



# Public Health

## It's what we do!

1

### PREVENT

The spread of communicable diseases  
Opioid overdose deaths by distributing Narcan  
Families from suffering from bedbugs



2

### PROMOTE

Lead testing and immunization  
Good oral health  
An equal start and opportunity for all children



3

### PROTECT

Children during a motor vehicle crash  
Your family during an emergency  
Pets from getting rabies



## Public Health Services

Animal Bite Investigations  
Bicycle Safety  
CarFit Program for Seniors  
Children with Special Health Care Needs  
Child Find Program  
Child Passenger Safety  
Disease Surveillance  
Drinking Water Monitoring  
Early Intervention  
Fluoride Varnish Program  
Food Service Inspection  
Health Education  
Healthy Neighborhoods Program

Illness Complaint Investigations  
Lead Poisoning Prevention  
Mobile Dental Services  
Opioid Overdose Prevention  
Outreach to New Moms  
Public Health Preparedness  
Rabies Clinics  
Special Education Pre-School Program  
Septic Permits  
School-Based Dental Clinic  
Tick & Lyme Disease Education  
Vaccines for Children & Adults  
Weights & Measures Testing  
**AND MORE!**



# Note From Our Director

## 2017: a year of change...

Farewells to longtime coworkers; hellos to new ones. Lot's of momentum manifested by upgraded Information systems; colourful, informative lobby displays and billboards; expanded partnerships and sooo many activities and events throughout Tioga county. We transitioned; focusing on the customer, and awareness of how integral PH is -- to our environment, our person, our community. These pages reflect so much, yet capture so little.

Enjoy learning about TPH and what it does for you.

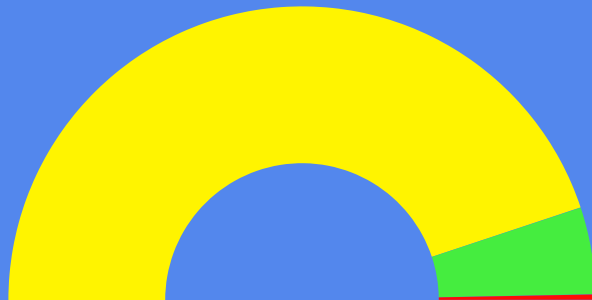
Thank you to all those who make it happen.

Lisa McCafferty, Public Health Director

## Customer Satisfaction Surveys

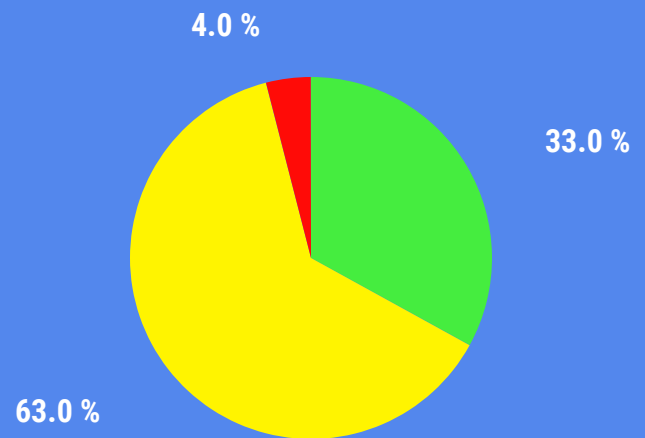
Overall How Satisfied Were You With Tioga County Public Health Staff?

89.8 %



● Extremely Satisfied   ● Moderately Satisfied   ● Extremely Dissatisfied

## Allocation of Funds for 2017



● Compensation   ● Program   ● Infrastructure

## Customer Comments:

- I didn't have any problems with my treatment at the dental van. Great job done by all.
- Very convenient! I had 4 dogs (large) today and we were in and out!
- Very awesome job especially with the forward facing car seat. informative Staff really know what they are doing.
- I have nothing but great service with them. Job well done staff!!!!
- FANTASTIC!!!
- Did a wonderful job. Knew nothing of how car seats work being the grandparents.

## WELCOME NEW STAFF

Lynn Bennett, Accounting Associate III  
Barbara Bilbrey, Public Health Nurse  
Kylie Holochak, Public Health Educator  
Elizana-Marie Joseph, AmeriCorps Intern  
Jessica Lovell, Nurse  
Emily Warfle, Public Health Educator

## INTERNS

Kristin Canjura, SUNY Potsdam  
Paige Wisniewski, Slippery Rock University  
**And the numerous nursing interns who joined us throughout the year!**

## STAFF FAREWELLS

Frederick Bogart, Mail Clerk  
Carol Gehen, Nurse  
Susan Haskett, IT Services/Disease Control  
Joan Kellogg, Principal Account Clerk  
Marilyn Reynolds, Supervising Public Health Nurse  
Rachel Yull, AmeriCorps Intern

## YEARS OF SERVICE:

5 years  
22 years  
17 years  
28 years  
17 years  
2 years

Congratulations to **Amy Fancher** and **Todd Kopalek** for graduating from Leadership Tioga! Leadership Tioga is a program designed to educate and assist individuals who live or work in Tioga County and want to learn more about various services, agencies, and resources in our community. They learned how several agencies operate within the county and how they, as individuals, can use their knowledge and skills to become future leaders in the community. It's a great program that promotes personal growth, networking, and a deeper appreciation for the community as a whole.



### Employee of the First Half

#### Joan Kellogg:

Tioga County has announced Joan Kellogg as the winner of Team Member for January 2017. Joan has been with the department for 27 years, working through the ranks from Account Clerk Typist to Principal Account Clerk, the position she now holds. She is a dedicated, knowledgeable contributor to the department, a great team player and a valued member of Public Health.

### Employee of the Second Half

#### Al Knapp :

Al has worked for the Tioga County Public Health Department since 2006. He started as a Public Health Technician and within two years was promoted to Sanitarian. His interest in and commitment to public health is evident in him getting his Master's degree in Public Health and in becoming a Certified Lead Assessor. Al positively impacts our families who need help and guidance in home safety. He is also instrumental in assuring that our restaurants, summer camps and public pools are safe. Al exemplifies what public health is all about.

### Tioga County Employee of the Second Quarter

#### Adam Ace:

Adam started working for Tioga County Public Health as a PH Technician on August 13, 2012. Adam keeps track of all the septic systems being constructed in the county. He learned the GIS mapping system that is now used for multiple areas in public health, which allows for quick recognition of potential Public Health problem areas to be addressed. Adam currently is the Healthy Neighborhoods Coordinator. He shows much knowledge and care for the families of Tioga County. While at a home, he recognized the family was in a very dangerous situation that involved carbon monoxide. He was able to get the family out of the home to safety and call for assistance, and through it all remained calm. Adam took the initiative to improve internal forms for the department which can be auto-loaded into databases, preventing entry errors. There are many other responsibilities Adam oversees. If there is a job that seems impossible, Adam is the person who can do it.

# 2017 Public Health Highlights:



- Over 2,000 children under age ten were served by public health programs: Early Intervention, Children with Special Health Care Needs, Traffic Safety, Mobile Dental Services and the Fluoride Varnish Program
- We are the first health department in the state to have online registration for rabies vaccination clinics
- Free flu vaccines offered to Tioga County residents who had difficulty paying
- Upgraded information systems and technology devices within the department
- Lyme Disease prevention initiative included educating over 150 children in schools on the tick-borne illness and distributing over 1,500 tick removal kits to the community
- Met with several providers to assist in increasing vaccine and lead testing rates
- Built a successful partnership between the Healthy Neighborhoods Program and Tioga Opportunities Housing to complete 119 safety checks
- Secured funding to purchase a new mobile dental unit

## Looking Back at 2017...

### SOME OF OUR NOTABLE NUMBERS:



**1884**  
Dental  
Screenings



**903**  
Disease  
Investigations



**169**  
Animal Bite  
Investigations



**203**  
Early Intervention  
Referrals



**303**  
New Mother  
Calls



**904**  
Animals Vaccinated at  
Rabies Clinics



**38**  
Outreach Events



**309**  
Facebook Posts



**44**  
Press Releases

# Tioga County at a Glance

**Population:** 48,898

**Population Change From 2010 to 2017:** - 4.36%

**Number of Households:** 19,855

**Owner Occupied Housing Rate:** 78.2%

**Median Household Income:** \$57,514

**Individuals Without Medical Insurance:** 2,753

**Unemployed Workers in the Work Force:** 4.4%

**Children Living Below Poverty Level:** 11.7%

**High School Graduates:** 83%



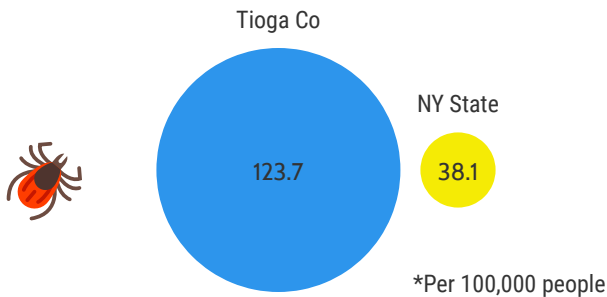
## Snapshot of Our Health



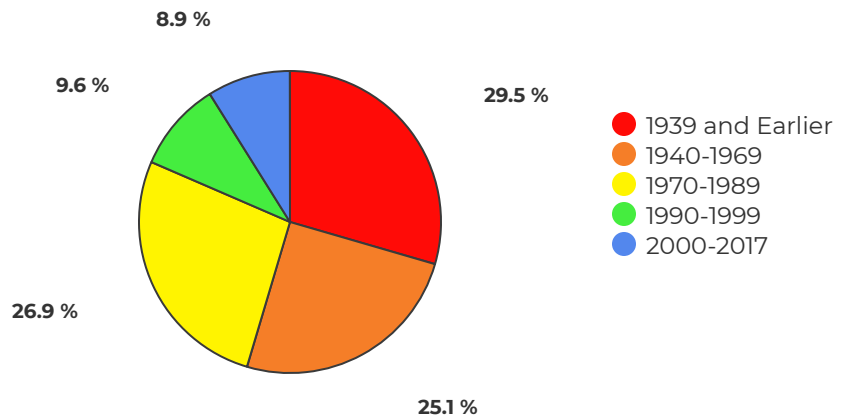
### 5 Farmers' Markets in Tioga County in 2017



### Lyme Disease Rate 2013-15

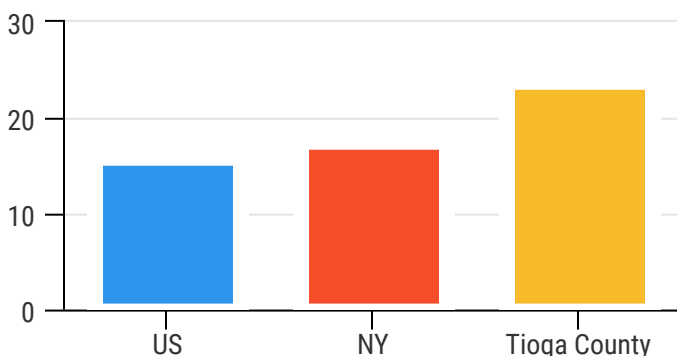


### Age of Homes in Tioga County

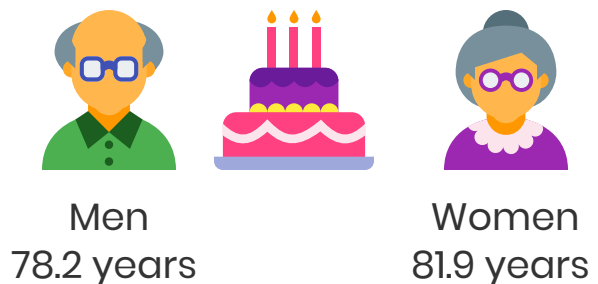


Data from American Community Survey 2016

### 2014 Binge Drinking Rates



### Life Expectancy



Data as reported by New York State Department of Health & 2017 County Health Rankings

# Tioga County All-Stars!

## Immunization Excellence:

- UHS Candor – Increasing DTaP Immunization Rates
- Guthrie Medical Waverly – Increasing Hep B Immunization Rates

## Top 3 Pediatric Lead Testing Doctors' Offices:

- Northern Tioga Center for Family Health in Richford
- UHS Candor
- UHS Newark Valley



## Maintained Consistent Levels of Fluoride in Public Water:

Jeff Parker, Town of Owego

Matthew Shofkom, Town of Owego

## Rabies Immunization Excellence:

Kim Cleveland, Owego Veterinary Hospital

Terry Hills, Day Hollow Animal Hospital

Karen O'Brien, Newark Valley Animal Hospital

Michelle Maine, Owego Veterinary Hospital

Mark Roberts, Owego Veterinary Hospital

Maria Shepler, Owego Veterinary Hospital

**Thank you for making our rabies immunization clinics possible!**

## Pharmacy Consultant:

Dr. John Gatto, The Owego Pharmacy

## Public Health Preparedness

Tioga County Public Health is responsible for protecting the health of our community. To do this we train and prepare for the next unknown threat to the community. Anything from a disease outbreak to water contamination puts the community's health at risk. We also educate residents about the importance of planning for sheltering-in-place, communications and evacuation.

### 2017 Preparedness Activities included:

- Flu Shot Point of Dispensing (POD)
- Community Presentations
- Collaboration with Southern Tier Independence Center (STIC)
- Ongoing Communications Drills within the Department

### Medical Reserve Corps

Tioga County's Medical Reserve Corps Unit (MRC) consists of volunteers, medical professionals, and Public Health staff. Tioga County MRC trains to respond to disasters by taking preparedness courses, completing drills, and working together to ensure our county is prepared.



### Preparedness Reminders:

- ✓ Plan with loved ones and neighbors on what to do in a disaster
- ✓ Pack essential items in case you have to be evacuated or sheltered-in-place. Have extra food, water, medications, First-Aid, flashlight with batteries, portable chargers for phones, and cash
- ✓ Make sure you have enough medications to get you through at least 3 - 5 days
- ✓ Prepare yourself by staying informed via social media, news, NYAlert, and the FEMA app
- ✓ Don't forget to make a plan for your pets and animals



**"You don't have to get prepared, if you stay prepared!"**

# Ticks & Lyme Disease

## STOP LYME - CHECK FOR TICKS!



### Lyme Disease in Tioga County

Lyme disease continues to be a growing issue in Tioga County. In 2017 there were 42 confirmed cases of Lyme disease, with many more that went unreported due to the difficulty of diagnosing Lyme disease. Lyme disease comes from a bacteria that is transmitted from the bite of a deer tick. Symptoms are similar to the flu, but often come with a bull's-eye rash. When spending time outdoors during the late spring and summer months, make sure to keep you and your family protected from the big disease from a little bug!



### Outreach and Education

To better educate the public about the growing numbers of Lyme disease in Tioga County, tick removal kits were given out at rabies clinics, outreach events, and at the front desk of the Public Health clinic. These kits included: educational material, tick identification cards, instructions on how to remove a tick, and even a pair of tweezers! Lyme disease education was also taught to 3rd and 4th graders at Owego-Apalachin Elementary before a summer spent outdoors!



## Rabies

Tioga County Public Health holds several Rabies Vaccination Clinics around the county each year. This was the first year that individuals could pre-register electronically for the rabies clinics, which helped get everyone through the clinic faster. Tioga County was the first health department in New York State to have online registration for their rabies clinics! A huge thank you goes out to our staff and local veterinarians from across the county who make these clinics possible!



### 2017 Rabies Program Statistics



169 Animal Bite Investigations



904 Animals Vaccinated at Rabies Clinics



9 Rabies Vaccination Clinics Held Across Tioga County



Interested in signing up for one of our rabies clinics in 2018? Scan the QR Code or visit the link below to register!

[www.health.ny.gov/go2clinic/54](http://www.health.ny.gov/go2clinic/54)

## Don't Lose Your Best Friend to RABIES!



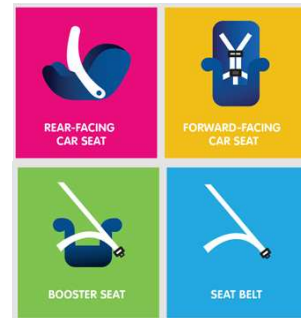
## Vaccinate Your Pets!



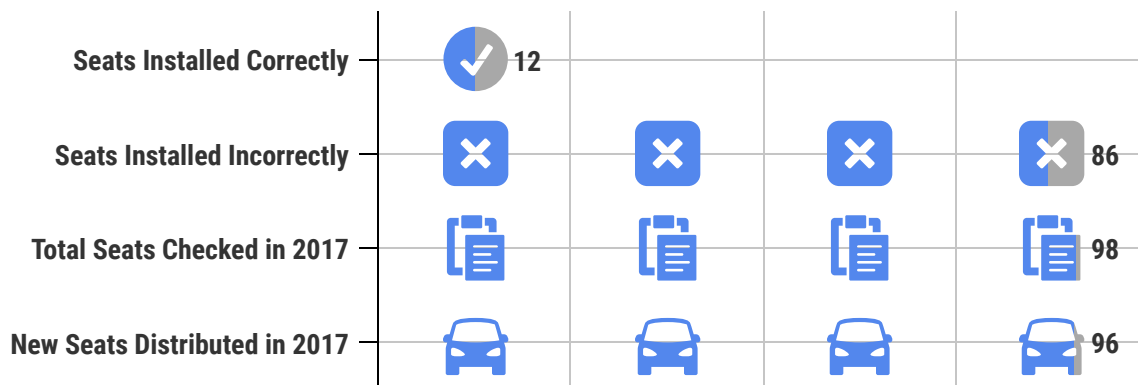
# Child Passenger Safety

We continue to take the lead in the county for Child Passenger Safety. This year four Car Seat Check Events were held all across the county in: Owego, Candor, Spencer and Waverly. Our goal is to always have children leave safer than they were when they came to the fitting station.

**Thank you to all of our CPS Technicians who continue to make our program successful along with the Tioga County Sheriff's Office, Waverly Police Department and Owego Police Department!**

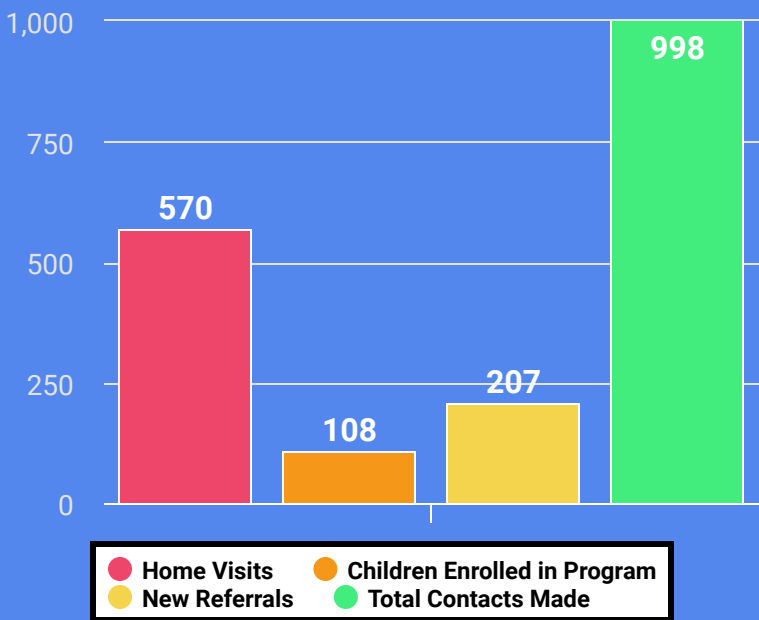


## 2017 Car Seats Inspected & Replaced

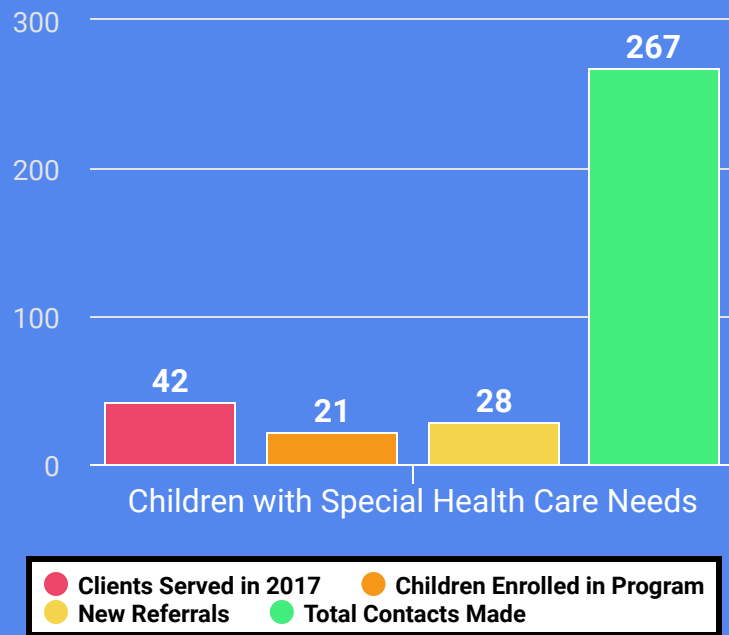


# Tioga County Public Health Children Services

## 2017 Early Intervention Program Numbers



## 2017 Children with Special Health Care Needs Program Numbers



**Early Intervention:** A program for children birth - 3 years old who may have a developmental delay, disability, or condition that affects their development. Services are provided to help your child grow and develop, and for parents to help support and promote their child's development and growth.

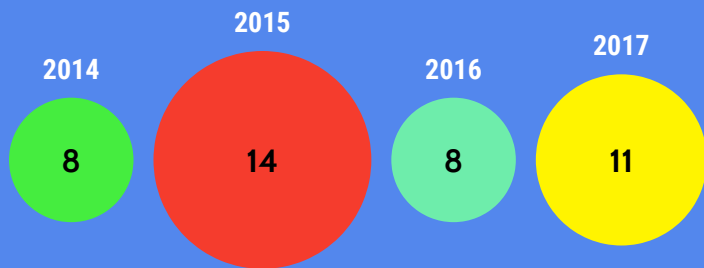
**Children with Special Health Care Needs:** Informational program for children birth - 21 years old who have a serious physical, behavioral, or emotional condition or delay requiring special health related services.

# The Opioid Epidemic

The opioid epidemic continues to get attention at the local, state, and national level. In the past few years, opioid related deaths have surpassed deaths from car crashes, gun violence, and HIV/AIDS. Opioids are killing over 2,500 people every three weeks; that is equivalent to having 9/11 occur every three weeks. Tioga County Public Health, along with numerous other stakeholders in Tioga County, continue to bring awareness to this epidemic. Additional funding from the state has been brought into this region to combat the growing number of opioid addictions and overdoses that are being recorded.

Tioga County Public Health has worked with Trinity-CASA, the lead agency working on substance abuse issues in the county. Throughout the past year there have been several events held across the county including a family fun day event that included Narcan trainings, bounce houses, guest speakers, a memorial vigil and more. We are active participants on the Allies in Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) Coalition and continue to help in the fight against this epidemic.

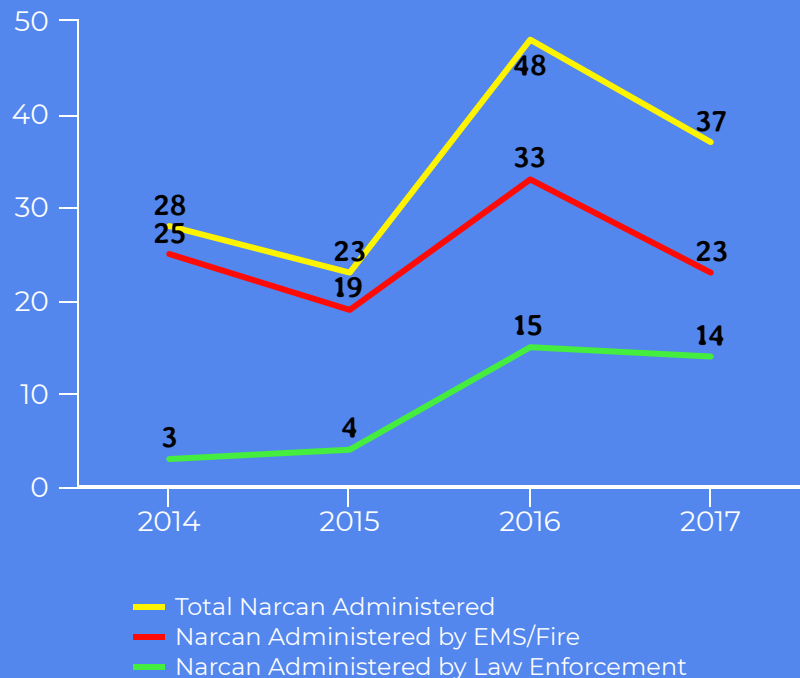
## Opioid Related Deaths in Tioga County



## Narcan

Narcan (also known as Naloxone) is a medication used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. Tioga County Public Health provides law enforcement with Narcan and has it available for anyone from the public who would like to be trained to use it. Rural communities, like Tioga County, can benefit more from having Narcan available in homes because of the long response time of first responders.

## Recorded Narcan Administrations



## Public Health Nursing

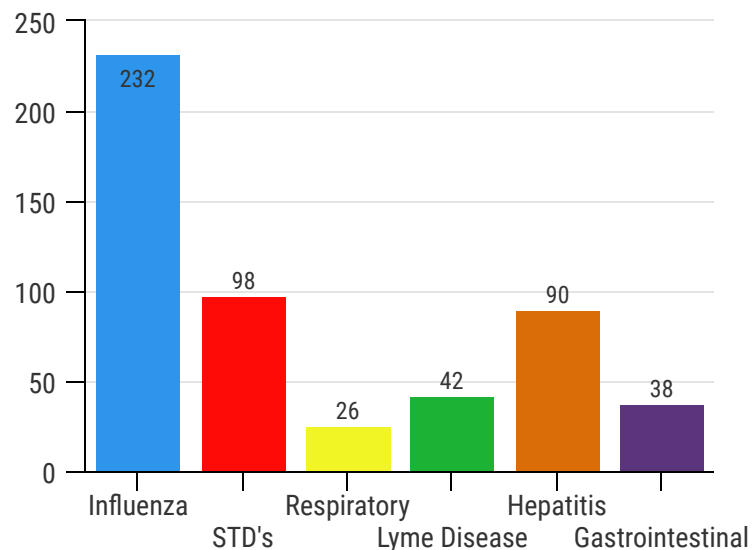
### Our Nursing Services Including:

- Promote vaccines for all age groups
- Lead poisoning education
- Disease control and monitoring
- Illness investigations
- Educate and support new parents
- Provide vaccines for those in need



We collaborate with primary care providers and other health care providers to increase overall vaccination rates and increase lead testing rates for 1 and 2 year olds throughout the county.

## Communicable Diseases Reported in 2017





# SMILE Tioga County!



2017 was another successful year for the Tioga Mobile Dental Program. Adults and children visited the Tioga Dental Van and received services including dental cleanings, sealants, fillings and extractions.

The Fluoride Varnish Program was just as busy applying protective fluoride varnish applications at elementary and Head Start classrooms. Twice a year, participating children receive a fluoride varnish application and a new toothbrush. This program provided over 1,000 fluoride varnish applications to Tioga County children!

Tioga Mobile Dental Van served the community at various sites including all the school districts and the Owego Countryside Community Center.



**Thank you to Tioga County schools for your continued support of the dental program!**

## In 2017 Dental Van Staff Completed:



1800 Screenings



404 Sealants



464 Fillings

## RICHFORD SMILES!

Thanks to a Care Compass Network Award, we were able to organize Richford Smiles. This event was held at the Richford Community Center. Agencies from Tioga and Broome Counties provided information about available resources. Participants received free backpack lunches for children, Stoughton Farm gift cards, free dental services, and hygiene kits.

Richford Smiles was a great opportunity for people to access resources and dental care that are typically limited or non-existent in the area. One participant shared, "This was the first time in many years that I've had my teeth cleaned."



In December of 2017, Tioga County Public Health was awarded a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$300,000 to be used toward the purchase of a new mobile dental vehicle. With additional funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission and Floyd Hooker Foundation, We are able to purchase a new mobile dental unit in 2018!

# Healthy Neighborhoods Program

Our 4th year proved to be our most successful since the program began back in 2013. This program offers free home health and safety checks to all Tioga County residents with no income requirements. These checks identify problems related to fire prevention, mold, lead poisoning, indoor air quality, injury prevention, safe drinking water, pests, and more! Individuals who participate in the program receive free resources and items to respond to their specific needs. We work with numerous agencies throughout the county to help reach clients who can benefit from this program, or who have a serious health and safety risk occurring in their home.

## Look At All We Accomplished in 2017:

 <b>511</b> Healthy Neighborhood Visits	 <b>19</b> Visits for Lead Concerns	 <b>25</b> Visits for Mold and Humidity Concerns	 <b>68</b> Pest Management Concern Visits	 <b>131</b> Visits for Mobility Concerns
 <b>256</b> Referrals From Outside Agencies	 <b>173</b> Radon Tests Completed	 <b>293</b> Smoke Detectors Were Replaced	 <b>78</b> Homes Provided with Child Proofing Supplies	 <b>301</b> Carbon Monoxide Detectors Provided

## Teaming Up with Tioga Opportunities:

In July 2017, Tioga County Public Health teamed up with Tioga Opportunities Housing to complete 119 Healthy Neighborhoods Visits! These visits were completed during the apartments' annual inspections. Environmental Health went in to the senior living apartments and did safety checks on things like tripping hazards, working smoke detectors, and indoor air quality for those with asthma. Residents were given a goody bag filled with new cleaning supplies, non-slip shower mats, a water bottle, and a Tioga County Resource Guide. The partnership between the Healthy Neighborhoods Program and Tioga Opportunities Housing is one that we hope to continue for years to come!



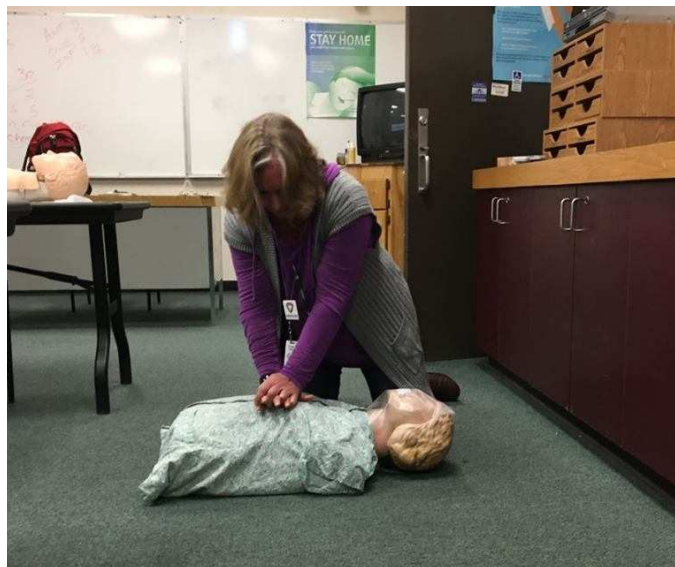
## Elevated Levels of Radon in Tioga County

In August 2017 a report from New York State showed that Tioga County was among the five counties with the highest rates of radon across the entire state, with about 54% of the homes in our county having elevated levels of radon. Radon is an invisible gas that is produced by the natural decay of uranium and is found in nearly all soils. This gas can get into your home through the foundation and cause serious health risks for those living in the home. Exposure over a long period of time increases one's risk of developing lung cancer; in fact radon is the leading cause of lung cancer related deaths in nonsmokers. After a press release to multiple media sources, there was an influx of calls to us. We were able to do free radon testing in 124 homes across the county! We encourage radon testing in the home so families who are exposed to elevated levels of radon are aware of it and are able to address the issue.





Rabies Vaccination Clinic at Hickories Park



Mel Miller completing CPR Recertification



Supporting Men's Health Week



Adam Ace at the Spencer-Van Etten Community Showcase



Staff and their families participating in the 2017 Strawberry Festival Parade



Jenna Dyer helping fit helmets at the Open Door Mission Event in Waverly



Owego Gardens hosts presenters from Tioga County Public Health, Owego Fire Department, and Tioga County Red Cross to learn how to prepare for, and what to do in an emergency



Amy Fancher and Kylie Holochak doing a morning interview with WEBO



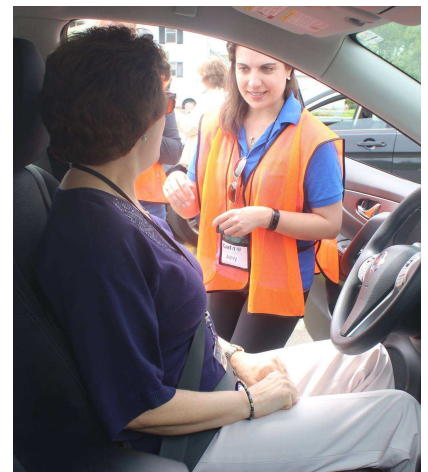
Supporting National Wear Red Day to bring awareness to heart disease



Health and Human Services Building comes together to bring awareness to domestic violence



Lyme disease education at Owego-Apalachin Elementary



Amy Fancher participates in CarFit

# Board of Health

Joseph Picco, DDS, President  
Terry Hills, DVM  
Vincent Leonti, MD  
Rani Kapur-Pado, DO  
James Raftis, Jr., DO  
Maureen Hawley, BSN  
Thomas F. Nytch, DVM  
Kevin Millar, CRNA  
William H. Standinger III



## Health & Human Services Committee

William Standinger III, Chair  
Tracy Monell  
Dennis Mullen  
Loretta Sullivan

**Thank you to everyone who helped  
make 2017 a successful year for  
Tioga County Public Health!**

# Tioga County Public Health Staff



Adam Ace  
Lynn Bennett  
Barbara Bilbrey  
Jenna Dyer  
Amy Fancher  
Mark Griep

Kyle Holochak  
Rani Kapur-Pado  
Al Knapp  
Todd Kopalek  
Alysia Lewis  
Jessica Lovell


Nancy Mastro  
Lisa McCafferty  
Denis McCann  
Barb McCormick  
Laura McDermott

Susan Medina  
Melanie Miller  
Robert Morley  
Dan Scherrer  
Lisa Schumacher  
Katie Searles

Margaret Shuler  
Heather Vroman  
Emily Warfle  
Denise Werner  
Marilyn Wertman  
Elizana-Marie Joseph

**Keep an eye out...we've got some awesome things to come in 2018!**

**Want To Know More? Here's how you can get in touch!**

 607-687-8600

 Tioga County Health Department

 <https://tiogacountyny.com/departments/public-health/>



