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## Buffalo County Health Department

*Prevent. Promote. Protect.*

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**We thank you for your continued support and partnerships and wish you the best this upcoming year! Here is what we have been up to in 2019.**

- Public Health has been educating the community on the risks of electronic nicotine devices. This has been accomplished through youth and adult presentations and media outreach.
- **A grant was received to increase awareness of the dangers of opioids and ways the community can be better prepared to respond. A new tool made possible through the Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition helps adults identify everyday items that may conceal alcohol or drugs.**

Check this out! <http://www.wakeupcallroom.org/>

- Promoting mental wellness and preventing suicide has been an area of focus. Public health staff trained youth about the signs of suicide and provided education at the Hope4U suicide awareness walk.
- Staff participated in exercises and planning activities to better prepare for responding to incidents impacting public health. Activities included vaccination clinics, table top exercises involving outbreak scenarios, providing bleeding control trainings and updating public health emergency plans.
- We continue to partner with universities such as Winona State University, Viterbo, UW-Stout and UW-Eau Claire to better serve people living in Buffalo County.
- Buffalo County Public Health was a part of the Western Wisconsin Government Alliance on Race and Equity learning community. The goal of this learning community is to improve how we provide services and make sure they are provided in ways all populations receive the benefits.

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