

Trumbull County Combined Health

District

2016

Annual Report



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.



FRANK MIGLIOZZI, MPH, REHS/RS HEALTH COMMISSIONER

PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION

The Trumbull County Combined Health District made tremendous strides in 2016 toward achieving national accreditation. The health district initiated three quality improvement projects, which had to do with our car seat program, getting our building ADA compliant and the use of ICS (Incident Command System). We also developed a branding & marketing strategy to help the community better understand our role & the programs and ser-

vices that we offer. Furthermore, we instituted a succession policy within our Workforce Development Plan. With the implementation of the branding & marketing strategy, as well as the amalgamations of Niles, & Girard health departments, we developed a new name and became the “Trumbull County Combined Health District”. Additionally, we improved our health district logo and add-

ed the use of the universal “public health” logo to bring a fresh new look for our agency. Moreover, our primary focus for becoming nationally accredited is to instill and maintain a culture of quality in our organization.

Please read our Accreditation Coordinator, Natalie Markusic’s, section for more information on our accreditation progress.

AMALGAMATION & THE BOARD OF HEALTH

In 2016, the health district combined with the Girard City Health Department. As a result, we gained a top quality employee in Andrea Cramer, who is now a secretary with our department. The combination worked out well for both the health district and Girard City, as we were able to use existing employees to maintain services for the citizens of Girard. We have received positive feedback from the community and the city officials, and thanks to Mayor James Melfi for his leadership, and active participation, in making this a virtually seamless transition for everyone involved. We also gained an additional Board Member,

Thomas Borocz. Mr. Borocz brings 20+ years of experience and leadership to our Board.

In 2016, we also welcomed Greg Dubos to the Board of Health. Mr. Dubos came to the Board with a wealth of knowledge and township experience that has resonated over into effective and responsible decision making on behalf of the health district.

I also worked with the Board in developing the Board of Health’s first set of By-Laws. These by-laws outline the Board’s mission and duties, in addition to addressing meeting, commit-

2016 Board of Health Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Robert Biery, Jr.	March 2017
John Messersmith	March 2018
Marisha Agana, M.D.	March 2019
John “Jack” Simon, Jr.	March 2020
Kathy Salapata, R.N.	March 2020
Thomas Borocz	March 2021
Gregory Dubos	March 2021

tees, officers and compensation & expenses for Board of Health Members.

BUDGET

The health district's general fund ended 2016 in the black, with a little over \$9,000.00, and our overall fund balance ended with slightly over \$820,000.00, which equates to approximately one and a half months in cash reserves. Having these contingency funds is vital to meeting our financial obligations, especially as grants are converting to being deliverable based funds. Consequently, we must front the costs to administer a program, and then be reimbursed after a deliverable has been achieved. A monthly financial report is provided to the board of health, as well as our workforce, so that they have a better understanding of our financial situation. Changes were made to the report in 2016 to include additional payroll codes to adequately reflect time spent in each program, as well as percentages of calendar year remaining versus monies remaining for the same period of time, to ensure fiscal responsibility in administering services and maintaining adequate funding levels.

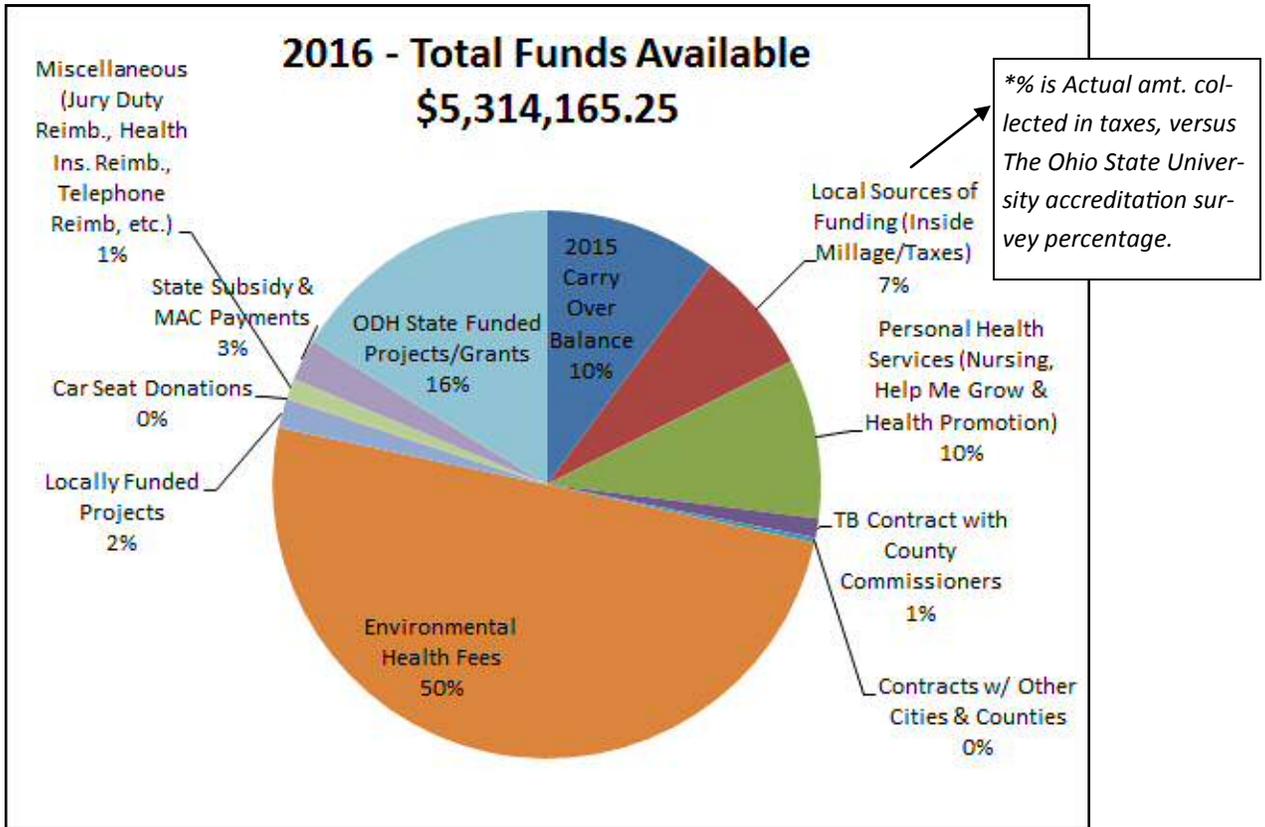
As you can see from the “chart of accounts” on the next page, we do not seek much local support from the political subdivisions that we serve. In fact, according to an accreditation survey conducted by The Ohio State University, it shows that local support (inside millage) is only 8% of the health district’s total budget, which is much lower than other health districts our size, as they receive as much as 27%. We have not reached out for additional local support, as we realize the financial constraints each political subdivision faces, but instead have sought additional state and federal grant funding where possible to provide vital services to our citizens. Thus, our goal is not only to provide quality core public health services, but also provide programs and services that seek to diminish health disparities that are prevalent in our communities. Our vision for this is to ensure positive health outcomes and health equity in Trumbull County.

<u>HEALTH DISTRICT EMPLOYEES</u> <u>AS OF 12/31/16</u>	
Administrative Staff	6
Accreditation Coordinator	1
Health Educator	1
Sanitarians	9
Plumbing Inspector	1
*Nurses	4
Family Service Educators	5
Clerical Staff	<u>7</u>
Total Staff	34
<i>*Includes Epidemiologist</i>	

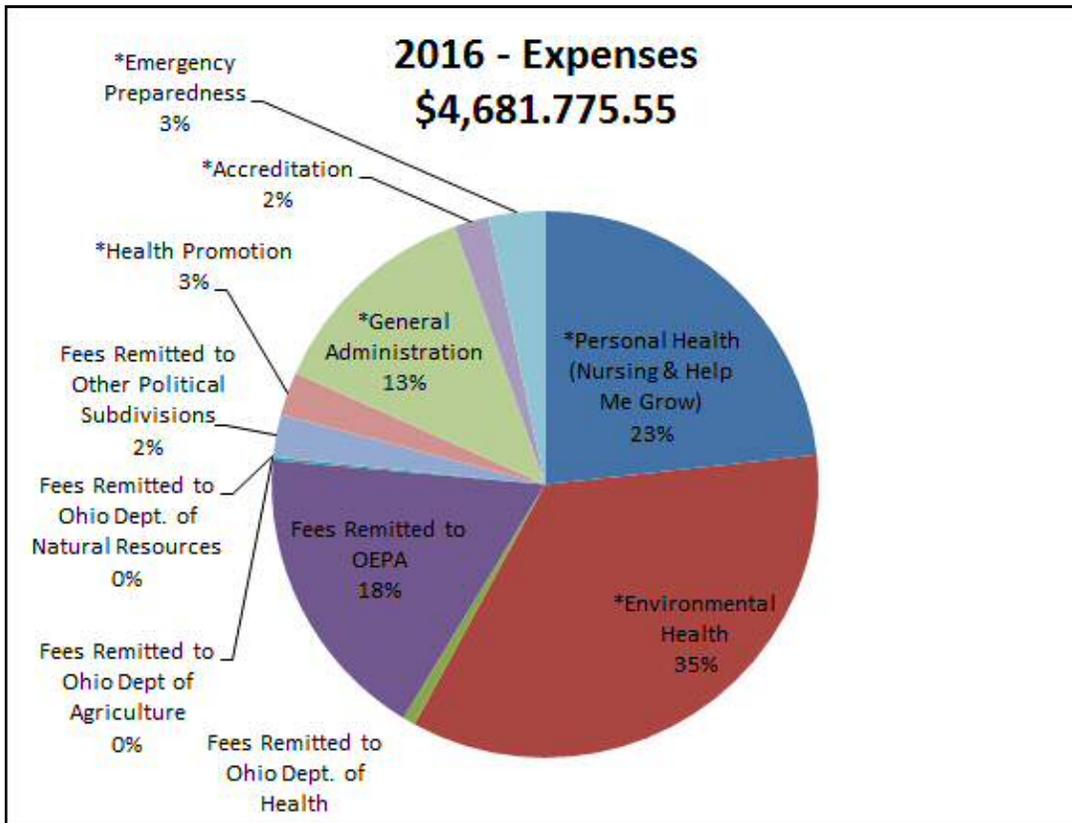
CORE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

- ◆ Environmental health services, *such as water safety, school inspections, nuisance abatement, and food safety (restaurant & grocery store inspections).
- ◆ Communicable disease control, vaccination capacity, and quarantine authority*.
- ◆ Epidemiology services for communicable disease outbreaks and trending* and disease prevalence and morbidity/mortality reporting*.
- ◆ Access to birth and death records.
- ◆ Health promotion and prevention (health education* and policy, systems, and environmental change)
 - Chronic disease prevention (including tobacco, physical activity, nutrition)
 - Injury prevention/preterm birth prevention
 - Infant mortality/preterm birth prevention
- ◆ Emergency preparedness, response, and ensuring safety of an area after a disaster.
- ◆ Linking people to health services to make sure they receive needed medical care*.
- ◆ Community engagement, community health assessment and improvement planning, and partnerships.

**Service mandated by state of Ohio (ORC, OAC) (Note: Ohio law mandates several specific services related to environmental health and communicable diseases. Not all are listed here.*



**2015 Carry Over Balance	\$541,307.31
Local Sources of Funds (<i>Inside Millage / Taxes</i>)	\$391,584.95
Personal Health Services (<i>Nursing, Help Me Grow & Health Promotion</i>)	\$500,610.25
Contract with County Commissioners for Tuberculosis	\$60,000.00
Contracts with Other Cities or Counties	\$15,570.42
Environmental Health Fees	2,653,875.59
Locally Funded Projects	\$89,761.29
Donations (<i>Car Seat Program</i>)	\$5,170.00
Miscellaneous (<i>Jury Reimb., Health Ins. Reimb., Telephone Reimb., etc.</i>)	\$62,098.19
State Subsidy & MAC Payments	\$131,742.09
ODH State Funded Proj./Grants	\$862,445.16
<i>**Carry Over Balance includes grant monies.</i>	



*Personal Health (Nursing & Help Me Grow)	\$1,065,427.38
*Environmental Health	\$1,065,427.38
Fees Remitted to ODH	\$33,436.00
Fees Remitted to OEPA	\$811,830.58
Fees Remitted to ODA	\$8,106.00
Fees Remitted to ODNR	\$1,244.00
<i>**Fees Remitted to Other Political Subdivisions</i>	<i>\$114,386.09</i>
*Health Promotion	\$117,440.56
*General Administration	\$592,736.33
*Accreditation	\$93,002.99
*Emergency Preparedness	\$152,628.13
Laboratory	\$104,878.01
<i>*These figures include salaries and fringe benefits.</i>	

Inside Millage

	*2010 Population	TY 2016 Value Estimated	2016 Proposed Dollars Generated From .15 Inside Millage	2016 Per Capita Expenditure From .15 Inside Millage
Bazetta	5,874	\$144,761,380	\$ 21,714.21	\$3.70
Bloomfield	1,322	21,486,960	3,223.04	\$2.44
Braceville	2,856	52,466,970	7,870.05	\$2.76
Bristol	2,919	51,879,590	7,781.94	\$2.67
Brookfield (Incl. Yankee Lake)	8,854	127,398,120	19,109.72	\$2.16
Champion	9,612	165,992,800	24,898.92	\$2.59
Farmington (Twp. & Village)	2,728	43,092,940	6,463.94	\$2.37
Fowler	2,595	48,203,940	7,230.59	\$2.79
Greene	1,015	18,823,240	2,823.49	\$2.78
Gustavus	829	21,515,660	3,227.35	\$3.89
Hartford	2,070	43,109,910	6,466.49	\$3.12
Howland	19,106	296,484,400	44,472.66	\$2.33
Hubbard	5,654	95,772,810	14,365.92	\$2.54
Johnston	1,952	37,413,980	5,612.10	\$2.88
Kinsman	1,876	35,141,160	5,271.17	\$2.81
Liberty	12,024	210,476,050	31,571.41	\$2.63
Mecca	2,674	44,970,950	6,745.64	\$2.52
Mesopotamia	3,387	41,540,510	6,231.08	\$1.84
Newton Falls (Twp. & City)	8,875	183,691,170	27,553.68	\$3.10
Southington	3,717	65,897,810	9,884.67	\$2.66
Vernon	1,536	28,275,190	4,241.28	\$2.76
Vienna	3,997	92,530,460	13,879.57	\$3.47
Warren	5,551	68,550,970	10,282.65	\$1.85
Weathersfield	6,642	137,690,600	20,653.59	\$3.11
TOTAL TOWNSHIPS	117,665	\$2,077,167,570	\$ 311,575.14	\$2.65
Lordstown	3,417	\$104,747,670	\$ 15,712.15	\$4.60
McDonald	3,263	44,529,130	6,679.37	\$2.05
Orangeville	197	2,525,610	378.84	\$1.92
TOTAL VILLAGES	6,877	\$151,802,410	\$ 22,770.36	\$3.31
Cortland	7,104	\$133,228,760	19,984.31	\$2.81
Girard	9,958	109,310,800	16,396.62	\$1.65
Hubbard	7,874	108,750,190	16,312.53	\$2.07
Niles	19,266	250,348,370	18,776.13	\$1.94
TOTAL CITIES	44,202	\$601,638,120	\$ 71,469.59	\$1.62
TOTAL ALL SUBDIVISIONS	168,744	\$2,830,608,100	\$ 405,815.09	\$2.40

Population Numbers Taken from the 2016 Directory of Trumbull County Officials - Prepared by the Trumbull County Planning Commission

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

Total Dollars Actually Received in Inside Millage for 2016 - \$314,400.46



Employees' Corner

Congratulations to Rod Hedge, Public Health Sanitarian III, for being named the 2016 Sanitarian of the Year. Rod has been with the health district for 17 years, and has been a dedicated employee. The highlight of his accomplishments in 2016, was his involvement with lead testing in drinking water for some of the Trumbull County school systems. Rod led a team of Sanitarians that helped collect, provide expertise, and interpretation of the water results. In addition to the private water system program, Rod also works in the tattoo, camps and public health nuisance programs. Nice job Rod!



Andrea Cramer is new to our department, joining our team in January 2016. Andrea is a former employee of the Girard City Health District, where she worked for 4 years. Andrea is one of our secretaries and works in the sewage and public health nuisance programs.

*Special thanks to our
valued
employees!
Your dedication is
greatly
appreciated!!*

2016 Health District Staff

Jenna Amerine, Health Educator

Sharon Bednar, Secretary

Johnna Ben, Administrative Secretary

Kristyn Bugnone, Family Service Coor.

Michael Burke, Public Health Sanitarian

Janet Chickering, Secretary

Beverly Cope, Secretary

Andrea Cramer, Secretary

Richard Curl, Public Health Sanitarian

Daniel Dean, IT Specialist/Fiscal Officer

Jennifer Francis, Family Service Coor.

Kevin Francis, Public Health Sanitarian

Kenya Franklin, Family Service Program
Coordinator

Nichole Garrison, Family Service Coor.

William Gootee, Public Health Sanitarian

Gregory Hall, Public Health Sanitarian

Rodney Hedge, Public Health Sanitarian

Steven Kramer, Public Health Sanitarian

Cathy Lavernuick, Family Service Coor.

Tara Lucente, Family Service Coordinator

Natalie Markusic, Accreditation Coor.

Teresa Merrick, Public Health Nurse

Frank Migliozi, Health Commissioner

Robert O'Connell, Plumbing Inspector

Sharon O'Donnell, Secretary

Julia Paolone, Secretary

Kathy Parrilla, Public Health Nurse

Elizabeth Shelar, Family Service Coor.

Randee Shoenberger, Epidemiologist

Dianne Simon, Public Health Sanitarian

Rita Spahlinger, Public Health Nurse

Lisa Spelich, Secretary

Sandra Swann, Nursing Director

Anthony Veitz, Public Health Sanitarian

Kristofer Wilster, Director of Environmental Health

Accreditation—Natalie Markusic, Accreditation Coordinator

In 2016, the Trumbull County Combined Health District continued to move forward towards national public health accreditation. We completed several crucial elements that have advanced us on the road accreditation. Our culture of quality has certainly seen growth and improvement over the past year. We finished and implemented our Quality Improvement (QI) Plan. With the implementation of the plan came three key QI projects; 1) Increase Car Seat Class Attendance, 2) Improve the Administration of the ICS Process and 3) Improve the Building's American's with Disabilities Act (ACA) Compliance. All three projects have been very successful, and we are pleased with the results. Additional projects have been planned for 2017, as quality improvement is ongoing and continuous. TCCHD was awarded 22 additional scholarships for the remaining full-time employees to attend the LeanOhio Bootcamp. LeanOhio is quality improvement training aimed at streamlining processes and eliminating waste. The techniques learned through the training have been useful in evaluating areas for improvement.

2016 was the first year TCCHD operated under the Performance Management System. The Performance Management Tracking Sheets are included on the following pages. Although the system is used to highlight areas of success, the main use is to identify opportunities for improvement. When an objective does not meet its goal, we review the information to determine whether we set an unattainable goal, unexpected issues such as the loss of funding occurred or a true opportunity for improvement exists. This is one of several methods TCCHD

uses to identify future QI projects.

Early in 2016, we conducted a Community Health Assessment Survey. The results of the survey in conjunction with secondary data collected by state and national organizations were presented to community stakeholders and used to develop a Community Health Assessment (CHA) Addendum. The CHA is a clear assessment of the state of Trumbull County's health, based on the data collected. From the CHA, TCCHD staff and community stakeholders worked to develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP is a plan that outlines the how TCCHD and our community stakeholders will work to improve the state of Trumbull County's health. Four major priority areas were identified for focusing our improvement efforts; 1) Infant Mortality, 2) Chronic Disease, 3) Integration of Physical and Mental Health and 4) Injury and Violence Prevention. Each area has its own work plan, goals and team of TCCHD staff and partners to help make it successful.

Branding and marketing haven't typically been key elements in public health. But if you have an important message to get out to the public, you want them to know that they are receiving the information from a trusted, reliable and recognizable source. When looked at in that manner, branding and marketing make perfect sense in public health. TCCHD developed and implemented a branding and marketing strategy in 2016. If you drive by our building, you will notice our new sign complete with our proper name, Trumbull County Combined Health District. We also have a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/trumbullpublichealth for real-time public health information and alerts. As we round the last turn of our accreditation journey, we are more prepared than ever to efficiently and competently meet the community's public health needs.

TCCHD Performance Management Objectives and Goals - Tracking

Objectives	2016 1st QTR	2016 2nd QTR	2016 3rd QTR	2016 4th QTR	2016 YTD	2016 Goal
PEOPLE: To develop, support and maintain a competent, motivated and productive workforce.						
% of Staff Completing Competency-Based Training Needs Survey	94%**	-	-	-	94%**	100%
% of Staff Trained in Employee Identified Training Needs (WFDP)	71.43%	-	-	-	71.43%	100%
% of Staff Evaluated with Strengths in >50% of the Public Health Core Competencies	82%**	100%	-	-	100%	75%
% of Staff Providing Positive Feedback on the Employee Satisfaction Survey	60.61%	-	-	-	60.61%	75%
SERVICE: To provide consistent, exceptional, compassionate customer service.						
% Immunization Clinic Customer Service Surveys with Positive Feedback	100%	-	100%	-	100%	90%
Increase the % of Facilities Licensed Under the Food Service Program that are Surveyed for Customer Service Satisfaction	5.60%	5.36%	2.09%	3.38%	4.11%	10%
% Food Service Licensed Facility Customer Service Surveys with Positive Feedback	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	80%
% Home Visiting Family Customer Service Surveys with Positive Feedback	-	100%	-	100%	100%	90%
Increase the % of Homeowners with Private Water Systems (PWS) that are Surveyed for Customer Service Satisfaction	6.70%	1.29%	2.08%	4.76%	3.71%	10%
% of Homeowner PWS Customer Service Surveys with Positive Feedback	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%
QUALITY: To provide a culture of quality that ensures we continuously strive to improve all services, programs, processes and deliverables while addressing the disparities of our community.						
% of State Licensed Programs that the Environmental Division is meeting the inspection frequencies as outlined in OAC & ORC	-	100%	-	-	100%	2015 - 100%
Increase Median Days Reporting Lag for Selected Diseases		38.8%**	-	-	38.8%**	2015 - 75%
Increase % of children, ages 0-24 months, who are current with all ACP recommended vaccinations	91%	50%	49%	54%	61%	75%
Reduce Infant Mortality Rate in Trumbull County	9.0	-	-	-	9.0	8.5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Safe Kids Coalition (# of Safe Sleep projects/ad campaigns) •Crib for Kids (# people attending class) •Baby & Me Tobacco Free (# people completing program) •Home Visiting (families served) •Car Seat Program (# people attending class) 	2	1	0	0	3	2
	11	15	10	19	55	75
	1	1	0	0	2	10
	218	195	195	175	175	475
	18	40	47	32	137	88

* Inspection process changed. Anticipating violations to increase due to change.
 ** Performed/reported annually. Numbers shown are for 2015.

TCCHD Performance Management Objectives and Goals - Tracking

Objectives	2016				2016 YTD	2016 Goal
	1st QTR	2nd QTR	3rd QTR	4th QTR		
GROWTH: To implement effective public health programs to ensure the community is positively impacted and health outcomes are improved.						
Increase Medicaid Services by Expanding MAC Program to the Environmental Division	\$20,366.72	\$19,234.39	\$18,283.24	\$63,945.00	\$121,829.35	\$77,500.00
Increase # of Smoke-Free/Tobacco-Free Programs	2	1	1	-	4	3
•Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Policies. (# of residents impacted). Starting Sept. '16	-	-	145	-	145	150
•Baby & Me Tobacco Free	-	-	-	-	-	-
# of new enrollees	7	7	3	10	27	20
# of people that stay in program month-to-month	5	9	9	9	9	10
# people completing program	1	1	0	0	2	10
•HMG 5As (# of Families Educated that Quit)	-	2	0	2	4	10
•SmokeFree Ohio, etc. (# of violations)	5	4	1	4	14	10*
Increase # of Healthy Eating Program Events in Schools & Daycares	3	5	3	2	13	5
•Farm to Preschool (Summer 2016 @ Jefferson)	-	-	-	-	-	-
•School Food Service Conference	-	-	1	-	-	-
•OH Healthy Program, etc. (w/ CHS)	2	5	2	1	1	-
•School Gardens	1	-	-	-	-	-
•Smarter Lunch Room, etc.	-	-	-	1	-	-
Increase # of Active Living Physical Activity Opportunities Available in Target Communities	-	11	7	32	50	12
•Bike Rack Installations	-	-	-	2	2	4
•Bike Trail Events (i.e. W.O.W, etc)	-	2	-	-	2	3
•Bike to Work	-	1	-	-	1	1
•Park Development/Cleanup	-	-	1	-	1	1
•Safe Routes to School (2016)	-	-	-	-	-	1
•Lifestyle Fitness Class (Trumbull Family Fitness offered by ACH)	-	8	6	30	44	2
Increase # of Participants in Project Dawn	51	46	73	77	77	100
FINANCE: To ensure financial stability and sustainability to advance the mission and vision of our agency and provide core public health services.						
Maintain Fund Balance - Fee For Services Programs	\$ 701,398.00	\$ 325,172.00	\$ 230,777.00	\$ 384,804.41	\$ 1,642,151.41	\$ 1,438,947.00
Maintain or Increase Current Funding Level of Contracts Received	\$ 80,867.00	\$ 83,091.00	\$ 60,027.00	\$ 120,979.95	\$ 344,964.95	\$ 357,602.00
Maintain or Increase Current Funding Level of Grants Received (Award Letters)	\$ 814,446.00	\$ 814,446.00	\$ 944,446.00	\$ 792,922.00	\$ 792,922.00	\$ 752,629.00
Maintain General Fund Balance & Special Balance at Goal	\$ 852,949.00	\$ 834,016.00	\$ 793,178.48	\$ 825,247.24	\$ 825,247.24	\$ 734,165.00

* Inspection process changed. Anticipating violations to increase due to change.
 **Performed/reported annually. Numbers shown are for 2015.

Kristofer Wilster, MPH, REHS/RS—Director of Environmental Health

PRIVATE WATER SYSTEMS

Early in 2016, the Trumbull County Combined Health District assisted some of Trumbull County's school systems with testing for lead in their drinking water. This office provided Sanitarians to help with the collection of samples, as well as the interpretation of the results.

This office assisted the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) with their investigation of a few private water systems near the old Copperweld facility. This department sent Sanitarians to help with the sampling of the private water systems.

PROGRAM SURVEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL

ODH surveyed our campground program and our public swimming pool program in 2016. The OEPA also surveyed our solid waste program in 2016. These surveys went very well, and the Trumbull County Combined Health is under no limitations set forth by the State of Ohio

This Summer, the OEPA offered grant money for mosquito control. This office took a lead role in applying for the OEPA grant. We collaborated with Bazetta Township, Champion Township, Cortland City, Howland Township, Newton Falls Village, and the Warren

City Health Department. The collaboration applied for and received the Mosquito Control grant from the OEPA. The grant money was used for mosquito surveillance and larvaciding.



SEWAGE PROGRAM

In September of 2016, the OEPA agreed to rescind a Consent Decree that held the Trumbull County Combined Health District to a higher sewage standard than the State of Ohio. The lifting of this decree now allows this office to be on a level playing field with the rest of the State of Ohio in terms of the State Sewage Rules. The three major points of concern to this agency are:

- Trumbull County Board of Health can grant a variance from a sewer tie-in, provided that the property has a functioning septic system that is not creating a public health nuisance, as defined by ORC 3718.011. discharging systems cannot apply for a variance.
- Virgin lots platted before January 1, 2007, per OAC 3701-29-06(F) can now be considered for coverage under the OEPA general permit pertaining to NPDES systems.
- Homeowners can now have septic systems installed without sand filters, provided that the system is approved by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and on the ODH approved list.

FOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM In 2016, this office performed a cost methodology on our food service program. Due to some streamlining of our program, the results of the cost methodology culminated in the lowering of our fees.

Environmental

Programs:

- Sewage
- Private Water Systems
- Plumbing
- Food Protection
- Public Swimming Pools/Spas
- Campgrounds
- Tattoos
- Public Nuisances
- Solid Waste
- Construction & Demolition Debris

SANDRA SWANN, BSN, R.N. DIRECTOR OF NURSING

5 A'S



smok-
sation

The Help Me Grow program took part in the 5 A's of smoking, which is a smoking cessation screening that identifies users and appropriate interventions based upon the patient's willingness to quit. The five major steps to intervention are the "5 A's": Ask, Advise, Assess, Assist, and Arrange. The Home visitors document tobacco use status for every patient at every home visit. 100% of the families seen have been asked and advised on the dangers of smoking and offered resources on help to quit smoking.

PARENTING AT MEALTIME AND PLAYTIME

The Help Me Grow (HMG) was 1 of only 2 HMP programs to take part in the 10 week Parenting at Mealttime and Playtime pilot. Parenting at Mealttime and Playtime (PMP) offers resources to help counsel families of infants and young children (ages birth to 5 years) about good nutrition and positive parent-child interactions during mealttime and playtime. Since October, all families who are enrolled in HMG have been given PMP information monthly. HMG will continue to use the PMP information with all families in our program



Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone) is being offered by the Trumbull County Combined Health District through a grant from the Trumbull Memorial Health Foundation, a supporting Organization of the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley and through a partnership with the Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board. It is a community-based drug overdose education and Naloxone Distribution Program that is provided to reverse opiate overdoses. The residents of Trumbull County can call the Health department to make an appointment to receive the overdose education and a kit. 2017 is the third year the program is being offered to the community.

Every 5 hours an Ohioan dies from an unintentional drug overdose. Ohio's rates are among the highest in the country and we are seeing those numbers here in Trumbull County as well. The Trumbull County Combined Health District is proud to announce that it has been awarded a grant from the Ohio Department of Health to help in our fight against overdose deaths. The grant began on 7-1-2016 and will run over a 3 year period. It will be focused primarily on reducing the fatalities associated with prescription drug abuse through policy changes in our community.



TOBACCO USE PREVENTION & CESSATION PROGRAM

- *Most smokers start before they graduate High School.
- *The younger you start tobacco use, the more likely you are to use it as an adult.
- *Nicotine addiction-related diseases will prematurely kill one-third of young smokers.
- *Tobacco industry markets its products directly to youth and young adults in order to sell more product.

We recognize that all of the above mentioned facts are true & we are very excited to announce to you that in 2016 The Trumbull County Combined Health District was awarded the ODH Tobacco Youth Grant.

The focus of our grant is to provide students with the knowledge and united voice to eliminate smoking and create effective social change in their respective communities. It is offered to all county youth age 11-17. **Stand means Stand up, speak out against tobacco.**



The group currently meets once a month, devising anti-smoking campaign projects. They are mobilizing their peers to be aware of the dangers of smoking through these projects & activities that they are creating. They can then bring these messages back to their schools & communities. The group will also be involved in auditing local stores that sell tobacco products & reporting pertinent information to ODH. This information will be used to incite policy change by making local stakeholders aware of tobacco sales in Trumbull County. This will help the state devise better tobacco regulations that will protect our youth & our community.

Revitalized Park Leads to New Opportunities for Bolindale Residents

Summary

The neighborhood of Bolindale, located in Howland Township, is a registered food desert and the 3rd poorest area in Trumbull County. The Trumbull County Creating Health Communities (CHC) program worked with Howland Township, Howland Park Board District, and Howland Health and Wellness Committee (HHWC) to make improvements to this area possible. Now, the Bolindale Community Park is a more appealing place to be physically active and also provides access to fresh produce to about 2,000 residents.

Challenge

In Trumbull County, 29% of residents are physically inactive and 16% experience food insecurity.¹ The Bolindale neighborhood has a median household income of \$35,530 with 19.7% below the poverty level.² Howland Township, which surrounds Bolindale, has a median household income of \$61,132 with only 7.7% below the poverty level.² These numbers depict disparities that exist in the Bolindale neighborhood as it is lower income and resource poor compared to the rest of Howland Township. The closest grocery store is located 1.5-2 miles away and access to public transportation and sidewalks is limited. Although Howland Center has hosted a weekly farmers' market for the past 10 years, it is nearly impossible to get from Bolindale to Howland Center without a car due to a major highway cutting through the township. Along with a poorly maintained park and isolation from Howland Township there are many barriers for Bolindale residents in having access to healthy foods and physical activity opportunities.

"It's great to see this park being used again by children and families. And the pop-up farmers' markets have been very convenient for me to purchase produce this summer."

- Bolindale Resident



Solution

Over the past two years, the Trumbull County CHC program has partnered with Howland Township, Howland Park Board, and HHWC to make improvements to the community park in Bolindale and provide better access to fresh foods for residents. In 2015, HHWC hosted a park clean-up day with residents to trim branches, pull weeds, and lay pea gravel under the newly painted equipment. Howland Park Board purchased new swings and installed security lighting with CHC funds to make the area more inviting and safe for children to play. In 2016, Howland Township hosted monthly pop-up farmers' markets from July-September and accepted the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to provide fresh produce to low-income Bolindale residents.

Results

A survey was conducted at each pop-up farmers' market asking participants questions about the park and markets. Between the months of July – September, there were a total of 113 people in attendance at the markets. Of those that completed a survey 88.5% were Bolindale/Howland residents. 90% of attendees made purchases at the market with 9% using SNAP and Double-Up incentives, which is when a SNAP user purchases \$5 in fresh produce he or she is given an additional \$5 to spend on more fresh produce. Based on the survey results, distance was the main reason as to why residents did not attend the weekly farmers' market at Howland Center. 96% of participants would attend more pop-up farmers' markets at Bolindale Park if available. When asked about the park changes, 70% reported noticing and liking the changes at the park. The top 3 suggestions for park changes included offering more events at the park, installation of a splash pad, and pickleball courts.

Sustainable Success

The Howland Park Board has decided to install pickleball courts for residents that will be completed in 2017. Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong that is intended for all ages and skill levels. In 2017, Howland Township will work with the Trumbull County CHC program to expand the farmers' market to twice a month at the park. HHWC is planning to offer more events at the park and continue hosting the annual park clean-up day with Bolindale residents. The Trumbull County CHC program will continue to promote the newly repaired park and provide residents with more physical activity opportunities and access to healthy foods.

Your Involvement is Key

- Participate in park events and park clean-up days to keep your local park in good condition.
- Support your local Park Board in overseeing the operations and maintenance of the park.
- Support your local farmers at farmers' markets to provide access to fresh foods to residents.



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Sources:

1. 2016 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/ohio/2014/rankings/trumbull/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot>
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