



CITY OF DANBURY

HEALTH, HOUSING & WELFARE DEPARTMENT
155 DEER HILL AVENUE, DANBURY, CT 06810

Central Health & Housing Office
203 - 797-4625
Fax 796-1596

Central Welfare Office
203 - 797-4569
Fax 797-4566

Mayor Mark D. Boughton
Common Council
155 Deer Hill Avenue
Danbury, CT 06810

December 26, 2006

Re: Department of Health & Housing Monthly Report to the Common Council

Dear Mayor Boughton and Members of the Common Council:

The November 2006 Department of Health & Housing monthly report is provided for your review. Detailed reports are attached for each Division, including the Housing & Food Service, Welfare and Environmental Health which identify specific inspections, tasks and hours provided by our staff. Should you have any questions regarding these issues, feel free to contact myself or each Division Head directly.

Main Topics

The Food Service Inspection summary scores are continuously posted for public information on the City of Danbury web site. Current inspection results are available for public review, these results area added to the web site by City staff.

The City of Danbury also participated in National Influenza Vaccination Week from November 27 to December 3, 2006, by providing public education concerning the importance of flu prevention and being vaccinated to prevent the flu. The attached flyer provides this information, as well as the locations of DVNA FLU clinics to be held during January, 2007.

Medical Outreach 797-4567
Eviction Prevention 797-4565
Information-Referral 797-4569

Dial 2-1-1 for all
Connecticut Services!

Emergency Shelter 796-1661
Em. Shelter Fax 796-1660
Administration 796-1504

Additional Topics

Transition meetings are being continued with Patricia Bowen, Paul Schierloh, Welfare staff and I to ensure a proper transition of duties and assignments in preparation for Ms. Bowen's retirement. Additional transition meetings were also continued with Mr. Dan Baroody, Senior Inspector, and me to ensure a proper transition of duties and assignments in the Environmental Health Division.

Public Hearings were held on November 27, 2006, for public input on the Danbury Housing Partnership Ordinance and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the ordinance at the next Common Council meeting. During the December Common Council Meeting the Committee report was received and approved in accordance with the committee's recommendation. The report and ordinance were received on the consent calendar.

The Department also participated on a Mass Dispensing / Point of Distribution (POD) emergency response drill held in cooperation with the Towns of Newtown & Ridgefield Health Department's. The City of Danbury received credit for the required participation in Regional and Local Drills under the Connecticut Department of Public Health Public Health's Public Health Preparedness contract for the current contract year.

You are encouraged to review all the information for each Division, as it provides details concerning ongoing activities. Also, I thank you for giving the Department of Health, Housing & Welfare the opportunity to serve the Citizens of Danbury and feel free to contact the Division Supervisors or myself with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Scott T. LeRoy MPH, MS
Director of Health, Housing & Welfare

Cc: Dena Diorio, Director of Finance & Personnel

11/22/2006: City of Danbury Participates in National Influenza Vaccination Week

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Elisa Munoz

203-797-4511

November 22, 2006

CITY OF DANBURY PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK

The City of Danbury's Health, Housing and Welfare Department will participate in this year's National Influenza Vaccination Week with Flu Clinics throughout the city. These clinics will be run by the Danbury Visiting Nurses Association.

Mayor Mark Boughton explained, "The City of Danbury's Health Department hopes to bring awareness and prevention of the flu to our residents through multiple, citywide Flu Clinics. The vaccine is especially important for those at high risk of catching the flu including the elderly, children and health-care workers."

Every year, 5 to 20 percent of the population gets the flu, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized with flu complications, and about 36,000 people die from the flu. To help raise awareness about the importance of influenza vaccination in November and beyond, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Influenza Vaccine Summit and other partners announce a National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) to take place from Monday, November 27 through Sunday, December 3, 2006.

The flu is an infection of the respiratory tract caused by the influenza virus. It is a highly contagious disease. Although most people who get the flu recover with in 1-2 weeks, the flu can cause more severe, and in some cases, life-threatening complications such as pneumonia, particularly in children and the elderly, as well as people with certain medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes. The best time to get influenza vaccination is between October and January.

Remaining 2006 Flu Clinics:

- Tuesday Nov 28 5-7pm C-Town-45 North St., Danbury
- Wednesday Nov 29 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
- Monday Dec 4 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
- Tuesday Dec 5 5-7pm C-Town,45 North St., Danbury
- Tuesday Dec 12 5-7pm C-Town, 45 North St., Danbury
- Wednesday Dec 13 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
- Wednesday Dec 20 10-12-pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
- Wednesday Dec 27 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
- Wednesday Jan 3 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
- Wednesday Jan 10 10-12 pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury

If you have any questions regarding this press release please contact Health, Housing and Welfare Director, Scott LeRoy, at 797-4625 or Elisa Munoz in the Mayor's Office at 797-4511.



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December 21, 2006

TO : Danbury Common Council
FROM: Daniel Baroody, Senior Inspector, Environmental Health Division
RE: Monthly Status Report - Environmental Health Division
November, 2006

Key Indicators	This Month	Last Month	# Difference	% Difference	YTD
<i>Hazardous Materials Management & Public Health Preparedness (hours)</i>	172	166	6	3	1995
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	155	185	(30)	(16)	2732
<i>Program Administration (hours)</i>	42	49	(7)	(14)	844
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	104	160	(56)	(35)	2542

Program Status Report

Narrative

The status of major project and program activities of the Environmental Health Division (EHD) for November, 2006 can be summarized as follows.

Wetlands / Water Resource Management: The EHD continued to provide technical support staff to the Environmental Impact Commission (EIC). EHD staff has conducted review of permit documentation and site plans, site inspection of on going construction of EIC Permitted Projects, attended EIC Meeting and discussed environmental issues related to future projects by organizing pre-application meetings with developers and their consultants.

The EHD continued its management of water resource projects, including Tarrywile Lake.

The EHD continued to provide staff support and liaison to the Environmental Impact Commission. (EIC), conducting oversight, environmental monitoring and inspection of public and private construction projects:

The EHD conducted site investigations of complaints and construction activities along the shore front of Candlewood Lake in cooperation with The Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA),

Program Planning and Administration: The Director of Health (DOH) and Senior Inspector continued to coordinate various environmental programs

Subsurface Sewage Disposal & Private Water Supply Wells Compliance Program: The on-site sewage disposal and well permitting program staff continued to perform plan review, site soil suitability testing and inspection.

Land Use: The EHD continued administration of the Grading Permit Program, conducting permit application review, site inspection and enforcement.

Hazardous Materials Management & Public Health Preparedness: The EHD participated in a Mass Dispensing, Point of Distribution (POD) mock drill held by the Newtown and Ridgefield Health Departments. The purpose of the drill was to test Health Departments' response to a major public health emergency. The City of Danbury will be credited for both "Regional and Local Drills" under the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Bioterrorism Grant for taking part in the drills. The EHD continued in planning, training and preparedness activities for all hazard events required by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Bioterrorism and Pandemic Influenza Grants.



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

November, 2006

INSPECTIONS

	NUMBER							
	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	291	371	(80)	(22)	1747	1347	400	30
B.	109	131	(22)	(17)	671	427	244	57
C.	106	175	(69)	(39)	717	608	109	18
D.	72	62	10	16	342	293	49	17
E.	136	120	16	13	641	291	350	120
F.	28	29	(1)	(3)	162	187	(25)	(13)
A.	Total Housing Inspections							
B.	Total Housing Inspections Common Areas							
C.	Total Housing Inspections Dwelling Units							
D.	Total Housing Inspections Nuisance							
E.	Total Food Service Inspections							
F.	Total General Nuisance/Miscellaneous Inspections							


 Paul Schierloh
 Associate Director

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NARRATIVE FOR MONTHLY REPORT

HOUSING AND FOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM

Field activities for housing and food service functions conducted during the reporting period are reflected in the statistical summary attached. In addition to the normal administrative, inspection and enforcement activities associated with these functions, the section undertook the initiatives outlined below which would be deemed to be of special interest or importance.

One additional section member has been registered to complete the initial three-day lead inspector certification training in December. Code personnel must receive State-approved lead inspector training in order to conduct inspections under the Connecticut Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Regulations. All State-certified department food service inspectors attended mandatory annual food service recertification training conducted by the Connecticut Department of Public Health in November.

The Office of the Corporation Counsel processed eighteen housing/health code referrals in November. The housing section made court appearances on two cases while several other cases were resolved prior to court appearances. Every effort is made to encourage cooperation in making needed improvements, but non-compliance leads to court action and possible penalties for contempt of court orders.

The department has been asked to participate in systematic inspections with the UNIT program as needed. Senior Housing Inspector Don Melillo has been designated to be the department's liaison with UNIT and will participate in inspections as requested. The department continues to investigate complaints throughout the city referred through the Mayor's Blight Hotline and from other departments in addition to complaints made directly to the department. The department also receives complaints and service requests through Q-Alert and 311.

The department continued working with the LAMPP Project, the entity sub-contracted by the State to administer lead poisoning prevention and remediation funds awarded to Connecticut by the Federal government. This enables Danbury property owners to access funds available to abate lead paint, replace windows, doors and perform other repairs to make units lead safe. Danbury has had two projects consisting of seven total units funded through LAMPP or LAMPP partners. There are currently two additional applications awaiting action by LAMPP, but there was no progress to report with respect to these proposed projects. There have been a total of 13 Danbury referrals to LAMPP for lead assessments and counseling.

The housing section also provides staff support for the Danbury Fair Rent Commission. The part-time fair housing officer received four fair rent inquiries during November.

Following are some of the highlights / information of Department activity.

The Department collected 336 lbs. of food from City Employees during the monthly food drive which was then distributed to various programs throughout the City. 3 cell phones and 8 eye glasses were also collected and forwarded to the Lions Club.

State of Ct. Department of Social Services contributed to the monthly food drive as well donating 72 lbs of food to add to the grand total of 407 lbs.

The Department will ^{NOT} conduct a food drive in December. In lieu of the drive, the Department is requesting that gift cards from local grocery stores where non prescription medications, nutritional supplements and food can be purchased; gift cards for gas would also be helpful and much appreciated.

The Director of the Department along with the Chair of the local Continuum of Care participated in a preliminary meeting with the 2007 Coordinator of the Point in Time Homeless Count in order to discuss the changes that will occur in the January 30th count and how it will affect the area. Danbury has been involved with the Homeless Count for many years. 2007 marks the first time a State wide count will occur. The accuracy of this count will allow HUD to provide Congress with information on numbers of homeless, services provided and gaps in service which will result in funding decisions. Volunteers are needed to participate in this event.

The Director of the Department, at the invitation of the Fairfield County Community Foundation, participated in a focus group along with a small group of colleagues at Norwalk Community College. This professionally led group explored the changing needs of girls, teenagers and women in Fairfield County as the Fund begins to make significant grants to well run programs that are meeting those needs.

"The Foot Doctor" presented a program at the Shelter arranged for by the Day Center Coordinator. Medical attention was provided to those who attended and participated.

--Thanksgiving Dinner was again held at the Shelter this year the week before the actual holiday. Donations of time, effort, food and generosity of heart make this annual event possible. Thanks to all the volunteers who participate, the staff for their on-going support and the City for providing a safe and caring place for people who have such a need.

--Thirteen Thanksgiving dinners were donated to the Social Service Department through private donors and distributions were made to those identified as most in need of this gracious act of goodness.

The Director of the Department attended and participated in the monthly meeting of the Coalition of Ct. Ten year Plan Communities. Representatives of the Danbury Hospital and Yale Hospital attended to discuss discharge planning of homeless people. The Coalition also discussed and prioritized legislative issues to pursue in the 2007 session as it relates to housing, homelessness and individual ten year plans.

Submitted by: Patricia A. Bowen

Director - Welfare Social Services

Service Activities: Department staff record activities on a daily basis. Activities can be referrals to other agencies or they can be direct services such as emergency Rx, application completion for state or federal assistance & indigent drug programs & applications for housing; security or back rent payments. These are activities/services performed by staff at 254 Main Street and do not include the activities of the homeless services division, which are reported on separately. Categories into which service activities fall are:

Service activity category	
Food Assistance	26
Housing <i>in addition to those reported on below</i>	4
Medical: including assessments for WOW, Americares	79
Indigent Prescription applications	188
Evictions	9
State DSS	34
Substance Abuse	2
Case management	3
Vocational	1
Neighborhood	--
Social Security	3
Energy assistance	--
Home Visits	3
Legal Issues	--

The following are people who requested that the City assist them with their housing problems. These individuals were assisted specifically by the department caseworker assigned to housing issues.

Housing services requests: 29

- 9 -seeking housing search assistance; 1 housed, 6 pending, 0 refused, 1 referred
- 9 -seeking back rent assistance: 6 pending; 2 granted; 1 denied; 0 referred
- 4 -needing housing retention services; 1 retained;0 lost; 3 advocacy
- 5 -received assistance with some other aspect of housing, legal referrals, mediation etc.

The requests consisted of the following family compositions:

- 15- single adults; 3 elderly; 5 disabled
- 11- single parent families with a total of 26 children
- 2-2-parent family with a total of 5children
- 1-adult couples; 1 elderly

City's Emergency Shelter

*** Day Center**

- 121--cases homeless people were active during the month
- 13---Initial assessments were completed
- 2---Persons found housing or were placed in housing programs
- 19---Mental Health Referrals
- 23---Persons found employment

A total of **306 different services** were provided during this month in addition.

***Night Shelter**

- 40--different people utilized the night shelter
- 4---people were turned away for reasons other than lack of bed space
- 11---persons turned away for lack of beds
- 100%--overall occupancy rate for the month

*** Report to DSS attached -cover page**

