

WISCONSIN PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL

Ensuring every person and community in Wisconsin can be healthy and thrive.



Resolution in Relation to Monkeypox Response in Wisconsin

Whereas, the primary purpose of the Wisconsin Public Health Council is to inform and advise the Wisconsin Governor, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the Wisconsin State Legislature, and people of Wisconsin on prioritized public health issues important to the needs and wants of the public in a manner that is equitable, inclusive, and responsive to the diversity of the State. This work will include attention and advice on the progress implementing the state's public health plan and coordination of responses to public health emergencies, and;

Whereas, the Public Health Council is comprised of public health, health care, advocates and public policy professionals who stand at the ready to support a comprehensive, accessible, equitable and just response to public health emergencies; and

Whereas, public health best practices relating to communicable disease prevention and control are most successful when resources are invested early thereby reducing numbers of impacted people and communities; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin Public Health Council received an initial update from Dr. Ryan Westergaard of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services on the State's response to the novel monkeypox outbreak and public health emergency as declared by the Federal government on August 4, 2022; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin Public Health Council is committed to ensuring the Department of Health Services is supported in its efforts to ensure a robust and best-practice driven response to the monkeypox outbreak that includes both preventive and care and treatment measures; and

Therefore, be it resolved that the Wisconsin Public Health Council:

- Encourages the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to continue engaging with community-based partners who are positioned to effectively and quickly reach individuals who are most impacted by monkeypox; and
- Encourages the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to avail itself to the collective expertise and capacity of the members of the Wisconsin Public Health Council as it develops its ongoing and evolving response to monkeypox, including how to most effectively deliver appropriate and factual messaging to individuals impacted by monkeypox and to the public with an emphasis on ensuring health equity, deep empathy, and reduced potential for stigma; and
- Supports the Wisconsin Governor, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and the Wisconsin State Legislature allocating all appropriate human and financial resources for a robust and proactive response to the monkeypox outbreak to include focus on prevention of its spread; and
- Applauds the efforts of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to pursue monkeypox vaccine from Federal partners; and

Be it further resolved that the Public Health Council members are committed to partnering with the Department of Health Services to amplify public health messages designed to reach at-risk individuals and communities who can be difficult to reach through traditional and historic communication channels; and

Be it finally resolved that the Public Health Council will continue to engage with the Department of Health Services and other public health stakeholders in the State of Wisconsin to ensure the best possible response to the monkeypox outbreak.