



Boone County  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**PUBLIC HEALTH**

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*The mission of the BCDPH is to protect and promote health in Boone County.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 10, 2016**

Boone County Health Department  
1204 Logan Ave.  
Belvidere, IL 61008

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**STATE BUDGET IMPASSE ERODING LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**DEPARTMENTS IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS**

**BOONE COUNTY-** Public Health Administrators in Illinois Region 1 representing Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, and Winnebago Counties have all had to take significant measures to ensure that public health activities to protect and promote the public's health continue during the budget impasse.

Local state certified health departments receive funding for public health through the Local Health Protection Grant (LHPG). None of this funding has been paid to local health departments since the start of the state fiscal year in July 2015. This means that health departments in our region have had to prioritize services through a variety of drastic methods including the use of emergency funds, furloughs, staff lay-offs, service reductions, and program closures. These methods reduce the ability of your local health department to control infectious diseases, conduct environmental inspections, and prepare for and respond to public health emergencies such as influenza, Ebola, and Zika.

We urge our communities to contact their legislators to pass a budget that protects the public's health. Time is passing and each day continues to erode our public health system.

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