



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of **HEALTH SERVICES**

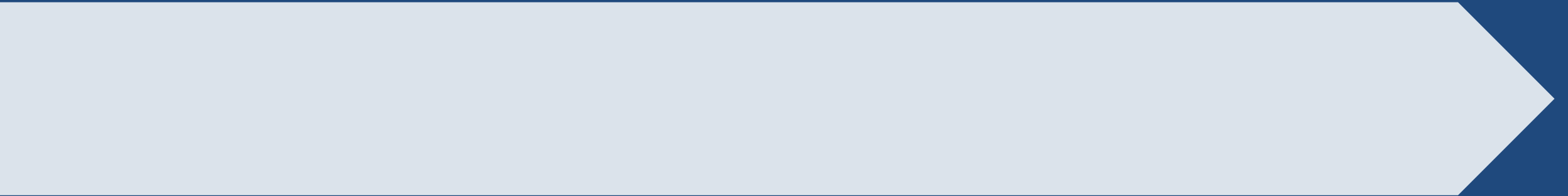
Wisconsin HAI Long-Term Care Education Series

March 24, 2022

Today's Agenda

- Nursing Home and Long-Term Care Facility Infection Prevention and Infrastructure Matching Grant Program
 - Ashlie Dowdell, Director, HAI Prevention Program
- Project Firstline
 - Mariah Welke, Health Educator, HAI Prevention Program

Nursing Home and Long-Term Care Facility (LTCF) Infection Prevention and Infrastructure Matching Grant Program



Funding Source

- Nursing Home and LTCF Strike Team and Infrastructure Project award
- American Rescue Plan Act funds issued through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Awards
 - \$500 million nationally
 - Just under \$11.5 million for Wisconsin

Eligibility

- Eligible facility types include:
 - Skilled nursing facilities (SNFs).
 - Assisted living facilities.
 - Other types of LTCFs.
- Each facility license is eligible to apply.
- At least half of the funds must be awarded to SNFs per the funding rules.



Matching Funds

- Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) will reimburse up to 50% of the total cost with a cap of \$20,000 per facility license.
- Applications should include only costs incurred between November 2021 and April 2023.



Project Categories

- Staff retention or recruitment
- Ancillary services
- Supplies that support infection prevention and control (IPC) practices
- Technology to support IPC education, outbreak response, or telemedicine
- Heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) improvements

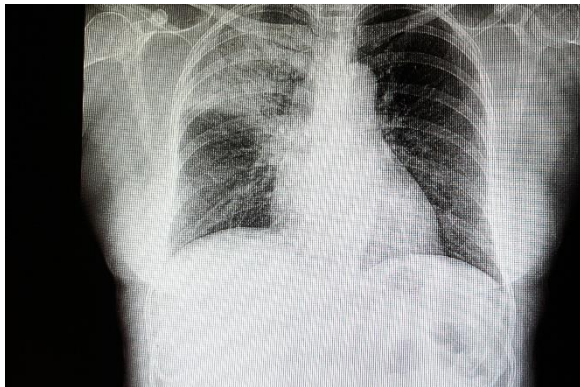
Staff Retention or Recruitment



- Examples
 - Payment for completing classes or education programs
 - Bonuses for staff
 - Support for additional personnel (laundry, dietary, night or weekend coverage, etc.)
- Cannot be used for WisCaregiver Program costs

Ancillary Services

- Develop or maintain contracts for needed services (phlebotomy, x-ray, transportation, lab draws, etc.)
- Hire additional staff to perform ancillary services
- Train existing staff to perform the services
- Develop relationships to obtain services



IPC Supplies

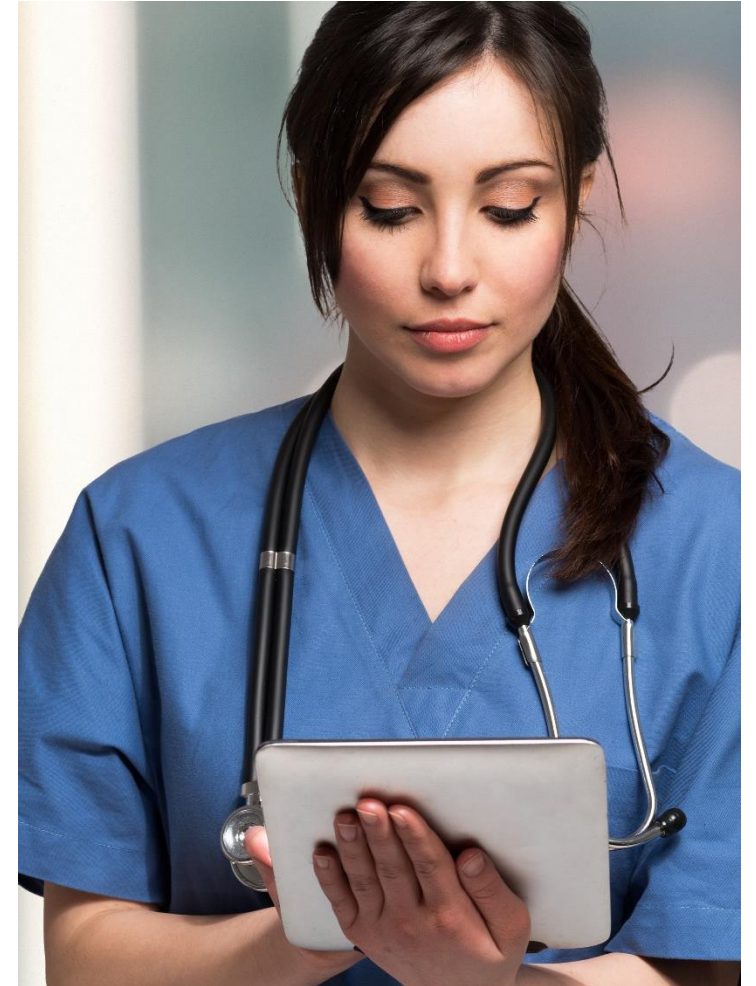
- Supply storage, separation, or easier access
- Infection prevention devices (example: bladder scanner)
- Environmental services supplies that minimize transmission
- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Symptom screening kiosks or apps



Technology

Purchase devices (tablet computers, laptops, apps, etc.) for a variety of uses. Possible examples:

- Online staff education
- IPC process audits
- Telemedicine
- Remote consultations



HVAC or Facility Improvements

- Upgrade HVAC systems
- Purchase supplies like high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters

All facility improvement or construction projects require two bids or estimates to be submitted with the application.



Possible Idea Sources

- Infection control and assessment response (ICAR) or infection prevention walkthrough recommendations
- Quality assurance and performance improvement (QAPI) projects
- Outbreak lessons learned
- Staff surveys and feedback



Application Process

- Access [online](#)
- Submit by April 25 to dhsitcgrant@dhs.wisconsin.gov
- Initial review and feedback
- Possible scoring and prioritization
- Award announcements
- Ongoing application periods



Grantee Responsibilities

- Pay for total cost of the project up front
- Submit invoices and request reimbursement up to the amount of awarded application funding
- Consider sharing any success stories back with the program



Timeline

- Initial application period: April 25, 2022
- Anticipated award announcements
- Ongoing applications if funds remain after initial period: awarded first come, first served through April 2023
- Estimated final due date for reimbursement request submissions: April 30, 2023

Next Steps

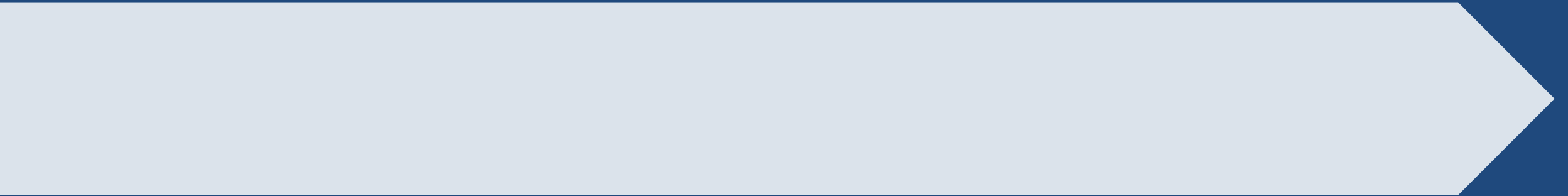
- Consider ways this funding could benefit your facility, residents, and staff
- Outline a project
- Complete and submit an application before April 25
- [Reach out](#) with any questions
- Consider applying with additional ideas if funding permits

Matching Grant Program Resources

- Webpage: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/business/ltcf-ipc-grant.htm>
- Application form: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/f-03002.htm>
- Questions: dhsltcgrant@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Questions?

Project Firstline



Project Firstline

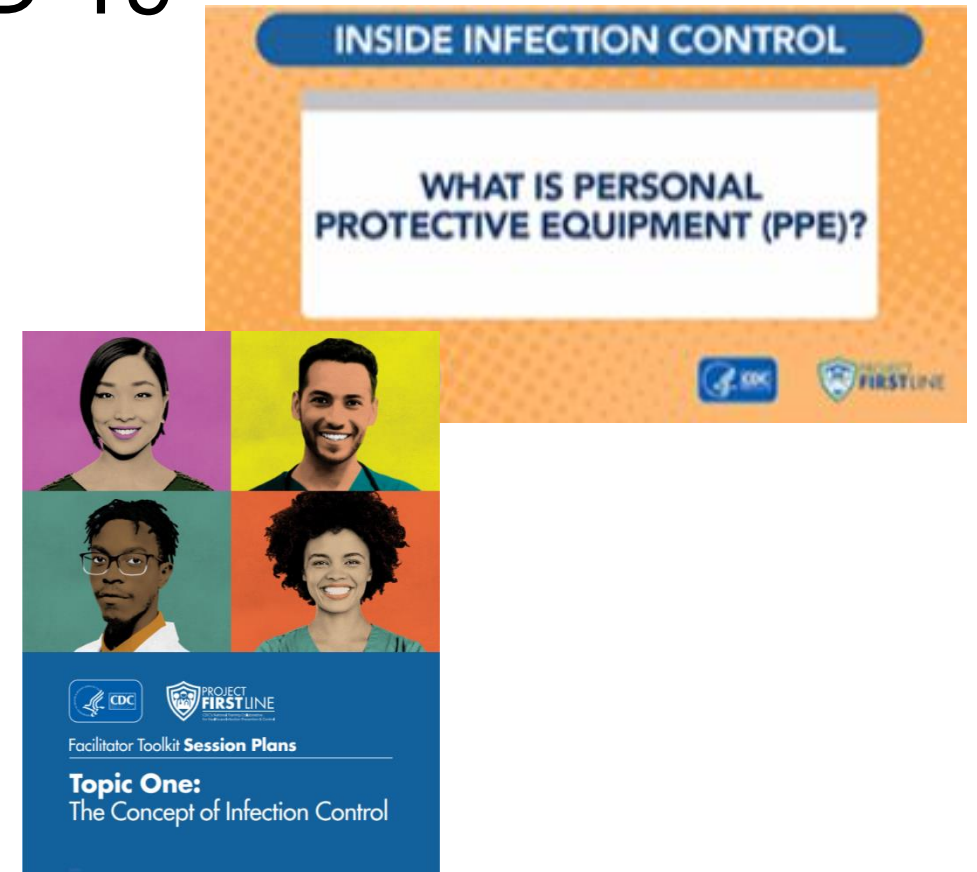
- Provides education and training on infection control basics.
- Aimed at all frontline health care workers, regardless of their role or workplace.



[Project Firstline Infection Control Training](#)

Year One

- Material geared towards COVID-19
- Material included:
 - Inside infection control training videos
 - Training toolkits
 - Social media graphics
 - Print material



Year Two

New resources focus on:

- Recognizing infection risks in health care settings.
- Explaining how germs spread.
- Emphasizing why infection control is so important in health care settings.

Webpages

Learn to recognize infection risks in health care

Learning to recognize infection risks in health care means learning to identify moments throughout your workday when there is an opportunity for germs to spread and make people sick.

To recognize these opportunities, we need to know:

- where germs live (their reservoirs)
- how they can get from place to place or to people to cause an infection (through pathways)

Reservoir: A place where germs live.

Common Reservoirs in Health Care *Places where germs live*

On or in the body

- Skin
- Gut
- Respiratory tract
- Blood

Environment

- Wet Surfaces
- Dry Surfaces
- Dirt and Dust
- Devices

Common Pathways in Health Care *Ways that germs get from one place to another*

- Through touch
- By being breathed in
- Through splashes and sprays
 - Water
 - Body fluid
- Through procedures and surgeries
- By bypassing/breaking down the body's natural defenses

There is more to the spread of infections than **reservoirs** and **pathways**. Germs also need a **person** to infect. That person can be a patient, or you or one of your coworkers.



Learn Where Germs Live in Health Care



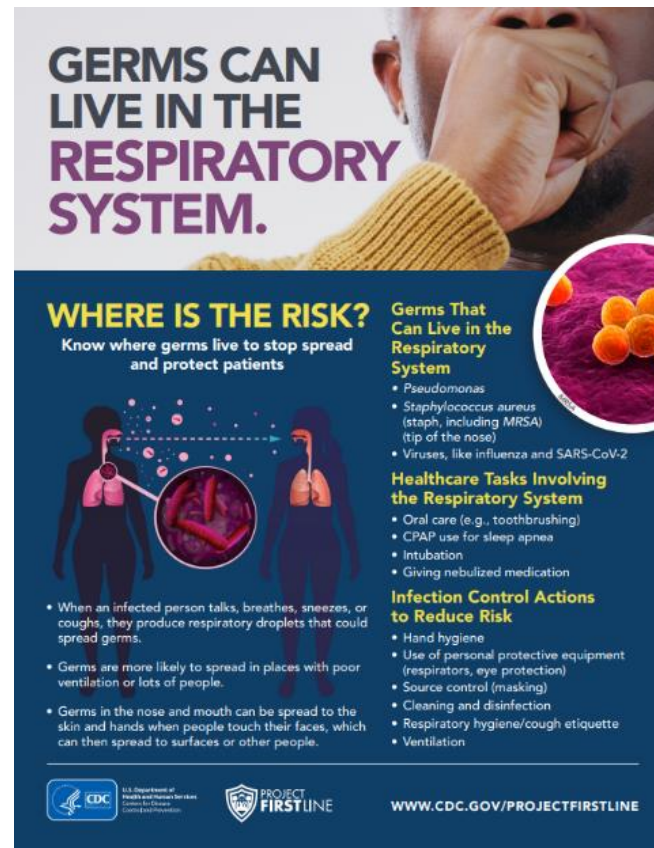
Although we can't see them, germs are everywhere, and they need somewhere to grow – a place where they can live. These places, called **reservoirs**, are found on and in our bodies and in the environment.

Reservoir: A place where germs live

Training Toolkits



Posters and Infographics



Social Media



Interactive Resources



WHEN HEALTHCARE TASKS TAKE A TURN!

ARE YOU READY FOR THIS INFECTION CONTROL CHALLENGE?

Being a healthcare worker means you're always dealing with the unexpected.

How well can you stop infection from spreading when unexpected problems come up?

Take the infection control challenge and find out. **Select the Start button to begin!**

START




What's the first thing you should do?

Select the correct option.

 Disinfect Felix's Skin	 Put on Gloves	 Dispose of Used Supplies	 Insert IV
 Put on Mask	 Use Hand Sanitizer	 Put on Gown	 Wash Hands with Soap and Water

CORRECT!
Use Hand Sanitizer or Wash Hands with Soap and Water



It's important to clean your hands to remove germs before you insert an IV. Hand sanitizer is slightly better at getting rid of germs, but washing with soap and water is still a good option.

NEXT

Questions?

HAI Prevention Program

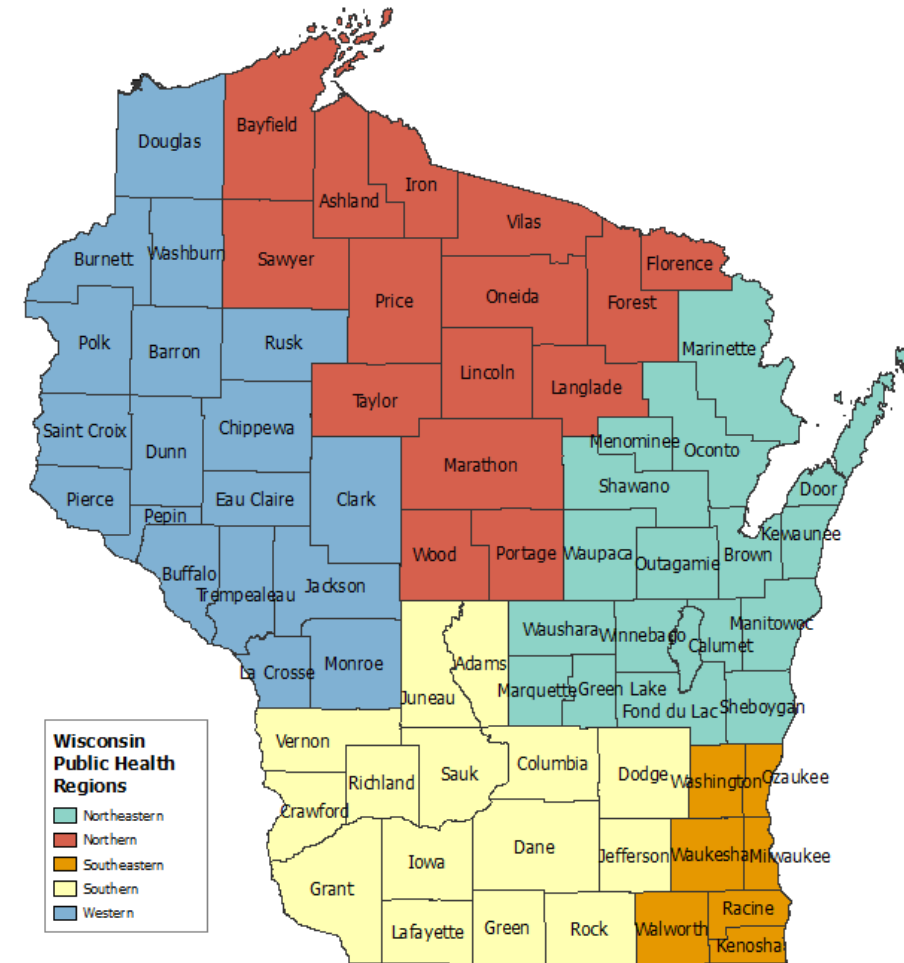
dhswhaipreventionprogram@dhs.wisconsin.gov

608-267-7711

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hai/contacts.htm>

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<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hai/contacts.htm>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hai/ip-education.htm>

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Topics A-Z: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

 [Find a COVID-19 vaccine](#)

 [Stop the spread of COVID-19](#)

 Diseases & Conditions Healthcare-Associated Infections: Resources for Health Professionals HAI Infection Prevention Education

HAI: Home

For Health Professionals

Basic Information

Antimicrobial Stewardship

Infection Prevention Education

Laboratories

Personal Protective Equipment

Precautions

Reportable Exposures

Surgical Site Infection Prevention

HAI Infection Prevention Education

The resources below are intended to connect health care facility infection preventionists (IP) with education materials to support their role in preventing, detecting, and responding to healthcare-associated infections.

IPs play an essential role in facility infection prevention policy development, surveillance, and risk assessment.

IPs serve as a resource to other staff and programs within their facilities.

In addition to the state in-person trainings and online references below, there are a number of links to trusted education resources, including the Center for



The **IP Starter Kit** provides Infection Preventionists a brief background and resources for some of the many infection

Upcoming LTC Education Session

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Multidrug-Resistant Organism (MDRO) Reportables