



Hocking County Health Department Annual Report

2022



**“For he who has health has hope;
and he who has hope, has
everything.”**

Many different folks are given credit for this quote, from it being an Arabic proverb, to its being authored by Thomas Carlyle, Owen Arthur, or Martin Luther King, Jr. Whoever is the author sure spoke truth and wisdom with these words!

As we end the year 2022 and reflect back on the accomplishments and challenges and I introduce you to this year's Hocking County Health Department Annual Report, I think about the meaning of that quote. Coming out of the pandemic, we hear many of our clients state that they are adjusting to the “new normal” or trying to get back to “normal.” The Hocking County Health Department's “normal” has always been to work hard and strive to ensure that all community members live each day with maximum health and hope. I am proud of our Board of Health and their caring, thoughtful, and committed governance to that end. I am proud of the staff's dedication, hard work, drive and resolve to make this community as healthy as possible. I am proud of the network of public health partners we have that are devoted to collaborate and work with and alongside of us to give this community hope.

“Normal” at the Hocking County Health Department is a determination every year to continue programmatic work in environmental health, immunizations and disease prevention, substance use disorder prevention, healthy eating, school health, emergency preparedness, and many other areas to give our residents optimal hope through optimal health. After all, having a healthy place to live, work and play is “everything!”

Please join me in celebrating another successful year accomplished by the Hocking County Health Department Board of Health, Hocking County Health Department staff, and all of you, our many community partners!

**Thank you for your ongoing support
during 2022!!**

With a healthy wish for all of
Hocking County,

Doug Fisher
Health Commissioner



Teamwork

The Health Department is composed 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

In April we welcomed Chance Graham as a new Registered Environmental Health Specialist in Training. Chance has a Bachelor's Degree from West Virginia University in Wildlife & Fisheries Resources. In November we welcomed John Blazer as a new Registered Environmental Health Specialist in Training. John is a veteran of the Marine Corps and obtained his Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Management from the University of Rio Grande.

In 2022 we helped 45 homeowners through the WPCLF program for their sewage treatment system or sewer lateral connection. \$1,938,148.21 of monetary assistance has been received through grant funding since 2010.

90 contractors participated in our annual Contractor's Workshop held on April 7. This workshop is held so sewage treatment system contractors can obtain their required 6 hours of continuing education.

Nursing

Covid-19

Covid-19 Case Count	2020	2021	2022
January	0	394	1468
February	0	142	322
March	1	114	140
April	26	94	62
May	60	47	99
June	16	19	163
July	45	25	315
August	35	270	456
September	28	726	336
October	77	390	116
November	512	410	125
December	608	680	149
Total each year	1408	3311	3751
Total cases combined			8470

Covid-19 Vaccination	2022
Primary Doses	1744
Bivalent Booster	1510
Total	3254
Total Vaccinations from 2020-2022	15614

Lead

Throughout 2022 the number of cases of lead poisoning in our communities' children has increased. With this increase, the Hocking County Health Department is reaching out to do its part in educating about lead-based hazards. The health department aims to increase knowledge of lead and lead concerns and looks forward to adding lead education to community outreach programs.

We plan to provide reminders of the importance of testing all children between the ages of 1-5 years old for lead poisoning, which includes ongoing testing if warranted, and explain lead abatement and lead abatement funding opportunities to community members. We have been working diligently with the state of Ohio and have requested a professional-grade HEPA vacuum to loan out to assist the residents of Hocking County. This year the CDC has also initiated lower standards of acceptable lead levels with the knowledge of how lead affects children. The Ohio Department of Health is adopting these new standards, which decrease an acceptable lead level from under 5µg/dL to under 3.5µg/dL.

Tobacco Use, Cessation, and Prevention

The Hocking County Health Department's tobacco prevention program continues to expand cessation services in Hocking County. Our mission is to decrease the burden of tobacco use for Hocking County citizens through tobacco prevention and cessation programs, disease prevention education, promotion of a healthy lifestyle, and protection of the environment. The program recently met with local medical providers to increase referrals to the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line, which now offers free nicotine replacement therapy to those who complete counseling calls. The program continues to partner with the Logan-Hocking School District to educate students and staff on the importance of remaining tobacco-free and the dangers of vaping/e-cigarette use. Lastly, the program utilized several media channels for outreach throughout the county. Social media, billboards, placemats, newspapers, newsletters, and participation in community events such as Kidpalooza, Trunk or Treat, and the Christmas parade.

Emergency Preparedness

Grant Funding

Funding was received through several grants to assist with emergency preparedness activities. The health department received the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant and the CDC Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) grant.

The PHEP grant is a critical source of funding for local public health departments. The grant has assisted public health departments across the nation to build and strengthen their abilities to effectively respond to a range of public health threats, including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological incidents.

The CRI grant is a federally funded grant that enhances preparedness in the nation's largest population centers. This grant prepares metropolitan jurisdictions to effectively respond to large public health emergencies with life-saving medicines and medical supplies. Public health departments use this grant to develop, test, and maintain emergency response plans.

The health department participated in numerous readiness exercises and training, including facilitating the tabletop exercise: "Once Upon A Cold and Wintry Night..." which focused on Emergency Public Information and Warning, Mass Care, Responder Safety/Health, and Volunteer Management.

Medical Reserve Corps

Grant Funding



Funding was received through several grants to assist with Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) activities. The health department received the 2022 NACCHO Operational Readiness Award Grant and the NACCHO Medical Reserve Corps COVID-19 Respond, Innovate, Sustain, and Equip (RISE) Award.

Through this funding, the health department has been able to build operational readiness capabilities of the Hocking County MRC unit. Including building capacity for the MRC to respond, innovate to evolving requirements, sustain staffing requirements, and equip MRC units with resources needed to support their mission. Efforts to develop and strengthen MRC capabilities, raise stakeholder awareness of MRC capabilities, and identify or sustain the integration of the MRC unit into local, state, and regional emergency response plans have also occurred.

The Hocking County MRC Unit provided free training opportunities to all MRC volunteers. Through recruiting efforts, MRC membership increased by 36%.

MEMBERSHIP PROFILE	2022
Registered Nurse	11
Social Worker	2
Physician Assistant	1
Physician, MD	1
Veterinarian	1
EMS	2
Other- Medical	2
Other- Non-Medical	18

Revenue

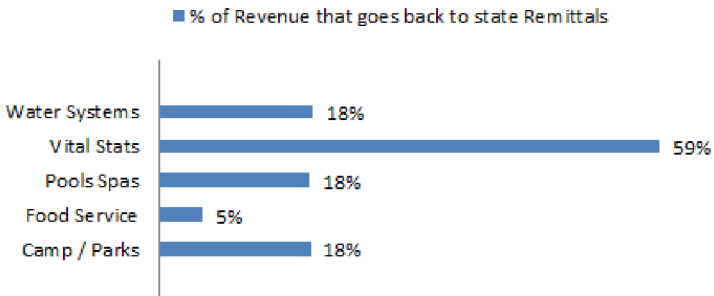
Health Levy	
Real Estate	\$791,353.00
Rollback	\$69,314.00
Personal Property	-
Trailer Tax	\$4,943.00
	\$865,610.00
Fees- Vital Statistics	
Burial Permits	\$837.00
Certified Copies	\$45,950.00
Vital Statistics Reg.	\$2,893.00
	\$49,680.00
Fees- Environmental	
Campgrounds and Parks	\$12,995.00
Food Service	\$90,739.00
Pools ad Spas	\$9,390.00
Sewage/Plumbing	\$277,282.00
Water Systems	\$ 55,313.00
	\$445,719.00
Nursing Programs	
BCMh	\$4,160.00
Contracts	\$50,301.00
Flu Shots	\$95,194.00
Hep. B/TB Clinic	-
Immunizations	\$65,189.00
Other	\$ 27,643.00
	\$242,487.00
Grants	
Contact Tracing	\$50,000.00
Covid-19	\$141,588.00
Maternal Child Health	-
Workforce Development	-
Public Health Emergency Preparedness	226773
Tobacco	\$165,000.00
WIC	200030
Zika	23100
	\$806,491.00
Total Program Revenue	\$2,409,987.00

Expenses

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 community's financial support 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	2022
Administrative/Vital Statistics	\$719,336.00
Environmental Health	\$681,386.00
Nursing Health Services	\$491,455.00
Grants	\$638,702.00
Total Net Expenses	\$2,530,879.00

% of Revenue that goes back to state Remittals



Health Department Staff

Front Row: Debbie Elliott, Nichole Sigler, Emily Norris, Doug Fisher, Amber Hartley, and Stephanie Runge.

Back Row: Walt Keigley, Lisa Hall, Laura Gossell, John Blazer, Hannah Montgomery, Jamie Carrell, Ashley Mount, Shari Schorr, Lacey Roop, Kevin Smith, Chance Graham, and Kahla Cospier.

Not Pictured: Nikki Hankinson and Tammy Napier



Staff Changes

2022 saw many changes in our staff. These changes came with mixed emotions; sadness at their departure and heartfelt best wishes as they left. Those that left included Environmental Health Director Wendy Hanna, Environmental Health Specialist Matt Joyce, Plumbing Inspector Dennis Oliver, Public Health Nurse Allyssa McCombs, and Clerical Staff Noelle Walker. In their place, we welcomed Environmental Health Specialist Chance Graham, Environmental Health Specialist John Blazer, Kevin Smith, Environmental Health Director, Plumbing Inspector Walt Keigly, and Clerical Staff Lacey Roop.

Health Services Report

NURSING	2022
School/Community	
Car Seats	40
Head Lice Checks	37865
Breastfeeding Consultations	101
Cribs For Kids	25
Tobacco Cessation Sessions	20
Immunizations	
Covid-19 Immunizations	3161
Flu Shots	1734
Immunizations	965
Health Clinic	
Tuberculin Skin Tests	186
Pregnancy Tests	25
Project Dawn Kits	100
WIC	
WIC Certification/Recertification	805
WIC Nutrition Education	1940
Environmental	
Animal Bite Reports	59
Building Placement Permits	145
Food Inspections	378
Lot Splits	18
Nuisance Complaint Investigations	159
Plumbing Permits (Res/Com)	183
Plumbing Inspections	345
Private Water System Permits	123
Sewage Final Approvals	235
Sewage Permits	306
Site Evaluations	159
Water Samples	235

Vital Statistics

Leading Causes of Resident Death	2022
Cardiac	94
Respiratory/Pulmonary	42
Cancer	62
Covid Related	21
Dementia/Alzheimer's	12
Suicide	6
Gastro/Intestinal	17
Drug Overdose	17
Cerebrovascular	18
Accidental	11
Homicide	2
Diabetes/Diabetes Related	17
Certificates Issued	
Birth	1094
Death	740
County Statistics	
Total County Resident Births	249
Births in County	6
Total County Resident Deaths	403
Deaths in County	223
Coroner Cases	32
Premature Deaths (0-74 Years)	202



Hocking County

Reportable Diseases

Reportable Disease	2020	2021	2022
Campylobacteriosis	8	5	3
Chlamydia infection	77	59	79
COVID-19	1408	3311	3751
CP-CRE	1	0	3
E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	0	1	2
Giardiasis	1	0	2
Gonococcal infection	26	9	10
Haemophilus influenzae	0	1	1
Hepatitis A	0	0	0
Hepatitis B - acute	0	0	0
Hepatitis B - chronic	6	3	8
Hepatitis C - acute	1	0	0
Hepatitis C - chronic	36	33	21
Hepatitis C - perinatal infection	0	0	0
Influenza - associated hospitalization	10	2	13
LaCrosse virus disease	2	0	0
Legionellosis	0	2	0
Lyme Disease- Confirmed	2	4	1
Lyme Disease- Suspected	-	-	23
Meningitis - aseptic/viral	0	0	1
Mumps	0	0	1
Pertussis	0	0	0
Q Fever Acute	0	0	1
Salmonellosis	2	2	3
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	1
Streptococcal - Group A - invasive	0	4	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae - unknown or non-resistant	1	3	3
Streptococcus pneumoniae - resistant/intermediate	0	1	1
Tuberculosis	1	0	0
Varicella	1	1	2
TOTAL	1583	3441	3931

Reporting infectious diseases is mandated by the Ohio Administrative Code. Diseases of public health concern require a 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 daily.





Contact Information

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www.hockingcountyhealthdepartment.com

Facebook: Hocking County Health Department

Instagram: hocking_hd

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Board of Health Members

Robert Lilley, President

Ruth Ann Spatar, Vice President

Steven Carpenter

Andrea Jones

Dr. James Hayward

Dr. Douglas Carr- Medical Director

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