



Tom Barrett
Mayor

Bevan K. Baker, FACHE
Commissioner of Health

Sandra J. Rotar
Health Operations Administrator



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MEDIA ADVISORY

Mayor Barrett, City Officials to Kick-Off City of Milwaukee Health Department 150th Anniversary
Public event to feature one of city’s youngest residents, longest-serving volunteer, and other special guests; announcement to be made regarding citywide MKE Elevate Community Health Improvement Plan

MILWAUKEE – On Tuesday, April 11, 2017, Mayor Tom Barrett, Council President Ashanti Hamilton, and Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker will be joined by public health partners and advocates to kick-off the 150th anniversary of the City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD). The public event will celebrate the MHD’s pioneering role in public health, the impact of its current work, and announce a milestone in the development of the city’s first community-driven health improvement plan.

Special guests will include former health commissioners Paul Nannis and Dr. Seth Foldy, as well as one of Milwaukee’s youngest residents, 4-week-old Rayina, whose family is supported by one of the MHD’s award-winning home visiting program; Zelma Schloss, a volunteer with the Department for 50 years; Chef Caitlin Cullen, who recently opened a new restaurant with support from the MHD’s Consumer Environmental Health Division; along with current and former staff, public health partner agencies, and other officials.

Throughout 2017, the MHD will celebrate its anniversary with community outreach to highlight its important work.

- WHAT:** City of Milwaukee Health Department 150th Anniversary Kick-off
- WHEN:** Tuesday, April 11 2017
10 a.m. (Reception starting at 9 a.m.)
- WHERE:** City Hall Rotunda, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee
- WHO:** Mayor Tom Barrett
Common Council President Ashanti Hamilton
Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker
Zelma Schloss, MHD’s longest-serving volunteer
Tamiaka Sanders and 4-week-old daughter Rayina
Caitlin Cullen, Chef/Owner, The Tandem
Representatives from partner agencies, current and retired staff, other officials

BACKGROUND: Established on April 11, 1867, the City of Milwaukee Health Department continues its commitment to the preservation of public health in the city of Milwaukee. Originally a Board of Health, the MHD sought to respond to the health impacts related to rapid population growth and urbanization. The 1867 act authorizing a Board of Health stated the Board would “examine into and consider all measures necessary to the preservation of public health in the city of Milwaukee.” Today, the MHD serves the community by assessing public health needs, promoting policies and partnerships that support positive health outcomes, and providing direct services to those in need.

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