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Page 1: Local Health Department/District Information

Q1 Department Name

Norwalk Health Department

Q2 Do you have a Board of Health? **Yes**

Page 2: Board of Health

Q3 Please complete the Board of Health information below.

Chairperson **N/A**

Q4 Board Function **Advisory & Policy Making**

Q5 Number of Board Members

6

Page 3: Director of Health and Local Health Department Information

Q6 Director of Health

Name **Deanna D'Amore**
 Degree(s) **MPH**
 Number of hours in Director of Health's average work week **37.5**

Q7 Please list salary figures as whole dollars per year.

Minimum Annual Salary	124565
Maximum Annual Salary	170455
Actual Annual Salary	138332

Q8 An Acting Director of Health is defined as an approved individual covering for a Director of Health when he or she is absent, for example, due to a vacation, medical leave, conference, or position vacancy. See Connecticut General Statute Section 19a-200 or 19a-244. Do you have a staff person(s) who is the Acting Director of Health in your absence?

Yes,
If yes, please provide the name(s) of the Acting Director of Health.:
Theresa Argondezzi David Reed

Q9 If no, how do you assure coverage when the Director of Health is absent? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q10 Does your department include a Housing Department? **Yes**

Connecticut Local Health Annual Report SFY 2019

Q11 Does your department include a Social Services Department? **No**

Q12 Does your department include additional non-public health programs? **Yes,**
If yes, what other types of programs?:
Weights and Measures, Relocation Services, Eviction Services

Q13 Are there any collective bargaining units in your department? **Yes,**
If yes, how many?:
3

Q14 Which of the following best describes your department with respect to participation in the Public Health Accreditation Board's national accreditation program? **My department has achieved accreditation**

Q15 In what calendar year does your department anticipate registering in e-PHAB in order to pursue accreditation? **N/A - already registered or achieved accreditation**

Page 4: Local Health Personnel

Q16 Administrative

	Full Time	Part Time	Contracted	Min. Salary-Hourly	Max. Salary-Hourly
Assistant or Deputy Director of Health					
Environmental Health Supervisor	1			\$54	\$64
Nursing Supervisor	1			\$54	\$64
Office Manager	1			\$41	\$50
Bookkeeper	1			\$26	\$32
Secretary	1	1		\$19	\$29

Q17 Medical

	Full Time	Part Time	Contracted	Min. Salary-Hourly	Max. Salary-Hourly
Dental Professional					
Dietitian / Nutritionist	2	1		\$25	\$33
Lab Technician		1		\$25	\$25
Nurse* (RN, APRN)*Does not include School Nurse	2	1		\$30	\$60
Physician / Medical Advisor	1			\$125	\$125
School Nurse					
Social Worker					

Connecticut Local Health Annual Report SFY 2019

Q18 Public Health

	Full Time	Part Time	Contracted	Min. Salary-Hourly	Max. Salary-Hourly
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator		1		\$30	\$30
Environmental Health Inspector (e.g., food, lead, housing)	7	1		\$28	\$47
Epidemiologist					
Health Educator	2			\$26	\$50
Outreach Worker		1		\$19	\$19
Other Paid Worker (Please describe below)	3	3			

Other Paid Worker, please describe:

FT Project Coordinator, PT Volunteer Coordinator, FT Sealer of Weights and Measures, PT WIC Program Assistant, PT Physician Assistant, FT Disease Intervention Specialist

Q19 How many of your staff have the following licenses and/or certifications?

	#
Dental Hygienist (RHD)	
Dentist (DMD/DDS)	
Food Inspector	7
Health Educator (CHES)	1
Lead Assessor	
Lead Inspector	3
Nurse (RN/APRN)	4
Pharmacist (RPh)	
Phase I SSDS	11
Phase II SSDS	4
Physician (MD/DO)	1
Registered Dietitian (RD)	2
Registered Sanitarian (RS)	5
Social Worker (LSW)	
Veterinarian (DVM/VMD)	
Other (Please describe below)	

Other License/Certification, please describe:

1 MT (ASCP), 2 CLC,

Page 5: Public Health Department Revenue

Q20 DPH funds - all regardless of source	Amount \$	1002519
Q21 State funds - other than DPH	Amount \$	0

Connecticut Local Health Annual Report SFY 2019

Q22 Federal sources - direct	Amount \$	0
Q23 Licensure/Permit fees	Amount \$	424822
Q24 Local funds - city/town sources	Amount \$	2401720
Q25 Medicaid	Amount \$	0
Q26 Medicare	Amount \$	16029
Q27 Other revenue	Amount \$	2382
Q28 Patient personal fees	Amount \$	152338
Q29 Private foundations	Amount \$	103609
Q30 Private health insurance	Amount \$	14517
Q31 What is your total operating budget?		
4117936		

Page 7: 10 ES - #1 Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems

Q32 Requirement 1: My department has participated in or conducted a local community health assessment (CHA) within the last five years.	Yes
Q33 If yes, does the CHA include? (Select all that apply)	<p>Data and information from various sources and how the data were obtained</p> <p>,</p> <p>Demographics of the population</p> <p>Description of health issues and specific descriptions of population groups with particular health inequities</p> <p>,</p> <p>Description of factors that contribute to specific populations' health challenges</p> <p>,</p> <p>Description of existing community assets or resources to address health issues</p>
Q34 If yes, please upload the CHA or provide web link.	
1.1.2 CHA- Norwalk Health Department.pdf (14.1MB)	
Q35 Web link/URL	Respondent skipped this question
Q36 Requirement 2: My department shared the findings from the community health assessment with the residents in my jurisdiction and asked for their input.	Yes

Q37 If yes, what methods did you use to seek input from residents? (Select all that apply)

Publication of a summary of the findings in the local press with feedback or comment forms ,
 Publication on the health department's website ,
 Community/town forums,
 Listening sessions ,
 Presentations and discussions at local meetings

Q38 Requirement 3: My department routinely gathers information, collects data and/or conducts community dialogues specific to populations or geographic areas in the community where health inequities and poorer health indicators were identified in the community health assessment. Yes

Q39 If yes, how is the data provided? (Select all that apply)

Conducting focus groups,
 Participating in other local organizations' community meetings (e.g., church community meetings, school public meetings, community association meetings or assemblies, etc.) ,
 Conducting open forums,
 Conducting group discussions with specific populations (e.g., teenagers, young mothers, residents of a specific neighborhood, etc.)

Page 8: 10 ES - #1 Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems

Q40 Requirement 1: My department shared the results of the community health assessment with the partners/stakeholders and the public. Yes

Q41 If yes, how did your department share the results of the CHA? (Select all that apply)

Emails to partners and stakeholders ,
 Articles in newspapers ,
 Local news,
 Social media,
 Website

Page 9: 10 ES - #1 Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems

Q42 Requirement 1: My department has written processes and/or protocols used to collect surveillance data from multiple sources and to review and analyze the data. Yes

Q43 If yes, how are the data collected? (Select all that apply)

Fax,
 Emails,
 Web reports ,
 Electronic data,
 Phone calls

Q44 Requirement 2: My department has written processes and/or protocols that (1) specify which surveillance data are confidential and (2) assure the confidential data are maintained and handled in a secure confidential manner. **Yes**

Q45 If yes, please upload the protocol.

1.2.1 Data Confidentiality- Norwalk Health Department.pdf (135.9KB)

Q46 If no, is the protocol in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q47 Requirement 3: My department has a 24/7 contact system or protocol to collect data from those who report data to my department. **Yes**

Q48 If yes, how does your department collect the data 24/7? (Select all that apply) **A designated telephone line (voice or fax),
Email address,
Designated contact person or a list of contacts**

Q49 Requirement 4: My department regularly uses the state DPH surveillance systems. **Yes**

Q50 If yes, which surveillance systems do your department use? (Select all that apply) **CTSITE (childhood lead),
CTEDSS (reportable diseases),
CTWiz (immunizations),
Syndromic Surveillance (opioids)**

Q51 How many staff have been trained to use any of the state surveillance systems?

9

Page 10: 10 ES - #1 Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems

Q52 Requirement 1: My department has been involved in the collection of primary quantitative data in addition to surveillance data. **Yes**

Q53 If yes, how has your department collected primary quantitative data? (Select all that apply) **Surveys of target groups,
Inspection data,
Data collected for community health assessment**

Q54 Requirement 2: My department has been involved in the collection of primary qualitative data. **Yes**

Q55 If yes, how your department has been involved in the collection of primary qualitative data? (Select all that apply)

Open ended survey questions ,
 Forums,
 Listening sessions ,
 Focus groups,
 Stakeholder interviews,
 Key informant interviews

Q56 Requirement 3: My department uses standardized data collection instruments to collect quantitative or qualitative data. **Yes**

Page 11: 10 ES - #1 Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems

Q57 Requirement 1: My department analyses various types of data and draws conclusions. **Yes**

Q58 If yes, do the analyses of the data include the following? (Select all that apply)

Defined timelines,
 Description of the analytic process used to analyze the data ,
 Comparison of the data to other local agencies, the state or nation ,
 Time/trend analysis ,
 Primary and secondary data from multiple sources

Q59 Requirement 2: My department shares data and data analyses. **Yes**

Q60 If yes, with whom does you department share the data and data analyses? (Select all that apply)

Internal staff ,
 Community groups,
 Public Health Partners,
 Elected officials ,
 Department of Public Health or other state entities ,
 Board of Health ,
 Residents,
 Media

Page 12: 10 ES - #1 Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems

Q61 Requirement 1: My department has used data to develop policies, processes, programs or interventions or to revise or expand existing policies, processes, programs or interventions. **Yes**

Q62 If yes, how has the department used data? (Select all that apply)

Local ordinances,
Licensing/Permitting Program,
Health Promotion Programs

Page 13: 10 ES - #1 Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems

Q63 Requirement 1: My department provides summaries or fact sheets of community health data. **Yes**

Q64 If yes, who are the summaries/fact sheets shared with? (Select all that apply)

Residents,
Public health partners,
Community groups,
Key stakeholders,
Other local health departments,
Elected officials,
Board of Health,
Media

Page 14: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q65 Requirement 1: My department has a written protocol that includes a procedure for conducting investigations of suspected or identified health problems and environmental and occupational public health hazards. **Yes**

Q66 If yes, for which of the following entities does the protocol delineate the assignment of responsibilities? (Select all that apply)

Internal staff,
DPH (Food, Asbestos, SSDS),
Other state agencies (DEEP, DCP)

Page 15: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q67 Requirement 1: My department conducts audits or programmatic evaluations (e.g., After Action Report) of investigations to ensure capacity to respond to outbreaks of infectious disease. **Yes**

Q68 Requirement 2: My department has a written report or other documentation of a completed investigation of a non-infectious health problem or hazard. **Yes**

Page 16: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q69 Requirement 1: My department has a tracking log or audit on investigations that includes reporting lab test results and investigation results. **Yes**

Q70 If yes, how does your department track investigations? (Select all that apply) **Tracking log,**
State surveillance systems (CTEDSS, CTSITE, CTEPHT- also known as MAVEN)

Page 17: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q71 Requirement 1: My department has written protocols for the containment/mitigation of health problems and hazards. **Yes**

Q72 If yes, does the protocol(s) include? (Select all that apply) **Mitigation,**
Contact management,
Clinical management,
Use of prophylaxis and emergency biologics ,
Communication with the public health laboratory ,
Process for exercising legal authority for disease control

Page 18: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q73 Requirement 1: My department has infectious disease outbreak protocols that describe the process for determining when the EOP will be implemented. **Yes**

Q74 If yes, please upload the protocol.

2.2.2 EOP Implementation - Norwalk Health Department.pdf (452.9KB)

Q75 If no, is the protocol in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q76 Requirement 2: My department has protocols that specifically address environmental public health hazards and that describe the process of determining when the EOP will be implemented. **Yes**

Q77 If yes, please upload the protocol.

2.2.2 EOP Protocols - Norwalk Health Department.pdf (384.1KB)

Q78 If no, is the protocol in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q79 Requirement 3: My department has cluster evaluation protocols describing the process for determining when the EOP will be implemented. **Yes**

Q80 If yes, please upload the protocol.

2.2.2 EOP Evaluation - Norwalk Health Department.pdf (454.6KB)

Q81 If no, is the protocol in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 19: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q82 Requirement 1: My department has a written description of how it determines if an event has risen to the level of significance requiring an AAR. **Yes**

Q83 If no, is the documentation in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q84 How many drills and exercises did your department conduct or participate in the last fiscal year?

4

Q85 How many real world public health events did your department respond to in the last fiscal year?

1

Q86 How many were significant that required the development of an AAR?

1

Page 20: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q87 Requirement 1: My department has policies and procedures outlining how the department maintains 24/7 access to support services in emergencies. **Yes**

Q88 If no, are the policies and procedures in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q89 Requirement 2: My department has a call down list that is used to contact epidemiological and environmental local public health resources. **Yes**

Q90 If yes,

When was the call down list last tested?

9/26/2019

What was the response time?

137 minutes

Q91 Requirement 3: My department has a written policy or procedure to assure 24/7 access to laboratory services. **Yes**

Q92 If yes, please upload the protocol.

2.3.2 Access to Lab Services - Norwalk Health Department.pdf(177.5KB)

Q93 If no, is the policy/procedure in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q94 Requirement 4: My department has protocols for handling and submitting of specimens. **Yes**

Q95 If yes, please upload the protocol.

2.3.2 Lab Specimen - Norwalk Health Department.pdf (1.1MB)

Q96 If no, is the policy/procedure in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 21: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q97 Requirement 1: My department has a protocol, procedure or policy that identifies support personnel (within or outside the department) who will be called on to provide surge capacity.	Yes
Q98 If no, is the protocol/procedure/policy in development?	Respondent skipped this question
Q99 Requirement 2: My department has staffing lists for surge capacity which includes both the staffing needed for a surge response and how staff will fill those needs.	Yes
Q100 If yes, how are staff notified if they are needed for surge capacity? (Select all that apply)	Email, Call down, Text
Q101 Requirement 3: My department has a document detailing the availability of equipment (transportation, field communications, personal protective equipment (PPE), etc.) to support a surge.	Yes
Q102 If no, is the document in development?	Respondent skipped this question
Q103 Requirement 4: My department has a schedule for training or exercises to prepare personnel who will serve in surge capacity (e.g., ICS or PPE).	Yes
Q104 If no, is the schedule in development?	Respondent skipped this question
Q105 Requirement 5: My department has a list and description of contracts, MOAs/MOUs, and/or mutual assistance agreements providing addition staff and services, including laboratory services, for surge capacity.	Yes

Page 22: 10 ES - #2 Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Q106 Requirement 1: My department has a communication protocol to contact staff, health care providers, response partners, the media and others, 24/7.	Yes
Q107 If yes, please upload the protocol.	
2.4.1 Communication Protocol - Norwalk Health Department.pdf (300.8KB)	
Q108 If no, is the protocol in development?	Respondent skipped this question
Q109 Requirement 2: My department provides information to partners and the public about how to contact the health department to report a public health emergency, risk, problem, or environmental or occupational public health hazard.	Yes
Q110 If yes, how does your department inform partners and the public? (Select all that apply)	Web page
Q111 Requirement 3: My department's partners and the public can contact the health department 24/7.	Yes

Q112 If yes, how does the public and partners contact your department 24/7? (Select all that apply)

Police dispatch, 24/7 phone number, Email, Staff call down list

Q113 Requirement 4: My department has established or participates in a Health Alert Network (HAN) or similar system that receives and issues alerts 24/7.

No

Q114 If yes, how often does your department test the system?

HAN for issuing alerts tested quarterly. CT DPH has HAN that we participate in

Q115 Requirement 5: My department provides information to the public and uses the media to communicate information to the public during a public health emergency.

Yes

Q116 If yes, how does your department provide information and use the media to communicate information to the public? (Select all that apply)

Web page, Social media, Distribution of printed materials (brochures, flyers, factsheets), Automated call systems, Email listservs, Press release, Press conference

Page 23: 10 ES - #3 Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Q117 Requirement 1: My department has provided information to the public on health risks, health behaviors, disease prevention, or wellness.

Yes

Q118 If yes, how has your department provided information to the public? (Select all that apply)

Public presentation, Press release, Media communications, Brochure, Social media

Q119 Requirement 2

Yes

Connecticut Local Health Annual Report SFY 2019

Q120 If yes, were the health promotion strategies? (Select all that apply)

- Evidence-based, rooted in sound theory, practice-based evidence, and/or promising practice
- ,
- Developed with input of the community (focus groups, key informant interviews, town meetings, advisory groups)
- ,
- Focused on social and environmental factors
- Marketed using various platforms (social media, newspaper, etc.),
- Implemented in collaboration with stakeholders, partners, and the community

Q121 If yes, what types of health promotion strategies were developed and implemented or sustained? (Select all that apply)

- Farmers markets,
- Smoke free zones,
- Biking pathways,
- Immunizations,
- Walking clubs
- Media campaigns,
- Radon test kits

Page 24: 10 ES - #3 Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Q122 Requirement 1: My department has assessed health inequity across the jurisdiction within the last five years. **Yes**

Q123 If yes, does the assessment include? (Select all that apply)

- Analysis of factors that contribute to higher health risks and poorer health outcomes of specific populations
- ,
- The use of health equity indicators
- Plans and/or efforts to address social change, social customs, community policy, level of community resilience, or the community environment
- ,
- Internal policies and procedures to ensure programs address specific populations at higher risk for poor health outcomes

Page 25: 10 ES - #3 Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Q124 Requirement 1: My department has a policy, plan or strategy for branding. **Yes**

Q125 If yes, does the branding policy, plan or strategy? (Select all that apply)

- Ensure that staff have a clear understanding and commitment to the brand of the department
- ,
- Communicate the department's brand in a variety of ways to different stakeholders (public, Board of Health, elected officials, policy makers, the media)
- ,
- Integrate brand messaging into organizational communication strategies and external communications
- ,
- Use a common visual identity (logo) to communicate the community health board's brand
- ,
- Include signage inside and outside the department's facility
- ,
- Link the branding strategy to the department's strategic plan

Q126 If no, is the policy, plan or strategy in development? Respondent skipped this question

Page 26: 10 ES - #3 Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Q127 Requirement 1: My department has external communication procedures or protocols. Yes

Q128 If yes, does the external communication procedures or protocols include? (Select all that apply)

- The process for dissemination of accurate, timely, and appropriate information for different audiences
- ,
- Coordination with community partners for the communication of targeted and unified public health messages
- ,
- A contact list of media and key stakeholders
- ,
- The responsibilities and expectations for positions interacting with the news media
- ,
- A designated staff position as the public information officer – please provide the staff person's name below.:
Theresa Argondezzi, Health Educator

Q129 If yes, please upload the procedure or protocol.

3.2.3 External Communications Protocol- Norwalk Health Department.pdf (651.9KB)

Q130 If no, is the protocol in development? Respondent skipped this question

Page 27: 10 ES - #3 Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Q131 Requirement 1: My department has a risk communication plan, protocol or procedure. Yes

Q132 If yes, does the risk communication plan, protocol or procedures? (Select all that apply)

Address how information is provided 24/7
 Delineate roles, responsibilities and chain of command
 Describe how information will be disseminated if disruption in communication technologies
 Address how message clearance will be expedited
 Describe on the health department will work with media
 Address preventing public alarm by addressing with misconceptions or misinformation

Q133 If yes, please upload the plan, protocol or procedure.

3.2.4 Risk Communication Plan- Norwalk Health Department.pdf (300.8KB)

Q134 If no, is the plan, protocol or procedure in development?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 28: 10 ES - #3 Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Q135 Requirement 1: My department maintains a website or web page to inform the public about public health issues.

Yes

Q136 If yes, my department's website or web page has the following information: (Select all that apply)

24/7 contact number for reporting health emergencies
 Notifiable/reportable conditions link or contact number,
 Health data,
 Links to public health-related news
 Information and materials from program activities
 Links to CDC and other public health-related federal, state, or local agencies, as appropriate
 The names of the Director of Health and leadership team

Page 29: 10 ES - #3 Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Q137 Requirement 1: My department has demographic data defining ethnic distribution and languages in the jurisdiction.

Yes

Q138 Requirement 2: My department has access to staff or contractors who provide interpretation, translation or specific communication services.

Yes

Q139 If yes, how does your department provide interpretation, translation or specific communication services? (Select all that apply)

Bi-lingual or multi-lingual staff
 Language telephone services,
 Language cards

Q140 Requirement 1: My department has been an active member of a community partnership(s) or coalition(s) to improve the health of the community. **Yes**

Q141 If yes, what sectors of the community do the members of the partnership(s) or coalitions(s) represent? (Select all that apply)

School systems,
 Hospitals/Community Health Centers,
 Social service organizations ,
 Local government agencies ,
 Not-for-profit organizations,
 Faith institutions,
 Community members ,
 Youth organizations

Q142 If yes, which health issue(s) are being addressed in the community partnership(s) or coalition(s)? (Select all that apply)

Maternal and child health ,
 HIV/AIDS,
 Childhood injury prevention ,
 Chronic disease prevention ,
 Obesity,
 Anti-tobacco,
 Health equity ,
 Immigrant workers,
 Housing,
 Transportation,
 Parks and recreation ,
 Domestic violence,
 Substance abuse

Q143 Requirement 2: My department has made a change in a policy or created or revised a program that was implemented through the work of the partnership(s) or coalitions(s). **Yes**

Q144 If yes, what policy change or revision was implemented? (Select all that apply)

Improvement of neighborhoods and the physical environment (e.g., increase in the number of bike path miles, parks, playgrounds, green spaces)
 ,
 Access to Healthy food (e.g., removal of soda machines in schools, expansion of farmers' markets)
 ,
 Improve health literacy

Q145 Requirement 1: My department engages with the community as a whole or with specific populations that will be affected by a policy or strategy.

Yes

Q146 If yes, which sectors of the community has your department engaged? (Select all that apply)

Senior Citizens,
 School-age groups,
 Parent/Teacher groups,
 Service providers, i.e., tattoo artists, salon owners, nail technicians, massage therapists, food establishment owners and workers
 ,
 Advisory groups

Q147 Requirement 2: My department communicates and collaborates with the governing entity, advisory board and/or elected officials concerning public health policy or strategy at least quarterly.

Yes

Q148 If yes, how does your department communicate and collaborate? (Select all that apply)

Meetings,
 Reports,
 Emails

Page 32: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q149 Requirement 1: My department monitors and tracks the public issues being discussed by my department's governing entity, elected officials, individuals and/or other entities that set policies and practices that impact the health department or public health.

Yes

Q150 If yes, how is your department monitoring and tracking issues? (Select all that apply)

Meeting agendas and minutes ,
 Log of legislation ,
 List-serves,
 Newsletters,
 Legislative Reports/Summaries ,
 Professional organizations (CADH, CEHA)

Page 33: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q151 Requirement 1: My department has contributed to the formal discussions concerning public policy and practice and its impact on public health.

Yes

Q152 If yes, how has your department contributed to the discussions? (Select all that apply)

Issue briefs,
 Talking points,
 Fact sheets,
 Official public testimony ,
 Participation in an advisory or work group

Page 34: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q153 Requirement 1: My department has informed policy makers and/or the public about potential health impacts of policies that are being considered or in place. **Yes**

Q154 If yes, how has your department informed policy makers and/or the public? (Select all that apply)

Impact statements (science based) or fact sheets that address current or proposed policies

,

Distribution of emails, briefing statements or reports on policy impacts

,

Meetings/discussions of policy issues and impacts

Presentation of evaluation or assessments of current and/or proposed policies

,

Verbal or written testimony

Page 35: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q155 Requirement 1: My department has a community health improvement plan (CHIP) dated within the last five years. **Yes**

Q156 If yes, does the CHIP include the following? (Select all that apply)

Community health priorities

Measurable objectives,

Improvement strategies,

Activities with time-framed targets,

Policy changes,

Designation of individuals or organizations responsible for implementing strategies

,

Consideration of national or state health improvements priorities

Q157 If yes, please attach the CHIP or provide the web link.

5.2.2 CHIP - Norwalk Health Department.pdf (2.4MB)

Q158 Web link/URL

Respondent skipped this question

Q159 If no, where is your department in the process? (Select one)

Respondent skipped this question

Page 36: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q160 Requirement 1: My department has a tracking process to document actions taken toward the implementation of the CHIP. **Yes**

Q161 Requirement 2: My department and/or my partners have implemented some areas of the CHIP. **Yes**

Q162 If yes, what area has been implemented and by whom? (Provide one example)

Food Access, Healthy Eating/Active Living, Mental Health & Substance Abuse

Page 37: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q163 Requirement 1: My department has a strategic plan dated within the last five years. **Yes**

Q164 If yes, does the plan include? (Select all that apply)

- Mission, Vision and Value Statements** ,
- Strategic Priorities,**
- Measurable and time-framed goals and objectives** ,
- Capacity for enhancement of information management, workforce development, communications and financial sustainability** ,
- Identification of external trends and events impacting public health** ,
- Analysis of Strengths and Challenges** ,
- Links to the department's Health Improvement Plan and Quality Improvement Plan**

Q165 If no, where is your department in the process? (Select one) **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 38: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q166 Requirement 1: Since the strategic plan's adoption, my department has reviewed the plan and has monitored and assessed progress towards reaching the goals and objectives. **Yes**

Page 39: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q167 Requirement 1: My department participates in preparedness meetings with other government agencies, local health departments and health care providers. **Yes**

Q168 Requirement 2: My department has conducted drills or exercises or responded to real events that tested components of the All Hazards EOP within the last five years. **Yes**

Q169 If yes, did your department develop an AAR after the emergency or drill/exercise? **Yes**

Q170 Requirement 3: As a result of an exercise, drill or real event, my department has revised the All Hazards EOP. **Yes**

Page 40: 10 ES - #5 Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Q171 Requirement 1: My department has a public health emergency response plan that is dated within the last five years. **Yes**

Q172 If yes, does your department's public health EOP include? (Select all that apply)

- The health department staff responsible for coordinating a response
- The roles and responsibilities of the health department and its partners
- A health department communication network that addresses communication with other members of emergency networks or organizations that are also responders; or an emergency communication plan.
- How the health department will manage continuity of operations during an emergency

Q173 Requirement 2: Within the last five years, my department has tested the public health EOP through drills and exercises. **Yes**

Q174 If yes, did your department complete an AAR the drills or exercises? **Yes**

Q175 Requirement 3: My department has revised the public health EOP based on AARs. **Yes**

Page 41: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q176 Requirement 1: My department reviews regulations, statutes, and ordinances for their public health implications. **Yes**

Q177 If yes, when reviewing laws, does your department? (Select all that apply)

- Consider evidence-based practices, promising practices
- Consider the impact on health equity
- Use model public health laws, checklists, templates or some other standard outline or guide
- Solicit input from key partners and stakeholders
- Collaborate with other municipal departments, Tribes, state health department

Q178 Requirement 2: My department has access to legal counsel as needed. **Yes**

Page 42: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q179 Requirement 1: My department provides advice and recommendations to the governing entity and/or elected officials on the public health impact of new laws and changes to current laws. **Yes**

Q180 If yes, how does your department provide advice and recommendations? (Select all that apply)

Issue briefs,
Talking points,
Fact sheets,
Official public testimony,
Presentations,
Meetings

Page 43: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q181 Requirement 1: My department's staff have been trained in laws related to their job responsibilities within the past two years.

Yes

Q182 If yes, on which laws have staff received training? (Select all that apply)

Food,
Lead,
Infectious disease (e.g., TB, STD, immunizations),
Subsurface sewage disposal systems,
Housing, hoarding, blight,
Uniform relocation Act,
Opioid/naloxone,
Legal orders,
Disaster response/emergency preparedness,
Vector control,
Surveillance/outbreak investigations,
Health care – ACA, HIPPA, insurance claims

Q183 Requirement 2: My department ensures consistent application of public health laws.

Yes

Q184 If yes, how does your department ensure the consistent application of public health laws? (Select all that apply)

Internal audits,
Enforcement documents or logs,
Communications with other agencies

Page 44: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q185 Requirement 1: My department has information concerning public health related laws available to the public.

Yes

Q186 If yes, how is your department providing information concerning public health related laws? (Select all that apply)

Website,
 Flyers/Brochures,
 Information/training session,
 Email or ,
 fax
 Regular mail,
 Phone
 conversations

Q187 Requirement 2: My department has information about permit/license applications available to the public.

Yes

Q188 If yes, how is your department providing information about permit/license applications? (Select all that apply)

Website,
 Information/training session,
 Email or ,
 fax
 Regular mail,
 Phone
 conversations

Page 45: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q189 Requirement 1: My department provides information or education to regulated individuals or entities about their responsibilities related to public health laws.

Yes

Q190 If yes, how is your department providing information or education to regulated individuals or entities? (Select all that apply)

Website,
 Flyers/Brochures,
 Information/training session,
 Email or ,
 fax
 Regular mail,
 Phone
 conversations

Page 46: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q191 Requirement 1: My department has local ordinances/regulations for conducting enforcement actions.

Yes

Q192 If yes, what types of ordinances/regulations? (Select all that apply)

Housing,
 Hair Salon,
 Nail Salon,
 Tattoo Parlor,
 Body ,
 Piercing
 Massage Parlor,
 Animals (e.g.
 chickens)

Q193 Please provide a link to where these ordinances can be found:

<https://www.ecode360.com/NO0086>

Q194 Requirement 2: My department has a written procedure or protocol (e.g. decision tree) for enforcement program areas. **Yes**

Q195 If yes, please upload the protocol.

6.3.1 Enforcement Protocol- Norwalk Health Department.pdf (132.6KB)

Q196 If no, is the protocol in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 47: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q197 Requirement 1: My department maintains a database or log of inspection reports with action taken, current status, follow-up, return inspections, and final results/closure. **Yes**

Q198 If yes, what is/are the database(s) or log(s)? (Select all that apply)

Infectious disease (CTEDSS - MAVEN) ,

Childhood Lead (CTSIT - MAVEN) ,

Inspection software

Page 48: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q199 Requirement 1: My department has a database or log of actions related to investigations and complaints. **Yes**

Q200 If yes, does the database or log document? (Select all that apply)

An analysis of the situation ,

Actions taken ,

Notice of violations ,

Legal orders

Page 49: Copy of page: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q201 Requirement 1: My department analyzes the information in the database or log of investigations and complaints. **Yes**

Q202 If yes, does your department analyze the data for? (Select all that apply)

Statutory requirements,

Patterns and trends ,

Performance improvement for the enforcement program ,

Development of a summary annual report

Q203 Requirement 2: My department conducts debriefings or other methods to evaluate what worked well, to identify problems and recommends changes in the investigation/response procedure to the enforcement protocols or procedures. **Yes**

Page 50: 10 ES - #6 Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Q204 Requirement 1: My department has a protocol for notifying other agencies and the public of enforcement activities. **Yes**

Q205 If yes, how does your department notify other agencies and the public of enforcement activities? (Select all that apply) **Posting on a website, Minutes from public meetings, Conference calls, Emails, Correspondence, Public presentation, Reports**

Q206 If no, is the protocol in development? **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 51: 10 ES - #7 Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care

Q207 Requirement 1: My department participates in a collaborative process to assess the availability of health care services to the population. **Yes**

Q208 If yes, with whom does your department collaborate to assess the availability of health care services? (Select all that apply) **Health care providers, Social service organizations, Community based organizations, Mental/behavior health organizations, Local Coalitions, Specific populations who may lack health care and/ or experience barriers to service (e.g., disabled, non-English speaking)**

Q209 If yes, do you maintain documentation (agendas, minutes, rosters) of the collaborative process/meetings? **Yes**

Q210 Requirement 2: My department shares public health data for assessment and planning purposes. **Yes**

Q211 If yes, how does your department share the data? (Select all that apply) **Reports, Emails**

Q212 Requirement 3: My department assesses emerging issues that may impact access to care. **Yes**

Q213 If yes, please provide an example of an emerging issue.

Approximately 300 new students arriving in Norwalk who lacked access to affordable school physicals and childhood immunizations.

Page 52: 10 ES - #7 Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care

Q214 Requirement 1: My department has a process for identifying populations who lack access to health care. **Yes**

Q215 If yes, how are the populations identified? (Select all that apply)

- Assessment survey,**
- Survey of particular population groups ,**
- Analysis of secondary or health care data ,**
- Coalitions,**
- Community groups,**
- Public Health Partners**

Q216 Requirement 2: My department has a report or has developed a report that identifies populations who experience barriers to health care services. **Yes**

Q217 If yes, in the report, are the populations who experience barriers identified by the following? (Select all that apply)

- Age,**
- Ethnicity,**
- Geographic location,**
- Health insurance status ,**
- Educational level**

Page 53: 10 ES - #7 Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care

Q218 Requirement 1: My department has a process used to identify gaps in health care services and barriers to health care services. **Yes**

Q219 If yes, how are the gaps in health care services and barriers to care identified? (Select all that apply)

- Community Health Assessment,**
- Analysis of hospital admissions or emergency department data ,**
- Analysis of health insurance data ,**
- Focus groups**

Q220 Requirement 2: My department has a report or developed a report of analysis of data from various sources that identify and describe gaps in access to health care services and barriers to health care services in my jurisdiction. **Yes**

Q221 If yes, does the report include? (Select all that apply)

Assessment of capacity and distribution of health care providers ,

Assessment of the availability of health care services, for example, clinical preventive services, EMS, emergency departments, urgent care, occupational medicine, ambulatory care (primary and specialty), inpatient care, chronic disease care (e.g., diabetic care, HIV health services), dental, and other health care services.

,

Assessment of cause(s) for lack of access to services and barriers to access to care

,

Results of data or information gathered concerning access

Page 54: 10 ES - #7 Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care

Q222 Requirement 1: My department participates in a collaborative process for developing strategies to improve access to health care. **Yes**

Q223 If yes, what strategies has the coalition developed to improve access to health care services and reduce barriers to care? (Select all that apply)

Linking individuals with needed and convenient services ,

Establishing systems of care in partnership with other members of the community

,

Addressing transportation barriers

Page 55: 10 ES - #7 Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care

Q224 Requirement 1: My department has collaboratively implemented strategies to improve access to health care services for those who experience barriers. **Yes**

Q225 If yes, what strategies have been implemented to improve access to health care services? (Select all that apply)

Coordination of service programs to optimize access (e.g., WIC, immunizations, and lead testing)

,

Cooperative system of referrals between partners that shows the methods used to link individuals with needed health care services

,

Case management

Page 56: 10 ES - #7 Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care

Q226 Requirement 1: My department has initiatives to ensure that access and barriers are addressed in a culturally competent manner and take into account cultural, language and low literacy barriers. **Yes**

Q227 If yes, what are some of the initiatives? (Select all that apply)

Informational materials developed for low literacy individuals ,

Language/interpretive services,

Collaboration with other municipal departments (e.g., schools, social services)

Page 57: 10 ES - #8 Assure competent public and personal health care workforce

Q228 Requirement 1: My department actively promotes public health as a career choice. **Yes**

Q229 If yes, how? (Select all that apply)

- Collaboration with a school or college of public health to host interns/volunteers
- ,
- Guest lecturing at a college
- ,
- Making presentations to students about public health and public health careers
- ,
- Participating in student career fairs
- ,
- Working with a vocational training school to promote public health
- ,
- Working with organizations such as AmeriCorps

Page 58: 10 ES - #8 Assure competent public and personal health care workforce

Q230 Requirement 1: My department has a workforce development plan. **Yes**

Q231 If yes, does the workforce development plan? (Select all that apply)

- Address the collective capacity and capability of the department workforce
- ,
- Address gaps in capacity and capabilities and include strategies to address them
- ,
- Acknowledge the changing environment and include consideration of areas where the technology advances quickly, such as information management and (digital) communication science
- ,
- Acknowledge the changing environment and include considerations of areas where the field is advancing; for example, emergency preparedness training, health equity, and cultural competence
- ,
- Include an assessment of current staff competencies against the adopted core competencies
- ,
- Include training schedules and a description of the material or topics to be addressed in the training curricula to address gaps in staff competencies
- ,
- Include a description of barriers/inhibitors to the achievement of closing gaps or addressing future needs in capacity and capabilities and strategies to address those barriers/inhibitors

Q232 If no, is the plan in development?

Respondent skipped this question

Q233 Requirement 2: My department has implemented its workforce development strategies. **Yes**

Q234 If yes, what workforce development strategies have been implemented? (Select all that apply)

Completed assessment of current staff competencies ,
 Developed training schedules

Page 59: 10 ES - #8 Assure competent public and personal health care workforce

Q235 Requirement 1: My department ensures a competent workforce. Yes

Q236 If yes, how does your department ensure a competent workforce? (Select all that apply)

Documented process for recruitment of qualified staff ,
 Policies for recruitment of individuals who reflect the demographics of the population served ,
 Staff retention activities (e.g., employee satisfaction survey results, needs assessments of work environment, reward and recognition programs, career ladders, promotion opportunities, and supervisor mentoring programs) ,
 Job descriptions and requirements for specific certifications, skills, training, experience and education ,
 Protocol/process to verify staff qualifications ,
 Documents that the qualifications have been verified for all staff hired in the past 2 years

Page 60: 10 ES - #8 Assure competent public and personal health care workforce

Q237 Requirement 1: My department documents staff's completion of their professional development activities. Yes

Q238 If yes, what types of professional development activities? (Select all that apply)

Continuing education for certifications/licenses ,
 Training opportunities (e.g., HIPAA, emergency response, methods for the presentation of data, health equity, and communications) ,
 Mentoring,
 Job shadowing,
 Tuition reimbursement/time-off for classes

Q239 Requirement 2: My department provides leadership and/or management development training programs. Yes

Q240 If yes, what type of leadership and/or management development training programs? (Select all that apply)

Executive management seminars or programs ,
 Meetings and conferences

Q241 Requirement 3: My department provides an environment in which employees are supported in their jobs. Yes

Q242 If yes, how does your department provide a supportive environment? (Select all that apply)

- Supporting staff's regulatory work, which can be met with resistance
- ,
- Seeking staff input on professional development goals
- Providing professional development opportunities
- Providing tuition reimbursement,
- Providing support through an Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- ,
- Maintaining institutional memory, the transfer of knowledge, succession planning
- ,
- Encouraging systems thinking, change management, data use for decisions, and a culture of quality improvement
- ,
- Providing collaborative learning opportunities (e.g., participation on boards, committees, and task forces in community, collaborative planning sessions, shared reviews of program evaluations, etc.)

Page 61: Copy of page: 10 ES -#9 Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and

Q243 Requirement 1: My department has adopted a performance management system with input from staff and leadership.

Yes

Q244 If yes, does the performance management system include? (Select all that apply)

- Performance standards, including goals, targets and indicators, and the communication of expectations
- ,
- Performance measurement including data systems and collection
- Progress reporting including analysis of data, communication of analysis results, and a regular reporting cycle
- ,
- A process to use data analysis and manage change for quality improvement and towards creating a learning organization

Q245 If no, is the department in the process of adopting a system?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 62: 10 ES -#9 Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health

Q246 Requirement 1: My department has a committee or team that is responsible for implementing the performance management system.

Yes

Q247 If yes, does the committee or team? (Select all that apply)

- Set goals and objectives with identified timeframes
- Monitor performance to meet the goals and objectives and timeframes
- Document performance to meet the goals and objectives and timeframes
- Document performance results, opportunities for improvement and next steps
- Develop and complete a performance management self-assessment

Q248 If yes, for which area(s) has the performance management system been implemented? (Select all that apply)

- Contract management (e.g., looking at the contract approval process or how contracts are tracked for compliance)
- Inspection services,
- Licensing/permitting program,
- Staff professional development (i.e., career related skills)
- Workforce development (i.e., job related skills)
- Financial management system

Page 63: 10 ES -#9 Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health

Q249 Requirement 1: My department collects, analyzes, and draws conclusions from feedback from different customer groups. **Yes**

Q250 If yes, what groups have you surveyed? (Select all that apply)

- Food establishment owners,
- Tradespeople,
- General public
- Clients of programs
- Patients services,
- Volunteers

Q251 Requirement 2: My department has implemented changes/improvements based on the customer feedback. **Yes**

Q252 If yes, what is one (1) change that your department has implemented?

Changed meeting content for CHIP workgroups based on feedback

Page 64: 10 ES -#9 Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health

Q253 Requirement 1: My department provides staff development in performance management. **Yes**

Q254 If yes, how does your department provide staff development in performance management? (Select all that apply) **Webinars,**
Trainings/presentations

Page 65: 10 ES - #9 Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health

Q255 Requirement 1: My department has a written quality improvement (QI) plan that is dated within five years. **Yes**

Q256 If yes, does the QI plan address the following? (Select all that apply)

- Quality improvement terms to create a common vocabulary and a clear, consistent message**
- ,
- Culture of quality and the desired future state of quality in the organization**
- ,
- Key elements of the quality improvement effort's structure (e.g., organization structure, roles and responsibilities, staffing, budget and resource allocation)**
- ,
- Types of quality improvement training available and conducted within the organization**
- ,
- Project identification, alignment with strategic plan and initiation process**
- ,
- Quality improvement goals, objectives, and measures with time-framed targets**
- ,
- The department's approach to how the quality improvement plan is monitored: data are collected and analyzed, progress reported toward achieving stated goals and objectives, and actions taken to make improvements based on progress reports and ongoing data monitoring and analysis**
- ,
- Regular communication of quality improvement activities conducted in the organization**
- ,
- Process to assess the effectiveness of the quality improvement plan and activities**

Q257 If no, where is your department in the process? (Select one) **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 66: 10 ES -#9 Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health

Q258 Requirement 1: My department has documentation of implemented quality improvement activities based on the QI plan. **Yes**

Q259 If yes, did the documented QI activities include the following? (Select all that apply)

- How staff problem-solved and planned the improvement ,
- How staff selected the problem/process to address and described the improvement opportunity ,
- How staff described the current process surrounding the identified improvement opportunity ,
- How staff determined all possible causes of the problem and agreed on contributing factors and root cause(s) ,
- How staff developed a solution and action plan, including time-framed targets for improvement ,
- What the staff did to implement the solution or process change ,
- How staff reviewed and evaluated the result of the change, and how they reflected and acted on what they learned

Page 67: 10 ES - #10 Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

Q260 Requirement 1: My department has incorporated an evidence based or promising practice in a process, program or intervention. **Yes**

Q261 If yes, what is/are the source(s) of the evidence-based or promising practice? (Select all that apply)

- Published study or article ,
- State agencies/departments,
- National organizations,
- Federal agencies

Q262 If yes, please upload or describe one promising practice implemented.

10.1.1 Promising Practice- Norwalk Health Department.pdf (33.3KB)

Q263 Promising practice description

Respondent skipped this question

Page 68: 10 ES - #10 Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

Q264 Requirement 1: My department has communicated research findings and their public health implications to stakeholders, other health departments, other organizations, and/or the public. **Yes**

Q265 If yes, describe the research.

The Norwalk Health Department uses multiple methods to communicate facts, implications of research, and evidence based practices to our partners and other community stakeholders as well as the general public.

First, we work to share research and evidence in our role as subject matter experts in matters related to public health and social determinants of health. We may share this information through written briefs or letters, in-person presentations, public comment or testimony, and other methods. For example, we present in-person or written testimony to legislators and other municipal officials describing various research results (e.g., connection between the built environment and physical activity; connection between in-school physical activity/nutrition interventions and better academic achievement).

We also share research findings and evidence-based practices throughout our collaborative community health improvement planning. For example, when priority areas emerge in the community health assessment process and improvement planning begins or when coalitions are choosing new interventions to address health issues in the community, Health Department staff present research on evidence-based and promising practices, as well as background research and evidence on the root causes of the health issue to the planning group to help inform the selection of strategies and interventions.

In addition, the Health Department shares research findings and recommendations with the general public through educational materials, press releases, and online distribution. For example, the Health Department crafts clear, understandable science-based information about new, complex, or newsworthy health topics and issues and pushes that information to the public through media outreach, our website, and other methods.

Q266 If yes, with whom did your department communicate the research findings? (Select all that apply)

- Governing entity,**
- Elected/appointed officials** ,
- Local agencies/departments,**
- Community organizations,**
- General public**

Page 69: 10 Essential Services Certification

Q267 The Director of Health ensures that the provisions of a basic health program, as per CGS Section 19a-207a, are being provided to the community and that the information included in this report is accurate and true to the best of his/her knowledge.

Yes