



MEDIA RELEASE

La Crosse County Health Department Maintains National Accreditation Status Through the Public Health Accreditation Board

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The La Crosse County Health Department today announced it has successfully completed a review process to maintain national accreditation status through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). In maintaining its accreditation status for another five years, the department demonstrated that it meets PHAB's quality standards and measures and has the capacity to continue to evolve, improve and advance to continue improving the health of the residents of La Crosse County.

The non-profit PHAB works to advance and transform public health practice by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation. PHAB's accreditation program, which receives support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sets standards against which the nation's governmental public health departments can continuously improve the quality of their services and performance.

"We are so pleased to again be recognized by PHAB for achieving national standards that foster effectiveness and promote continuous quality improvement," said Audra Martine, Health Department Director. "We hope this announcement provides assurance to our community, partner organizations, funders and elected officials that the services we provide are as responsive as possible to the needs of our community."

Often called the "backbone" of the public health system, public health departments are on the front lines of communities' efforts to protect and promote health and to prevent disease and injury. PHAB-accredited health departments demonstrate great leadership by placing their work for peer review, with the goal of using the feedback obtained during the process to improve the services they provide to their communities.

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About the La Crosse County Health Department

The La Crosse County Health Department works to protect, promote, and improve the health

of all people in La Crosse County. Learn more about the La Crosse County Health Department at <http://www.lacrossecounty.org/health>. For more information, please contact the department at healthweb@lacrossecounty.org or by phone at 608-785-9872.

About the Public Health Accreditation Board

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) was created to serve as the national public health accrediting body and is jointly funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Vital Records/Health Statistics accreditation is funded, in part, by the National Center for Health Statistics. The development of national public health department accreditation has involved, and is supported by, public health leaders and practitioners from the national, state, local, Tribal, and territorial levels. For more information, contact PHAB Communications Specialist Janalle Goosby at jgoosby@phaboard.org. Learn more about PHAB and accreditation at www.phaboard.org.