



Naugatuck Valley Health District

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PRESS RELEASE

Naugatuck Valley Health Director Plans to Retire

The Board of Directors of the Naugatuck Valley Health District was made aware at its April meeting that Karen Spargo plans to retire as Director of Health early this fall, although an exact date is not set. A Search Committee has formed to identify a qualified successor.

According to Ms. Spargo, “I am grateful for the opportunity to practice public health in the Naugatuck Valley Health District in collaboration with dedicated staff, community leaders, partner organizations, elected officials and concerned individuals.”

Over the approximately 20 year span of Ms. Spargo’s tenure, the district addressed a range of infectious diseases, some routine and some not so routine (e.g., West Nile virus, anthrax, SARS, Ebola, Zika virus, drug resistant TB, and pandemic influenza); strengthened emergency public health preparedness defenses; ushered in a culture of environmental health services to protect residents and businesses with policy, education, awareness, and investigations; and fostered programs aimed at decreasing childhood lead poisoning, asthma and childhood diseases. In 2015, the Naugatuck Valley Health District became the first health district in CT to achieve national accreditation, meeting rigorous standards that supports quality local public health services.

“Karen Spargo’s contributions to not only our health district but also her profession are innumerable. I speak for the entire board when I say how privileged we have been to work with her. Her leadership has been a labor of love,” said John Zikaras, chairman of the Naugatuck Valley Health District Board of Directors.

Ms. Spargo plans to continue to work for the Naugatuck Valley Health District until her successor has been identified.

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