

Tony Evers  
Governor



Karen E. Timberlake  
Secretary

**State of Wisconsin**  
Department of Health Services

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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November 18, 2021

Kerry Severson, Chair  
Richland County Health and Human Services Board Chair  
181 West Seminary Street  
Richland Center, WI 53581

Dear Kerry:

The Department of Health Services (DHS) congratulates Richland County Health & Human Services for demonstrating the infrastructure and program capacity to be certified as a Level II Health Department. I am happy to report Richland County Health & Human Services provided all services required by statute and rule.

I want to acknowledge the work of the Richland County Health & Human Services staff. Rose Kohut, health officer, did an excellent job of providing quality evidence of meeting statutes and rules. The review occurred before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am acutely aware of the stress of operating a health department and that the demands on public health directors and professionals have increased exponentially during this state and global pandemic. I applaud the dedicated efforts of Rose Kohut and the Richland County Health & Human Services staff to keep your jurisdiction healthy and safe.

I also appreciate the support of the Richland County Health and Human Services Board for maintaining a strong public health department. Pandemic response has potentially caused you and your jurisdiction to think about public health issues you may have not considered before. I am sure with ongoing support for evidence-based quality public health initiatives by you and your fellow board of health members, the Richland County Health & Human Services Department will continue to protect and promote the health of the people in your jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paula Tran".

Paula Tran  
State Health Officer and Administrator

c: Rose Kohut, Health Officer  
Tracy Thorsen, Health and Human Services Director  
Marty Brewer, County Board Chair  
Christina Beach-Baumgartner, Southern Regional Office Director