

SHARON HEALTH DEPARTMENT

LEANDRA MCLEAN

HEALTH GOVERNANCE IN MASSACHUSETTS

- Massachusetts has a decentralized system of health administration
 - Each city and town are independently organized for the delivery of local public health
 - Some communities have established public health districts to efficiently deliver services
 - Sharon is a part of the Bristol Norfolk Public Health Partners
- Local health departments are responsible for ensuring access to a comprehensive set of health services defined by state law and regulations



MISSION STATEMENT

“PREVENTION OF DISEASE AND PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH”

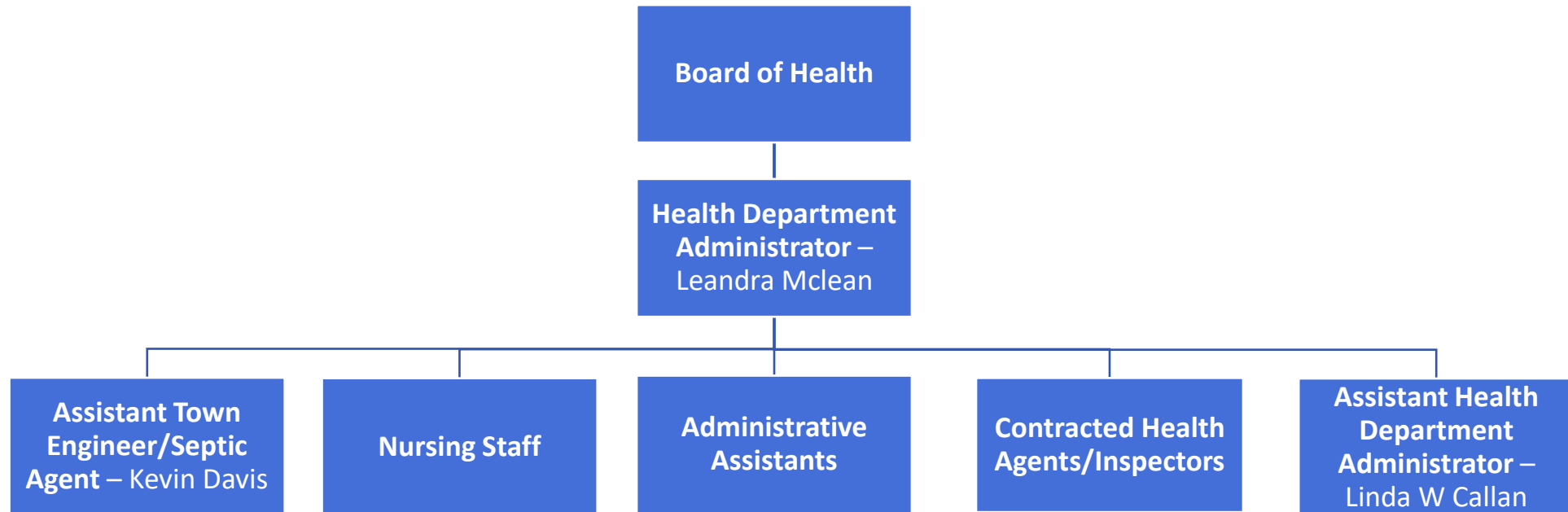
BOARD OF HEALTH

Members

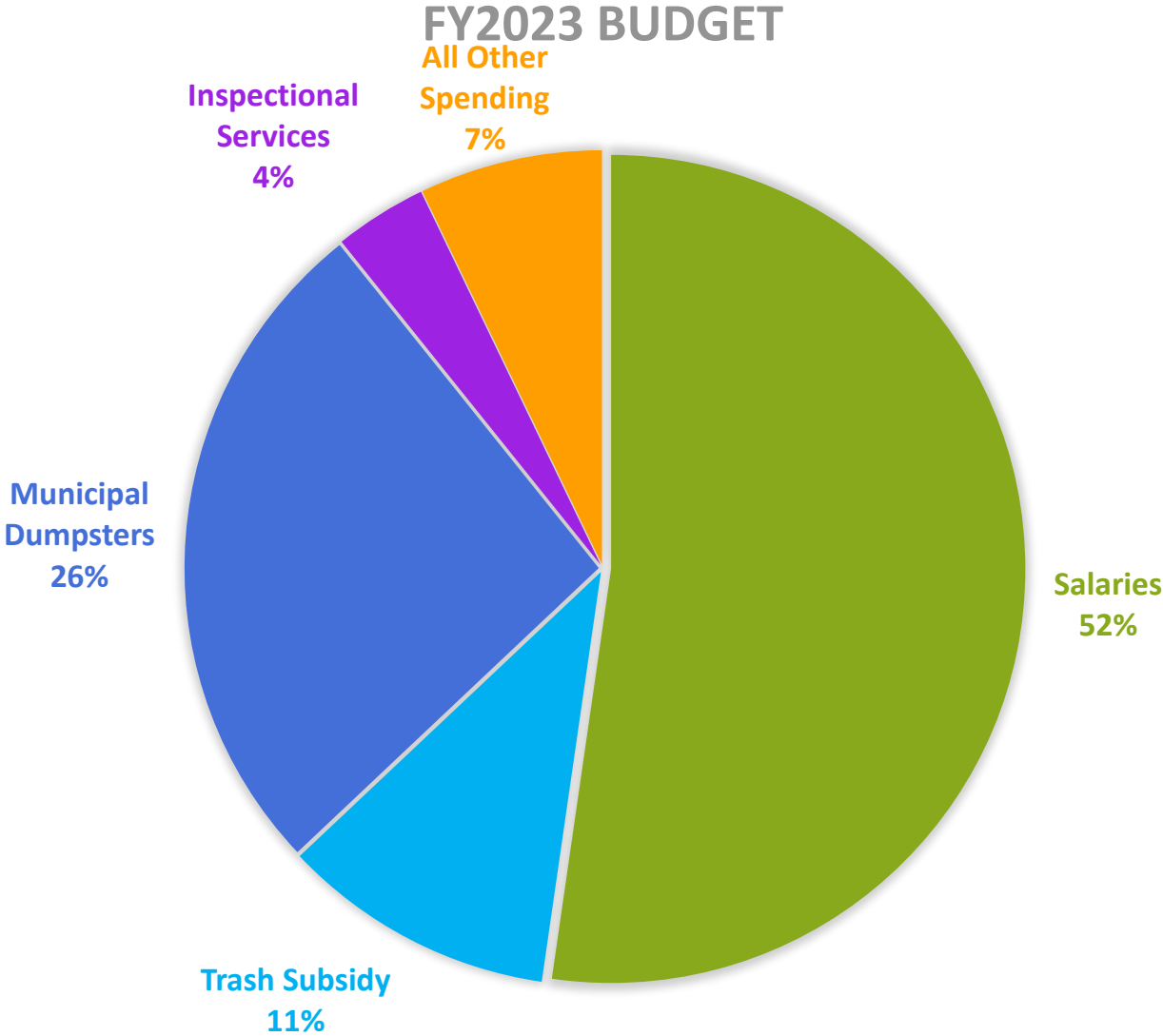
- Hope Klassman, M.Ed.
- Chuck Levine, EE, EdD
- Mena Mesiha, MD
- Signe Peterson Flieger, PhD, MSW
- Hillary Johnson, MHS

- 5-member board
- Appointed by Select Board to a term of 3 years on a rotating basis
- Meet once per month
- Given local authority to set policies and make regulations to protect the public and environmental health
- Responsible for health and environmental prevention and control, healthy communities, and disease prevention

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE



HEALTH BUDGET



- Health Department budgets made up only 0.6% of the municipal budget in FY2023 (excluding school department)

- 3 Largest non-salary expenses:**

- Trash subsidy for the disabled and the elderly within a certain income level
- Municipal Dumpster program for the collection of trash and recycling from schools, playgrounds and certain other municipal sites
- Inspectional Services



Environmental Health



Community Health



Emergency
Preparedness

3 MAIN FOCUSES

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- Ensure clean water and air
- Investigate, plan and respond to and educate the community and key partners about water, food and insect borne diseases



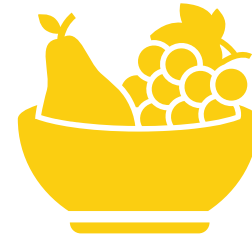
FOOD SAFETY



Ensure food is safe to eat
at home, community
events, restaurants and in
schools



Work to prevent, identify
and respond to outbreaks
of food-borne illness



Inspect restaurants,
grocery stores, schools and
residential kitchens
(minimum twice per year)

INSPECTIONS



Food



Housing



Camps



Pools



Tobacco



Animal



Nail
Salons



Bathing
Beaches



Hotels

INSPECTIONS FACTS

176 Food Service Establishments

6 Plan Reviews for Food Services

69 Animal Permits

2 Artificial Nail Salons

15 Mobile Food Trucks

1 Milk Pasteurization Truck

5 Tobacco

4 Lodging/Motel

10 Housing

9 Pool

4 Recreational Camps

PERMITS AND LICENSES ISSUED



COMMUNITY HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING



- In-office nursing for medical questions, consultation, medication teaching, blood pressure checks, heart rate and oxygen saturation checks, weight and random glucose monitoring, lice exams, B12 injections, immunizations/vaccinations, and general guidance navigating the health care system
- Walk-in office hours Tuesday and Friday 9:30 – 11:00 am and by appointment
- Has seen more than 500 individuals in 2022

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE, EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

- Monitor and understand health issues facing the community
- Protect people from health problems and health hazards



VACCINE MANAGEMENT AND INVENTORY DISTRIBUTION FOR CHILDHOOD AND ADULT IMMUNIZATIONS

**Yearly influenza
clinics**

**COVID clinics as
necessary**

**Providing childhood
immunizations to
underinsured and
immigrant families**

DEVELOP PUBLIC HEALTH POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

- Tobacco, Animal, Waste, etc.
- **Case Study: Hauler of Solid Waste Permit**
 - Recently instituted a permit for solid waste haulers
 - An effort to enforce Massachusetts waste bans and create positive waste habits



TOBACCO CONTROL

Institute policies to raise minimum age of tobacco sales to minors, implement smoke-free housing

CHRONIC DISEASE

- Provide blood pressure clinics to town residents:
 - At Health Department
 - COA
 - Senior Housing
- Work with partners to create conditions and policies which help people make healthy choices

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

PROMOTING HEALTH

- Various community programs
- Council of Aging
- Housing Authority
- Schools



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

- Develop Emergency Preparedness plans
- Respond quickly and ability to deploy resources during public health emergencies
 - COVID – ability to set up clinics quickly to administer vaccines

INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

- To develop interventions and implement policies to help with prevention of drug misuse and overdose
- Key partner for the State and responsible for ensuring the health of the community and serve on the front lines of the opioid epidemic
 - Received money for opioid abatement – setting up a variety of programs and services to assist with impact of Opioid use
 - Facilitate the State's distribution of Narcan and provide training on its administration

WORK WITH ALL DEPARTMENTS OF THE TOWN INCLUDING

- Fire
- Police
- DPW
- Council of Aging
- Library
- Recreation
- Lake Management (regarding lake-use)
- Assessors Office
- Clerk's Office
- Treasurer's Office
- Animal Control
- Sharon Housing Authority

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Sharon Medical Reserve Corp (MRC):**
 - Town volunteer program for residents in both the medical and nonmedical field to assist in improving the health and safety of the town
 - Volunteers have helped with flu and COVID vaccination clinics in the past and are committed to assisting in a public health emergency
 - There are currently around 40 volunteers in the MRC
- **Ask us about other ways to volunteer!**



THANK YOU

Contact us at
SHealth@townofsharon.org