

REPORT OF PARTNERS HOME CARE, INC.
ABINGTON PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES 2008

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 a mission of providing quality home care 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.

Through the generosity and support of the Abington Housing Authority, we are located, and maintain office hours weekly, at 100 Lincoln Boulevard, Leavitt Terrace. Our office hours are held from 9:00am-12:00noon on Tuesday and Thursday each week. Appointments are encouraged and can be made by calling 781-681-6013. We also hold clinics at Chestnut Glen, Blanchard Gardens and the Abington Senior Center.

There is ongoing communication regarding public health issues and initiatives with the Board of Health, Abington Public Schools and town agencies and departments.

The following is a summary of our public health activities for the 2008 calendar year.

OFFICE VISITS WEEKLY

Blood Pressure Screenings	579
Blood Sugar Screenings	57
Tb tests	9
Tb readings	9
Teaching	62

IMMUNIZATIONS

Hepatitis A	1
Flu vaccine	110
Pneumovax	8
Tdap	2

TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAM

Partners Home Care, Inc. purchases Tb testing serum. Tb testing is available at a nominal charge for pre-employment/OSHA regulations. Testing is provided at no charge for suspected contacts of Tuberculosis under the Massachusetts Department of Public Health TB Division.

One active case of Tuberculosis was followed extensively this year. Free home visits made by the nurse were - 121. Outreach worker visits were - 29.

CLINICS:

Leavitt Terrace	Blood pressure screenings	119
	Blood sugar screenings	18
Shaw Avenue	Blood pressure screenings	77
	Blood sugar screenings	1
Chestnut Glen	Blood pressure screenings	93
	Blood sugar screenings	19
Abington Senior Center (new as of September 2008)		
	Blood pressure screenings	6
	Blood sugar screenings	0
Abington Stop and Shop	Blood pressure screenings	88
	Blood sugar screenings	42

FLU CLINIC ACTIVITY

10/22/08	Shaw Avenue	22
10/22/08	Chestnut Glen	42
11/5/08	Senior Center	142
11/24/08	Abington Library/EEC	159
		Total =365

Flu Vaccine was distributed to Colony House Rehab Center - 100 doses

REPORTABLE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Campylobacter	1
Cryptosporidiosis	1
Bacteremia E.coli	1
Enterovirus	1
Hepatitis B	2
Hepatitis C	18
Invasive strep	1
Lyme	26
Pertussis	1
Salmonella	2
Strep pneumonia	1
Varicella	3
Viral Meningitis	2

I would like to thank Michelle Roberts, Board of Health Agent and Donna Manna, Board of Health secretary for their support and assistance. They are an invaluable part of our team. I would also like to thank our volunteers who assisted in organizing and conducting our flu clinics. It is through the cooperation and support of so many people that we are able to meet the needs of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, B.S.N., R.N.