



# Worcester Division of Public Health

## Population Health Clerkship

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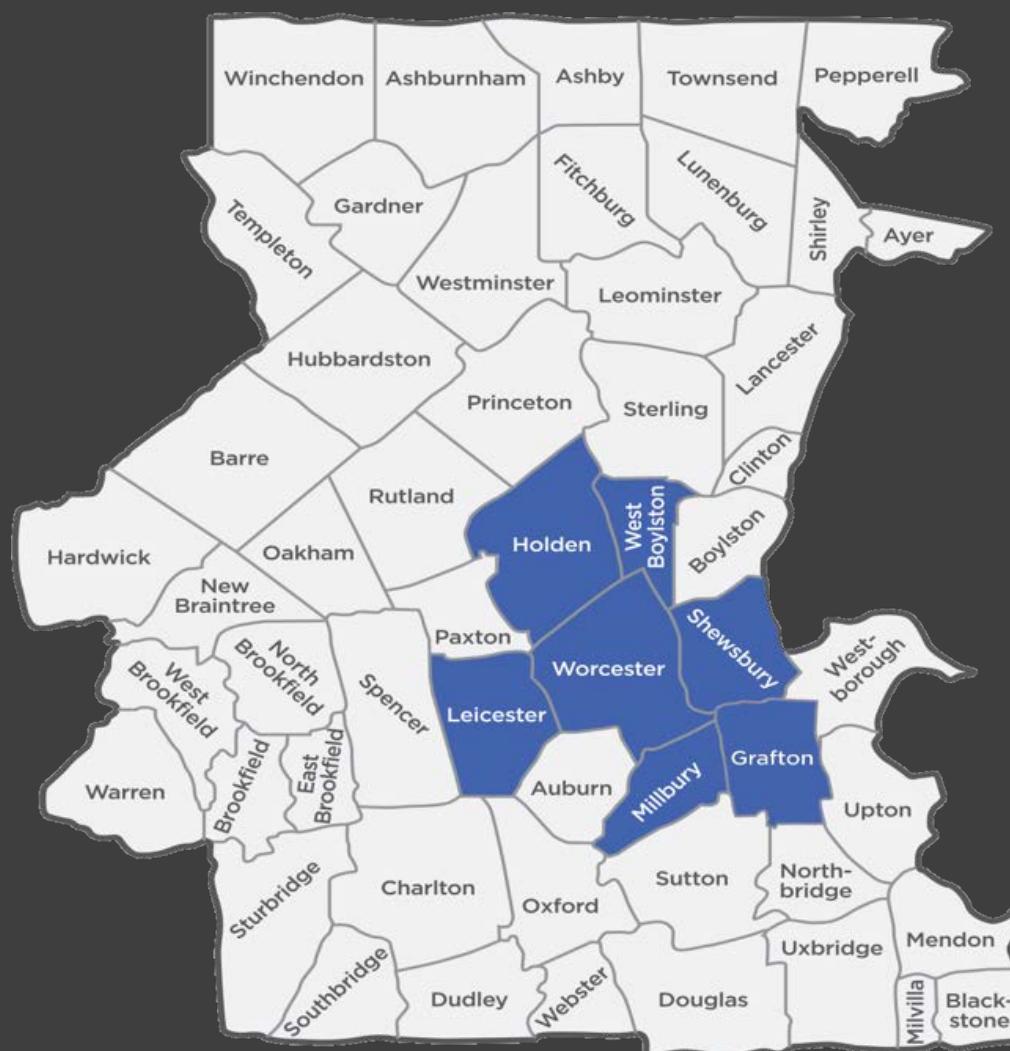
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### Division of Public Health (DPH) Mission:

To improve, promote, and protect the health and safety of residents in seven Worcester Division of Public Health/Central Massachusetts municipalities through the formation of strong community partnerships, data-driven decision-making, and delivery of high quality public health services.

**Goal:**  
The Division of Public Health's goal is for Worcester to be the healthiest city and Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance will be the healthiest region in New England by 2020.



Worcester and the six alliance towns

### The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

DPH, along with over 90 other partners including UMass Memorial, have created a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP consists of five domains that aim to improve the well-being of the Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance. Each domain consists of numerous strategies to help reach the overarching goal of long-term health of these vibrant and diverse communities.

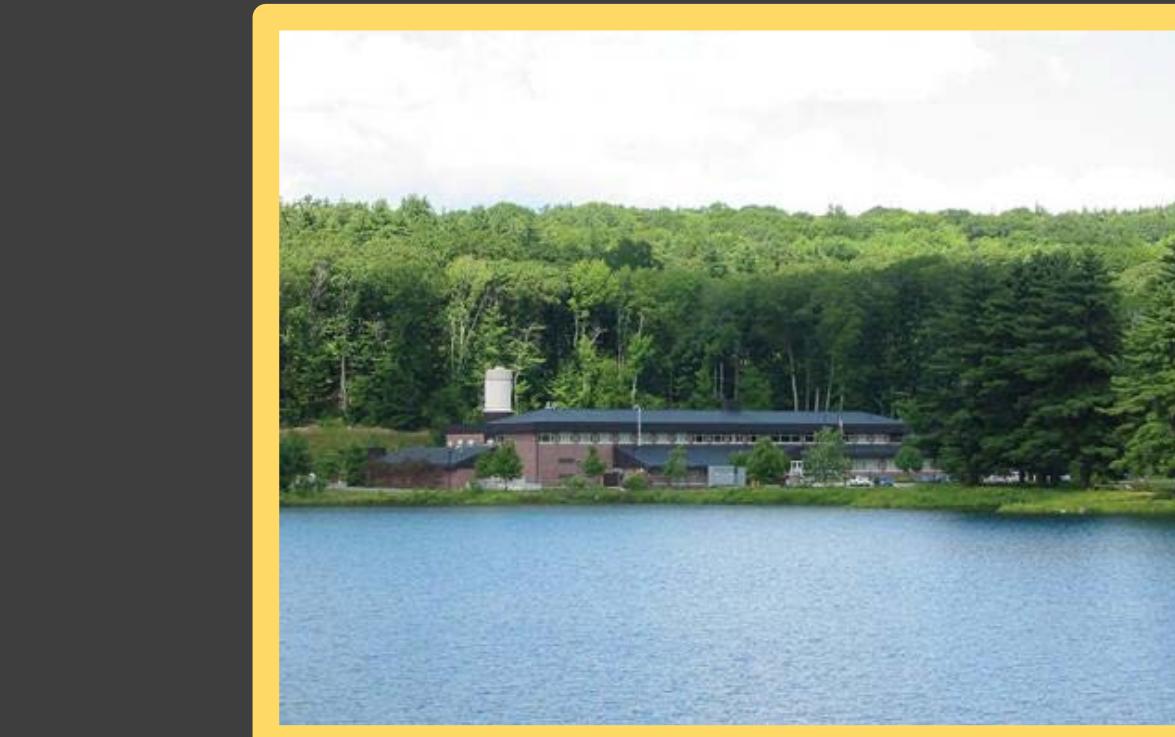
**Domain 1: Health Eating/Active Living**

**Domain 2: Behavioral Health**

**Domain 3: Primary Care & Wellness**

**Domain 4: Violence & Injury Prevention**

**Domain 5: Health Equity & Disparities**



### Community experiences:

Clothing drive at South High School

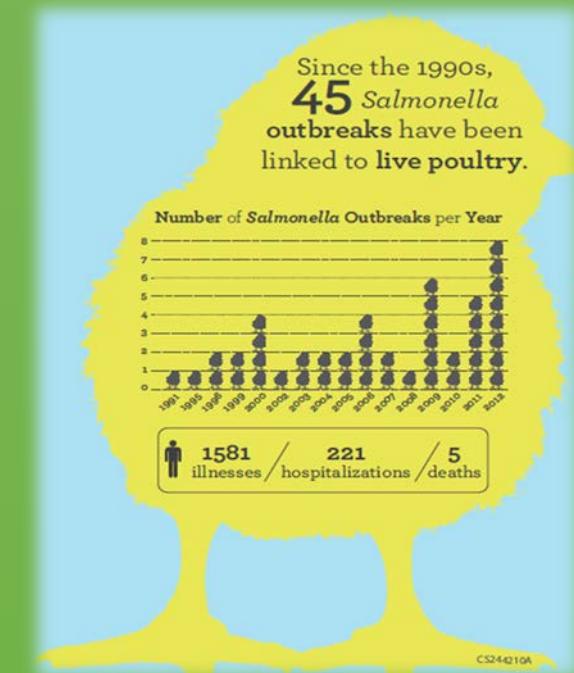


Mobile Farmers' Markets



### Our project:

Many people in the nation are beginning to keep livestock at home. While this is a positive move in the direction of healthy living, it presents new challenges. While some cities like Boston have successfully embarked on rezoning and policy to address this issue, many cities and towns in central MA, specifically West Boylston, do not have such a program in place yet



Our team was tasked with the responsibility of providing possible policy recommendations for the city of Worcester DPH. The team looked at the various policies and regulations used by Boards of Health in Paxton, Amherst, Fitchburg, and Hudson, and then used these as a template to make recommendations for the DPH. The following are some of our recommendations:

- Owners must acquire a special permit in order to house livestock in a residential area.
- All domestic livestock must be kept in an enclosed structure, located at least 25 ft. away from any dwelling or property line.
- No more than 12 animals can be raised on each property.
- Animal enclosures must be inspected yearly by the towns health inspector.
- All abutters must be notified prior to building the animal enclosures.
- Any violations of the town's bylaws regarding the keeping of livestock in a residential area results in a \$100 fine.