and continued building meaningful relationships within our communities. To help bring the carnival theme to life, the department also created a fun fire-walking activity that families and participants of all ages enjoyed throughout the event.

Hillary presented Building Bridges for families in rural communities at our Annual CYSHCN conference in May. The presentation highlighted her roles in child and family programs here at the Health Department. Her presentation showcased how we are utilizing the CYSHCN grant and being an access for families of young children such as Childfind, Baby Steps, CLC services and car seat tech.



WIC

Target Enrollment – **600**

Enrolled - **488**

Women enrolled - **90**

Infants (0-1) enrolled - **97**

Children (1-5) enrolled - **301**

Referrals made to other programs/services - **81**

High Risk Families - **34**

Nutrition Education sessions – **141**

In person families - **29**

Remote families – **111**

Breastfeeding Initiation Rate – **82%**

Essex County WIC is making preparations for distributing Farmers' Market Coupons to our families so they can shop at local markets this summer and celebrate the beautiful abundance in our county. WIC is also making plans for summer activities to foster engagement and promote healthy nutrition. We are hoping to fill our breastfeeding peer counselor vacancy in June so that we can continue to serve our breastfeeding mothers and babies.

Home Health Care

April 16, 2026 – May 16, 2026 Reporting Period

Referrals accepted – **42**

Patients receiving services – **112**

Nursing Services – **72**

Home Health Aid – **11**

Physical Therapy - **63**

Occupational Therapy – **23**

Speech Therapy – **3**



Essex County Committee Form Miscellaneous Resolution Request

Department:

Committee:

Date:

Submitted By:

Nature and Reason for Request:

Requesting permission from , the Essex County Board of Health aka The Essex County Board of Supervisors to apply SenateBill-S7818 Effectively immediately that allows the Commissioner (NYSDOH Dr. McDonald) to designate his powers to the local public health officials (Essex County Public Health Director) to remove a barrier that exists with public health responses to overdose deaths.

Subdivision 9 of section 677 of the county law, as added by section 1 of part NN of chapter 56 of the laws of 2010, is amend to read When required for official purposes of the state department of health, the state commissioner of health or [his or her] THEIR designee may request copies of all reports and records related to a death, including, but not limited to, autopsy reports and toxicology reports. Upon receipt of the written request of the state commissioner of health or [his or her] THEIR designee, a coroner, coroner's physician or medical examiner, shall, within three business days of their completion, provide to such commissioner or [his or her] THEIR designee a copy of all reports and records, including, but not limited to, autopsy reports and toxicology reports related to the death. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE DESIGNEE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH MAY INCLUDE A LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL. § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ATTACH TEXT OF ANY SPECIAL PROVISIONS TO BE INCLUDED WITHIN THE FINAL RESOLUTION
Additional language can be submitted as an email attachment, or physically attached to this request.

Budget Impact:

A. Will Resolution impact current budget and/or future budgets: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Explain:

B. Is appropriation from contingent account required? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" amount: Transferred to What Account #:

C. If a Budget transfer is required, please complete the following:

From Account #: which has a current balance of:

To Account #: which has a current balance of:

Transfer amount:

D. Were funds originally budgeted for this item or purpose? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" amount: Account #:

E. Funds or Costs to be paid from: Account #:

Current Account Balance: Balance after Expenditure:

F. Is there any State and/or Federal reimbursement? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" amount: Program:

CERTIFICATION BY SIGNATURE THAT THE INFORMATION ABOVE IS ACCURATE AND COMPLETE.

Name:

Title:

Date:

Signature: Linda L. Beers 6/1/26



Essex County Committee Form Miscellaneous Resolution Request

Department:

Committee:

Date:

Submitted By:

Nature of and Reason for Request:

The Essex County Health Dept. requests approval of a additional members to its Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC) as required under Articles 28 and Professional Advisory Committee under Article 36 of Public Health Law.

The purpose of these committees is to advise the agency on professional issues, participate in the evaluation of agency programs, and assist the agency in maintaining liaison with other health care providers.

The proposed members are: Heather Reynolds, RN of UVHN Elizabethtown Community Hospital and Dr. Kristen Mack. The Essex County Public Health Department will notify appointees and take all necessary actions to effectuate their appointments for June of 2026.

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If "Yes" amount: Program:

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Name:

Title:

Date:

Signature:



Essex County Committee Form Miscellaneous Resolution Request

Department:

Committee:

Date:

Submitted By:

Nature of and Reason for Request:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING
the QUARTERLY REPORTS FOR THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT including the
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PATIENT SERVICES
PLUS THE
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE CERTIFIED HOME HEALTH AGENCY
AND THE
QUALITY REPORT
ALL OF WHICH WERE APPROVED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PHAC)/ PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (PAC) AND THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR, ON JUNE 2, 2026.

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Current Account Balance: Balance after Expenditure:

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If "Yes" amount: Program:

CERTIFICATION BY SIGNATURE THAT THE INFORMATION ABOVE IS ACCURATE AND COMPLETE.

Name:

Title:

Date:

Signature: 



Essex County Committee Form Miscellaneous Resolution Request

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Signature:



Essex County Committee Form Miscellaneous Resolution Request

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Committee:

Date:

Submitted By:

Nature of and Reason for Request:

A physician-designed education and workflow initiative
Using the County share of Opioid Settlement Funds the Essex County Heroin Other (ECHO) prevention coalition request permission to enter into a contract Mindful Medical Mentor ,LLC . This project proposes a physician-to-physician educational initiative for ED physicians centered on mentorship and collaboration with local physicians experienced in addiction care. Rather than one-time training, the program emphasizes longitudinal access to trusted, known colleagues who practice in the region and hold addiction medicine expertise. This structure supports real-time problem solving, implementation of MOUD and harm reduction practices. The goal is to synchronize care for the patient from ED to outpatient resources. This proposal incorporates problem identification, expert perspectives, and is intentionally designed to be geographically targeted, operational rather than purely theoretical, physician-designed, longitudinal instead of one-off education, and focused on systems change whose impact can outlive the duration of the project. The project directly aligns Schedule C Approved used 8: Training for MAT for health care providers, students, or other supporting professionals, such as peer recovery coaches or recovery outreach specialists, including tele-mentoring to assist community-based providers in rural or underserved areas.

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