WV Mentorship Participants

Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department (WV)

Background

State: West Virginia
HD Population Size Served: 128,904
Number of Retail Food Establishments Inspected: 939
Retail Program Standards Met/Working On: 2, 4, 5, & 6
Enrolled in the Retail Program Standards: 2012
NACCHO Mentorship Program Cohort(s): 5

West Virginia’s only Regional Health Department. The six county region includes Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt and Wood Counties, with Wood housing administrative offices. Our WIC Department serves 9 counties.

The mission of the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department is to do everything in our power to protect the health of the communities in Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt, and Wood counties. Like some other public agencies, we are charged to serve and protect.

Opportunities exist within the Health Department to volunteer, whether to help in times of crisis when many people will be needed to assure that the necessary drugs are delivered to the residents of our communities during a life-threatening disease outbreak, or just to help us with some of the day-to-day activities of trying to make our communities healthier. We are your Health Department!

Environmental Health Staff: We have 10 Sanitarians, 5 which are registered including the Director working in the retail food regulatory program. All Sanitarians are generalists and work every program mandated by the State. We currently conduct three inspections per year of each retail food establishment, except vending which is done twice a year. The Sanitarians are Serv-Safe certified manager course instructors and proctors.
We also have 2 full time office assistants in Wood County, and each outlying county has an office assistant which work a percentage of time for EH.

Our regulatory authority is derived from the West Virginia State Code Chapter 16. Our State has currently adopted the FDA 2005 Food Code, under WV 64CSR17, with minor changes.

Role in Mentorship Program

Mid-Ohio Valley participated in the NACCHO Retail Program Standards Mentorship program as a mentee in the fifth cohort. They were mentored by Fairfax County Health Department.

Lessons learned:

We needed a clearer picture of the risk factor study, and received that through this program. We have were able to complete Standard 4 and are working towards Standard 5 based on the information and guidance provided through this program.

Our agency is currently in the process of PHAB accreditation, and is using the crosswalk provided by both NACCHO and this program, to aid us in our documentation requirements. These two programs complement each other and will help to strengthen our program and our agency to better serve our communities.

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