## GASCONADE CO. HEALTH DEPT. AUGUST NEWSLETTER

August is here and that means many things to us here at the health department. With August, we think about back to school immunizations, WIC clinic, teen driver safety as they head back to school, and breastfeeding. You may wonder, what is the correlation between breastfeeding and August? Well, August is National Breastfeeding Awareness Month.



Since it is National Breastfeeding Awareness Month, here is some information on breastfeeding for you. Why is it important to breastfeed your baby? Breastfeeding is good for moms and babies and has many benefits for both mom and baby. Benefits of breastfeeding for moms include that it saves money on formula and healthcare costs, it saves time with no bottles to prepare, reduces mom's risk for cancer, diabetes and osteoporosis, and helps prevent excessive bleeding following birth. Benefits of breastfeeding for babies are it lowers

incidence of infections, diarrhea, and hospitalizations, provides baby with

easily digested food and reduces constipation, promotes healthy growth and development and decreases the risk of obesity and diabetes.

Breastfeeding has the essential nutrients and calories to meet the needs of your baby.

Breastfeeding is a gift that keeps on giving, and at



Gasconade County Health Department we are here to support you in your breastfeeding journey.



Some other things happening around the health department include our WIC clinic that is held every Monday in Owensville and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month in Hermann. The WIC program can serve pregnant women, post-partum women, infants, and children until the age of 5. We are here to serve you, so please call to see if you are eligible to be a part of this great program that can help to offer nutritious foods for you and your family. We also have childhood immunizations and adult immunizations, so give us a call to ensure you are up to date!

## Upcoming community events:

Blood drive at St. George in Hermann on August 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-6:00 p.m. Stop on by to donate blood! There is an urgent need for blood donations!





Top it Off to Cancer: This first-year fundraiser starts at 10:00 a.m. on August 11<sup>th</sup> at Oak Glenn Winery and ends with a 4:00 p.m. post-party at Adam Puchta Winery, featuring music by Sins Country. Stops along the way include the Loose Caboose Saloon, Lost Creek Vineyard and Hermann 1837 Bar. Proceeds benefit the Hermann Area Crusade Against Cancer and Just Call Me Ray Foundation. Registration deadline is Wednesday, July 25. For information call 573-486-2127.



Valentine Ranch Outing: Saturday,
September 8<sup>th</sup> 11:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Come
enjoy wagon rides, swimming, pet
donkeys, horses, goats, camels, fishing,
and more! This will benefit the Hermann
Area District Hospital Auxiliary. Please call
Shirley Viola at (573) 486 - 2019 to
purchase tickets. Tickets Prices include:
Ages 16 & Up = \$40, Ages 4 to 15 = \$25.00,
and Ages 3 & under = free.

Check back next month for more updates!

Resources used in this newsletter:

https://health.mo.gov/living/families/wic/breastfeeding/index.php