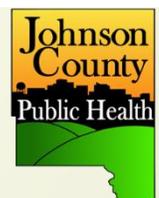




# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



# 2018 Annual Report

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Johnson County Board of Health and our employees, it is my pleasure to share the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Johnson County Public Health (JCPH) Annual Report. Highlighted in this report are stories and statistics that demonstrate the commitment JCPH staff have to improve the health and well-being of our community.

In FY18, JCPH incorporated a health equity approach when addressing the social, economic, and environmental factors that affect positive health outcomes. By focusing on health equity, we ask important questions around access to our services and seek to address and eliminate any cultural, linguistic, and logistical barriers community members may experience. We ask ourselves if we are equipped to address the social and cultural differences that exist in the populations we serve and seek to build our internal capacity so that we may serve community members in thoughtful and effective ways. We also ask if we are engaged with community partners and residents from underserved, underrepresented, vulnerable, and disproportionately impacted populations and seek to strengthen our knowledge gained from these relationships to better inform the ways we serve community members. Utilizing a health equity lens in our work will continue to strengthen our ability to meet Johnson County's public health needs.

Along with health equity, JCPH continues to address the Social Determinants of Health (SDoH), the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, through our public health efforts. Where community members live and the resources they can access makes a significant difference in the health outcomes of our residents. Using a SDoH approach, in FY18 JCPH worked in the areas of radon, water quality, oral health, emergency preparedness, diabetes education, vaccinations, tobacco policies, and other broad-based public health initiatives to ensure all Johnson County residents have an equitable chance for optimal health.

System changes in FY18 led to an active Quality Improvement (QI) Committee led by program staff. These employees volunteered to be leaders in QI, tackling the challenge to train every employee in our department in the use of QI tools and techniques. Realizing the importance of creating a culture of continuous improvement, these employees take their roles very seriously and were recognized for their efforts at the 2018 Iowa Governor's Conference on Public Health by winning 'Best Design' category for their poster entitled "Invest to be the Best: A Multi-Divisional Approach to Quality Improvement at Johnson County Public Health". The QI Committee members exemplify the culture of continuous improvement through their commitment to a process that improves our delivery of services.

Thank you for letting us serve you in all areas of public health.

Sincerely,



Dave Koch, Director



# JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

## Current Johnson County Board of Health Members

The Johnson County Board of Health members are appointed to three year terms by the Board of Supervisors. They have responsibility for enforcement of public health laws, policy development, and oversight of the Director. We thank the board members for their service and accomplishments in FY2018.

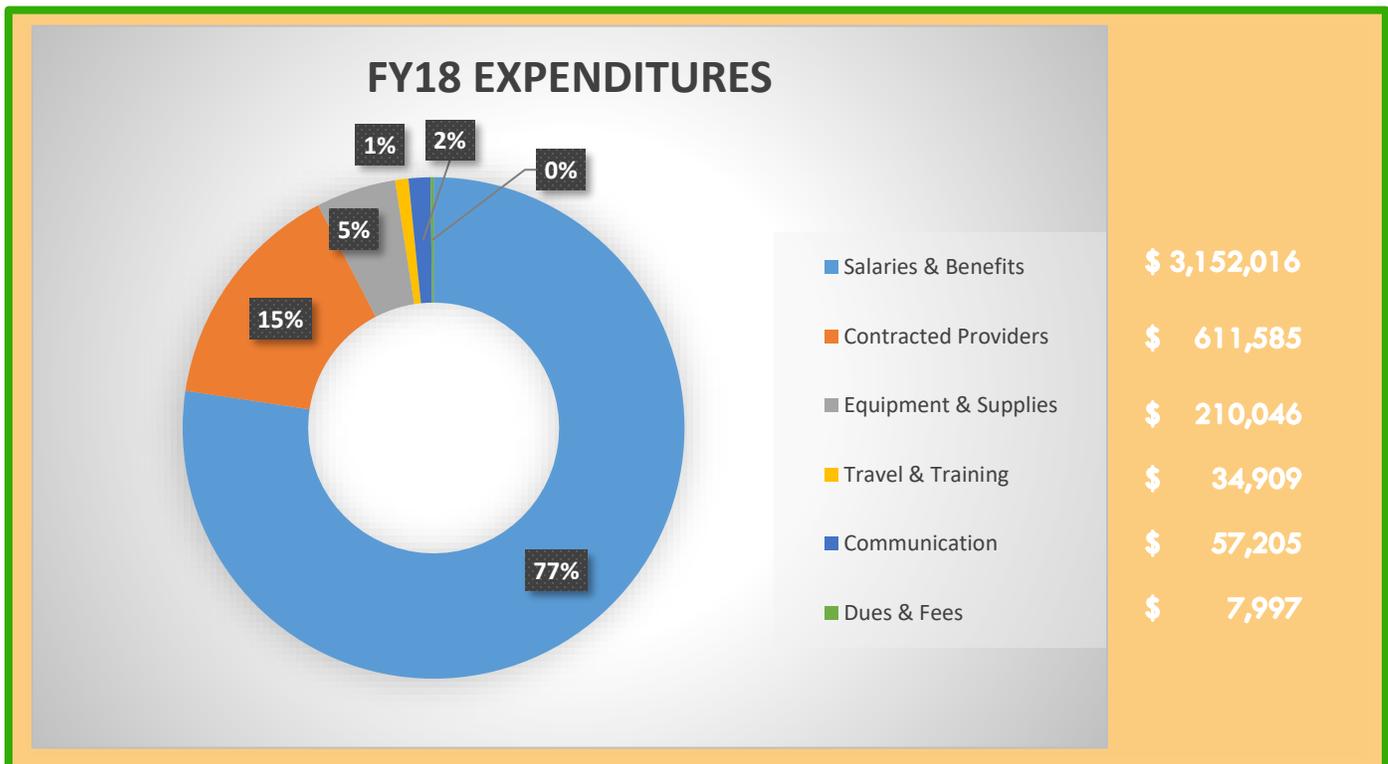
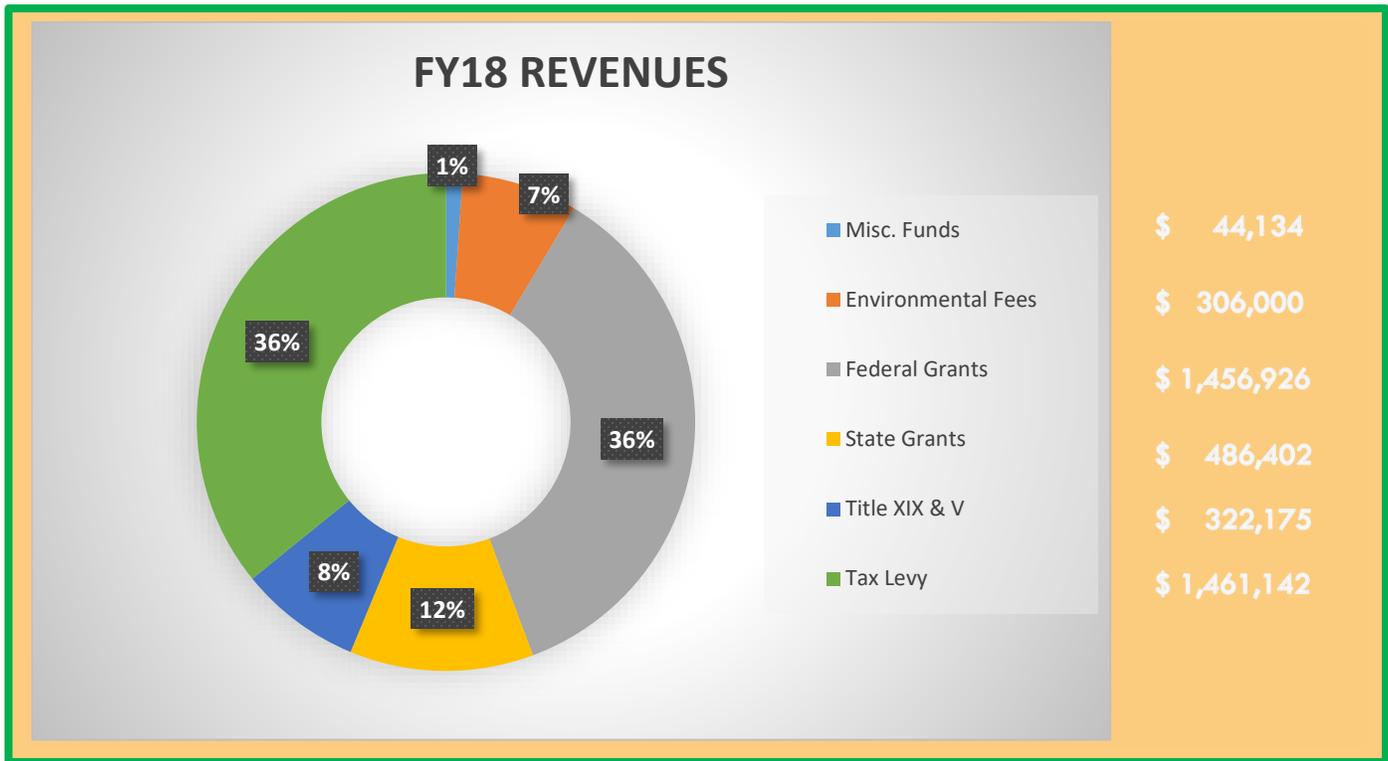


**Front Row: Bonnie Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA; Tatiana Izakovic, MD, MHA**

**Back Row: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, Chair; Zachary J. Pollock, PharmD, MS;  
Michael McLaughlin, PhD, Vice-Chair**

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# REVENUES & EXPENDITURES *FY18*



## COMMITMENT *to community*



### Refugee Vaccination Assistance Program

Communicable Disease (CD) staff implemented new programming to allow local refugees to receive a vaccine review for their required year one immigration paperwork. Prior to this program local residents had to travel to Polk or Linn county to receive this service through a Public Health Department or had to pay steep fees to obtain the service privately from a qualified civil surgeon.

### Expansion of HIV/HCV Testing Services

JCPH increased its number of community partnerships to offer HIV/HCV testing services. Outreach testing is provided regularly onsite at the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic, Shelter House, Prelude Behavioral Services, Studio 13, and Crisis Center. In FY18, JCPH expanded our testing services through new partnerships including the University of Iowa Mobile Clinic, Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition, and Proteus migrant farmworker camps, as well as offered onsite testing at the JCPH Winter Shelter for community members experiencing homelessness.

### Culturally Diverse Breastfeeding Support

Our community is privileged to have mothers and fathers from many cultures, and JCPH is committed to providing breastfeeding support that meets the needs of our diverse population. The Breastfeeding Peer Counselors at JCPH reflect the cultural diversity of our population and provide mom-to-mom support. One of our Breastfeeding Peer Counselors who is from Sudan offers mothers different options to follow during Ramadan, allowing them to participate during their special holiday while protecting their milk supply.



### A School-Ready Community

Schools require students to have several immunizations and screenings, but families in our community struggle to meet requirements in time for the first day of school, burdening both the families and the local schools. JCPH provides the opportunity for families in need to complete their required screenings and immunizations during our Back2School program, and receive a free backpack full of school supplies in the process. One family noted: "Thank you for the help with the supplies. We make too much money to qualify for help but not enough to make it on our own." The JCPH Back2School program served 97 children this summer.

### Food Inspections

Environmental Health staff conducted food inspections at numerous community events this past year including, but not limited to: Iowa City Farmer's Market, Mennonite Relief sale, Iowa City Arts Festival, Jazz Fest, Coralville 4<sup>th</sup> Fest, BBQ and Blues Festival, Solon Beef Days, Johnson county Fair, and RAGBRAI. Food inspection staff conducted 25 farmer's market inspections and 328 temporary food inspections in FY18. These inspections often occur outside of normal business hours and help ensure the health and safety of Johnson County residents.



## **BUILDING** *a healthy community*

### Strengthening Emergency Preparedness

JCPH created a full-time Emergency Preparedness Planner position to lead community resiliency efforts related to disasters or large-scale events. The Emergency Preparedness Planner has oversight of the Johnson County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) which trains and prepares medical and non-medical volunteers to aid in a disaster or large scale event. JCPH is currently recruiting MRC volunteers, so please connect with us should you be interested. <https://www.iaserv.org/>

### Johnson County Employee Wellness

JCPH provides support for the county Employee Wellness Program offering educational and training activities to support employees' physical and mental health. In FY18, 37 employees participated in our Personal Health Looks program which provides a comprehensive health history and physical fitness assessment including blood pressure, blood glucose, body composition, cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, and muscular endurance tests, to provide employees with a picture of their health and direct them towards resources for areas they may want to address.

### Safe Drinking Water

Environmental Health staff worked closely with community partners to help find solutions for two rural subdivisions that were experiencing water quality violations. Through JCPH education and advocacy with state and local partners, planned infrastructure improvements are underway that will enable numerous families to enjoy safe drinking water.

# GROWING *to meet your needs*

## Quality Improvement Efforts

JCPH demonstrated a commitment to quality by allowing the JCPH quality improvement (QI) team to host daylong QI trainings for all staff members in each division. The training covered the quality improvement process at JCPH as well as hands-on practice during which staff utilized some of the most common QI tools to work on specific JCPH QI projects. Implemented changes include the reduction in return call time at WIC/MCH offices and increased social media efforts for community education regarding Food Program inspections.

## Online Food Inspection Reports

Environmental Health staff worked towards promoting the availability of online food inspection reports during FY18. Through an online social media campaign, along with other efforts, staff worked to raise awareness of the inspection report search webpage and saw 66% increase in use of the page during FY18. Based on the success of the program, JCPH food inspection staff were selected to present their work at the 2017 FDA Southwest Regional Seminar.



## Increasing Capacity for Dental Services

Improving access to dental care was identified as a priority need in the most recent JCPH Health Improvement Plan, due to growing demand in the community. JCPH has focused on meeting this need by growing its oral health programming and hiring additional dental hygienists to increase capacity for outreach and services. Three additional registered dental hygienists joined the WIC/MCH team in October of 2017 and have been working to grow onsite, school-based, Head Start, and satellite clinic services. The dental team serves children and pregnant women to provide preventive dental services, education, and guidance to establish a dental home.



## IMPROVING HEALTH *in our community*

### Immunization Monitoring and Awareness

JCPH continues immunization monitoring and awareness. Over 18,000 K-12 student immunization records were audited throughout the county. In addition, Disease Prevention Specialists and WIC/MCH staff provided educational outreach to parents about new meningococcal vaccine requirements as well as offered walk-in immunization clinics for students.



### Food Illness Response

Environmental Health staff responded to 78 complaints related to food facilities this past year, including 20 foodborne illness complaints. Food program staff investigated several foodborne outbreaks, and worked to identify potential causes while making sure the necessary improvements were made to protect the health of the community.

### Bilingual Diabetes Prevention and Awareness Services

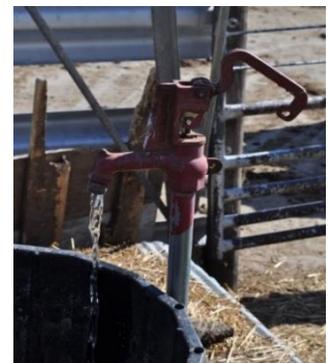
JCPH Community Health Needs Assessment/Health Improvement Plan (CHNA/HIP) identified diabetes, particularly among our Latinix population, as a priority area to focus our public health efforts. JCPH partnered with the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic to obtain funding from the American Medical Association Foundation to fund a bilingual Community Health Worker to provide diabetes prevention and maintenance education in a culturally relevant manner to clinic clients. Along with educational counseling, clients are provided a free blood glucose monitor and testing strips to monitor their blood sugar levels as a part of program participation.



## LEADING *you to better health*

### Iowa Well Survey

Environmental Health staff worked with the State Hygienic Laboratory to participate in the Iowa Well Survey. This program allowed EH staff to sample private water wells across Johnson County for emerging contaminants. Staff collected neonicotinoid water samples alongside current Grants to Counties (GTC) sampling activities. Neonicotinoid pesticides do not have an established EPA Maximum Contaminant Level at this point. This research will help identify the presence and concentration of this chemical that may be found in groundwater supplies.



**Tobacco/Nicotine-free Policies in Johnson and Iowa Counties**

JCPH provides tobacco prevention and cessation education in Johnson and Iowa counties. In FY18, the Tobacco Program educated, promoted and assisted with the following policies:

- City of Iowa City and City of Marengo implemented tobacco/nicotine-free parks ordinances.
- City of Tiffin declared parks smoke-free.
- City of Solon passed an ordinance to prohibit the use of electronic smoking devices in all places where regular cigarette smoking is already prohibited.
- Systems Unlimited implemented a tobacco/nicotine-free workplace policy covering over 1,000 employees and all clients and visitors to their offices.



**Oral Health**

JCPH works to build the oral health infrastructure in our community through developing partnerships with dentists/physicians, establishing referral networks, and conducting oral health promotion activities. This year, JCPH presented Scott Slee, Manager of the University of Iowa Water Treatment Plant, with an award from the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors on behalf of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and American Dental Association (ADA). The award recognized the contribution that the UI Water Treatment Plant has made toward improving the dental health of the population they serve by continuous water fluoridation from 1967 – 2017.

## **PARTNERING** *together in our community*



### **Water Well Investigation**

During FY18, Environmental Health staff identified a water well contaminant in a rural subdivision that was exceeding the allowable maximum contaminant level. JCPH partnered with the University of Iowa College of Public Health to develop a practicum opportunity to further investigate the issue. The project allowed the student and staff to conduct a study of the prevalence of the contaminant, determine a cost-effective solution for further testing, and conducted sampling in an attempt to determine the scope of the contamination. Results from the project will allow JCPH to assist residents with treatment options and make informed decisions regarding well permitting.

### **Insurance Navigation**

When federal funding for a local insurance marketplace counselor was cut, Community Health staff partnered with the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic to hire a Certified Application Counselor to help community members enroll in the insurance marketplace. During the six-week open enrollment period, the counselor assisted 213 people with enrollment.



### **Supporting Community Health Efforts**

JCPH provided \$9,000 worth of funding to community health projects related to our Community Health Needs Assessment and Health Improvement Plan priority areas including:

- Purchasing tickets for community members to attend a Suicide Prevention Film Screening sponsored by the JC Suicide Prevention Coalition;
- Purchasing shampoo, conditioner, swim caps and goggles for the City of Iowa City Parks and Recreation inclusive swimming “She Swims Too” event;
- Providing volunteer incentives for an inclusive tobacco cessation marketing campaign sponsored by the American Lung Association of Iowa;
- Contributing to the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic’s Insulin Fund, Prescription Fund, and EKG Fund to purchase prescriptions and an EKG machine;
- Contributing to the Iowa City Community School District’s School Children’s Aid Fund for the purchase of medication vouchers and durable medical equipment, including eyeglasses;
- Supporting Iowa City Compassion’s culturally relevant food and nutrition classes;
- Supporting an assessment of Grow Johnson County’s cultivation, harvest and distribution practices among their 15 partner agencies;
- Purchasing baby items for distribution at the Coralville Community Food Pantry;
- Purchasing food and supplies for the North Liberty Community Pantry Summer Lunch and Fun program;
- Purchasing Naloxone training materials for the Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition.

### Health in All Policies – Sustainability & Food Policy

JCPH partnered with the Johnson County Conservation Program, Midwest Renewable Energy Association, and cities of Coralville, Iowa City, North Liberty, Shueyville, Solon and West Branch to hold educational sessions in local communities to learn about the benefits of solar power. In addition, JCPH has provided public health expertise to the county's Food Policy Council to help inform the council's food policy strategies around local food access and environmental health concerns.



### School-based Dental Program Grows

JCPH partners with local elementary schools with high Free and Reduced School Lunch program enrollment to provide onsite dental services. The I-smile @ School program provides oral hygiene instruction, dental sealants, fluoride varnish, and care coordination for students in need. Poor oral hygiene can lead to poor health outcomes and poor quality of life. This program ensures low-income students' teeth are protected and they are better prepared to care for their teeth in the future. Our partnership with local schools is instrumental in the success and growth of the program. Teachers have become very enthusiastic about the program and work hard to ensure their students are able to participate. Teachers know their students well and are able to identify which children could benefit from this program. They assist in enrolling students in the program by creating fun competition between classrooms for highest enrollment. The I-smile @ School program served 819 students last school year.

### Hospital-based WIC Clinic Serves NICU Infants

JPCH partners with UIHC to provide WIC services onsite for families whose newborn is in the NICU. Families are under extreme stress during this time, and the onsite WIC clinic takes pressure off new parents by enrolling them in WIC for access to benefits immediately upon discharge. This year, WIC staff saw a 5-day-old infant at the UIHC WIC clinic site that had stomach surgery. The family was unaware of their WIC eligibility, and the WIC staff provided education and resources, so the family was able to receive formula support for baby once home, without an extra trip to their local WIC office. The newborn's older siblings were also newly enrolled as a result of the encounter.



# HIGHLIGHTS



## ADMINISTRATION

- 29 approved Request for Action proposals by the Board of Health (BOH) for FY18
- 28 State and 84 Local Contracts/Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Agreements
- 7 new positions; JCPH added new staff to our department in FY18
- 6 BOH/JCPH plans and policies created or revised: Performance Management/Quality Improvement, Code of Ethics, Emergency Preparedness Response Plan, Workforce Development, Branding Policy, and Social Media Management.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH

In FY18, Communicable Disease staff investigated:

- 180 cases of reportable infectious disease such as whooping cough, mumps and salmonella;
- 131 animal bite reports;
- 25 food illness complaints and nine foodborne illness outbreaks; and
- Managed 10 patients with active TB and over 30 patients for latent TB.

The number of tobacco-free parks in Johnson and Iowa counties continues to grow – 49 in Iowa City, four (4) in Marengo and six (6) in Tiffin.

HIV testing increased by 46% from 2016 to 2017 and JCPH is on track to administer 750 tests in 2018.

HCV testing increased by 184% from 2016 to 2017 and JCPH is on track to administer 250 tests in 2018.

JCPH distributes free sexual health protection (e.g. condoms) to community members and partner organizations, increasing the number distributed by 120% from 2016 to 2017 and is on track to distribute over 76,000 condoms in 2018.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

232 private water wells were tested by JCPH staff in FY18, an 8% increase over the previous year.

259 radon test kits were provided to the public by JCPH in FY18, a 14% increase over the previous year.

Food program staff conducted 328 temporary food inspections at over 20 community events during FY18.

JCPH issued 1,276 food licenses in Johnson County during FY18, a 17% increase over the previous year.



## CLINICAL SERVICES

The WIC/MCH oral health program provided over 16,597 dental services to the community.

The average monthly case load for the WIC program was 2,618 children and mothers.

1,947 services were provided to expectant and new mothers in the Maternal Health program.

65% of children in Johnson County were fully immunized by age 2, an improvement of 15% over last year.

Breastfeeding Peer Counselors and Registered Dietitians provided 147 nutrition and breastfeeding education classes this year to Maternal Health and WIC clients.

3,165 families recently enrolled in Medicaid were contacted to provide education and guidance on navigating the healthcare system and their benefits.

The Child Care Nurse Consultant made 243 connections with local daycares to provide support and guidance on health and safety issues.

The *hawk-i* outreach worker connected with 3,040 families, churches, daycares, schools, medical and dental providers to educate the community on insurance options.

## OUR MISSION

JOHNSON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH WORKS TO ASSURE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY THROUGH COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT AND HEALTH PLANNING, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT, HEALTH EDUCATION, ACCESS TO QUALITY SERVICES, PREVENTING EPIDEMICS, PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT, AND RESPONDING TO DISASTERS.

## OUR VISION

A HEALTHFUL AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT WHERE ALL PEOPLE OF JOHNSON COUNTY CAN ACHIEVE OPTIMAL PHYSICAL, MENTAL, AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING.



Johnson County Public Health

855 S. Dubuque Street

Iowa City, IA 52240

319.356.6040

[www.johnson-county.com/health](http://www.johnson-county.com/health)

