



Public Health Reaccreditation Update

Goodhue County HHS Board
February 17, 2026

Ruth Greenslade, MPP Healthy Communities Supervisor



About Ruth Greenslade

- Healthy Communities Supervisor
- Masters in Public Policy, University of Minnesota
- Leads a team of 9 staff focused on community health and foundational capabilities
- Areas of work: Healthy Eating, Active Living, Tobacco, Cannabis, Opioids, Suicide Prevention, Traffic Safety, CHNA/CHIP, Equity, Strategic Plan, Accreditation, Performance Management & Quality Improvement, Emergency Preparedness, Communications
- 12 years with Goodhue County
- Previous experience: Dodge County & U of M Extension
- Fun fact: Former Goodhue County 4-H Council President



Agenda

Background

What is Reaccreditation?

Timeline

GCHHS's path to Reaccreditation

Value

Why Reaccreditation?

Background

What is Reaccreditation?

Continuous Improvement
toward
National Standards



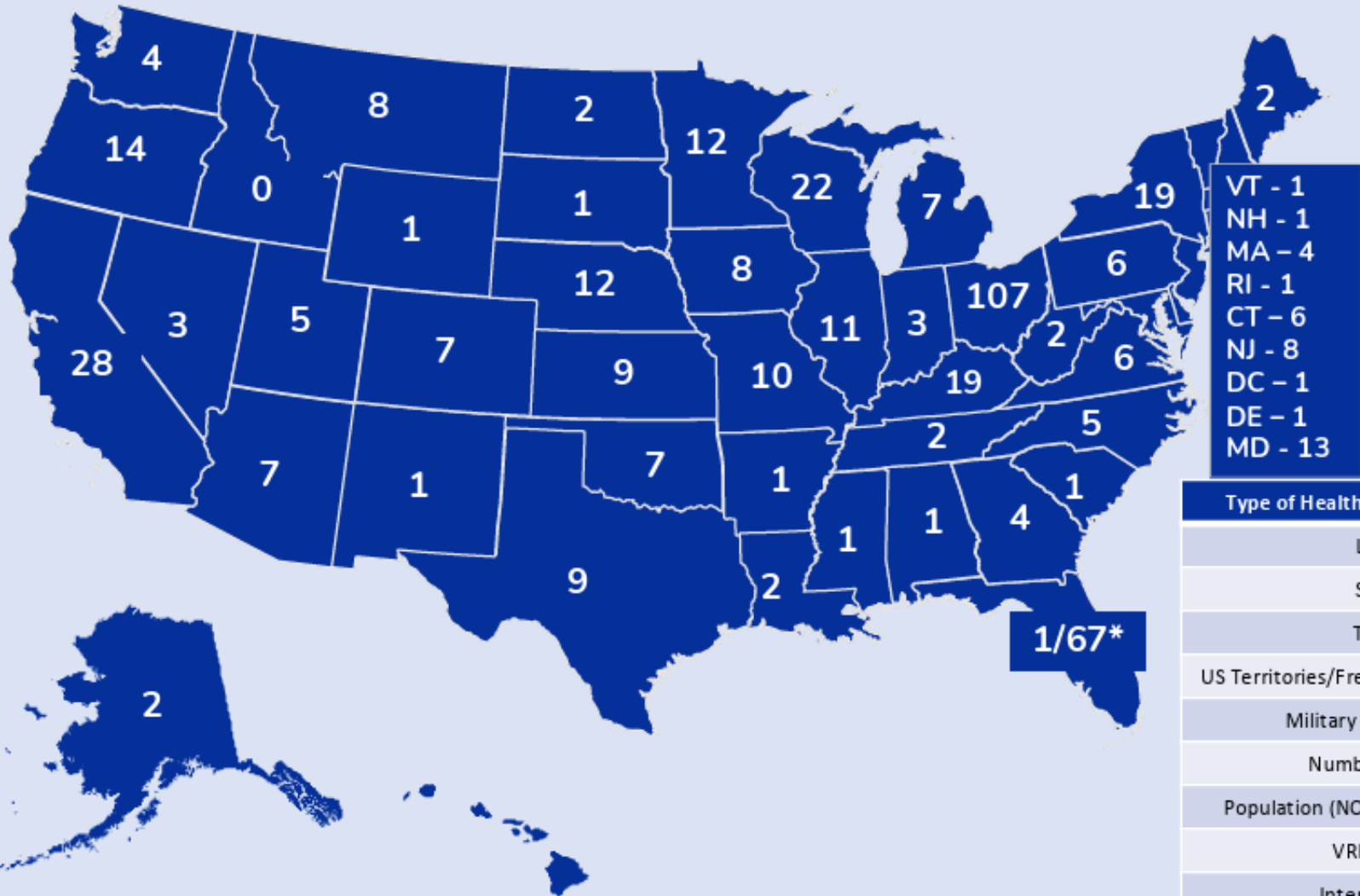
Standards
& Measures for
Reaccreditation
Version 2022

What is Reaccreditation?

Reaccreditation ensures accredited departments continue to improve their public health practice.

To maintain accreditation status, a health department must be evaluated against national standards 5 years after accreditation status was awarded.

Accreditation Activity as of November 24, 2025



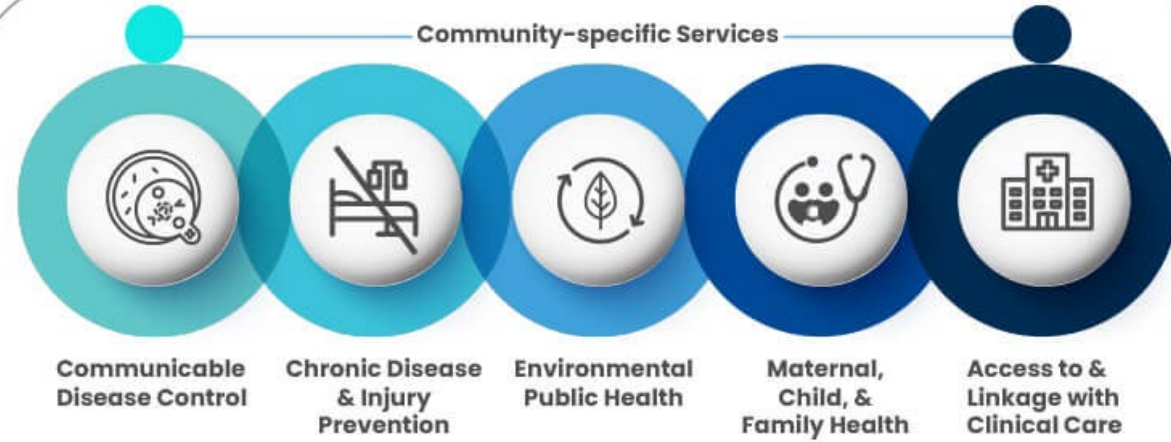
Numbers on the map represent the total number of accredited health departments and vital records and health statistics units in each state.

Type of Health Department/Unit	Accredited	In Process	Total in e-PHAB
Local	414	158	572
State	40	3	43
Tribal	8	6	14
US Territories/Freely Associated States	-	3	3
Military Installations	5	10	15
Number of HDs	467	180	647
Population (NOT Unduplicated)**	413,917,300	35,326,629	449,243,929
VRHS Unit	5	16	21
International	1	-	1

Applicant names are kept confidential *Single accreditation for multiple health departments **US population based on US Census Bureau 2020 of 331,449,281

Foundational Public Health Services

Foundational Areas



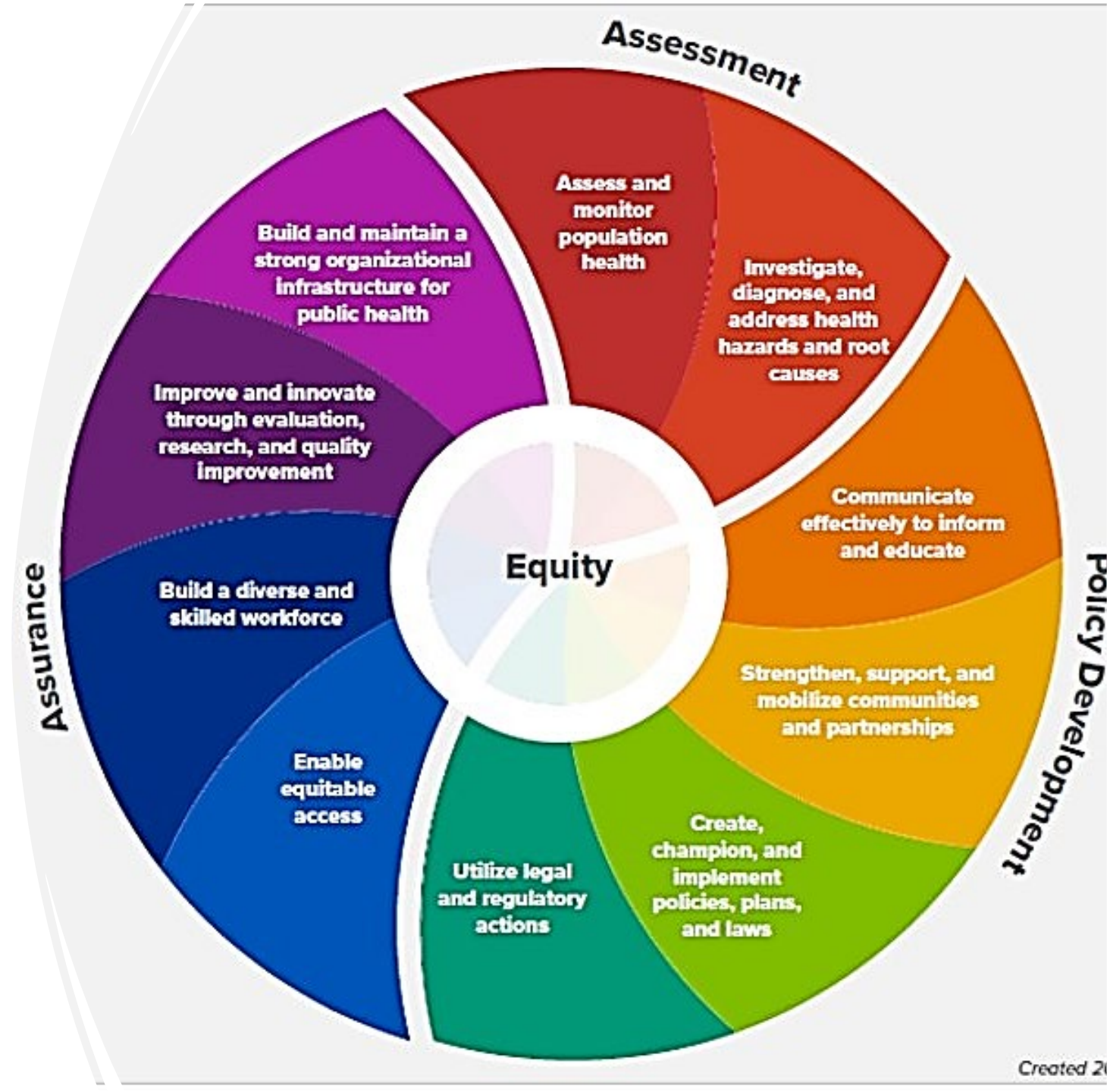
Foundational Capabilities

Assessment & Surveillance	Community Partnership Development	Equity	Organizational Competencies
Policy Development & Support	Accountability & Performance Management	Emergency Preparedness & Response	Communications

EQUITY

10 Essential PH Services

To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities



Foundational Public Health Services



THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

To protect and promote the health of all people in our communities

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve optimal health for all, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and services that ensure good health and seek to remove obstacles and systemic and structural barriers, such as poverty, racism, gender discrimination, and other forms of oppression, that have resulted in health inequities. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.



Standards & Measures for Reaccreditation

Version 2022

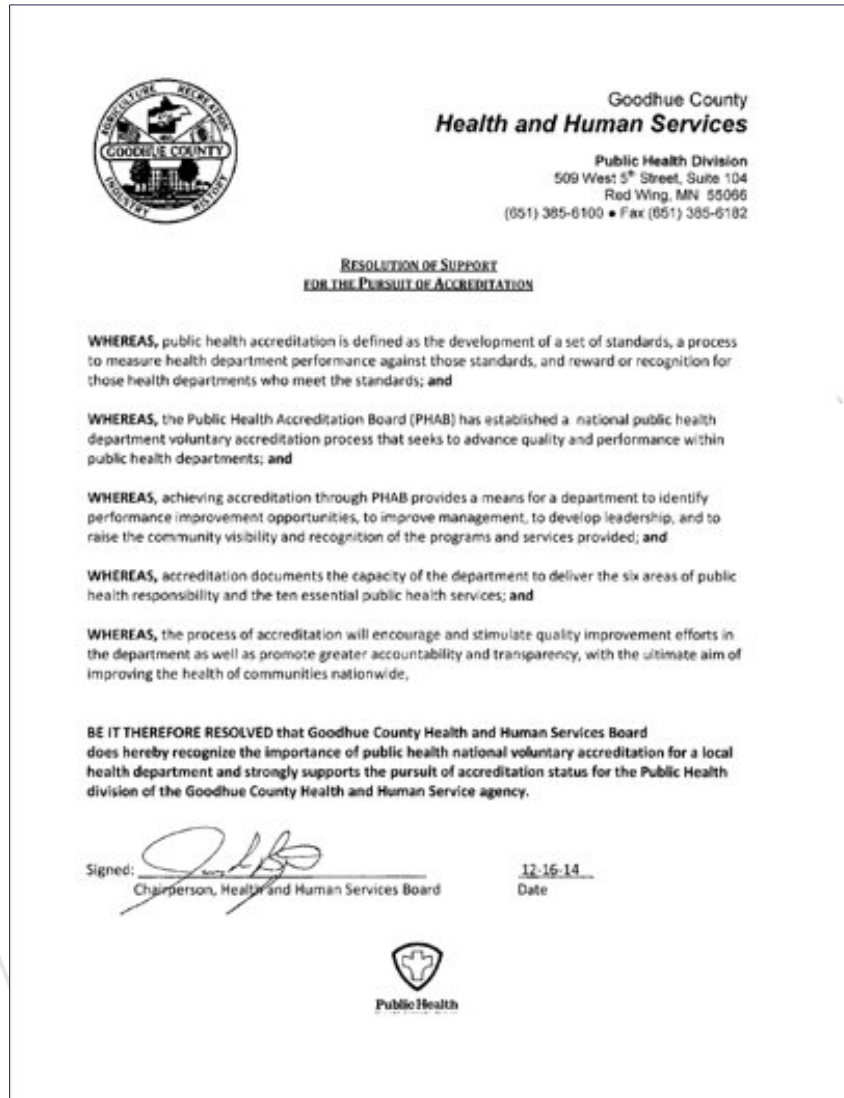
- Continuous improvement
- Governmental

- Minimum
- Governmental

- Describes activities
- Governmental + community partners

Timeline

HHS Board Resolution, Dec. 2014



GCHHS Accredited, June 2019

GOODHUE COUNTY NEWS FLASH

Posted on: June 21, 2019

Congratulations to Goodhue County Health & Human Services!

Goodhue County Health and Human Services announced today that it has achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The national accreditation program works to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and ultimately transforming the quality and performance of the nation's state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments. Goodhue County Health & Human Services is one of fewer than 300 health departments that have thus far achieved accreditation through PHAB since the organization launched in 2011.



The Lake City Graphic

Public health earns accreditation

From Goodhue County Health and Human Services, Goodhue County Health and Human Services has announced that it has achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The national accreditation program, jointly supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Public Health Accreditation Board, works to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and ultimately transforming the quality and performance of the nation's state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments. Goodhue County Health & Human Services is one of fewer than 300 health departments that have thus far achieved accreditation through PHAB since the organization launched in 2011. "During this process, we identified strengths and weaknesses in our public health departments in a strong commitment to their public health mission," said PHAB President. "Goodhue County Health and Human Services has made an important contribution to the program. As of June 11, 2019, there are now 268 PHAB-accredited health departments."

PAGE 4A • NEWS-RECORD, WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019

Goodhue County HHS awarded national accreditation

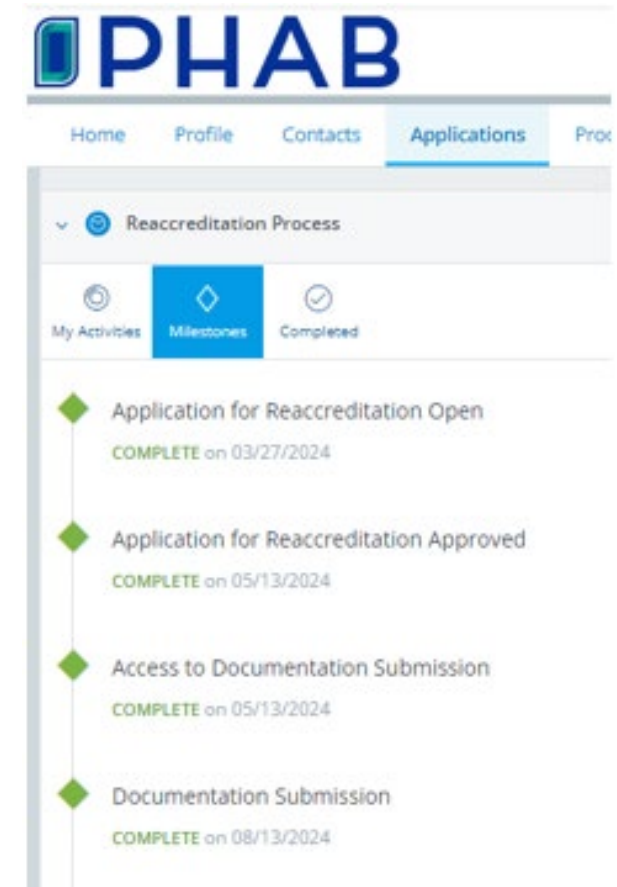
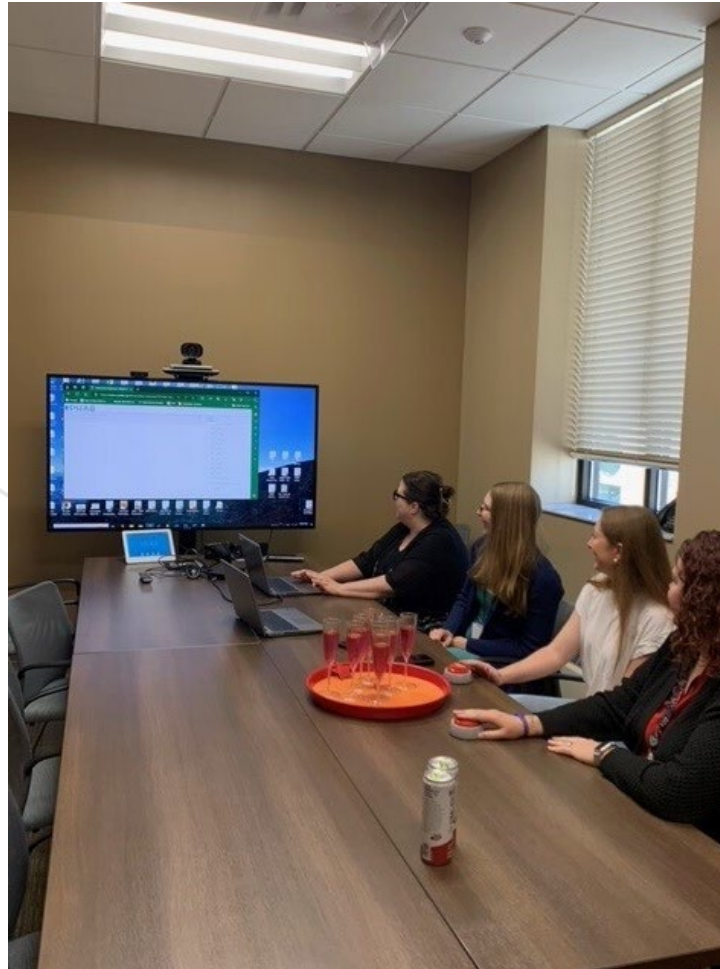
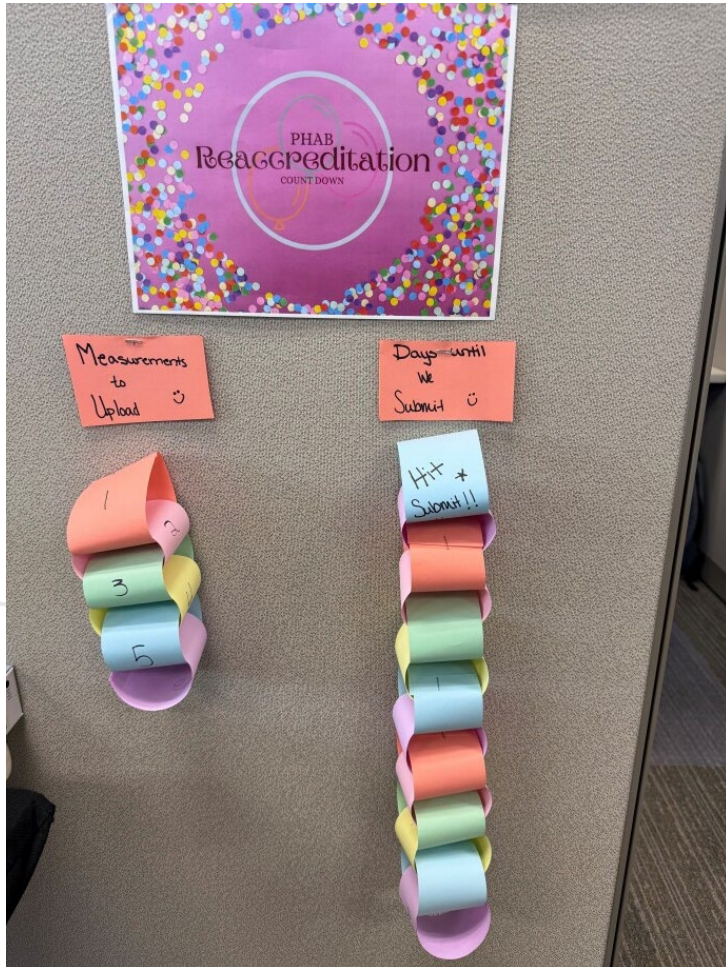
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Halfway There Party, Nov. 2023

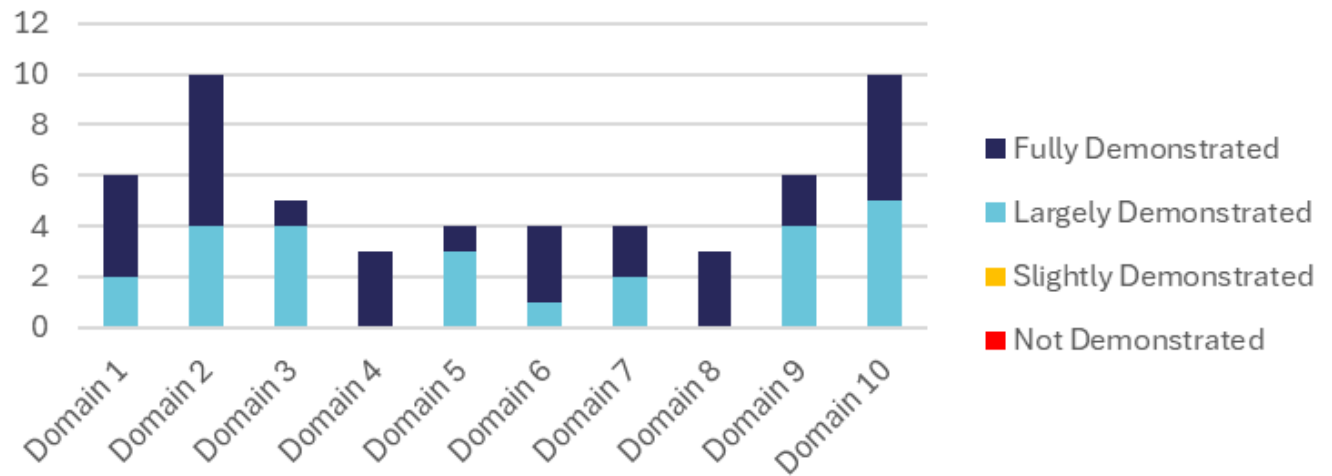


Reaccreditation Submit, Aug 2024



Site Visit, October 2025

GCHHS **Fully Demonstrated** more than 50% of PHAB v. 2022 Reaccreditation Measures in our 2025 Site Visit Report, and **Largely Demonstrated** the rest!

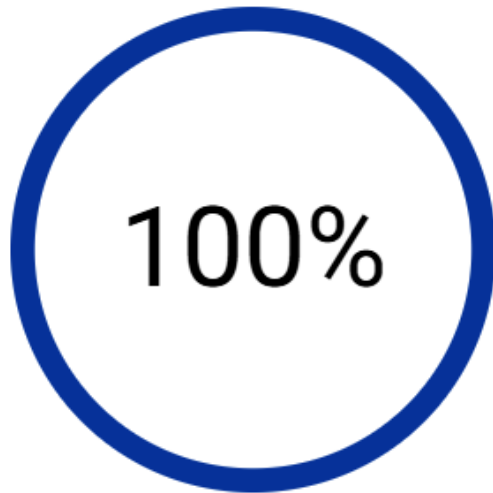


- We were proud that we did not have any measures that required further action!

Value

Why do health departments appreciate PHAB Accreditation?

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT



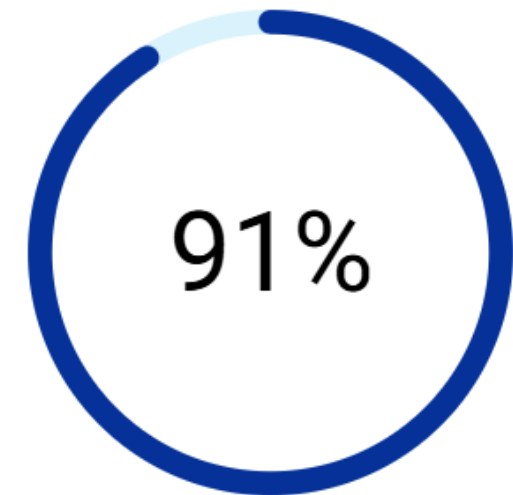
report stimulation of quality and performance improvement opportunities.*

WORKFORCE



report improved ability to identify departmental strengths and weaknesses.*

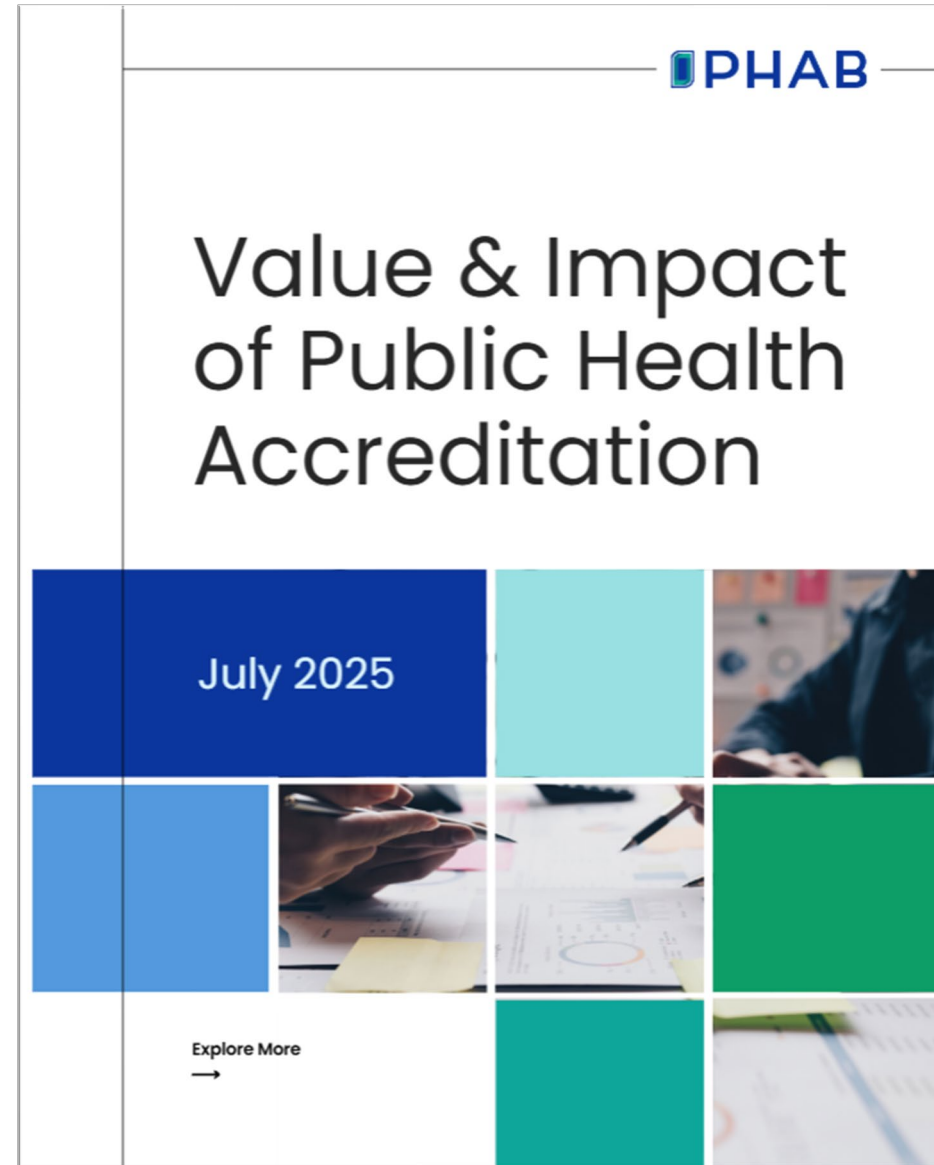
PROGRAMS & SERVICES



agree that Accreditation increased department's use of **evidence-based** practices for public health programs and/or business practices.*

Why Reaccreditation?

Click on [link](#) to
read latest report



Accreditation and the COVID-19 pandemic

- 2024 study showed communities with an accredited public health department had lower death rates from and higher full vaccination rates for COVID-19. Read abstract at this [link](#).
- 2025 qualitative study explored how Accreditation strengthened Emergency Preparedness. Watch webinar at this [link](#).



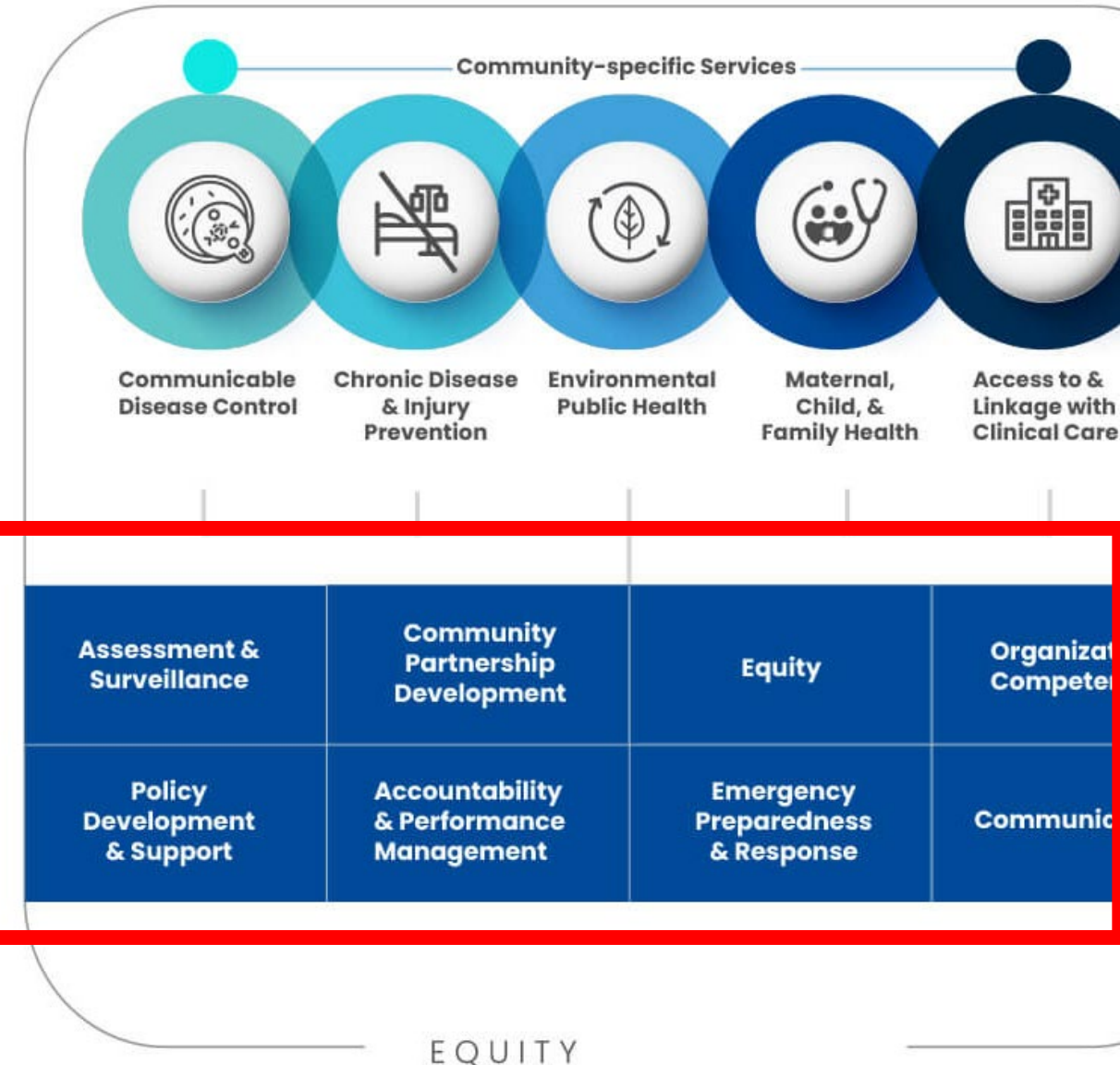
Accreditation beyond Public Health

Examples of Goodhue County
Health and Human Services using
the **foundational capabilities** with

- County departments
- Regional projects
- Statewide activities

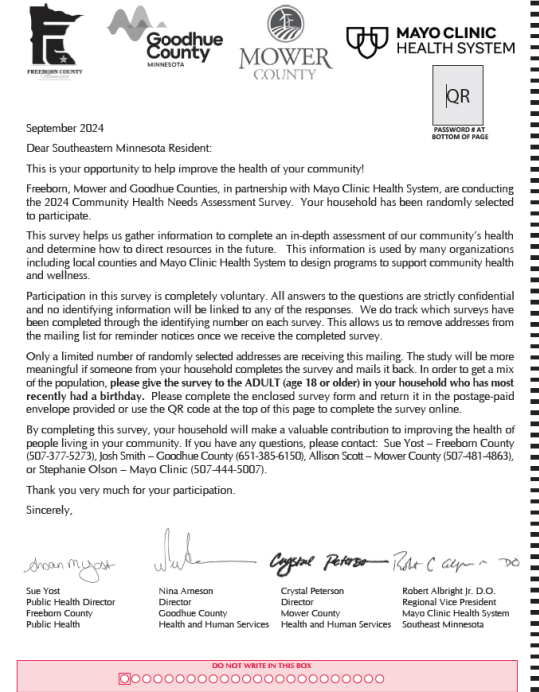
Local

Foundational
Capabilities



- **Region:** Community Health Needs Assessment Survey with Mower, Freeborn, and Mayo Clinic Health System

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Assessment & Surveillance	Community Partnership Development	Equity	Organizational Competencies
Policy Development & Support	Accountability & Performance Management	Emergency Preparedness & Response	Communications

Community Partnership Development

- **Region:** 10-county Southeast Adult Mental Health Initiative grant process

2026 Competitive Grant Process Overview

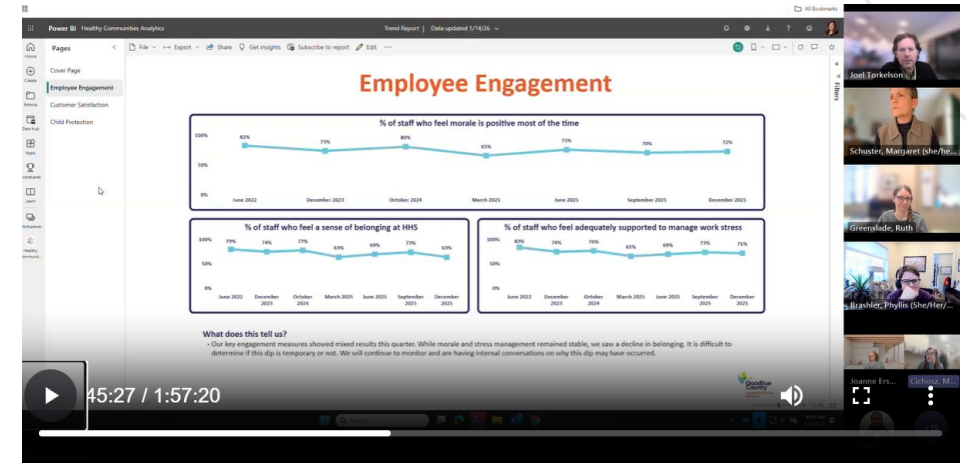
- \$390,000 available to increase mental health services region wide
- Promoted across the 10 County SE MN region
- 18 proposals considered; 11 recommended for funding
- Requests totaled over **\$577,000**



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Accountability & Performance Management

- **State:** Trend report presentation at Minnesota Accreditation Learning Community



MnALC Quarterly Meeting Recording.mp4

Posted by Amina A. · February 5, 2026 · 905 MB

Assessment &
Surveillance

Community
Partnership
Development

Equity

Organizational
Competencies

Policy
Development
& Support

Accountability
& Performance
Management

Emergency
Preparedness
& Response

Communications

Organizational Competencies



Goodhue County
Health and Human Services

426 West Avenue
Red Wing, MN 55066
(651) 385-3200 • Fax (651) 267-4882

7-2025

Goodhue County Health and Human Services Department Hiring Process

[Checklist and Hire Letters for HHS](#)

PREP WORK

- ☐ **Analyze the position.** Are there other service models that should be considered? Are there problems or inefficiencies? Has the scope of the position changed? How does Goodhue County compare to our comparison counties?
- ☐ **Review position description** for changes to essential functions, minimum qualifications, knowledge, skills and abilities required for the position. Review what background check criteria pertains to the position.
 - If a position changes more than 20%, the updated job description needs to be sent to DDA for re-evaluation. If grade change is recommended, County Board will need to approve.

- **County HR:** adopted Hiring Process developed by GCHHS

Surveillance	Partnership Development	Equity	Organizational Competencies
Policy Development & Support	Accountability & Performance Management	Emergency Preparedness & Response	Communications

Emergency Preparedness & Response

County EM: drills
with GCHHS staff
at state Emergency
Operations Center



STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

NEWS RELEASE [THIS IS A DRILL]

Bruce Gordon, Director of Communications

NEWS RELEASE # 24

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

DATE: 8/2/22 10:52

TIME: 10:11 P.M.

LOCATION: OGC

PHONE: 651.201.7470

Assessment & Surveillance	Community Partnership Development	Equity	Organizational Competencies
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Communications

- **County Outreach and Communications Specialist:** worked closely with HHS staff on county logo, branding, and communication plan

Identity

Department & Services Logo

In some instances, the kind of application may necessitate the use of a department & services logo.

These versions of logo should only be used for internal documents, business cards, and department-specific external communications.

Goodhue County has 14 department & services logos including:

- Administration
- County Attorney
- Court Services
- Facilities Maintenance
- Finance & Taxpayer Services
- Elections
- Health & Human Services
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Land Use Management
- Public Works
- Recorder's Office
- Survey/GIS
- Veterans Service



19 Goodhue County Brand Guidelines

Assessment &
Surveillance

Community
Partnership
Development

Equity

Organizational
Competencies

Policy
Development
& Support

Accountability
& Performance
Management

Emergency
Preparedness
& Response

Communications

Importance of Reaccreditation

Continuous improvement

National standards

Provide the 10 Essential Services

Provide Foundational Public Health Responsibilities

Accountability for keeping plans and policies up to date

Keep the Goodhue County community healthy and safe



THANK YOU!

National Public Health Accreditation for Local and Tribal
Public Health - MN Dept. of Health (state.mn.us)

