ANNUAL REPORT 2017
A Year of Community Connections

Benzie-Leelanaau District Health Department
Ph: 231-882-4409
website: http://www.bldhd.org/ email: http://www.bldhd.org/contact
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A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICER AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR

It is our pleasure to present the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department 2017 Annual Report to the community! As you explore the pages that follow we hope that you can feel the enthusiasm of our dedicated staff for the many ways that they serve the residents of Benzie and Leelanau counties each day.

It is becoming more apparent that there are major drivers of illness and death which are not necessarily medical, and we must shift our approach to identify and address these root causes which often include social determinants of health such as housing, transportation and food insecurity. The circumstances in which people live have a direct and important effect on their health. In fact, it’s often said that our zip code is more important than our genetic code in determining our lifelong health. A healthy community requires strong and collaborative relationships among those charged with its care. The evolving role of Public Health as a “Chief Health Strategist” within a community recognizes the importance of partnerships across sectors and requires the health department to rise to the challenge to engage, inspire, and partner to achieve the healthiest communities!

Looking back on 2017, we see so many examples of our progress toward this goal. We are constantly striving to achieve the highest level of excellence and as a Chief Health Strategist we know that the heart of this work lies in innovation, alignment of vision and values, and committed partnership. Mobilizing community action beyond our direct reach, fully participating in partnerships with our peers and colleagues, and engaging in data driven decisions and initiatives are just a few of the strategies at work to achieve the highest impact. Both the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance and the Northern Michigan Community Health Innovation Region are strong examples of the collective impact of partnership.

We are hard at work protecting the environment, providing care and services to our most vulnerable residents, and promoting health and wellness through many programs focused on prevention. Our ability to respond to emerging health threats such as Hepatitis A and environmental contamination depends upon our strong foundation.

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has a proven reputation for its ability to weather a constantly changing environment and limited resources. In 2017 we have demonstrated our ability to reach beyond our own walls and provide leadership for several collaborative projects. We can only do this through the support of our dedicated Board of Health members who believe in and support our mission as well as the work of our highly qualified staff. We hope that you enjoy reflecting on their work as much as we have.

In Good Health,

Lisa Peacock, Health Officer

Joshua Meyerson, Medical Director
MISSION-STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE BENZIE-LEELANAU DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS TO PREVENT DISEASE, PROLONG LIFE, AND PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH THROUGH:

- Prevention and control of environmental health hazards
- Prevention and control of diseases
- Prevention and control of health problems of particularly vulnerable populations
- Development of health care facilities and health services delivery systems
- Regulation of health care facilities and health services systems to the extent provided by law

AUTHORITY

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department was established in 1996 as a district health department in accordance to Part 24, Sec 333.2415 of Act 368 of 1978, the Michigan Public Health Code, where two or more counties may unite to create a district health department by a majority vote of each governing entity – Benzie County and Leelanau County. The department is given the powers and duties through Act 368 to:

- Implement and enforce laws for which responsibility is vested in the local health department.
- Utilize vital and health statistics and provide for epidemiological and other research studies for protecting the public health.
- Make investigations and inquiries as to the causes of disease and especially of epidemics; the causes of morbidity and mortality; and the causes, prevention, and control of environmental health hazards, nuisances, and sources of illness.
- Plan, implement, and evaluate health education through the provision of expert technical assistance, or financial support, or both.
- Provide or demonstrate the provision of required services as set forth in section 2473(2).
- Have powers necessary or appropriate to perform the duties and exercise the powers given by law to the local health officer and which are not otherwise prohibited by law.
- Plan, implement, and evaluate nutrition services by provision of expert technical assistance or financial support, or both.
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PERSONAL HEALTH
Maternal and Infant Health Program
Reproductive Health
Sexually Transmitted Disease Screening
HIV Testing & Counseling
TB (Tuberculosis Testing)
Hearing & Vision Screening
Woman Infants & Children (WIC)
Breastfeeding Guidance
Immunizations
Children’s Special Health Care Services
Communicable Disease Follow-up
Lead Management
Fluoride Treatment and Dental Screening
Community Health Education and Promotion

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Septic and Well Water Installation Inspections
Monitoring of Type II Water Supply Systems
Fixed and Temporary Food Establishments Inspections
Inspections of Public Pools, Campgrounds, and FIA Facilities
Monitoring of Environmental (Vector-Borne) Diseases

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
Mass Dispensing and Distribution of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies
Emergency Operations Coordination
Threat and Hazard Vulnerability Risk Assessments
Emergency Public Information and Warning
Information Sharing
Responder Safety and Health

SERVICE & OFFICE LOCATIONS

Benzie County Office
6051 Frankfort Hwy, Ste 100
Benzonia, MI 49616
Phone: 231-882-4409
Fax: 231-882-2204
Hrs.: M-F 8am-4:30pm
Closed for lunch: 12 – 1pm

Leelanau County Office
7401 E. Duck Lake Rd.
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653
Phone: 231-256-0200
Fax: 231-256-0225
Hrs.: M-F 8am-4:30pm
Closed for lunch: 12 – 1pm
2017 BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Melinda Lautner, Chairperson
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
Term: 1/1/2013 - Present

Gary Sauer, Vice Chairperson
Benzie County Board of Commissioners
Term: 1/1/2015 - Present

Roger Griner
Benzie County Board of Commissioners
Term: 1/1/2014 - Present

Casey Noonan
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
Term: 1/1/2017 - Present

Dr. George Ryckman
Benzie County Citizen at Large*
Term: 1/1/2017 - 12/31/2018

Carolyn Rentenbach
Leelanau County Citizen at Large*
Term: 1/1/2017 - 12/31/2018

* Serves two-year term

2017 Board of Health Meeting Dates

January 26, 2017               August 3, 2017
March 23, 2017                September 28, 2017
May 25, 2017                  November 16, 2017

Meetings are held at either Benzie or Leelanau office starting at 4:00pm. Copies of agendas and meeting minutes are available online at: http://www.bldhd.org/board-of-health
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

2017 Employee Stats
Total No. of Employees: 29
No. of Personal Health staff: 18*
No. of Environmental Health staff: 8
No. of Administrative Services staff: 3
* Includes Emergency Preparedness Staff
2017 A YEAR OF ‘COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS’

Community Health Innovation Regions (CHIRs) are one of four foundational components to the State Innovation Model, a four-year, $70M federal grant awarded to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). There are five Community Health Innovations Regions in the State, including the 10-county Northern Michigan Community Health Innovation Region. According to Michigan’s Blueprint for Healthcare Innovation, CHIRs are geographic areas where partners act cohesively with a broad-based vision for region-wide impact, to make the environment healthier and to connect health services with relevant community services. The goal for all CHIRs is to achieve the “Triple Aim”: better health at a lower cost with improved satisfaction.

In August of 2017, Community Connections accepted our first community referrals. Community Connections is a clinical community linkages model, operating as a part of the CHIR, for linking patients who have health related social needs to resources in the community. It features an electronic patient assessment that identifies patients with problems accessing things like healthcare, food insecurity, housing, transportation, and other social determinants of health. This assessment is administered primarily in patient centered medical homes, but referrals can also come from community organizations. Patient/clients who need linkages are referred to the Community Connections Hub based on where they live.

There are 3 local Hubs in our 10 county CHIR region. The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department staffs the Grand Traverse Regional Hub, which serves Benzie, Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties. Each Hub is staffed by a HUB Coordinator, Registered Nurse, Social Worker, Community Health Worker, and Call Center Operator. As part of the kick off for this program, 4 Public Health Techs were sent to be trained as Community Health Workers. This was an intensive course, requiring 166 hours of training, with 8 core competencies. The purpose of the training was to prepare them to effectively support and assist individuals to achieve optimal levels of health and well-being.

From a Community Connections Client ~ “Thanks so much for all your help, I loved that you could come to my house to help me fill out applications, that made it so much easier”
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FY 16/17 Expenditures
$2,886,853

- Personnel - 64%
- Space Costs - 17%
- Other - 3%
- Travel - 3%
- Supplies - 5%
- Professional Services - 6%
- Communications - 2%

FY 16/17 Revenues
$2,891,864

- Federal & State Grants - 40%
- Fees & Collections - 30%
- Local Funds - 19%
- Other - 11%
NOTABLE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES IN 2017

**Administration**

*Strategic Planning:* In December, staff participated in a strategic planning session using the Technology of Participation Process. Over the year, the Department developed its 3-year Strategic Plan noting a variety of activities including improving employee health and safety, cross-training staff in multiple roles, and increasing public outreach.

*Certificate of Accreditation:* The Department received a passing score of 95% towards its accreditation as a local public health department through the Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Program. The program is a collaborative effort between several agencies with emphasis in public health and environmental health.

*Benzie Office Renovations:* The renovation of the Benzie Community Resource Center was finalized with NMHSI’s Dental Clinic moving into the first floor, and Environmental Health and Administrative staff moving to the lower level. This moved allowed for a separate room dedicated for the public to come in and sit down with EH staff in reviewing site plans for septic and well installations.

*New BLDHD Logo:* The Department worked with the Career Tech Center in Traverse City in designing a new logo.

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**Support Staff:**

Dodie Putney, Director of Administrative Services  
Heidi Roper, Reimbursement Specialist  
Kris Malkowski, Account Clerk
**Community Connections:** Implemented, along with other health departments in northern Michigan, a new program that connects people with specialized healthcare needs in their community as well as more guidance and assistance over the phone, and/or in-person with community resources.

**SCRIPT:** Began work in partnership with regional hospitals, health departments and the March of Dimes to implement the SCRIPT smoking cessation program for pregnant women. Planning and training was conducted in 2017, with full implementation to begin in 2018.

**Health Systems Change Project:** Began development of policies and procedures to address tobacco use for ALL health department clients, including providing nicotine replacement medications and lifestyle counseling. Full implementation of this project will begin in 2018.

**Parenting Communities Partnership:** Shared staff with Parenting Communities of Leelanau County to expand home visiting, playgroups, parenting education and other offerings for families who are parenting young children.

**Healthy Futures:** Completed a pilot project to enhance the Healthy Futures model of universal home visiting for new mothers and babies, with the goal of increasing breastfeeding support.

**Maternal-Child Health Assessment:** With other local health departments in Northern Michigan, completed an assessment of Maternal-Child Health. Breastfeeding duration, access to mental health services, and Smoking among pregnant women were the three priorities identified in this process.

**Mom Power:** Implemented the first Mom Power group in Leelanau County. This impactful, 10-week program is designed to increase attachment and enhance parenting among families at high risk for child abuse or neglect.

**Continuous Quality Improvement Project:** Conducted to ensure all eligible women and infants are offered enrollment in the Maternal-Infant Health Program.

**Expanded Certified Lactation Consultant:** Services provided by 2 additional nurses that received their IBCLC (Lactation Consultant Certification), making a total of 3 IBCLC providers at the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department. This allows us to bill insurance for lactation support services, increases access and support for Leelanau County families.

**Support Staff:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Klein, Director of Personal Health</td>
<td>Ruth Griner, Hearing/Vision Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debbie Aldridge, Personal Health Supervisor</td>
<td>Jennifer Flohe-Payne, WIC Counselor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn Jurek, Public Health Nurse</td>
<td>Katie Hafner, WIC Counselor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Shafer, Public Health Nurse</td>
<td>Vicky Kriskywicz, Public Health Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachelle Stapleton, WIC Coordinator</td>
<td>Cyndi Sauer, Public Health Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Stowe, Social Worker</td>
<td>Jan Frazee, Nurse Practitioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birdie Besey, Public Health Nurse</td>
<td>Clarissa Roman, Public Health Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Burns, Public Health Nurse</td>
<td>Rachel Pomeroy, Public Health Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Husted, Office Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Environmental Health

**Low Risk Foods Consultation:** For temporary food service events, those serving “low-risk foods” are now able to receive consultation prior to the event rather than an on-site inspection at the time of the event. Food operators are educated, and the proposed operations are reviewed with a Sanitarian at the EH Office. This saves the Department time, staff availability, and financial resources which are needed in conducting on-site inspections.

**MDEQ Certification:** In June, the Environmental Health passed its annual audit by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in its non-community public water (Type 2) and residential/public (Type 3) water supply programs.

**National Environmental Health Association Conference:** EH staff attended the NEHA’s conference in July in Grand Rapids. This was the first time it was held in Michigan.

**Support Staff:**

- Tom Fountain, Environmental Health Director
- Bill Crawford, Sanitarian II – On-Site/Wells
- Clay McNitt, Sanitarian II – On-Site/Wells
- Eric Johnston, Sanitarian II – On-Site/Wells/Type II
- Marc Grossnickle, Sanitarian II – On-Site/Wells
- Tom Rademacher, Sanitarian II – Food Service
- Sanna Johnson, Environmental Health Secretary (Benzie Office)
- Vicki Houdek, Environmental Health Secretary (Leelanau Office)
Emergency Preparedness

**Closed POD Exercise:** In October, emergency preparedness staff participated with Grand Traverse Band (GTB) in exercising their plans for dispensing medications to their members in what is referred to as a **Closed Point of Dispensing** operation (Closed POD). It was an opportunity for the department to test its communication systems with GTB and practice locating supplies of medications for GTB’s needs from community health and medical care providers.

**Mass Casualty Exercise:** In June, staff participated in Benzie County’s mass casualty exercise, with Emergency Management partners, held at the Governmental Center in Benzonia. It was an opportunity to show the skills and resources that the Health Department can provide in this type of emergency, which is often overlooked. Three nurses helped in triaging patients away from the wreckage and were able to take vitals to determine if they needed emergency medical care.

**PHEP Desk Training:** To increase training opportunities, staff were provided with training that allowed them to remain at their desks and go through a written scenario involving a disease. The scenario provided hyperlinks to information sought through the various websites including information about the disease (*Leptospirosis*) from the CDC, a video through YouTube on Point of Dispensing (POD) operations, and descriptions of the Strategic National Stockpile on the CDC’s website.

**Table Top Exercise:** The Health Officer, program Directors, and a few others participated in a table top exercise in which the emphasis in responding through the scenario was identifying the methods and procedures in obtaining additional staff, equipment, and resources as identified in the **Administrative Preparedness Plan**. This allowed for key decision-making staff to learn and become aware of the policies and procedures there are within the health department, as well as both Leelanau and Benzie Counties’ policies, regarding procuring resources and vendor contracts.

**Support Staff:**

Jim Reardon, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
## 2017 SERVICE RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Health Program</th>
<th>Maternal Infant Health Services</th>
<th>228 clients / 1,404 visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Services</td>
<td>1,929 clients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Children’s Special Health Care Services</td>
<td>115 clients / 75 services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Children Lead Testing</td>
<td>107 performed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Immunizations</td>
<td>579 vaccines administered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Healthy Futures</td>
<td>87 visits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reproductive Health</td>
<td>160 clients seen / 442 visits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hearing Screenings</td>
<td>1,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vision Screenings</td>
<td>2,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dental Screening/Fluoride Administration</td>
<td>88 children served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Connections</td>
<td>169 client referrals made</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Health Program</th>
<th>Vacant Property Evaluations</th>
<th>120</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Campground Licensing and Inspections</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Swimming Pool Licensing and Inspections</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Septic Pumper Truck and Disposal Site/Storage Inspections</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rabies and West Nile Virus Testing</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Swimming Beach Monitoring</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fixed Food Service Inspections</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sewage Permits Issued</td>
<td>344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Remodel Septic Reviews</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Point of Sale Inspections</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DHHS Facility Inspections</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Well Permits</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Type II Non-Community Water System Inspections</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Temporary Food License Inspections</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow-up Fixed Food Inspections</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Food Service Plan Review</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORTABLE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (3 YRS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Bites</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Rabies (Bat)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botulism</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campylobacter</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickenpox</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chikungunya</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coccidioidomycosis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptosporidiosis</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dengue Fever</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Coli</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ehrlichiosis Anaplasma</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giardiasis</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemophilus Influenza</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Histoplasmosis</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyme Disease</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meningitis-Aseptic</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meningitis-Bacterial</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mycobacterium-Non-TB</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pertussis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmonellosis</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shigellosis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strep pneumoniae-Inv</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streptococcal Disease, Grp A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TB</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varicella-Zoster (VZ) infection</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additionally, staff were involved in monitoring and following up with a case involving Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, one case of Hemolytic Uremic syndrome (HUS), two cases of Zika virus, and conducting a personal health assessment with a refugee.
**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS**

*Joshua Meyerson, MD* was nominated and received a prestigious award from the MDHHS for recognizing his excellence in Public Health Leadership through the Hometown Hero Project.

*Ruth Griner, Vicky Kriskywicz, Clarissa Roman, and Cyndi Sauer* each completed a rigorous 8 week and 128 hours of trainings, including projects and exams, to receive their certification as a Community Health Worker through the Michigan Community Health Workers Training Program.

*Autumn Jurek, RN and Jenny Shafer, RN* received Lactation Consultant Certification.

*Michelle Klein, RN* received her Public Health Certificate through the University of Florida.

*Cyndi Sauer, Rachel Pomeroy, and Jamie Leyland, RN* were hired in as additional staff in the Personal Health Unit.

*Debbie Aldridge, RN* became the Department’s new Community Connections Coordinator.

*Tom Rademacher, RS* retired after 21 years of service with the Health Department. Tom served as a Sanitarian - Food Service Coordinator for the Environmental Health Unit, establishing long-time relationships with restaurants and food establishments in making sure of safe food preparation and service throughout Benzie and Leelanau counties. *Nickolas Dow* was hired as the new Food Service Coordinator and started a few weeks before Tom’s last day for Tom to take the time to train and educate Nick on all the materials and procedures he had created the past 21 years.

*Jan Frazee, RN* retired after 7 years with the Health Department, as a Nurse Practitioner. Jan was seen by many in the Reproductive Health Clinics in both the Lake Leelanau office and the Benzonia office.