# Renville County Department Spotlight: Public Health Services

#### Public Health's Service's mission is to lead efforts to:

- Prevent illness, disease and injury,
- Promote healthy and safe neighborhoods,
- Protect and enhance the well-being of those who live, work, learn and play in our communities



- · Community Health
- Adult Health
- Family Health



Photo: Dorothy Motl was the first nurse to serve Renville County from 1916-1918.

#### **Historical Fun Facts:**

In 1916, Renville County established a county public health nursing service funded by county tax dollars and is recognized as the first Minnesota county to do this. It began by the county selling the greatest number of Christmas Seals in Minnesota during the 1915 holiday season, and "winning" a month of service by a Public Health Nurse.

- Jean Kolbe was the Public Health Director for 33 years (1951 to 1984). Jill Bruns assumed those duties and has served 35 years to date.
- In 2002, Renville County Public Health Nursing Service changed its name to Renville County Public Health Services to reflect the expanded scope of disciplines now found in Public Health.
- Since 2013, Renville County Public Health has been part of the Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Board.
- Public Health employees' total years of service is 378.

#### **Renville County Public Health**

105 South 5th Street | Suite 119H | Olivia, MN 56277 320-523-2570 | www.renvillecountymn.com

### I Didn't Know They Did That!

Public Health serves the entire population of Renville County. Some assume we only serve the "poor." You can find data on local statistics and trends on the county website.

#### **Best Part of Working for Public Health:**

Interacting with customers and co-workers throughout the day, and providing the best possible service to our residents and county.

## What kind of education or experience do you need to succeed in Public Health?

Most disciplines require a bachelor's degree with specialized education in Public Health, including: Nurses, Environmental Health Specialist, Health Educator, Registered Dietician, Health Strategist and Accountant. Support staff have two year degrees and Home Health Aides have CNA certification.

