

The Health Nurse

Who She Is
What She Does

Health Week

APRIL 5 - 11, 1925

Sponsored By
The Parent-Teachers Association
Greenfield, Ohio



THE HEALTH NURSE

What She Does

She is first and foremost a nurse, charged with the health of the children and the community but she is far more than a nurse, she is a teacher, organizer, advisor, friend and confidante.

She diagnoses the ailments of the children, renders first aid in emergencies, binds up their wounds and sympathizes with them in their afflictions.

She conducts classes in home nursing, gives health talks in the auditorium and is a source of inspiration, advice and counsel to the older girls.

She weighs and measures the children, charts their growth, and arranges with the family physician for the correction of eye, ear, nose, dental and orthopedic defects.

She gives special attention to the undernourished children, notifies parents of their condition and aids in the administration of the milk ration.

She holds cleanliness inspection at regular intervals and is not afraid to roll up her sleeves and administer a bath when necessary.

She helps mothers through friendly advice and instruction to keep themselves and their babies well.

She visits families where there are communicable diseases and tactfully instructs them how to prevent the spread of the infection to other families.

She helps to bring about in a friendly way sanitary conditions in the home.

She cooperates with the attending physician in calls for bedside nursing and repeats her calls as often as may be necessary.

She holds herself in readiness to aid in times of emergency such as accidents, epidemics, etc.

Ever on the alert to help members of the community to get well and keep well, she makes health a delightful ideal and the acquisition of health an exhilarating game.

Can we afford to dispense with the services of a Health Nurse?

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Who She Is.

Miss Dorothea Gaut, the Health Nurse, is highly qualified for her work. Her preparation and experience includes a teacher's course at the Tri-State Normal College, Angola, Indiana; Special work in music and literature at Valparaiso University; a teacher for five years in the Junior high school at Payne, Ohio; a graduate of the Mt. Sinai Training School for Nurses, New York City (1911); a Red Cross Nurse during the World War (1917-1918), serving thirteen months over seas with the U. S. Base Hospital Number 3, receiving a decoration for distinguished services; a course in Public Health Nursing at Western Reserve University; Community Nurse of Paulding County for two years (1920-1922); Community Nurse in Greenfield for two years (1922-1925).

Miss Gaut's report for the first six months of the present school year is a revelation of labor and service.

She has organized and given a short course in "First Aid" and health instruction to 33 students in the Normal School.

She has organized two classes in home hygiene and the care of the sick with 20 students in the high school class which meets daily and 10 members in the community class which meets weekly.

She has organized and acts as advisor to a health club of high school girls and a "Little Mother's League" in the Junior high school.

She has twice weighed and measured the 1100 children in the Elementary and Junior high school and sent home tags.

She has organized and assisted the local dentists in the conduct of a dental clinic in which 850 children were examined and has sent home notices of dental defects.

She has examined the eyes and tested the hearing of all children referred to her by the teachers. As a result of these examinations many have secured glasses.

She has determined the undernourished children and aided in the distribution of milk to all such children.

She has prepared and kept a card record of each of the 1100

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children in the Elementary School and Junior high school, giving a complete health history of each pupil.

She has conducted a regular cleanliness inspection of the 850 children in the Elementary school. As a result, there is a noticeable improvement in the condition of hands, necks, ears and general personal hygiene of the children.

She has given numerous talks on health and hygiene, has held an exhibition of posters and produced a health play with a cast of thirty-five.

She has sent over 200 letters to parents respecting the health of their children.

She has had 1809 calls during school hours for advice in health matters and first aid treatment of minor injuries, aches and pains. Classified these calls are as follows.

Personal hygiene	356
Eye Complaints	133
Headache	149
Earache	72
Toothache	104
Sore Throat	151
Rash	27
Stiff Neck	10
Nose Bleed	7
Stomach complaint	76
Impetigo	18
Pediculosis	9
Minor Injuries	137
Dressings Applied	215
Treatments	321
Exclusions	77
Children taken home	37
Home visits	195

Can we afford to dispense with the services of a Health Nurse in the schools?

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The Problem

Our community is facing a problem which challenges the attention of every public spirited citizen of Greenfield. Are we going to permit the health work in our schools and in our community to lapse? The Parent Teachers Association has successfully sponsored an ambitious health program in our schools which is already beginning to bear fruit abundantly. The key-stone of this program is the Health Nurse.

The Superintendent and Board of Education heartily endorse the work but there are no school funds available to carry on the work. The Health Nurse must be financed in the future as in the past by the citizens of Greenfield and vicinity. \$2,000.00 are necessary to carry on the work for another year. A drive for funds will be made by the P. T. A. during the week of April 5 to 11. It is unthinkable that the people of the community will permit this great work to be discontinued.

Is there not a real opportunity for service offered YOU in this work?— The nurse with her useful bag goes to anyone who needs her. Now she needs YOU. Will you fail her?

COUNT ON ME

Greenfield Must Keep Her Health Nurse.

I am sending \$.....

Name

Address

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The Health of School Children

During the past few years, the public has been slowly awaking to the appalling physical condition of children of school age, children not merely of the poor and of the city, but in equal numbers among the wealthy and in the country.

Of the 20,000,000 children in our public school between six and fifteen years of age, one million have defective hearing, five million have defective eyes, five million are undernourished, six million have enlarged tonsils and adenoids and over ten million defective teeth.

Physical examinations in the Greenfield Schools indicate that these statistics are correct. There is one cause for congratulation, however, where the children have been examined over a period of years and parents notified of defects a very considerable decrease in defects is evident. Far fewer dental defects were noted this year in the dental clinic than three years ago.

A sane program of health instruction will reduce physical defects to a minimum. Can we afford to abandon our health program at the very time we are beginning to reap the fruits of past endeavors?

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Don't forget



AT WORK

Rosemary Daniels

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