

# 2024

## TRUMBULL COUNTY COMBINED HEALTH DISTRICT

# ANNUAL REPORT



Solar Eclipse Day — April 8, 2024



# *Our Mission...*

We are committed to protect and promote the health and well-being of our community and prevent disease, disparity and harm to our residents.

# *Our Vision...*

Our programs and services result in healthy people, safe Environments and thriving communities.

# *Our Values...*

We serve our communities, our organization and each other with:

## **Trustworthiness**

*We act with a sense of integrity to foster reliability.*

## **Collaboration**

*We work to develop robust, lasting relationships with all stakeholders for the benefit of the community we serve.*

## **Communication**

*We find it incumbent upon ourselves to impact and exchange all relevant news and information with all stakeholders.*

## **Helpfulness**

*We strive to create a quality of giving and readiness to the community we serve.*

## **Dedication**

*We are committed to providing our best effort in every task and purpose we undertake.*

# Trumbull County Board of Health Members

**John C. Messersmith**

**President**

**Term Expires: March 2028**

**John “Jack” Simon, Jr.**

**President Pro Tempore**

**Term Expires: March 2025**

**Robert Biery, Jr.**

**Licensing Council Representative**

**Term Expires: March 2027**

**Dr. Harold Firster**

**Physician Representative**

**Term Expires: March 2029**

**Kathy Salapata, RN**

**Terms Expires: March 2025**

**Gregory Dubos**

**Term Expires: March 2026**

**Louis Adovasio**

**Term Expires: March 2026**

***(Filling an Unexpired Term)***

# *Our Staff*

Stacey Altieri, Family Support Specialist  
Jenna Amerine, Grants Coordinator  
Johnna Ben, Administrative Coordinator  
Daniel Bonacker, Accreditation Coordinator  
Michael Burke, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Julie Callen, Secretary  
Janet Chickering, Secretary  
Erica Clark, Epidemiologist  
Susan Coleman, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator  
Beverly Cope, Secretary  
Andrea Cramer, Secretary  
Daniel Dean, IT Specialist/Fiscal Officer  
Jennifer Francis, Family Support Specialist Program Coordinator  
Kevin Francis, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Jodi Gearhart, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Patrice Gillems, Family Support Specialist  
William Gootee, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Gregory Hall, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Erin Heckman, Director of Nursing  
Rodney Hedge, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
MaKenzie Hettrick, Health Educator  
Jennifer Hudson, Family Support Specialist  
Dantan Hutton, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Tamara Krafft, Health Educator  
Steven Kramer, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Kristopher Kriebel, Health Educator  
Tomi Liptak-Cardinale, Public Health Nurse  
Tara Lucente, Family Support Specialist  
Frank Migliozi, Health Commissioner  
Kevin Minotti, Environmental Health Specialist-in-Training  
Maria O'Brien, Public Health Nurse  
Julia Paolone, Secretary  
Steve Pop, Plumbing Inspector  
Kathy Parrilla, Public Health Nurse (*Retired May 2024*)  
Lisa Spelich, Secretary  
TaNeisha Stevens, Family Support Specialist  
Jason Spencer, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Tony Veitz, Registered Environmental Health Specialist  
Shannon Weilacher, Public Health Nurse  
Kristofer Wilster, Director of Environmental Health

**Health District Staff  
As of 12/31/24**

Health Commissioner —1  
Director of Nursing—1  
Director of Environmental Health—1  
Grants Coordinator—1  
Accreditation Coordinator—1  
IT Specialist/Fiscal Officer—1  
Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator—1  
Administrative Coordinator—1  
Health Educator—3  
Registered Environmental Health Specialists—10  
Registered Environmental Health Specialist-in-Training—1  
Plumbing Inspector—1  
Epidemiologist—1  
Public Health Nurses—3  
Family Support Specialist Program Coordinator—1  
Family Support Specialists—5  
Clerical Staff—6

# Frank Migliozi, MPH, REHS

## Health Commissioner

Much like last year, 2024 proved to be a busy year for our agency and staff. Below, and contained in other areas of this annual report is an overview of some of the highlights of 2024.

At the heart of our agency's success in 2024 was a strong commitment to financial stability and sustainability. Our diligent approach to monitoring and managing finances, using tools like our Performance Management System, ensured that our agency not only stayed on track, but also continued to thrive. One key component of this system was utilizing an Operating Ratio and Profit Margin Dashboard, which enabled us to track our financial health across key metrics, ensuring we maintained financial stability while advancing our mission and vision.

### 2024 Financial Highlights:

- **Balanced Budget:** I am pleased to report that the health district successfully maintained a balanced budget for the year. Our team worked tirelessly to ensure that there was no deficit spending, and we were able to achieve a modest surplus, which we carried over into 2025.
- **Sustainable Funding Practices:** We accomplished this feat without the need to increase any fees or request additional local funding from political subdivisions. Instead, we focused on securing state and federal grant funding, which significantly contributed to the success of our preventative services for residents.
- **Clean Audit:** In addition to maintaining a balanced budget, our financial practices were further validated during an audit in 2024, where we received no material weaknesses and earned a clean audit. This is a testament to the transparency and efficiency with which we handle taxpayer dollars.

As I shared last year, we moved into **our new Cortland facility in December 2023, and 2024** marked our first full year of operations in this space. While we have made significant progress, we also recognized areas for improvement to further enhance both our staff's working environment and the services we provide to our community.

### Key Facility Improvements in 2024:

- **Nursing Division Realignment:** After carefully assessing our workflow, we recognized the need to improve efficiency in our clinical areas. To that end, we realigned our nursing division to be located at the center of our building, in closer proximity to the clinical area. This realignment has streamlined our operations and improved service delivery for our clients.
- **Building Safety and Security Enhancements:** We also reviewed our building's safety protocols and made several updates to align with our new space. This included amending our building safety and security plans and conducting drills to test the effectiveness of those plans. These measures ensure that our staff, clients, and visitors are safe in our facility.

In November 2019, our agency proudly achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). This milestone validated the quality of our public health practices and reaffirmed our com-

mitment to delivering high standards of care and service to our community. As the 5-year accreditation period comes to a close, we have begun preparing for re-accreditation—a critical process that demonstrates our agency’s ongoing compliance with the rigorous standards set by PHAB.

Over the past year, we dedicated significant time and resources to reviewing and gathering the necessary documentation for our re-accreditation application. This documentation covers the 10 Essential Functions of Public Health, or domains, which are the core pillars that drive our public health efforts. These domains include:

- Assessment and Monitoring of Population Health
- Investigation, Diagnosis, and Addressing Health Hazards and Root Causes
- Effective Communication to Inform and Educate
- Strengthening, Supporting, and Mobilizing Communities and Partnerships
- Creating, Championing, and Implementing Policies, Plans, and Laws
- Utilizing Legal and Regulatory Actions
- Enabling Equitable Access
- Building a Diverse and Skilled Workforce
- Improving and Innovating through Evaluation, Research, and Quality Improvement
- Building and Maintaining a Strong Organizational Infrastructure for Public Health

By the end of 2024, we successfully submitted our re-accreditation application to PHAB, marking a significant achievement. We are now in the final stages of this process and are eager to continue meeting and exceeding the high standards required for national accreditation.

In addition to preparing for re-accreditation, we are in the third year of our Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 3-year cycle. This ongoing process involves evaluating the health needs of our county, identifying areas for improvement, and collaborating with local partners to develop actionable plans.

In 2024, we engaged with our partners in Trumbull and Mahoning counties to collaboratively work on the next iteration of our CHA. This process has been a valuable opportunity for cross-county collaboration and will continue into 2025, as we gather data, assess health priorities, and finalize our plans to improve community health.

This effort underscores our commitment to evidence-based decision-making and ensuring that our health programs align with the community’s needs and priorities.

Some of the health district’s activities occur “behind the scenes”, and emergency preparedness is sometimes one of those activities; however, not in 2024. In 2024, one of our most visible and notable emergency preparedness activities occurred due to a unique event—the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. Trumbull County was in the path of totality, and people from all over the country traveled to our region to witness this once-in-a-lifetime event. This influx of visitors required extensive planning and coordination to ensure the safety of both residents and out-of-town spectators, as well as to manage the increased strain on our local infrastructure, roadways, and services.

Our county stakeholders came together with an unmatched level of collaboration, and the planning efforts were led by Trumbull County Emergency Management Agency (EMA). Under the leadership of EMA Director,



Chief John Hickey, an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was set up to manage the event. The focus of this unified command system was to ensure public safety and preparedness, and I'm proud to say that the outcome was a testament to the strength of our partnerships.

As part of this effort, our Health Educator, Kristopher Kriebel, took on the role of Public Information Officer (PIO) for the event. Kris did an exceptional job communicating vital information to the public, ensuring that people had the necessary details about safety, traffic, and local services. His work was so outstanding that he was subsequently appointed as the PIO for Trumbull County, and EMA now utilizes him in this important role. His efforts significantly contributed to the success of this event, ensuring that both residents and visitors were able to safely enjoy the eclipse while having access to essential services.

This experience demonstrated some of the best teamwork and coordination across Trumbull County, and I believe it showcases the commitment of our local agencies to public safety and preparedness. It was a memorable and successful event, and our community came together to manage it seamlessly.

In addition to the successful coordination around the eclipse, our efforts in emergency preparedness over the past year have been broader and far-reaching. One notable improvement was the expanded use of the Health Alert Network (HAN), a system used to share critical information during public health emergencies. While HAN is traditionally used for urgent public health messages, we have broadened its scope to also share important health information that may not be directly related to emergencies but is still vital for the community's well-being. By enhancing the use of this tool, we're ensuring that residents are better informed, and public health messages reach a wider audience in a more timely and efficient manner.

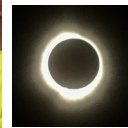
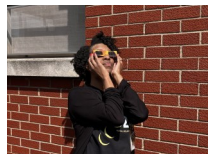
As with any organization, change is a constant, and in 2024, we experienced a mix of farewells and new beginnings. Over the past couple of years, we have said goodbye to several valued staff members who retired, including Kathy Parrilla, one of our dedicated public health nurses, who retired in 2024. While we certainly miss those who have moved on, we have also been fortunate to welcome several new employees, each bringing valuable skills and experience to our agency.

#### New Hires in 2024:

- Dantan Hutton and Jason Spencer joined our team as inspectors for the Household Sewage Treatment System (HSTS) program. With over 25 years of combined public health experience, Dantan and Jason have already proven themselves to be great assets to our program, helping to ensure the proper management and regulation of household sewage systems in Trumbull County.
- Makenzie Hettrick was hired as one of our Health Educators. She is working in our Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation program, where she focuses on prevention and cessation efforts for both youths and adults. Makenzie is also involved in policy development to reduce the availability of tobacco products and limit secondhand smoke exposure.
- Tammi Krafft joined as our Project DAWN Coordinator. In this role, Tammi works in the community to provide naloxone training, education, and distribution to first responders, local agencies, and residents. Her efforts are critical in combating the opioid crisis and saving lives through prevention and intervention.
- We were also excited to add TaNeisha Stevens to our staff as one of our Family Support Specialists in the Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program. TaNeisha's role is vital in providing support and resources to families ensuring they have the tools they need to thrive. Her work is helping to strengthen our community by empowering parents with knowledge and resources that contribute to healthy child development and overall wellbeing.

While we've seen some staff transitions, one constant has been the incredible dedication of our entire team. None of the accomplishments outlined in this report could have been achieved without the commitment and hard work of the Trumbull County Combined Health District staff. From every division and every program, our team has worked collaboratively to achieve our shared goals and ensure that the public health needs of our community are met.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my deepest gratitude to each and every staff member. Their tireless efforts, passion, and dedication have made the last 12 months a success. Whether they are new to our agency or have been here for years, their contributions are valued, and I thank them for their commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.



# Funding & Services Provided

Local health districts are funded through several different avenues:

- Local Funding Sources (Fees & Inside Millage)
- State Funding Sources (Competitive & Pass Through Federal Grants and Per Capita Subsidy from the Ohio Department of Health)
- Federal Sources (Targeted Federal Grants)
- It is important to point out that grant periods often extend beyond a single fiscal year, meaning a grant's budget and performance period sometimes do not align perfectly with the annual fiscal year (calendar year). For example, a grant awarded in FY 2024 might have a budget and performance period that extends into FY 2025, or beyond.

**Trumbull County Combined Health District's** funding in 2024 was 72% local funding and 28% state funding.

- **Environmental Health Services**, water safety, institution inspections (schools & jails), nuisance abatement, food safety (restaurant & grocery store inspections), campground inspections, public swimming pool & spa inspections, tattoo & body piercing registration, plumbing inspections and sewage system inspections.
- **Nursing Health Services**, child & adult immunization clinics, communicable disease outbreak investigation, trending & disease prevalence (which is outlined in our Epidemiologist's report) and morbidity/mortality reporting, Complex Medical Help Program (CMH formerly known as Bureau for Crippled Children With Medical Handicaps), tuberculosis prevention & investigation and linking people to health services to make sure they received needed medical care.
- **Health Promotion & Prevention Services**, health education and policy, systems & environmental change, chronic disease prevention, which includes tobacco, physical activity & nutrition, injury prevention/preterm birth prevention and infant mortality/preterm birth prevention, safe sleep education/crib distribution.
- **Other Services**, Child Fatality Review, Overdose Fatality Review, Animal Bite Investigation & Rabies prevention, car seat program, Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program, Family Connects Ohio Home Visiting Program, Project DAWN (Narcan distribution & education), emergency preparedness & response, community engagement, community health assessment and improvement planning and partnerships.



# 2024 Funding Sources & Expenses

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 2023 Carry Over Balance   | \$2,869,948        |
| Loan Proceeds   | \$0                |
| Inside Millage/Taxes  | \$646,171          |
| Patient Fees (i.e. Immunizations)   | \$4,376            |
| TB Contract w/ County Commissioners   | \$60,000           |
| Environmental Health Fees   | \$2,552,215        |
| Car Seat Donations  | \$5,146            |
| Help Me Grow Home Visiting, MAC (Medicare Administrative Contractor) & NACCHO (National Association of County & City Health Officials), Ohio EPA (Mosquito Contracts) | \$942,114          |
| Misc. Income (PEP—Public Entities Pool of Ohio)   | \$1,000            |
| State Subsidy   | \$104,018          |
| ODH State Funding Projects/Grants   | \$1,518,274        |
| <b>2024 Total Funding Sources</b>   | <b>\$8,703,262</b> |

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| State & Local Remittances      | \$439,060          |
| Labor Costs                    | \$3,918,797        |
| Non-Labor Costs                | \$1,439,470        |
| <b>2024 Total Expenditures</b> | <b>\$5,797,327</b> |

## Inside Millage Breakdown

### Inside Millage

|                                | *2020<br><u>Population</u> | Value<br><u>Estimated</u> | 2024<br>Estimated Tax<br>Generated From<br><u>.15 Inside Millage</u> | 2024<br>Per Capita<br>Expenditure From<br><u>.15 Inside Millage</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| Bazetta                        | 5,912                      | \$220,451,480             | \$ 33,067.72   | \$5.59  |
| Bloomfield                     | 1,249                      | 32,726,750                | 4,909.01   | \$3.93  |
| Braceville                     | 2,467                      | 79,910,200                | 11,986.53  | \$4.86  |
| Bristol                        | 2,704                      | 77,384,030                | 11,607.60  | \$4.29  |
| Brookfield (Incl. Yankee Lake) | 8,447                      | 187,784,560               | 28,167.68  | \$3.33  |
| Champion                       | 9,381                      | 258,061,350               | 38,709.20  | \$4.13  |
| Farmington (Twp. & Village)    | 2,993                      | 70,312,890                | 10,546.93  | \$3.52  |
| Fowler                         | 2,360                      | 72,623,680                | 10,893.55  | \$4.62  |
| Greene                         | 950                        | 27,235,010                | 4,085.25   | \$4.30  |
| Gustavus                       | 834                        | 29,521,490                | 4,428.22   | \$5.31  |
| Hartford                       | 1,861                      | 63,755,070                | 9,563.26   | \$5.14  |
| Howland                        | 17,191                     | 622,737,420               | 93,410.61  | \$5.43  |
| Hubbard                        | 5,333                      | 141,532,770               | 21,229.92  | \$3.98  |
| Johnston                       | 1,739                      | 53,521,700                | 8,028.26   | \$4.62  |
| Kinsman                        | 1,751                      | 51,631,250                | 7,744.69   | \$4.42  |
| Liberty                        | 11,936                     | 320,338,490               | 48,050.77  | \$4.03  |
| Mecca                          | 2,319                      | 65,317,760                | 9,797.66   | \$4.22  |
| Mesopotamia                    | 3,404                      | 67,639,290                | 10,145.89  | \$2.98  |
| Newton Falls (Twp. & Village)  | 8,618                      | 182,194,270               | 27,356.00  | \$3.17  |
| Southington                    | 3,731                      | 99,628,940                | 14,944.34  | \$4.01  |
| Vernon                         | 1,337                      | 39,084,870                | 5,862.73   | \$4.38  |
| Vienna                         | 3,978                      | 139,918,460               | 20,987.77  | \$5.28  |
| Warren                         | 4,744                      | 102,023,710               | 15,303.56  | \$3.23  |
| Weathersfield                  | 8,072                      | 210,776,340               | 31,616.45  | \$3.92  |
| <b>TOTAL TOWNSHIPS</b>         | <b>113,311</b>             | <b>\$3,216,111,780</b>    | <b>\$ 482,443.63</b>   | <b>\$4.26</b>   |
|                                |                            |                           |  |   |
| Lordstown                      | 3,332                      | \$199,781,140             | \$ 29,967.17   | \$8.99  |
| McDonald                       | 3,172                      | 68,239,480                | 10,235.92  | \$3.23  |
| Orangeville                    | 174                        | 3,523,240                 | 528.49   | \$3.04  |
| <b>TOTAL VILLAGES</b>          | <b>6,678</b>               | <b>\$271,543,860</b>      | <b>\$ 40,731.58</b>  | <b>\$6.10</b>   |
|                                |                            |                           |  |   |
| Cortland                       | 7,105                      | \$210,448,350             | 31,567.25  | \$4.44  |
| Girard                         | 9,603                      | 162,590,930               | 24,388.64  | \$2.54  |
| Hubbard                        | 7,636                      | 174,804,570               | 26,220.69  | \$3.43  |
| Niles                          | 18,443                     | 367,728,420               | 55,159.26  | \$1.94  |
| <b>TOTAL CITIES</b>            | <b>42,787</b>              | <b>\$915,572,270</b>      | <b>\$ 137,335.84</b>   | <b>\$3.21</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL ALL SUBDIVISIONS</b>  | <b>162,776</b>             | <b>\$4,403,227,910</b>    | <b>\$ 660,511.05</b>   | <b>\$4.06</b>   |

*\*2020 Population Estimate Taken From 2025 Directory of Trumbull County Officials*

*Estimated Value & Inside Millage Figures Obtained from the Trumbull County Auditor's Office.*

# Grant Awards

---

**The Trumbull County Combined Health District  
Was Awarded Over  
\$2,320,113.08 in Grant Funding in 2024**

---

## **New Grants in 2024:**

### **Family Connects Ohio Program—\$70,500 (July 1, 2024—June 20, 2025)**

Purpose: To pilot the implementation of the Family Connects International Program in Trumbull County. The Family Connects Program is an evidence-based model designed to support whole-person, integrated health for all families of newborns at a moment of life-changing transition that addresses infant and maternal mortality rates. Trumbull County women who recently delivered a baby will be eligible to receive a home visit between two and four weeks post-partum from a registered nurse to conduct assessments for mother and baby, and provide referrals for any needed services. These funds are start up funds from the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (ODCY) to begin implementing the program and then it will be sustained through billing of the home visits to ODCY.

### **MRC STTRONG Grant - \$5,000 (April 15, 2024—May 31, 2025)**

Purpose: To support the objectives set forth from the national Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) program to improve local emergency response capabilities, reduce vulnerabilities, and build community preparedness and resilience through the use of medical and non-medical volunteers, public health emergency planning and mitigation.

---

# 2024

## Continuation Grants

---

### **Creating Healthy Communities—\$95,000**

Purpose: To improve population health in priority communities experiencing health disparities through policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) change strategies that address healthy eating and active living.

### **Cribs for Kids—\$45,000**

Purpose: To decrease infant mortality rate by ensuring infants have a safe sleep environment and families are educated about safe sleep practices.

### **Get Vaccinated Ohio— \$55,295**

Purpose: To improve and sustain vaccination coverage among children and adolescents and to reduce vaccination coverage disparities by training immunization providers on quality assurance methods to increase vaccination use, identifying and addressing immunization disparities, and assuring that school immunization levels are high.

### **Public Health Emergency Preparedness—\$134,158**

Purpose: To achieve capabilities that promote a prepared and resilient community through planning and response coordination to ensure the earliest possible response and recovery levels are achieved in the event of bioterrorism attack, infectious disease outbreak, other public health threats, and public health emergencies at the county and regional level.

### **Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation—\$132,00**

Purpose: To engage in tobacco control and cessation strategies to decrease initiation and use of tobacco, including e-cigarettes/vaping products, increase quitting of tobacco, decrease the community's exposure to secondhand smoke, and decrease disparities in tobacco burden usually associated with health inequities.

### **Breast & Cervical Cancer Project—Community Health Worker—\$55,000**

Purpose: To use Community Health Workers (CHW) to increase enrollment in the Ohio Breast and Cervical Cancer Project (BCCP) where eligible women can receive free breast and cervical cancer screenings and diagnostic services; and, for CHWs to establish linkages between community organizations, providers and BCCP to enroll eligible women for services.

### **Services for Homeless Youths and Homelessness Pregnant Youths—\$110,250**

Purpose: To address youth homelessness through community-wide efforts, partnership and collaboration to provide comprehensive, wraparound services.

**Public Health Workforce—\$550,000**

Purpose: To support activities related to recruitment, retention, and development of our workforce needed for delivery of quality public health services.

**Reproductive Health & Wellness Program—\$90,000**

Purpose: To improve the overall health and well-being of women and men by promoting healthy lifestyles, reducing barriers, providing access, and encouraging the establishment of a reproductive life plan.

**Integrated Harm Reduction—\$95,000**

Purpose: To support the enhancement and expansion of community-based overdose education and naloxone distribution program (Project DAWN) and other harm reduction services.

**Regional Prevention and Linkage to Care Collaborative—\$100,000**

Purpose: To support and sustain overdose prevention efforts guided by data-identified needs within our regional drug overdose prevention collaborative.

**COVID-19 Enhanced Operations—\$566,833.08**

Purpose: To assist local health departments with general COVID-19 activities including case investigation, contact tracing, disease mitigation, and infection prevention and control activities.

**COVID-19 Bridge Vaccination Program—\$95,067**

Purpose: To support COVID-19 vaccine administration for uninsured and underinsured adult populations and to encourage seasonal influenza vaccination of farm workers at poultry and dairy farm operations, especially those where confirmed cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza have been confirmed in livestock.

**NACCHO Improving Vaccine Access, Education, and Outreach Through Faith-Based Partnerships—\$100,000**

Purpose: To support local health departments collaborating with faith-based partners to identify and implement strategies to improve COVID-19 and routine vaccine confidence, education, and access.

**Mosquito Control Grant—\$21,000**

Purpose: To reduce and monitor the potential for an outbreak of mosquito-borne viruses primarily focusing on mosquito surveillance and reducing artificial habitats breeding mosquitoes and opportunities for community education and outreach, larval control, and adult control.



# Collaborations, Partnerships Committees

2024 continued to be a year of growth and achievement for our staff and agency, as we continued to focus on strengthening community partnerships to better meet the evolving needs of our county. These partnerships allowed us to pool resources, share expertise, and collaborate with other organizations and agencies, all in service of improving public health outcomes.

On the following pages, you will find several examples of how our team actively engaged with the community and various organizations to foster these valuable relationships. These partnerships are not only central to our mission, but they also demonstrate our collective commitment to addressing local health challenges, improving access to care, and creating sustainable health improvements for all.

**Organizations We Partnered &**  
**Collaborated with**  
**in 2024 to**  
**Offer Grants Services:**

Warren City Health District  
Project Making Kids Count—Basic Needs Bank  
Cribs for Kids—Classes & Collaboration with St. Joes at Eastwood Mall  
Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership  
Warren Farmer’s Market  
Trumbull Community Action Program  
Greater Warren-Youngstown Urban League  
Western Reserve Health Education  
Trumbull County Drug Court  
Trumbull County Adult Probation  
TriYouunity LLC—TriYou Cares After School Program  
Bazetta Christian Church  
Cortland City  
Warren-Trumbull County Public Library—Cortland Branch  
Cortland News  
Howland Township  
Hubbard City  
Kinsman Township  
Newton Falls  
Niles City  
Warren Township  
First Step Recovery of Warren  
Mahoning Valley Scrappers  
National Cinema Media

## **2024 Local Committees, Coalitions & Board Participation:**

Ohio Child Fatality Review Board  
Overdose Fatality Review Board  
Trumbull Memorial Health Foundation  
Healthy Community Partnership Steering Committee  
Trumbull County Employee Wellness Committee  
Trumbull County Local Emergency Planning Committee  
NECO Executive Committee  
NECO Regional Healthcare Coalition  
Local Emergency Preparedness Coalition  
Trumbull County Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)  
Family & Children First Council (FCFC) Executive Committee  
FCFC Early Childhood Coordinating Committee  
FCFC ECHO (Empowering Community with Hope and Opportunity) Committee  
FCFC SAAVE (Survivor Advocacy Awareness And Voices of Empowerment) Coalition  
Trumbull Community Action Program Health Advisory Committee  
Trumbull Community Action Program Board  
Safe Kids Coalition Mahoning Valley  
Ohio Injury Prevention Partnership—Child Injury Action Group—Safe Sleep and Child Passenger Safety Subcommittees  
Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention—Anti-Stigma Subcommittee  
TAG Drug Task Force Collaborative Board  
Suicide Prevention Coalition  
Trumbull County Board of Developmentally Delayed  
Trumbull County Domestic Violence Task Force  
Compass Sojourner House Domestic Violence Shelter  
Trumbull County Safe Sleep & Home Visiting Advisory Committee

# ERIN HECKMAN, RN

DIRECTOR OF NURSING

The Trumbull County Combined Health District (TCCHD) is proud to partner with Project MKC (Making Kids Count), a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization located in Youngstown, dedicated to serving the most vulnerable children in Northeast Ohio. Their mission is to make the lives of children and their families a little brighter by focusing on their individual needs with the help of volunteers. Their programs provide daily essentials and positive emotional experiences to children and their families by boosting confidence and lifting spirits. Through our partnership, we receive items such as diapers, wipes, formula, baby food, Comfort Kits, personal hygiene items, and shoes to distribute to our families. Project MKC is funded exclusively by donations and 100% of donations go directly to their programming. To find out more about Project MKC or to make a donation, visit their website at [www.projectmkc.org](http://www.projectmkc.org) or like them on Facebook @ProjectMKC!



TCCHD participates in the Ohio Department of Health's Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Program, called Ohio Buckles Buckeyes (OBB) program, which provides child safety seats and booster seats and CPS education to eligible, low-income families in all 88 counties in Ohio. Through the coordinated efforts of local and regional CPS coordinators, the OBB Program has distributed more than 17,000 child safety seats and booster seats to low-income families in Ohio over the past five years. The goal of this program is to increase the availability of child safety seats for families that otherwise would not be able to afford them and to increase correct installation and proper use of child safety seats. Child

restraints, or car seats, reduce the risk of injury and death by more than 50%. TCCHD offers car seat classes in which eligible soon-to-be and new parents are provided with a car seat for attending the class. To be eligible, families must be within Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) eligibility guidelines and attend an educational class on how to properly use the car seat for their child. In 2024, TCCHD held 18 classes and provided car seats to 64 infants and children. TCCHD holds class on the 1st Monday of each month at 2:00 PM at TCCHD in Cortland and on the 4th Tuesday of each month at St. Joseph at Eastwood Mall at 2:00 PM. Please see the schedules posted on our TCCHD website at [www.tcchd.org](http://www.tcchd.org).



**Cribs for Kids**  
Helping every baby sleep safer

TCCHD is a Cribs for Kids partner, an organization that provides safe sleep education and resources. Through funding provided by the Ohio Department of Health, pack-n-plays are made available for distribution to families that do not have a safe place for their infant to sleep. In 2024, TCCHD provided 202 pack-n-plays to families through our monthly Safe Sleep classes, TCCHD drive-thru events, home visiting programs, and several outreach events in Trumbull County. TCCHD also collaborated with the Safe Kids Mahoning Valley and the Safe Sleep Committees facilitated by Akron Children's Hospital. Through these partnerships, our safe sleep resources were made available to many agencies throughout Trumbull County in 2024, including Mercy Health St. Joseph Medical Center, Akron Children's NICU, Trumbull County Children's Services, and WIC. Please see the schedules posted on our TCCHD website at [www.tcchd.org](http://www.tcchd.org).



TCCHD participates as a referring agency in the “Sight for Students” Program.

Through the “Save Our Sight” Fund with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), “Sight for Students” refers to a program aimed at providing free vision exams and glasses to low-income children, essentially ensuring students who fail vision screenings can access necessary eye care, even if they lack insurance or financial means to afford it; this often involves partnerships with vision service providers like VSP to distribute vouchers for eye exams and glasses. The purpose of the “Save Our Sight” Program is to ensure that children in Ohio have good vision and healthy eyes. This is accomplished through an established grant process and the recipients of the grant are expected to provide vision services in all counties of the state. In 2024, TCCHD processed 54 applications, of which, 26 students received services. Please contact the office at 330-675-2489 for information.



In 2024, TCCHD was awarded a grant by the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) called “Improving Vaccine Access, Education, and Outreach Through Faith-Based Partnerships”. TCCHD designed the project to collaborate with Bazetta Christian Church as the primary faith-based organization, as well as focusing on the Amish community in Trumbull County. This project addressed current barriers to vaccination among faith-based communities and designed strategies to improve vaccine confidence, education, and access opportunities through partnership with faith-based stakeholders. TCCHD Public Health Nurse, Maria O’Brien, was assigned to this project and organized several events with the assistance of the staff of Bazetta Christian Church to improve vaccine uptake in the community. These events included a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis at the beginning of the grant cycle; a resource fair during church services; several flu and Covid vaccination outreach clinics; and educational story time at Warren-Trumbull County Public Library Cortland Branch; monthly meetings; various surveys created to send to the church congregation to collect data for this project; and educational

training opportunities for TCCHD staff members. NACCHO also provided invaluable resources to utilize for future projects in the public health setting.

**IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM** TCCHD is an active member of the ODH of Immunization Program. The goal of the ODH Immunization program is to reduce and eliminate 17 vaccine-preventable diseases among Ohio's children, adolescents and adults. The Immunization Program provides the following services:

- \* Administers the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC)
- \* Administers the 317 Vaccines for Adult Program
- \* Developed and maintains the state-wide immunization registry
- \* Provides grants to improve immunization levels and vaccine use
- \* Offers a wide range of training, education and technical support to health departments and health care providers
- \* Provides vaccine to birthing hospitals to emphasize the importance of hepatitis B prevention
- \* Works with health care providers to prevent the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases and improve immunization rates

In 2024, TCCHD Nursing Staff provided services to 448 patients with a total of 651 vaccines administered. The Nursing Staff of TCCHD holds regular immunization clinics and accepts walk-in patients daily. TCCHD stocks all standard child and adult recommended vaccines, including current influenza and Covid.

Please see the schedules posted on our website at [www.tcchd.org](http://www.tcchd.org), or contact the office at

330-675-2489.



TCCHD is a local provider for the Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program. Through the Ohio Department of Children & Youth (DCY), the Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program is a system of supports for pregnant women, caregivers with new babies, and families with young children with developmental delays and disabilities. Home visiting helps to ensure that all eligible Ohioans have the best start in life with no cost to eligible families. TCCHD currently offers home visiting services with two models, Family Connects Ohio (FCO) and Healthy Families Ohio (HFO). Our home visiting services are evidence-based models that improve maternal and child health, prevent child abuse and neglect, encourage positive parenting, and promote child development and school readiness. Our current models provide answers to questions about parenting and child health and wellness, develop goals with the family, provide important parenting education, teach and model activities to do with the child to support learning and development, and connect the family with resources to help with basic needs.

Our first home visiting model, HFO, is one of the leading family support and evidence-based home visiting programs. HFO promotes child well-being and prevents the abuse and neglect of children in communities around the world through family-focused and empathic support. HFO is an evidenced-based home visiting model that addresses many risk factors including:

- Postpartum Depression
- Domestic Violence
- Tobacco Use
- Substance Abuse

Home visiting supports and empowers parents so they in turn can provide a positive environment dur-

ing their child’s critical years. HFO is a voluntary family support program for eligible pregnant women and new families. Health Families Ohio encourages early prenatal and well-baby care as well as parenting education.

Our second home visiting model, FCO, is an evidence-based nurse home visiting model that provides support for families with newborns during a period of life-changing transition. FCO connects families to healthcare providers who will nurture the whole family and support a newborn’s health and wellbeing. FCO directly supports the Ohio DCY’s three big goals:

- Reduce Ohio’s Infant Mortality Rate and Ensure Babies in Ohio Live to See Their First Birthdays
- Empower Families with Needed Resources and Supports Before, During, and After a Need
- Invest in Community Resources to Enable Support Along the Continuum of Ages, Stages, and Services to Help Children and Youth Succeed

FCO aims to help children and families thrive, impacting the health, safety, and school-readiness of children, maternal health, and family stability and financial security. FCO serves all families, including adoptive, foster, and bereaved families in FCO communities, and are offered a home visit with a highly trained registered nurse at no cost. Unlike HFO, FCO is offered to all families in Trumbull County; there are no eligibility requirements other than being a resident in the county.

Making a referral to Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program occurs through the Central Intake and Referral Department by one of the following ways:

- Complete the Online Referral Form at [www.helpmegrow.org](http://www.helpmegrow.org)
- Call 1 (800) 755-GROW to Speak with an Intake Specialist
- Email Completed Forms to [HMGReferrals@helpmegrow.org](mailto:HMGReferrals@helpmegrow.org)
- Print and Fax Referrals Forms to (855) 318-3322 or (855) 418-3322

Visit [www.helpmegrow.org](http://www.helpmegrow.org) for more information, or contact our office at 330-675-2489

TCCHD is the county investigative agency for enforcing the Ohio Smoke-Free Workplace Act that was approved in November of 2006, which is a smoking ban that prohibits smoking in public places and places of employment. In 2024, TCCHD conducted 13 investigations, which resulted in 7 violations discovered, with 1 fine and 6 dismissals.



TCCHD participates in the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program (TUPCP), which is a program that is part of the Bureau of Health

Improvement and Wellness at the Ohio Department of Health. The Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program is a state-administered program that receives funding from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), state general revenue funds, and other grant funding sources. The program has three main goals:

- Prevent Youth & Young People from Starting Using Tobacco and Nicotine-Containing Products
- Helping Adults to Stop Using Tobacco & Nicotine Products
- Passing Policies to Limit the Availability of Tobacco Products and Limit Secondhand Smoke Exposure

The major components of the program include:

- Nicotine Recovery Unit (Cessation), which focuses on helping those who are ready to quit tobacco by directing people to the Ohio Tobacco Quitline, 1-800-QUIT NOW, and the Quitline website. It also contains cessation fact sheets and education and marketing materials to encourage Ohioans to make their quit journey.
- Prevention/Youth Unit, which focuses on prevention activities including E-cigarettes/vaping, schools (K-12) tobacco-free policies, colleges tobacco-free policies, Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing (SFMUH), and the Ohio Tobacco 21 law.

In 2024, TCCHD was able to reach approximately 104,325 adults through various community partnerships, letters to the editor, billboards and outreach events throughout Trumbull County.



TCCHD is a provider of services in the Complex Medical Help Program (CMH), which is a

health care program in ODH. CMH links individuals with special health care needs to a network of quality providers and helps individuals and their families obtain payment for needed services. CMH's mission is to assure, through the development and support of high quality, coordinated systems, that individuals with special health care needs and their families obtain comprehensive care and services that are family-centered, community-based and culturally sensitive. CMH is a state-administered program that operates within ODH. CMH receives funding for services from the federal Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, state general revenue funds, county tax funds, third-party reimbursements and donations. CMH promotes early identification of individuals with special health care needs and treatment by appropriate health care providers. Major components of the program include:

- Conducting Quality Assurance Activities to Establish Standards of Care and to Determine Unmet Needs of Individuals With Special Health Care Needs and Their Families.
- Funding Services for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Medical Eligible Conditions
- Collaborating with Public Health Nurses and Local Health Departments to Assist in Increasing Access to Care
- Supporting Service Coordination for Individuals with Selected Diagnoses
- Assisting Individuals and Their Families to Access and Utilize Appropriate Sources of Payment for Services.

CMH views the local public health nurse as an essential member of the health care team. Public health nurses work with CMH to provide essential services to children with special health care needs and their families in their local communities. In 2024, TCCHD was able to provide services to approximately 350 families.



## Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

TCCHD is the lead agency in Trumbull County for the management of Tuberculosis (TB) through the Ohio Department of Health's Tuberculosis Program. Services in this program include:

- Assistance and Consultation to Local Health Departments and Other Allied Agencies for Prevention and Control
- Administration of State Grants to Local Agencies to Provide Expansion of TB Control Activities
- Collection, Reporting, and Analysis of Statewide Data
- Ongoing Public and Professional Education

TCCHD TB Program priorities are aimed at eliminating TB in Ohio. The goals are three-fold:

- Identify & Treat Persons Who Have Active TB
- Find & Screen Persons Who Have Been in Contact with TB Patients to Determine Whether They Have TB Infection or Disease and Provide Them with Appropriate Treatment
- Screen High-Risk Populations to Detect Persons Who are Infected with TB and Who Could Benefit from Therapy to Prevent the Infection from Progressing to TB Disease



## Department of Health

Project DAWN

TCCHD Harm Reduction Services and Project DAWN is a network of naloxone and fentanyl test strip distribution programs that provide opioid overdose education and harm reduction services coordinated by the Ohio Department of Health. TCCHD provides naloxone training, education, and distribution to our first responders, county agencies and members of our community. For the year 2024, we distributed 1,323 naloxone kits to members of our community, 151 to our first responders and 1,500 kits to the Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board. TCCHD installed three naloxone distribution newsstands throughout Trumbull County. Naloxone is available 24/7 through these newsstands and you can find them in front of our facility in Cortland, COMPASS on High Street in Warren and Kinsman Health Center on Main Street in Kinsman. TCCHD also placed 21 emergency NaloxBoxes throughout Trumbull County, with each containing naloxone. TCCHD also distributed over 1,000 fentanyl test strips, 300 Deterra bags (safe disposal medical bags), 800 Safe Rx locking bottles, and Safe Rx locking bags/boxes to Trumbull County residents. Naloxone is available through our mail order program, newsstands, TCCHD and various community events. Supplies such as Deterra bags and Safe Rx bottles can be picked up at our facility, or at community events throughout the year.

*\*Contributed by Tammi Krafft, CHES, Project DAWN Coordinator*

Please contact us at 330-675-2489 to learn more about our programs or visit our website at [www.tcchd.org](http://www.tcchd.org)



# EPIDEMIOLOGY REPORT—2024

| Reportable Condition<br>(data collected on 2-10-2025)                              | Trends | # of Confirmed and Probable Cases for 2024 | # of Confirmed and Probable Cases for 2023 | # of Confirmed and Probable Cases for 2022 | # of Confirmed and Probable Cases for 2021 | # of Confirmed and Probable Cases for 2020 |
|--|--------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Amebiasis  |        | 0  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| Babesiosis   |        | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| C. auris (disease and colonization screens)  |        | 46   | 9  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| Campylobacteriosis   |        | 11   | 18   | 13   | 14   | 4  |
| Chlamydia infection  |        | 567  | 725  | 836  | 797  | 855  |
| Coccidioidomycosis   |        | 1  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| COVID-19   |        | 3565                                       | 4,692                                      | 19,462                                     | 21,271                                     | 10,941                                     |
| CPO (previously known as CP-CRE) (disease and colonization screens)                |        | 138  | 45   | 8  | 17   | 16   |
| Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease  |        | 0  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 1  |
| Cryptosporidiosis  |        | 3  | 11   | 13   | 6  | 5  |
| Cyclosporiasis   |        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| E. coli - enterohemorrhagic (shiga toxin producing) - Not O157:H7                  |        | 4  | 10   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| E. coli - enterohemorrhagic (shiga toxin producing) - O157:H7                      |        | 0  | 0  | 3  | 6  | 0  |
| Giardiasis   |        | 5  | 5  | 3  | 3  | 2  |
| Gonococcal infection   |        | 179  | 253  | 445  | 393  | 501  |
| Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease)  |        | 6  | 5  | 6  | 4  | 5  |
| Hepatitis A  |        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 2  |
| Hepatitis B (including delta) - acute  |        | 1  | 0  | 1  | 3  | 0  |
| Hepatitis B (including delta) - chronic  |        | 25   | 20   | 21   | 24   | 20   |
| Hepatitis C - acute  |        | 1  | 1  | 1  | 3  | 11   |
| Hepatitis C - chronic  |        | 130  | 195  | 201  | 206  | 213  |
| Hepatitis C -perinatal   |        | 1  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| Influenza-associated hospitalization   |        | 51   | 43   | 116  | 0  | 212  |
| LaCrosse virus disease (other California serogroup virus disease)                  |        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1  |
| Legionellosis - Legionnaires' Disease  |        | 14   | 16   | 4  | 13   | 10   |
| Listeriosis  |        | 3  | 2  | 1  | 1  | 0  |
| Lyme Disease   |        | 39   | 39   | 18   | 18   | 19   |
| Malaria  |        | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| Meningitis - aseptic/viral   |        | 8  | 7  | 11   | 6  | 6  |
| Meningitis - bacterial (Not N. meningitidis)                                       |        | 3  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 1  |
| MIS-C associated with COVID-19   |        | 0  | 0  | 2  | 4  | 0  |
| Mumps  |        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| Pertussis  |        | 4  | 39   | 9  | 0  | 4  |
| Rabies-animal  |        |  | 0  | 0  | 4  | 2  |
| Salmonellosis  |        | 16   | 22   | 6  | 6  | 11   |
| Shigella   |        | 2  | 4  | 8  | 1  | 1  |
| Staphylococcal aureus - intermediate resistance to vancomycin (VISA)               |        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1  |
| Streptococcal - Group A -invasive  |        | 29   | 29   | 28   | 10   | 14   |
| Streptococcal - Group B -Newborn   |        | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant |        | 28   | 16   | 24   | 9  | 13   |
| Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistant/intermediate              |        | 3  | 4  | 9  | 1  | 2  |
| Syphilis-unknown duration or late  |        | 11   | 5  | 10   | 5  | 0  |
| Tularemia  |        | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| Varicella  |        | 0  | 0  | 4  | 4  | 1  |
| West Nile Virus  |        | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| Vibriosis (not cholera)  |        | 1  | 3  | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| Yersiniosis  |        | 2  | 2  | 3  | 2  | 2  |
| Trends:  |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| line shape is a graph representing change in # of cases over 5 years (2023- 2019)  |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| case # increase over previous year   |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| no change compared to previous year  |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| case # decrease over previous year   |        |  |  |  |  |  |

# Kristofer J. Wilster, MPH, REHS

Director of Environmental Health Services

In 2024 the environmental division was comprised of 12 inspectors, and 5 clerical staff, who handled 13 environmental programs in all 34 townships, cities and villages within the Trumbull County Combined Health District . The programs under the environmental division involve nuisance abatement, plumbing, food protection, residential & commercial sewage, private water systems, public swimming pools & spas, school & jail inspections, tattoo/body art, construction & demolition debris, solid waste, parks/camps, and Smoke Free Ohio investigations.

In addition to these services, the health district also conducted inspections of unfit structures, assisting political subdivisions in securing funding from the Trumbull County Land Bank to address vacant and abandoned properties, ultimately helping to reduce blight within their communities. Our Grants Coordinator worked diligently to secure mosquito control funding, enabling the townships, cities, and villages within the health district to carry out mosquito spraying, thereby minimizing the risk of mosquito-borne virus outbreaks. Upon request, the health district also will larvicide stagnant water, effectively eliminating mosquito larvae and pupae in their breeding habitats and preventing the development of adult mosquitoes.

Several years ago, in an effort to provide residents with an additional payment method and an alternative way to access our services after hours or without an in person visit to our offices, we began accepting credit cards. We offer online credit card payments for Sewage Permit to Operate renewals and also accept credit card payments over the phone or in person for all of our programs. In 2024, 3,228 residents utilized this convenient payment option.

Our role in the environmental division is to protect public health, which sometimes necessitates enforcement action. Enforcement measures can range from issuing notices of violation to filing court actions when compliance cannot be achieved through other means. While the environmental division primarily serves as the enforcement arm of the health district, as stated, our ultimate goal is to protect public health. To that end, we are always striving to improve our services to the communities we serve. We distribute and encourage residents to complete our customer service surveys to assess our services, and we continuously review and update our policies and procedures to ensure we are providing the best possible service.

In the following section, I have outlined the enforcement action trends observed in our sewage, solid waste, and private water system programs. Overall, the programs analyzed demonstrate a positive trend toward compliance. Additionally, I have provided the total number of inspections and violations in our food program.

# 2024 Compliance Trends

---

## Household Sewage Treatment System Program

| Compliance Achieved | Non-Compliance | Extensions Granted (Pending/ | Overall Compliance |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 58%                 | 31%            | 11%                          | 62%                |

## Solid Waste Program (Nuisance Abatement)

| Compliance Achieved | Non-Compliance | Extensions Granted (Pending/ | Overall Compliance |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 46%                 | 39%            | 14%                          | 50%                |

## Private Water System Program

| Compliance Achieved | Non-Compliance | Extensions Granted (Pending/ | Overall Compliance |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 63%                 | 31%            | 6%                           | 63%                |

**Here is what the Compliance Trend Chart on the previous page shows:**

**Sewage Program**

Approximately 58% of the properties complied after an Administrative Hearing was held; however, 31% of the properties did not comply initially, and had to be sent to court. The remainder of the properties, approximately 11%, were granted an extension, or are pending/in process of complying. Overall, the Sewage Treatment Systems Administrative Hearings show a trend of 62% compliance when you add the Administrative Hearing compliance and the Court Forced compliance.

**Solid Waste Program**

Roughly 46% of the properties complied after an Administrative Hearing was held. Another 39% of the properties did not comply initially and were sent to Court. The remainder of the properties (14%) were granted an extension, or are pending/in process of complying. Overall, the Solid Waste Administrative Hearings show a trend of 50% compliance when you add the Administrative Hearings Compliance and Court Forced Compliance.

**Private Water Systems Program**

An estimated 63% of the properties complied after an Administrative Hearing was held. Another 31% of the properties did not comply initially and were sent to Court. The remainder of the properties (6%) were granted an extension, or are pending/in process of complying. Overall, Private Water Systems Program Administrative Hearings show a trend of 63% compliance when you add the Administrative Hearings Compliance and Court Forced Compliance.

---

**2024 Food Program Inspections**

|                    | <b>Inspections</b> | <b>Non-Critical Violations</b> | <b>Critical Violations</b> |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>1st Quarter</b> | <b>374</b>         | <b>487</b>                     | <b>195</b>                 |
| <b>2nd Quarter</b> | <b>348</b>         | <b>357</b>                     | <b>132</b>                 |
| <b>3rd Quarter</b> | <b>398</b>         | <b>397</b>                     | <b>184</b>                 |
| <b>4th Quarter</b> | <b>433</b>         | <b>458</b>                     | <b>169</b>                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>1,553</b>       | <b>1,599</b>                   | <b>680</b>                 |

## Health Education: A Year-in-Review

Through the Creating Health Communities grant, the Health Education department:

- Invests in policies, projects, places, and people to create and sustain equitable, inclusive opportunities for healthy eating and active living.
- Partners with local organizations to align and direct resources toward community members' vision and priorities.

Currently, the Health Educator under this grant, Kris Kriebel, collaborates and partners with the Healthy Community Partnership. Sitting on several actions teams within the organization: Active Transportation Action Team, Healthy Food Retail Action Team, Parks and Greenspaces Action Team, and the Steering Committee.

What we accomplished in 2024:

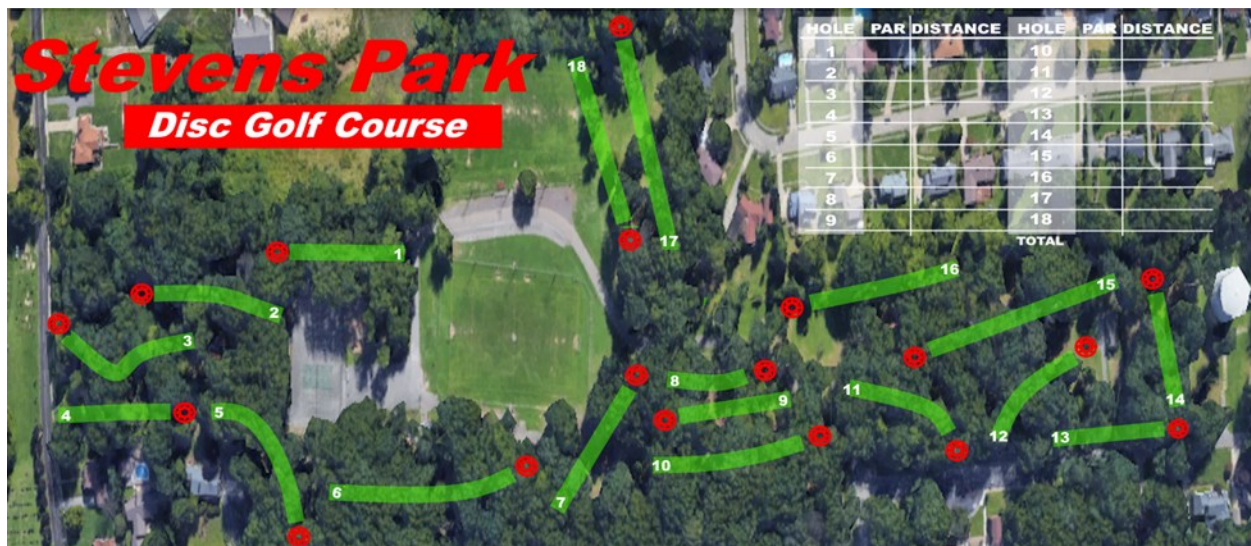
**Hosted a Safer Streets Demonstration Project in Downtown Warren.** This is a temporary intervention designed to test and showcase potential street design changes aimed at improving safety and accessibility for all users, especially pedestrians and cyclists.

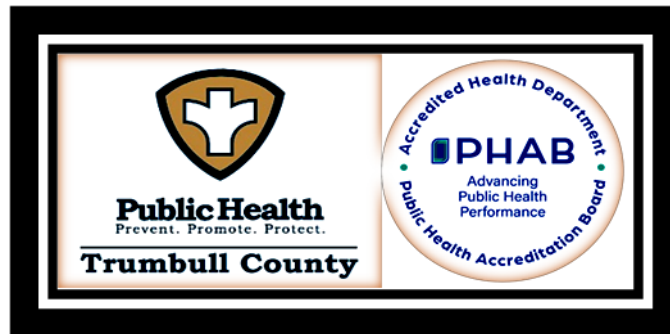


**Completed a Park's Inventory for Trumbull County.** A park inventory is a comprehensive and systematic collection of data about the features, assets, conditions, and usage of a park or a system of parks. The data collected from this inventory will help guide prioritization of future park projects.



**Installed a Disc Golf Course at Stevens Parks in Niles.** Disc Golf is a sport that combines elements of traditional golf with the use of flying discs (similar to Frisbees). The objective is to traverse a course from beginning to end in the fewest number of throws. This project will help increase recreational opportunities, improve health and wellness, and have social and economic benefits for the community and its residents.





Public Health Accreditation/Reaccreditation through PHAB (Public Health Accreditation Board) is a process that evaluates health departments against national standards. The goal is to improve public health services and protect the public's health. Accreditation promotes public trust and demonstrates an ongoing commitment to quality and performance improvement.

**The benefits of PHAB accreditation/reaccreditation include:**

- Improves quality, accountability, and credibility of public health practice
- Helps health departments identify performance improvement opportunities
- Helps health departments develop leadership
- Helps health departments improve relationships with the community
- Helps health departments demonstrate credibility

**Reaccreditation at the TCCHD (By the numbers):**

The way a health department achieves accreditation and reaccreditation is done through adhering to and demonstrating compliance with evidence-based Standards and Measures that apply to all health departments throughout the nation, including tribal, military, state, local, and territorial. The TCCHD received initial accreditation in 2019 and has successfully applied for reaccreditation in 2024. The staff and management (39 employees), and the Board of Health (7 members), here at the TCCHD have spent the last 3 (three) years working diligently to start and finish all 87 measures (90 document examples) which are based on the 10 Essential Public Health Services and Foundational Capabilities and encased within 10 domains. We have begun documentation submission to PHAB to demonstrate our adherence and compliance with these domains and have a deadline of June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

# *Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)*

**HEALTH VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT** In February our agency collaborated with Trumbull County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and Warren City Health District to update the hazard vulnerability assessment (HVA) for our county. An HVA is a systematic process that is used to identify and assess potential hazards and vulnerabilities that may exist. This assessment is a very important process for our county. By conducting an HVA it helps us to develop more effective emergency plans, determine better allocation of resources to address the most critical risk, enables faster and more effective responses to emergencies and allows for a smoother and more efficient recovery process after an emergency. The results of our assessment were shared with Northeast Ohio Coordinating Region 5 (NECO), which is one of 12 emergency preparedness regions in Ohio and covers a significant portion of northeastern Ohio, including Trumbull County. By sharing this information it allows NECO Region 5 to proactively address risks, enhance disaster preparedness and minimize the potential impact of hazards on public health and safety for our region.

**TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE** Trumbull County Combined Health District (TCCHD) collaborated with Trumbull County EMA and several community stakeholders to prepare for the total eclipse that occurred on April 8. We were well-prepared for any and all mishaps that could happen during the eclipse such as heavy traffic, pop-up vendors, and the possible need to shelter individuals in the event they could not leave the area due to some unforeseen event.

**ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES** Addressing the needs of people with disabilities was also a topic that TCCHD addressed in 2024. Our PHEP Coordinator worked with the Center for Independent Living, which is a local non-profit agency that serves the needs of persons with disabilities, on emergency preparedness activities for purposes of improved information sharing to area agencies to let them know of available programs and training opportunities. As a result, a blog on emergency preparedness was established that will go on for a year to provide information on emergency preparedness for persons with functional needs during emergencies.

**MEDICAL RESERVE CORP** TCCHD received a grant that provided an opportunity for our PHEP Coordinator to collaborate with peers from NECO Region 5 to expand our volunteer pool for emergencies, this volunteer pool is known as the Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). This opened opportunities to offer several courses to our volunteers and the community. There have been three recruitment events, resulting in the placement



of several billboards throughout the region in an effort to expand this volunteer corp.

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE** In May, our PHEP Coordinator participated in a county wide Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC ) functional exercise at the Mahoning Valley Sanitary District where she served as an evaluator. The scenario involved a chlorine leak in one of their large chlorine storage tanks. She found it interesting to see the facility and how the first responders would handle such a leak.

**EMERGENCY PLANNING EXERCISE** On June 12, the PHEP Coordinator, Nursing Director and Health Commissioner attended an exercise in Columbiana County that involved a leak from the Beaver Valley Nuclear Power Plant that led to the opening of a Community Reception Center (CRC). We were permitted to observe the response efforts to gain a better understanding on the set up and operations of a CRC since we have yet to operate one here in Trumbull County, and are in the process of developing a county plan. The observation of the exercise provided valuable information on the many detailed steps and personnel needed to protect human lives during a nuclear release event. We are currently working with local stakeholders to select appropriate venues and personnel to develop a plan for Trumbull County.

**PHEP GRANT** Throughout the year 15 deliverables were completed and approved, most notably was updating and completion of the county's Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and Annex Update Rubric. The timing of this update was perfect, as the state worked to address the Avian flu outbreak. An ERP is a key document that helps guide response efforts during emergencies, so having it up to date ensures our community is better prepared in case of an emergency. Grant required quarterly LEPC meetings were also attending that included: Local Health District meetings, Local Health Districts and Ohio Department of Health Radiological Emergency Preparedness Working Group meetings, NECO Regional Healthcare Coalition meetings, Local Emergency Preparedness Coalition meetings and NECO Executive Coalition meetings. She also attended monthly NECO PHEP Coordinator meetings, NACCHO STTRONG Grant meetings and the biweekly ODH Together WeCan calls.

**MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)** The annual nursing home census was also valuable information that was gathered in 2024 for purposes of emergency planning for this vulnerable population. The updated information was collected so that MOUs could be revised.

In an emergency, it is also important to have a plan for pets and livestock, as they depend upon others for their safety and well-being. In 2024 we obtained an MOU for services of a new veterinarian to assist in cases of public health emergencies, Dr. Beth Ady of Gustavus Veterinary Services. She not only treats pets, but she also treats livestock and horses too.

Emergency Preparedness information was presented at the 2024 Cortland Street Fair and the 2024 Trumbull County Fair which included information about the Trumbull County 911 Registry.



<https://m.facebook.com/trumbullpublichealth>



[https://twitter.com/trumbull\\_health](https://twitter.com/trumbull_health)



<https://www.instagram.com/t.c.combinedhealthdistrict/>



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Trumbull County**



[www.tcchd.org](http://www.tcchd.org)