



Hocking County Health Department Annual Report

2019

Greetings Public Health Partners and Community,

I am pleased to present the 2019 Hocking County Health Department Annual Report. The Report highlights the great work that happened in our department during the past year through direct services, and in partnership with agencies in the community.

The 2019 year started with mourning the loss of Minchen Vickers. Minchen was a registered sanitarian with our department from October 2006 until her passing on January 29, 2019. Minchen fought a long battle with cancer. Minchen was loved by all who took the time to get to know her. All of us considered her a great environmental health specialist, co-worker and friend. Minchen loved her work. She worked extremely hard to prevent diseases and promote what was best for those that live in Hocking County. She was responsible for enforcing public health regulations which was not always easy to carry out. She had a special gift of being able to use her compassion, good practical sense, and humor to gain the trust and cooperation of those involved. Minchen taught us so much. She taught us how to go through a tough time while never letting go of your faith and finding ways to put others above self. Minchen leaves a void that will never be replaced in this world, Hocking County or this Health Department. She will be forever missed!

It was exciting to add new employees to the staff during 2019. Brittany Riley started working on May 20th as a sanitarian-in-training. Brittany is a recent Ohio University graduate majoring in environmental sciences. She lives in McArthur with her family.

Noelle Tipton started working on June 3rd as a member of the front office clerical staff. Noelle had several years of prior experience working in health care as a nursing aide, front office staff and medical billing clerk. Noelle lives in Rockbridge with her family.

Ashley Standall was hired as our first ever community health worker. Ashley is a certified community health worker that works with substance use disorder patients to help them navigate the complex systems needed to get appropriate help and access to all available services. Ashley started on July 8th. She lives in Nelsonville with her family.

Kristen Arnett started working at the Health Department on August 20th. Kristen joined the staff as a public health aide. Kristen works in the Logan-Hocking Schools to provide public health services to students.

Kristen works passionately to help keep our students healthy and in the class room where they need to be to learn best. Kristen lives in Rockbridge with her family.

Brittany, Noelle, Ashley and Kristen bring many valuable assets to our staff. I look forward to working many years with them and seeing them grow as employees at the Hocking County Health Department.

This was yet another year used to prepare for mandated accreditation. Years of preparation, assessment, and documentation gathering concluded the 2019 year. November 2019 ended with the staff working extremely hard to gather over 300 documents that we thought best demonstrate how we as a public health department operate, provide services, and perform. This document gathering was a tremendous task for the entire staff. Many were directly involved- while other staff members picked up added workloads and covered for those more involved. All this accreditation work was completed while still providing the daily services and programs that the citizens of Hocking County are accustomed to.

2019 has come and gone with the challenge to keep going after losing a wonderful co-worker and friend- Minchen Vickers; the hiring of four new employees; and more accreditation preparation and work. Yet, so many other achievements and work was accomplished throughout the 2019 year. The 2019 Annual Report was put together in attempt to highlight a few of those accomplishments and achievements.

I encourage you to visit the Hocking County Health Department website at www.hockingcountyhealthdepartment.com to learn more about the Health Department and the services we provide.

On behalf of the Hocking County Health Department, I would like to thank you and all of our partnering agencies for your support to make 2019 another successful and healthy year!

Sincerely,
Douglas S. Fisher
Health Commissioner



Vital Statistics

Leading Causes of Death	2019
Cardiac	77
Cancer	33
Respiratory / Pulmonary	25
Dementia / Alzheimer's	8
Suicide	7
Adult Failure to Thrive	6
Drug Overdose	4
Stroke	3
Accidental	2
Homicide	2
Certificates Registered	2019
Birth	7
Death	214

Healthy People 2020 Goal

How does Hocking County match up with national objectives related to suicide?

As part of its Healthy People 2020 initiative, the Department of Health and Human Services aims for the suicide rate in the U.S. to decrease to 10.2 per 100,000.

Currently, Hocking County does not achieve this target.
 HP2020 Target: 10.2
 Hocking County: 25.8
 HP2020 Status: Not Met

Hocking County Reportable Diseases

Reportable Disease	2017	2018	2019
Campylobacteriosis	3	4	3
Chlamydia infection	77	74	113
E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	3	1	1
Giardiasis	1	2	1
Gonococcal infection	8	10	37
Haemophilus influenzae	1	0	0
Hepatitis A	0	8	7
Hepatitis B - acute	1	1	4
Hepatitis B - chronic	9	10	3
Hepatitis C - acute	0	3	0
Hepatitis C - chronic	67	64	32
Hepatitis C - Perinatal infection	0	0	1
Influenza-associated hospitalization	16	21	15
LaCrosse virus disease	0	3	0
Legionellosis - Legionnaires' Disease	4	4	1
Lyme Disease	1	0	2
Meningitis - aseptic/viral	1	1	1
Mumps	0	1	1
Pertussis	3	1	1
Salmonellosis	7	1	3
Shigellosis	2	0	0
Staphylococcal aureus - (VISA)	0	1	0
Streptococcal - Group A -invasive	1	1	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae - non-resistant	5	1	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae - antibiotic resistant	1	0	1
Varicella	5	1	1
Vibrios (not cholera)	0	0	1
TOTAL	216	213	232

Reporting of infectious diseases in Ohio is mandated by the Ohio Administrative Code. Diseases of public health concern require timely response by the health department because of the potential for epidemic spread. Infectious disease nurses and epidemiologists handle notification, response, education, prophylaxis and prevention activities on a daily basis.

2019 Nursing Division Highlights

Health Services Report

Community Health Worker

The health department welcomed its first community health worker to the staff this year. Ashley Standall will be working with the community to assist with substance abuse and recovery and to serve as a liaison between health and social services as a family navigator. She is here to assist families, friends, and those struggling from substance abuse. This was made possible through a federal grant The COAP grant (Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program) from the Department of Justice to establish and expand services to children and those who are victimized as a result of the opioid crisis.

Breastfeeding

In 2019, after receiving a grant through the Ohio Lactation Consultant Association, billboard space was purchased on US 33 during Breastfeeding Awareness Month and the month thereafter. Staff RN and Lactation Consultant Kelly Brehm partnered with photographer Elizabeth Nihiser, who donated her time and resources to promote breastfeeding and create its normalcy in the community. We first posted on Facebook, with a snippet of the mother's story she had written, describing her breastfeeding journey. We then brought the project to the newspaper, and now billboard size! The goal in mind was to create breastfeeding awareness in the community. Mothers and families felt supported and empowered, and it showed with each comment we received.



Nursing	2019
Breastfeeding Consultations	184
Car Seats	33
Cribs For Kids	79
Flu Shots	2098
Head Lice Checks	50,899
Hepatitis C Tests	2
HIV Tests	16
Hearing/Vision Screenings	46
Immunizations	2,152
Narcan Kits	103
Pregnancy Tests	44
STD Tests	13
Tobacco Cessation Sessions	103
Tuberculin Skin Tests	369
WIC Certification/Recertification	1,279
WIC Nutrition Education	659

Environmental	2019
Animal Bite Reports	58
Building Placement Permits	87
Food Inspections	352
Lot Splits	18
Nuisance Complaint Investigations	199
Plumbing Permits (Res / Com)	95
Plumbing Inspections	257
Pools / Camp Inspections	96
Private Water System Permits	77
Realty (Water & Septic)	32
School Safety Inspections	23
Sewage Final Approvals	186
Sewage Permits	123
Site Evaluations	151
Water Samples	184

Public Health Accreditation

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) is the national accrediting organization for public health departments. National public health department accreditation has been developed because of the desire to improve service, value, and accountability to stakeholders. While the intent behind PHAB accreditation is voluntary, the Ohio Department of Health has mandated that all local health departments in Ohio become accredited.

As you may already know, HCHD has been preparing for accreditation over the last few years by completing prerequisites for accreditation such as a Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plan, as well as an agency Strategic Plan.

The main component of PHAB accreditation is documentation selection to demonstrate our capacity to deliver the 3 Core Functions of Public Health and the 10 Essential Public Health Services.

Collecting, creating and finalizing documentation was an agency-wide effort in the recent years, with our final push coming during 2019. Over 300 pieces of documentation including our assessments, plans and policies were submitted to PHAB in late November. This documentation will be assessed by a team of 3 volunteer public health peers and will also include an in-person Site Visit. A decision on receiving accreditation status will come after the Site Visit Report is reviewed by PHAB's Accreditation Committee. We anticipate this process to be completed by the end of 2020. Once PHAB accreditation status is awarded, it is valid for 5 years, at which time re-accreditation will be necessary.

Although our health department has not completed our journey of achieving national accreditation, we have already recognized the benefits it has brought not only to our health department but to our community. We will be keeping you updated on our progress!

2019 Environmental Health Division Highlights

Staff

There were several staffing changes in the Environmental Health Division in 2019. We sadly lost Registered Sanitarian Minchen Vickers at the end of January leaving a huge hole in our staff and in our hearts. Minchen had worked here for over 12 years and was loved by the staff and the community. Long-time environmental clerk Debra Sinnott retired after 22 years and was replaced by new-comer Nichole Sigler. On May 20, Brittany Riley joined our staff as a Sanitarian-In-Training after graduating from the Ohio University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Biology and Environmental Studies Certificate. In 2019, both Kevin Smith and Hannah Montgomery passed the National Environmental Health exam, fulfilled their two-year apprenticeship requirement and became Registered Sanitarians with the state of Ohio. We are very proud of all their accomplishments!

Mosquitoes

Through a grant from the EPA, we continue to trap mosquitoes for surveillance. Trapped mosquitoes are sent to the Ohio Department of Health for identification purposes and testing. In 2019, we trapped over 3,500 mosquitoes, none of which tested positive for West Nile Virus.

Sewage Grant

We continue to administer the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) from the Ohio EPA to assist homeowners in repairing or replacing their failed sewage treatment systems (STS). In 2019, we used \$200,000 to assist 17 homeowners. Since 2010, we have helped 148 homeowners and received \$1,108,466 through the WPCLF program making Hocking County a healthier place to live.

Public health is critical to the health and well-being of our community. In order to provide essential public health services and state mandated programs in Logan and Hocking County, the financial support of the community is key. The Levy allows the Health Department to maintain daily operations while providing necessary services within the community. We greatly appreciate your support of public health and look forward to improving the health of our community.

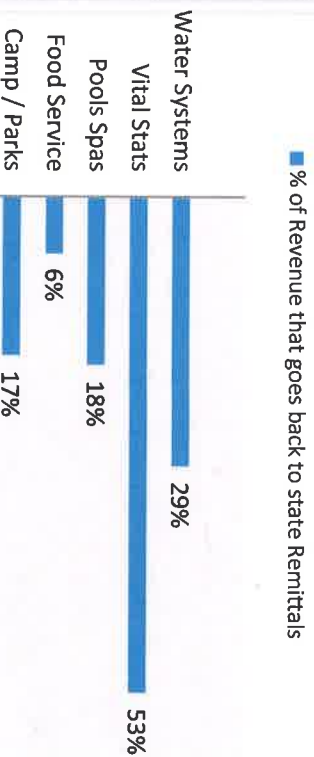
REVENUE 2019

Health Levy	\$568,427.00
Real Estate Rollback	\$ 71,751.00
Personal Property Trailer Tax	\$ 4,788.00
	\$644,966.00
Vital Statistics Fees	
Burial Permits	\$ 627.00
Certified Copies	\$49,775.00
Vital Statistic Reg.	\$ 2,588.00
	\$52,990.00
Environmental Programs	
Campgrounds and Parks	\$ 10,384.00
Food Service	\$ 73,353.00
Pools and Spas	\$ 8,803.00
Sewage / Plumbing	\$175,536.00
Water	\$ 37,231.00
	\$305,307.00
Nursing Programs	
BCMH	\$ 24,480.00
Contracts	\$ 22,972.00
Flu Shots	\$ 71,443.00
HEP B / TB	\$ 14,450.00
Immunizations	\$113,805.00
Other	\$ 57,362.00
	\$304,512.00
Public Health Grants	
Community Health	\$ 34,196.00
Maternal Child Health	\$ 10,283.00
Mom's Quit for Two	\$ 17,989.00
Public Health Emergency	\$146,780.00
Tobacco	\$ 76,536.00
WIC	\$206,404.00
ZIKA	\$ 16,000.00
	\$508,188.00
TOTAL	\$1,815,963.00

EXPENSES 2019

Administration / Vital Statistics	\$511,945.00
Environmental Health	\$445,748.00
Nursing Programs	\$413,057.00
Public Health Grants	\$500,727.00
TOTAL	\$1,871,477.00

% of Revenue that goes back to state Remittals





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Public Health
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