

Health Department

The City of Berlin Health Department works with the public to try to ensure the health of our community. The Health Department is charged with doing inspections for health and safety such as trash complaints, insects, etc. We enforce the city ordinances and state laws as needed. Within the Health Department there is the City of Berlin Home Health Program and a Public Health Nurse. The Home Health program assists home bound patients with their medical needs. During Fiscal year 2012 there were 518 patients served by nurses, physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and home health aides. The offices accepts Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance and self-pay as well as payment from the V.A. Our Public Health nurses worked with the State of New Hampshire and Coos County Family Health Services to provide flu shots free to low income families during the 2011 flu season working with a grant from Anthem. Members of our community were immunized at various places such as Salvation Army, Tri-County CAP Fuel Assistance Office, White Mountain Community College, Family Health and the City Hall. The Public Health Nurses provided a total of 208 Cholesterol screenings, 208 diabetic screenings, 113 lice checks, 8 Hepatitis B immunizations, 247 Mantoux tests (TB) and many blood pressure checks.

Clinics are held throughout the community. 144 patients were served at blood pressure clinics at Northern Lights, 152 patients at St. Regis, 242 at Wal-Mart, 119 at the Holiday Center and 138 at the Family Resource Center in Gorham. Foot clinics were held at Corner Stone for 64 patients and at the City Health Department for 197. We also have added in home foot care

clinics to our list of services. The Foot Care Clinic cost is \$15 in office and \$25 for at home.

Cholesterol screening can be scheduled in the office daily. The cost is \$15 and included is a blood pressure read and diabetes screening. A glucose test, otherwise known as a diabetes screening, is \$1.00 as is blood pressure screening. Mantoux tests, otherwise known as TB tests, have been \$10 but due to increase in manufacturing costs the city will be charging \$14 as of November 1, 2012. In office B12 shots are \$8 and Hepatitis shots are \$35 for the series of three. Our Public Health nurse is available to discuss health concerns Monday through Friday at no cost. The Health Department also has pamphlets on a variety of health issues available to the public for general education.

The Home Health Program serves clients of all age groups who are home bound. We do everything from "baby" checks of newborns to post surgery care of anyone who has had a surgery. Our nurses provide care based on orders from the client's physician so it is important for anyone wanting services to ask their doctor for a referral first.

We look forward to serving the various health needs of the community in the next fiscal year.

Visit us at:

www.berlinnh.gov/Pages/BerlinNH_Health

Respectfully Submitted,
Angela Martin Giroux,
Health & Welfare Director

The City of Berlin
Home Health Program
"We still make house calls" ☺