City of Milwaukee
Health Department

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Commissioner of Health

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Family and Community Health Services

Milwaukee's Future: IT'S IN OUR HANDS
www.milwaukee.gov/2010census

web site: www.milwaukee.gov/health

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National Public Health Week

City of Milwaukee Health Department and its Community Partners Honored for Excellence in Public Health

The City of Milwaukee Health Department's medical director and three community partners have been recognized by the Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA) for their outstanding contributions toward protecting and improving the health of residents.

"Milwaukee is filled with dedicated public health professionals who work tirelessly to improve the health and well-being of our community," said Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker. "These awards are evidence of our commitment to addressing health concerns in the city."

Dr. Geof Swain received the Presidential Award for his sustained, outstanding contribution to WPHA**.** He is Chief Medical Officer for the City of Milwaukee Health Department, and an Associate Professor at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health. Throughout his career, Dr. Swain has served in leadership positions on the board of directors for WPHA. He was instrumental in restructuring the organization and remains a driving force behind the addition of a Health Equity agenda to WPHA's organizational focus, including the development of The Wisconsin Center for Health Equity. Dr. Swain has also been involved in multiple public health collaborations at the local, regional, and national level, including the planning teams for the UW-Milwaukee School of Public Health, and service on the Healthiest Wisconsin 2010 and 2020 leadership teams, as well as the Healthiest Wisconsin subcommittees related to the social and economic determinants of health.

M. Kathleen Murphy, Health Services Coordinator for Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) received an award for excellence in health promotion and disease prevention. Ms. Murphy, along with her MPS Health Services colleagues, continues to be a strong advocate for health in Milwaukee and a core collaborator on multiple public health issues with the Health Department. In 2009 three key initiatives in which MPS's Health Service played a pivotal role were 1) increasing childhood and adolescent immunization rates for routine immunizations; 2) increasing H1N1 immunization rates in adults and children; and 3) reducing STD and teen pregnancy rates through condom distribution.

Nicole Angresano, Vice President of Community Impact at United Way of Greater Milwaukee, received the Special Achievement of a Public Health Partnership Award for the United Way and Health Department's *If Truth Be Told* Initiative: Addressing Teen Pregnancy, Public Health and the Cycle of Poverty Campaign. In November 2008, the Health Department announced that the birth rate to teens had dropped by 10% - a 28 year

low! In November 2009, the Health Department reported the teen pregnancy rate dropped once again. This shows that the If Truth Be Told Initiative's commitment to solving the teen pregnancy crisis is paying off.

Dr. John Milbrath received the Distinguished Service to Public Health Award. Dr. Milbrath is the Director of the Breast Diagnostic Clinic in Waukesha, WI and is a Board Certified Radiologist with special accreditation in mammography techniques. Dr. Milbrath has volunteered in excess of 80,000 hours interpreting over 40,000 films for approximately 25,000 women who have been served through the Milwaukee Breast Cancer Awareness Program. It is estimated that these screenings identified 2,200 abnormalities which required further follow-up services, and that approximately 150 women with breast cancer were identified through Dr. Milbrath's work and referred for treatment.

For more information about the City of Milwaukee Health Department, go to www.milwaukee.gov/health or to learn about the WPHA Awards, go to www.wpha.org.