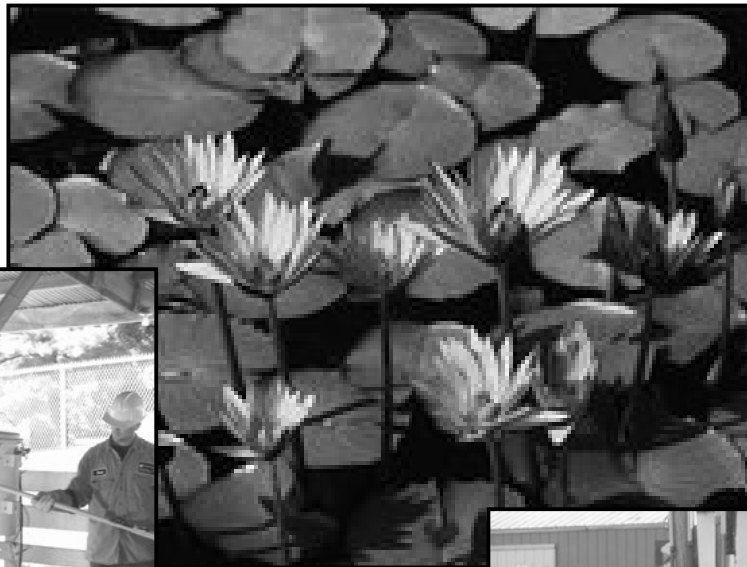


Lake County Health Department

Serving our communities since 1927

729 Clay Street
Darlington, WI 53530
(608) 776-4895
(608) 776-4885



2008 Annual Report

2008 Agency Highlights

- Our Agency and specifically the Hospice program saw a major change in 2008. Unfortunately, the Board made the difficult decision to decertify our Hospice program due to the new federal Medicare Conditions of Participation. These new regulations simply proved too much for our program to meet. As a result, the Lafayette County Hospice program disbanded effective December of 2008. We cannot reiterate enough the difficult nature of this decision and we share the community's sadness and disappointment with the circumstances. Specifically, we commend Kristie Lueck for the many, many dedicated years and passion she has given to the program as well as recognize all of the remarkable contributions of the Hospice Team Members. The program's wonderful reputation over the years is due to all of these people as they gave tremendous care and compassion to the all of patients and families. Each one made a difference in the life of a patient and their family at the most difficult of times. The program has so much to be proud of as it has been a quality program and well respected in the community. Statistically in 2008, the number of new referrals was 28 (37 in 2007). The number of patients admitted to the Hospice program was 15 in 2008 (22 in 2007). We saw a decrease in patient visits, partly due to Hospice nurse staff recruitment challenges and other staff changes. In 2008, 283 visits were made which contrasts with 381 visits made in 2007. Donations to the Hospice Program were \$ 6,255 received in 2008, \$ 3700 was received in 2007. Due to the program closing, the Agency utilized the money in the donation account to purchase much needed patient care items such as wheelchairs, screening machines, patient education materials and 2 automated external defibrillators.
- Statistically, the Home Care Program had its numbers decrease with total number of admissions at 123 for 2008 (2007 admissions = 132). Total number of visits was 3,672 in 2007 and 3,543 in 2008 so there was an overall decrease in visits in 2008. The large number of visits kept the staff very busy and was extremely challenging given our constant struggles with RN vacancies. Joanne Huntington resigned in late 2008 and on the heels of the challenge in retaining and filling a previous Home Care RN vacancy in late '07, this additional Home Care vacancy proved taxing as well. The HC vacancy was filled finally in May 2009. Nursing shortages nationwide are very apparent locally with the difficulties we experienced in 2007, 2008 and 2009. We miss Joanne but wish her well in her position at the hospital. She is a great nurse!
- Public Health programming at the Health Department is a statutory requirement and saw challenges in 2008. We had to say goodbye to a wonderful PHN, Lynn Howery who moved to Hawaii. We miss her but know she loves the sunshine! We replaced Lynn with a wonderful addition ó Annie Timmerman. Annie has proved to be a tremendous asset to our staff! Some of our challenges in 2008 included: an increase in communicable disease epi investigations, flooding concerns, tobacco expansion work, and rural safety day. We continue to anticipate a statewide electronic surveillance system (WEDSS) and continued to see the addition of vaccines which translated into the need for school-based immunization clinics. Our relationship with school districts is crucial in PH prevention in the above issues. In Environmental Health, much leg work continued exploring the feasibility of the 5 county EH consortium taking on Agent Status ó the restaurant inspection program.

2008 Agency Highlights (cont.)

- The 2008 Wisconsin Health Ranking report published by the UW Population Health Institute revealed that Lafayette County's ranking in Health Outcomes fell significantly to 48th statewide (from 34th in 2007) and our ranking related to Health Determinants fell to 4th statewide (from #3 in 2007). Much of the fall in ranking has to do with an aging population, socioeconomic indicators and issues with access to both medical care and dental care. The Community Health Needs Assessment process continued with our ongoing involvement in the Lafayette County Aging Well/Living Well Coalition & the Lafayette County Community Suicide Intervention (CSI) Task force. Our participation in these two important coalitions helps to address the 3 priority areas in our Health Improvement Plan: 1) Health needs of the elderly, 2) Promotion of healthy lifestyle behaviors and 3) Improving access to care. In an attempt to help ease the dental access issue, we had major involvement in dental care access and the new Darlington Regional Dental Clinic with a Spring 2009 opening for the residents of SW WI! This collaborative project has received state-wide recognition as well as awards. We are proud to be a part of its success.
- Bioterrorism preparedness remains a large activity in Public Health. Much time and energy was again spent confronting the huge task of adequate planning & preparedness. The Southwest PH Preparedness and Response Consortium (Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland, Vernon and Crawford Counties) continued work on preparedness objectives. Numerous tabletop & mass vaccination exercises were held designed to test readiness. Another focus was continued training of staff at the Health Department as well as our readiness partners. Incident command is an ongoing training focus. A school disease/syndromic surveillance pilot project continued in 2 Lafayette County schools. The health department is also a leader in facilitating local monthly meetings. In 2008 we tackled the tough issues regarding mass fatality planning.
- Involvement in Family Care (Long Term Pilot Expansion) has been an ongoing project for the Health Department. Being at the table engaging in discussions and understanding of this state initiative and its implications are important to our department.

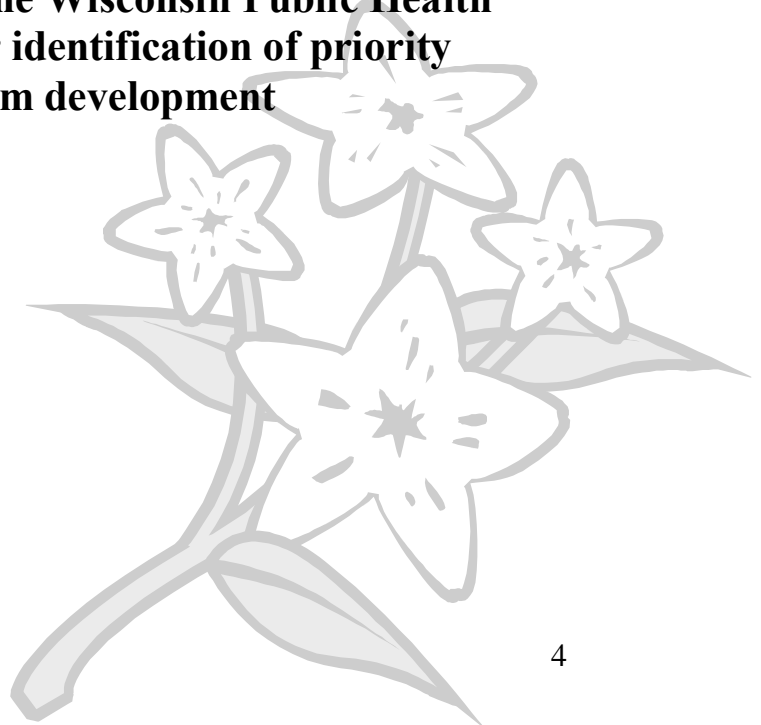
Top Goals of 2008

- 1) Continue Activities to Increase Agency Visibility & Community Awareness of Services**
- 2) Continue Staff Development**
 - a. Increase Staff knowledge in regards to Board of Health Process and of the County Union Contract/Personnel policy
 - b. Increase Board Member knowledge regarding programs & specific job duties of employees
- 3) Continue participation in regions 6-county SWWI Public Health Preparedness & Response consortium and local bioterrorism task force through:**
 - c. Tabletop exercises
 - d. Mass vaccination drills
 - e. Training
 - f. Revising written plans
 - g. Other misc. activities
- 4) Continue to support & address the priority community health needs identified in the 2004 Lafayette County Health Department Community Needs Assessment**
 - h. Needs of the elderly
 - i. Healthy lifestyle promotion
 - j. Improving access to care
- 5) Maintain current Agency programming & infrastructure in the extremely tight county budget climate, as well as the precarious world today.**
- 6) Continue involvement in local, regional and statewide discussions on the Long-Term Care Redesign (Family Care) process.**

Mission Statement

The mission of the Lafayette County Health Department is to promote optimal physical and emotional health for all county residents by:

- ❖ Promoting community education toward healthy lifestyles**
- ❖ Protecting communities, families, and individuals from communicable disease and known and potential environmental health hazards that have an impact on human health**
- ❖ Preventing and dealing with the effects of disabilities, chronic, acute and terminal illnesses on individuals and families, and assisting them to reach their highest level of independence**
- ❖ Collaborating with all health care and related providers to reach everyone**
- ❖ Providing information to the Wisconsin Public Health Data Collection System for identification of priority health concerns for program development**



Our 2008 Programs & Services

Public Health

Community Health Days

In the months of February, April, June, August, October and December, the Public Health nurses visit each local community to provide health screening, education and counseling for all ages. Patients are able to be seen on a walk-in basis.

Some of the services offered at the Community Health Days include: Blood pressure checks, blood tests for sugar, colorectal cancer test kits, immunizations, and hearing tests are available upon request. Foot care is also available for individuals who cannot perform routine nail care themselves.

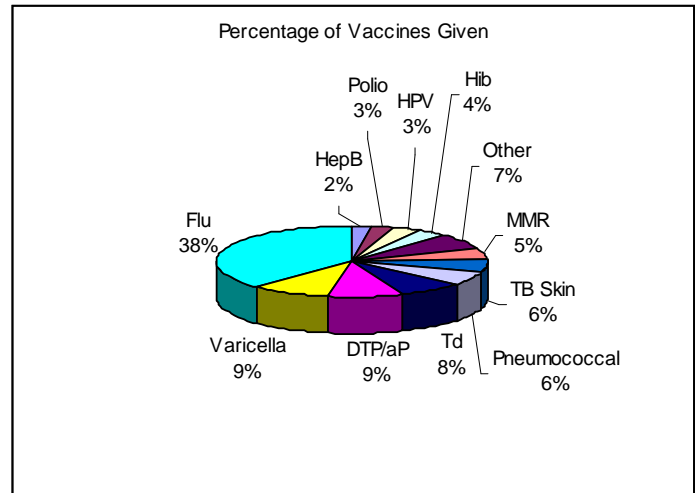
Community	2006	2007	2008
Argyle	100	55	81
Belmont	75	51	90
Benton	51	33	35
Blanchardville	52	44	41
Darlington	36	41	34
Shullsburg	87	48	52
TOTAL	411	280	333

Paternity Testing

Paternity testing is performed as a contracted activity with the Lafayette County Child Support Agency. Buccal swab paternity testing is scheduled and performed on individuals as ordered through the Lafayette County Circuit Court in conjunction with the Lafayette County Child Support Agency. This testing is only performed on court ordered cases, and is not offered to the public in any other instances. In 2008, eight individuals were tested via Buccal Swab as a result of court ordered testings.

Immunization Clinics

We offer patients of all ages immunizations either at a Community Health Days or at the Lafayette Health Department Office. In 2008 3339 immunization shots were given. The Lafayette Health Department offers many different vaccines. There is no charge associated with the vaccines, but a donation is suggested to help cover the costs of administering the vaccine.

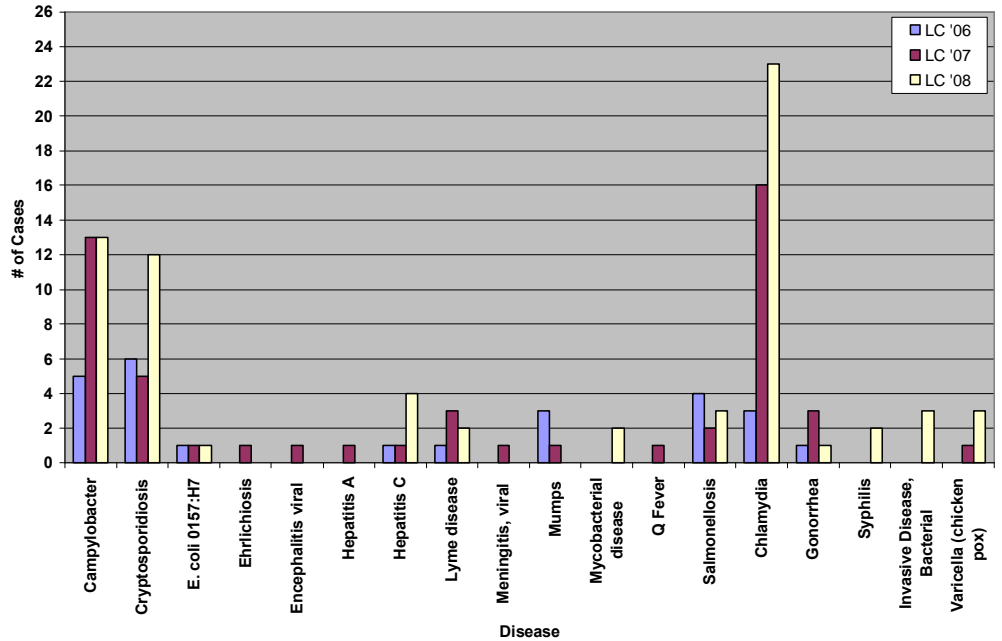


COP Assessments

In 2008, the Lafayette County Health Department, along with the Human Services Department helped 23 citizens remain in their communities through the Community Options Program. This program provides services for people who have a disability or are elderly to enable them to live at home or in other integrated community settings.

Communicable Disease Follow-Up

The Lafayette County Health Department is responsible for communicable disease surveillance within the county. Once per month the LCHD reports back to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to inform them of any findings. The purpose of this program is to implement controls and investigation to prevent the further transmission of the various diseases.



Wisconsin Well Women Program

The WWWP is a program that is designed to improve access to preventative health services to eliminate preventable death and disability from breast and cervical cancer in women ages 35-64.

The WWWP program allows the Lafayette County Health Department administers the following screenings at no cost to the women receiving them: clinical breast exams, mammograms, pap and pelvic exams, depression, diabetes, blood pressure, cholesterol, domestic abuse, and osteoporosis. In 2008, we had 53 contacts with women through the Well Women Program. This compares to 58 visits in 2007.

Farm Safety Program

Every-other year the Health Department along with many community partners holds an educational day to teach 4th and 5th grade children about farm and rural safety. The program was held at the Lafayette County Fairgrounds on September 16, 2008, and had 400 students in attendance.

The program will be held again in 2010.



Foot Care

Basic foot care services are offered to patients by appointment either at the LCHD building or at the Community Health Day Clinic sites. Charges for foot care procedures are normally \$20, but the Health Department works with the Lafayette County Commission on Aging to offer the service to patients for an out-of-pocket price of \$10. In 2008 195 foot care clients were seen by the health department nurses.

School Health Services

Our public health nurses work with 6 of the county school districts to provide school nursing functions. Services provided by the school nurses include:

- ✓ Immunizations
- ✓ Hearing & Vision Screening
- ✓ Health & Safety Education
- ✓ Fluoride Mouth Rinse
- ✓ Blood Pressure Screening
- ✓ Lice Screening
- ✓ Communicable Disease Follow-up
- ✓ Emergency Nursing
- ✓ Blood Borne Pathogen Prevention

Districts are served by our Agency in weekly contracts ranging from 3 hours per week to 6 hours per week.

Lead Screening

Lead poisoning occurs when the body is exposed to a large amount of lead or continuous small amounts of lead and can cause severe health, learning and behavioral problems in children. It is recommended that ALL children have a routine lead screening at both 1 year of age, and again at 2 years of age.

The Lafayette County Health Department holds scheduled screening clinics throughout the year free of charge to provide ample opportunities for all children within the county to be screened. Outreach is conducted via written PSA's for the local newspaper and written communication to families with children within the targeted age group. In instances where lead level results are found to be elevated or high, follow up education and services are conducted by the RN in conjunction with the Lafayette County Environmental Health Agent. In 2008, LCHD performed 144 Lead Screenings on for children ages 1-2.

Families First New Beginnings/MCH Child Health Care Grant

Expecting families in Lafayette County have the opportunity to participate in the Families First New Beginnings program through the Lafayette County Health Department. The program gives new parents the opportunity to meet with a Health Department nurse, as well as have a family home visitor to educate on ways to promote family strength and stability. The program begins before birth and continues until the baby's first birthday. The home visitor is available to discuss any questions that may arise during the first stages of parenthood as well as normal milestones and growth development.

The program is free to participants. In 2008, the LCHD served 40 families through the Families First program.

Through grant funds, the LCHD also participates in Maternal and Child Health programs. This program promotes prenatal care and provides counseling and education on Nutrition, Life style, Labor & Delivery, and breastfeeding to expecting mothers. The MCH Health Grant also makes it possible to reach out to mothers Post-Partum as well as to mothers with children with special health care needs. In 2008 the Lafayette County Health Department nurses were able to see 48 mothers and babies.



Home Care Services

Home Care Visits

The goal of the Home Care team is to provide professional health services in the comfort and security of the patient's own home to help them return to good health and independence as soon as possible.

Under direction from the patient's family physician, the Home Care program offers the following services:

- ✓ Skilled care & assessment
- ✓ Instructions & support for patient, family and other care givers
- ✓ Speech Therapy
- ✓ Physical Therapy
- ✓ Wound Care
- ✓ Blood Drawing
- ✓ Injections
- ✓ Occupational Therapy
- ✓ Care of & instruction in IV medication therapy
- ✓ Medication instructions
- ✓ Ostomy & catheter instruction and care
- ✓ Diabetes, diet and insulin instruction
- ✓ Tube feedings



The Home Care program is reimbursed through, Medicare, Medical Assistance, Private insurance or HMO, or private pay according to a sliding scale.

Personal Care Services

We offer services to people in need of assistance with baths, shampoos, and other basic hygiene needs. A Home Health Aide or RN can visit the home of a patient as often as necessary for a fee. The fees for this service are based on a sliding scale which is income-driven. The Commission on Aging reimburses the LCHD for a portion of Personal Care costs. In 2008, the personal care program served 917 Lafayette County residents.

Environmental Health

Environmental Hazard Investigations

The Lafayette County Health Department, along with Grant, Iowa, Vernon, and Richland counties contract registered sanitarian & environmental health consultant, Troy Moris to assist with community outreach and education on environmental health problems that may occur within the county. In 2008, the following numbers of contacts were made with Lafayette County residents:

<i>Environmental Hazard</i>	<i>Home Visits</i>	<i>Contacts</i>
<i>Air Quality Problems</i>	8	61
<i>Animal Nuisances</i>	4	13
<i>Asbestos Investigations</i>	6	22
<i>Housing (unsafe & unsanitary)</i>	10	85
<i>Lead Hazards</i>	1	23
<i>Rabies Control</i>	0	72
<i>Radiation (Kits distributed)</i>	2	59
<i>Sewage</i>	0	8
<i>Solid Waste</i>	0	26
<i>Water (3) (20 Beach)</i>	1	18
<i>Water Quality (48 Kits)</i>	0	48
Total Number of Contacts	32	435

Environmental Testing Available

The following tests were available through the Lafayette County Health Department in 2008:

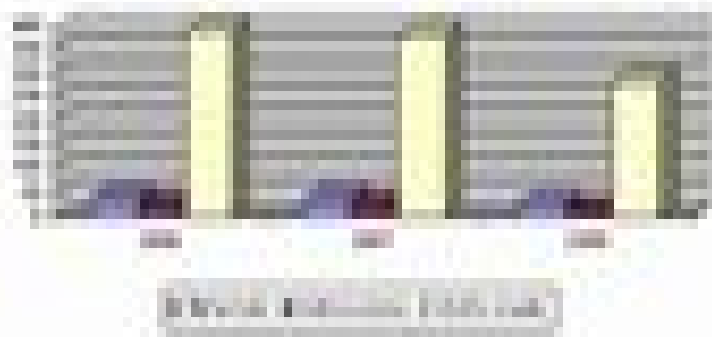
- ✓ Bacteriology Tests
- ✓ Nitrate Tests
- ✓ Fluoride Tests

If there is a child in the home 11 months of age or younger, LCHD offers the testing for free. Otherwise, the State Lab of Hygiene in Madison, WI offers testing for a small fee. Testing kits were handed out from the Health Department Office.

Hospice

Hospice Care Program

2008 marked the final year of our Hospice program. Hospice through the Lafayette County Health Department was available to any Lafayette County resident facing a terminal illness. Hospice focused on patient comfort during the final stages of a terminal illness. The service helped many patients and their families through some of the most difficult times in their lives. In 2008 there were 28 referrals for Hospice care, with 15 patients admitted into the program. These 15 patients resulted in 283 visits from our staff. The hospice program will be greatly missed in our county, but similar coverage is still available to our residents through other hospice programs in Southwestern Wisconsin. A complete listing of these programs is available at the health department.



2008 Medical Advisor & Professional Advisory Committee

MEDICAL ADVISOR

- ♦ Dr. Lori Neumann, M.D.

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- ♦ Kristie Lueck RN, BSN
Chair, HC/Hospice Supervisor – Health Dept
- ♦ Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN
Director/Health Officer – Health Dept
- ♦ Sue Burke
Registered Physical Therapist - MHLC
- ♦ Tricia Beck RN
DON, Lafayette Manor
- ♦ Dr. Lori Neumann, M.D.
M.D. - Medical Associates
- ♦ Carol Benson
Director – Commission on Aging
- ♦ Halie Helfvogt
Social Worker – Lafayette Cty Human Services
- ♦ Michael Parks
Registered Speech Therapist

2008 Board of Health

Kenny Taylor, Chairman (Jan-April)
Jack Alexander, Chairman (April-Dec)
Lois Finnigan
David Hammer
Rick Moyer

Dean Thoreson
Juanita Burke
Chris Fortin
Connie Hull
Mary Skattum

2008 Financial Summary

January 1 ó December 31, 2008

Public Health

	AMOUNT
<i>2007 Allocation from County</i>	325,717.00
<i>2007 Revenues</i>	240,050.37
<i>2007 Expenses</i>	(543,592.73)
<i>ENDING BALANCE FOR Public Health</i>	\$22,174.64

Home Care

	AMOUNT
<i>2007 Allocation from County</i>	118,028.00
<i>2007 Revenues</i>	384,224.91
<i>2007 Expenses</i>	(495,731.08)
<i>ENDING BALANCE FOR Home Care</i>	\$6,521.83

Hospice

	AMOUNT
<i>2006 Carry Over from Donation Account</i>	10,794.46
<i>2007 Revenues</i>	142,571.01
<i>2007 Donation Revenue</i>	6,255.00
<i>2007 Expenses</i>	(123,645.29)
<i>2007 Expenses from Donation Account</i>	(5,618.74)
<i>ENDING BALANCE FOR Hospice</i>	\$30,356.44

**Total Amount Returned to General Fund
from Lafayette County Health Department:
\$59,052.91**

2008 Health Dept Staff

Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN
Director/Health Officer

Kristie Lueck RN, BSN
Asst Director/Home Care/Hospice
Supervisor

Public Health Nursing Staff

Mary Jo Finkenbinder RN
Lee Gill RN
Sue Hefel RN, BSN
Lynn Howery RN, BSN
Farah Mellenberger RN, BSN
Annie Timmerman RN, BSN

Home Care Nursing Staff

Joanne Huntington RN
Marian Olson RN (Hospice Nurse)
Sonja Wiegel RN

Home Health Aides

Erin Hastert, CNA
Teresa Robelia, CNA

Office Staff

Jeri Byrne, Admin. Deputy
Janice Ruf, Home Care Billing Clerk
Colleen Leinberger, PH Tech/Clerical/CNA

Environmental Health Consultant

Troy Moris, *Registered Sanitarian &
Environmental Health Consultant*

Occupational Therapist (Contracted)

Barb Ritchie, Licensed OT

Registered Physical Therapist (Contracted)

Susan Burke, Licensed PT
Marcy Christensen, Licensed PT
Jodi Christopher, Licensed PT
Melissa Nickels, PT

Social Worker (Contracted)

Halie Helfvogt ó Lafayette Manor

Registered Dietitian (Contracted)

Colleen Keen, RD