



*Health care is vital to all of us
some of the time,
but public health is vital to all of
us all of the time. ”*

— C. Everett Koop

Hocking County Health Department Annual Report

2021



Greetings Public Health Partners and Community,

Are we moving the needle? That is a question I ask myself constantly, as it relates to what we are doing and how we are doing here at the Hocking County Health Department. "Moving the needle" is a useful metaphor for inspiring employees and achieving goals. To move the needle, what we do must impact our clients and community in a positive way. To move the needle, it requires continuous, significant, noticeable, and positive achievements.

I proudly introduce the 2021 Hocking County Health Department Annual Report and I feel that we once again "moved the needle" in many regards as presented in this report. Two examples of how we moved the needle may be viewed as either literal or figurative.

I am very proud of the Health Department accomplishing national accreditation recognition through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). This took many years of preparation and hard work that concluded in July 2021 with a virtual site visit by PHAB that included an interview with staff, our community, and public health partners. Achieving national accreditation is a state mandate for all Ohio local health departments put forth in ORC 3701.13. In order to accomplish this, we had to meet nationally recognized public health standards outlined in 12 domains and many measures and show that we provide services that all residents should come to expect from health departments. In order to prove that we function at this level of standard, we had to submit several hundred documents for review and set through several hours of oral questioning.

I feel achieving national accreditation status exemplifies the moving of the needle. After going through this process, we have improved our quality and performance in such things as performance management, financial

management, workforce development, emergency planning and response, community participation and partnerships, and quality improvement.

A more figurative example of how we moved the needle in 2021 was with our vaccination clinics. Scientific evidence continues to show that vaccinations are the best means we have available to protect us from the many preventable diseases and illnesses. Secondly to having available and effective vaccines, we now consider COVID-19/ SARS-COV-2 as one of those preventable diseases.

The Health Department staff literally moved many doses of vaccines, syringes, and needles to provide all different types of vaccinations, including thousands of COVID-19 shots in all age groups to protect this community. By providing these vaccinations we moved the needle both figuratively and literally by limiting community spread; helped to prevent our hospital from being overwhelmed; helped to allow our schools to provide in-person teaching and extra-curricular activities; helped our most vulnerable residents stay safe and healthy; helped our businesses and places of work be able to stay open and function safely; and importantly we helped to save lives.

Again, I am proud of accomplishments and services provided by the Hocking County Health Department during the challenging year of 2021 and therefore allows me to answer the question- are we moving the needle? - in an affirmative manner, yes, in many different ways!

Sincerely,

Doug Fisher

Health Commissioner



Teamwork

The Health Department is made up of many divisions including Administrative, Environmental, Fiscal, Nursing, and Preparedness.

While each division has different responsibilities, they work together to meet our mission to serve and educate the citizens of Hocking County with public health programs that prevent disease, promote healthy lifestyles and protect the environment.



Environmental Health

- Since 2010, we have been able to help 232 homeowners repair or replace their failed sewage treatment system totaling \$1,550376.77 through the EPA WPCLF grant.
- For the first time, we started testing mosquitoes for pesticide resistance. Insects can quickly become resistant to pesticides because they have very short generations. The entire life cycle from egg to adult for a mosquito only takes 8-10 days. This is why DDT no longer kills bedbugs. The pesticide resistance testing was made possible through the same grant from the EPA we use to control mosquito populations in Hocking County.
- ODH conducted a survey July 6-9 to determine if we are carrying out the mandated program requirements as set forth in the Ohio Revised and Administrative Codes for our food safety program. Due to excellent work by the Environmental Staff and Clerk Nichole Sigler, HCHD is approved as a licensor for Food Service Operations.

Nursing Highlights

2021 was a challenging year in the fight against COVID-19. This pandemic has rocked the Public Health World. The COVID-19 statistics for the past year are nothing short of unbelievable. We never believed we would be a part of this history but here we are, still going strong after 2 long years fighting this virus.

COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) is caused by a virus named SARS-CoV-2 and was discovered in December 2019 in Wuhan, China. It very quickly spread around the world and hundreds of thousands of people have died from virus in the United States. COVID-19 most often causes respiratory symptoms that can feel much like a cold, a flu, or pneumonia but other parts of the body may also be affected by the disease.

The virus can change over time and these changes are called “variants”. They can have different attributes that change how fast the virus spreads, or the severity of illness it causes, or the effectiveness of treatments against it. Scientists are constantly monitoring these changes.

In 2021 there were 3,300 COVID-19 cases reported to the health department for a total of 6,386 cases since COVID first began. All reported cases were investigated by health department staff.

12,849 COVID vaccines have been administered.

Percentages of the county’s population by age group who have completed the vaccine:

0-19yrs: 18%	50-59yrs: 60%
20-29yrs: 38%	60-64yrs: 67%
30-39yrs: 41%	65-69yrs: 78%
40-49yrs: 47%	70-74yrs: 77%

REVENUE

HEALTH LEVY	
Real Estate	\$ 781,715
Rollback	\$ 69,652
Personal Property	\$ -
Trailer Tax	\$ 4,786
	\$ 856,153
FEES - VITAL STATS	
Burial Permits	\$ 699
Certified Copies	\$ 54,519
Vital Stats Reg.	\$ 3,037
	\$ 58,255
FEES - ENVIRONMENTAL	
Campgrounds and Parks	\$ 10,229
Food Services	\$ 70,144
Pools and Spas	\$ 9,566
Sewage/Plumbing	\$ 249,584
Water Systems	\$ 56,647
	\$ 396,150
NURSING PROGRAMS	
BCMH	\$ 5,525
Contracts	\$ 97,167
Flu Shots	\$ 65,318
Hep. B/TTB Clinic	\$ -
Immunizations	\$ 63,593
Other	\$ 43,553
	\$ 275,155
GRANTS	
Contact Trachng	\$ 56,250
Covid - 19	\$ 225,507
Maternal Child Health	\$ -
Moms Quit for Two	\$ 9,188
Public Health Emergency Preparedness	\$ 91,553
Tobacco	\$ 81,933
WIC	\$ 203,465
Zika	\$ 24,550
	\$ 692,446
Total Program Revenue	\$ 2,278,159

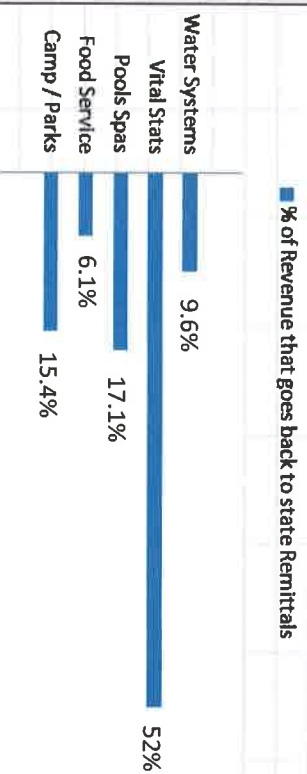
Public health is critical to the health and well-being of our community. In order to provide essential public health services and state mandated programs in Logan and Hocking County, the financial support of the community is key. The Levy allows the Health Department to maintain daily operations while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

We greatly appreciate your support of public health and look forward to improving the health of our community.

EXPENSES

Administ./Vital Stats.	\$ 316,410
Environmental Health	\$ 454,280
Nursing Health Services	\$ 369,866
Grants	\$ 768,249
Total Net Expenses	\$ 1,908,806

% of Revenue that goes back to state Remittals



HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Front row: Debbie Elliott, Stephanie Runge, Amber Hartley, Nikki Hankinson, Kahla Cosper, and Emily Norris.

Back row: Shari Schorr, Ashley Mount, Tammy Napier, Alyssa McCombs, Jamie Carrell, Kevin Smith, Matt Joyce, Laura Gossel, Doug Fisher, and Wendy Hanna.

Not Pictured: Hannah Montgomery, Lisa Hall, Nichole Sigler, and Noelle Hickman.



Staff Changes

2021 saw many changes in our staff . These changes are always met with mixed emotions; sadness at their departure but also heartfelt best wishes as they leave to pursue their dreams. Those that left include Nursing Director Kelly Taulbee and Environmental Technician Joann Montgomery. In their place we welcomed Public Health Nurse Ashley Mount, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Laura Gossel, Environmental Health Specialist Matt Joyce, and Environmental Technician Lisa Hall.

Health Services Report

	2021
Nursing	69
Breastfeeding Consultations	26
Car Seats	13
Cribs For Kids	1,644
Flu Shots	28,501
Head Lice Checks	0
Hearing/Vision Screenings	1,016
Immunizations	76
Project Dawn Kits	13
Pregnancy Tests	0
STD Tests	0
Tobacco Cessation Sessions	227
Tuberculin Skin Tests	741
WIC Certification/Recertification	1,243
WIC Nutrition Education	73
Environmental	2021
Animal Bite Reports	163
Building Placement Permits	353
Food Inspections	13
Lot Splits	155
Nuisance Complaint Investigations	175
Plumbing Permits (Res / Com)	324
Plumbing Inspections	65
Pools / Camp Inspections	193
Private Water System Permits	176
Sewage Final Approvals	298
Sewage Permits	219
Site Evaluations	193
Water Samples	

Vital Statistics

Leading Causes of Resident Death	2021
Cardiac	106
Respiratory / Pulmonary	51
Cancer	75
Covid Related	69
Dementia / Alzheimer's	20
Suicide	5
Gastro/Intestinal	24
Drug Overdose	18
Cerebrovascular	24
Accidental	13
Homicide	1

Certificates Issued	2021
Birth	1420
Death	758

County Statistics	2021
Total County Resident Births	272
Births in County	6
Total County Resident Deaths	431
Deaths in County	216
Coroner Cases	38
Premature Deaths (0-74 Years)	233



Hocking County Reportable Diseases

Reportable Disease	2019	2020	2021
Campylobacteriosis	3	8	5
Chlamydia infection	113	77	59
COVID-19	0	1404	3300
CP-CRE	0	1	0
E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	1	0	1
Giardiasis	1	1	0
Gonococcal infection	37	26	9
Haemophilus influenzae	0	0	1
Hepatitis A	7	0	0
Hepatitis B - acute	4	0	0
Hepatitis B - chronic	3	6	3
Hepatitis C - acute	0	1	0
Hepatitis C - chronic	32	36	33
Hepatitis C - perinatal infection	1	0	0
Influenza - associated hospitalization	15	10	2
LaCrosse virus disease	0	2	0
Legionellosis	1	0	2
Lyme Disease	2	2	4
Meningitis - aseptic/viral	1	0	0
Mumps	1	0	0
Pertussis	1	0	0
Salmonellosis	3	2	2
Streptococcal - Group A - invasive	2	0	4
Streptococcus pneumoniae - unknown or non-resistant	1	1	3
Streptococcus pneumoniae - resistant/intermediate	1	0	1
Tuberculosis	0	1	0
Varicella	1	1	1
TOTAL	232	1579	3430



Reporting of infectious diseases 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.



Contact Information

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www.hockingcountyhealthdepartment.com

Facebook: Hocking County Health Department

Twitter: [@hockinghealth](https://twitter.com/HCHD)

Board of Health Members

Robert Lilley, President

Ruth Ann Spatar, Vice President

Steven Carpenter

Andrea Jones

Dr. James Hayward

Medical Director—Dr. Doug Carr

*Let us know how we are doing through our
satisfaction survey available on our website.*



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

