



**Erie County Health Department**  
*An Accredited Public Health Department*  
**Erie County Community Health Center**  
*A Federally Qualified Health Center*  
**Peter T. Schade, MPH, REHS**  
*Health Commissioner*



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Erie County Health Department Announces Gwen Stephen as New WIC Program Director**

**Sandusky, OH, July 1, 2026** – The Erie County Health Department (ECHD) is proud to announce the appointment of Gwen Stephen, RDN, LD, CLC, as the new WIC Program Director for the Erie and Huron County WIC Program. Operating as a comprehensive dual-county initiative, the program provides essential nutritional and health services to families throughout both Erie and Huron Counties.

Ms. Stephen brings a wealth of institutional knowledge and clinical expertise to her new leadership role. Having served within the Erie/Huron County WIC program for many years, she has been a driving force behind the region's breastfeeding support programs and healthy nutrition education initiatives. Her ongoing dedication has ensured that expectant mothers, infants, and young children in the community have access to the foundational resources they need to thrive.

"Gwen's dedication to the health and well-being of our community's mothers and children is unparalleled," said Peter T. Schade, Erie County Health Commissioner.

One of the department goals for the WIC Program has been the successful integration of WIC patients into all services at the ECHD/ECCHC.

"For years we have strived for leadership in WIC to build the integration between all of our health services and WIC families, and now Gwen bring that possibility to the table," said Schade

In conjunction with this leadership announcement, ECHD is also excited to share that the Huron County WIC office has officially relocated to better serve the local community. The office is now open and operating out of its new facility, located at 134 Cleveland Road in Norwalk, Ohio.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides supplemental nutritious foods, breastfeeding support, nutritional education, and healthcare referrals for income-eligible pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and children up to age five. Families interested in WIC services or looking to schedule an appointment at the new Norwalk location or the Sandusky office can learn more by visiting [ErieCoHealthOhio.com](http://ErieCoHealthOhio.com) or calling 419-626-5623, Ext. 5137.

#### **About the Erie County Health Department**

The Erie County Health Department's mission is to promote and improve the health and safety of the communities and environment within Erie County while preventing disease through essential public health services. The Erie County Community Health Center is part of the Erie County Health Department and operates eight convenient locations across **Erie, Huron, and Ottawa** counties, ensuring accessible primary care, dental, and behavioral health services throughout the region.

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