

# REPORT OF PARTNERS HOME CARE, INC. ABINGTON PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES 2006

Partners Home Care, Inc., a non-profit Medicare certified agency, continues to serve Abington residents, offering nursing, physical, occupational, and speech therapy services, medical social work, nutritional counseling, and home health aide assistance. The agency continues to meet the highest standards of excellence fulfilling the mission of providing quality home health to those in need.

Under a contract with the Abington Board of Health, wellness programs, health promotion screenings, flu clinics, and immunization programs are offered to residents and town employees.

With the support of the Abington Housing Authority, we maintain office hours weekly at 100 Lincoln Blvd, Leavitt Terrace and our public health programs are housed therein. Office hours for walk-ins are Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon each week. Office appointments may be made by calling (781) 681-1013.

An ongoing communication regarding public health issues and initiatives continues with the Board of Health, Abington Public Schools and the many town agencies and departments. Detailed reports of our activities in the area of health education and the prevention and control of disease are submitted monthly demonstrating the fulfillment of our contractual obligation to the Abington Board of Health.

The following is a summary of our public health activities for the calendar year 2006.

<b>OFFICE VISITS</b>	<b>439 PATIENTS</b>	<b>IMMUNIZATIONS</b>	<b>148</b>
Blood Pressure Screenings	278	Hepatitis B	27
MD prescribed injections	1	MMR	1
Blood Sugar/tests	12	Flu	112
Tb Tests (1 for DPH)	8	Pneumonia	4
Tb Readings	8	Hepatitis A	1
Disease Instruction/Teaching	19	Varicella	1
		Pediarix	2

## SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

Immunizations administered at school clinics: Total given – 18 Tdap  
Tdap Immunizations – sixth graders at North, Center and Woodsdale schools

## TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAM

One Tuberculosis case contact was skin tested in the office this year. There were no active tuberculosis cases in Abington this year. Partners Home Care, Inc. purchases Tb testing serum. Tb testing is available at a nominal charge for pre-employment/OSHA regulations. Free testing of tuberculosis contacts continues under the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Tb Division and is available by office appointment or home visit.

## SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS/ABINGTON

**March 23, 2006** Attended the American Cancer Society Advocacy training program in preparation for the Relay for Life to be held in Abington in June.

**April 5, 2006** – Attended all day seminar – Infectious Disease Surveillance and Reporting.

**April 7, 2006** – Participated in Table-Top Emergency Preparedness Exercise at Wheaton College, along with several members of Abington’s Emergency Management Team/Police, Fire and Board of Health.

**May 12, 2006** - Attended “Be Prepared for Pandemic Flu” seminar presented by Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

**June 9th and 10th** - American Cancer Society Relay for Life held at Memorial Field in Abington – was a volunteer at The Cancer Advocacy table – gathering signatures on the Wall of Hope Banner and petition books to encourage our Legislators in Washington, D.C. to make the eradication of cancer a national priority.

**Summer of 2006** – FEMA Courses IS-00700 and IS-100/successfully completed the two courses required for town emergency first responders/volunteers under the Homeland Security Program.

**ADULT WELLNESS CLINICS - 425 PATIENTS - 47 CLINICS**

<i>Leavitt Terrace</i> <i>(January – December)</i> <i>First Tuesday</i> <i>9:00-10:30 A.M.</i>	<i>Shaw Avenue</i> <i>(January – December)</i> <i>Secondary Thursday</i> <i>10:00-11:00 A.M.</i>	<i>Chestnut Glen</i> <i>(January – December)</i> <i>Third Wednesday</i> <i>11:00 A.M -12:30 P.M.</i>	<i>Stop &amp; Shop</i> <i>(January – December)</i> <i>Last Thursday</i> <i>2:00-4:00 P.M.</i>
11 Clinics	12 Clinics	12 Clinics	12 Clinics
81 Patients/BP	91 Patients/BP	93 Patients/BP	160 Patients/BP
11 Blood Sugar Tests	4 Blood Sugar Tests	25 Blood Sugar Tests	56 Blood Sugar Tests

Monthly Clinics for Blood Pressure/Blood Sugar Screenings.  
Two clinics had to be cancelled due to inclement weather conditions.

**REPORTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES: 25**

Salmonella	3	Strept pneumonia	1
Hepatitis B	2	Hepatitis C	4
Campylobacter	1	Viral Meningitis	2
Lyme Disease	6	Varicella	3
Pertussis	2	Legionellosis	1

Confidential case follow-ups are completed and submitted to the MA DPH as required.

**FLU CLINIC ACTIVITY - Fall 2006 635**

(\*Free Clinics – DPH Vaccine Only – for “elderly and high risk” as defined by the MA DPH)

*Abington VFW	11/17/06	259
*Shaw Ave.	11/14/06	26
*Chestnut Glen	11/15/06	31
*Abington Library/ECC	11/16/06	<u>208</u>
		524
Office Visits - 109	Home Visits - 2	

**DISTRIBUTION- DPH VACCINE**

Mildred Alford – Nursing Home 100  
(Mildred Alford Nursing Home closed its doors – November 2006. 40 unused doses transferred to another skilled nursing facility.)

Colony House - Rehab Center 100

**HEALTH PROMO VISITS BY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE: 5**

Flu shots with MD orders – homebound patients – 2  
Assessment – 1 Tb test – 1 Reading – 1

A special thank you to the Board of Health Agent, Michelle Roberts and the Board of Health Secretary, Maureen Kilroy, who maintain close contact and provide assistance regarding health issues and concerns. They were particularly helpful during our busy flu season/ assisting with the preparations for advertising clinics.

I would like to thank the Board of Health and all the residents and businesses for their continued support – and a special thank you to the many volunteers who assist with our clinics throughout the year. It is through this ever-welcomed support that we can successfully meet the health care needs of our community and enhance services for the residents of Abington.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Miller, RN  
*Community Health Nurse*