2025

TRUMBULL COUNTY COMBINED HEALTH DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

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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 2030

Kathy Salapata, RN
Term Expires: March 2030

Dr. Harold Firster
Physician Representative
Term Expires: March 2029

Robert Biery, Jr.
Licensing Council Representative
Term Expires: March 2027

Louis Adovasio
Term Expires: March 2026
(Filing an Unexpired Term)

Gregory Dubos
Term Expires: March 2026

2025 Board Actions

Number of Meetings Held—11 Regular / 2 Special
Variances Heard—7
Declarations of Unfit Declared/Rescinded/Discussed—29
Environmental Licensing Application Approvals—3
Appeals of Findings & Orders—4
Consideration/Adoption of Fees—6
Policy/Plan Approvals—8
Personnel Actions—7
Major Purchases/Contracts—4

Trumbull County Health Licensing Council

In November 2021, the State of Ohio mandated that a licensing council be established in each health district in Ohio. Licensing Council members are made up from a representative from each state program that the health district licenses. Licensing Council members are appointed to a 5-year term.
The purchase of this council is to create better communication and involvement between the health district and the businesses that they license and inspect. The council's objectives are to review and comment on license fees to ensure such necessary fees are fairly determined to carry out the intended program mandates and protect the public's health. The council also selects one member of their council to be their representative on the Trumbull County Board of Health.

2025 TRUMBULL COUNTY LICENSING COUNCIL

Christine Bell—Avalon Inn Resort
Public Swimming Pool & Spa Representative
Term Expires: March 2026

Douglas A. Shaulis—Camp Sugarbush
Parks/Camps Representative
Term Expires: March 2026

Robert Biery, Jr.—Hurd's Lil Market
Retail Food Establishment Representative
Term Expires: March 2027

Dianna Jackson—Aunt Millies Concessions LLC
Food Service Operation Representative
Term Expires: March 2030

Construction & Demolition Debris Facility—No Representative

Solid Waste Facility—No Representative

Our Staff

Stacey Altiere, 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
Ericka 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
Stephen Gerberry, Environmental Health Specialist-In-Training
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 *(Resigned July 2025)*
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 Migliozzi, Health Commissioner
Kevin Minotti, Environmental Health Specialist-in-Training
Maria O'Brien, Public Health Nurse *(Resigned July 2025)*
Julia Paolone, Secretary
Steve Pop, Plumbing Inspector
Patrice Rheins, Family Support Specialist
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 12/31/25

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—2

Plumbing Inspector—1

Epidemiologist—1

Public Health Nurses—2

Family Support Specialist Program Coordinator—1

Family Support Specialists—4

Clerical Staff—6

Frank Migliozzi, MPH, REHS

Health Commissioner

Much like past years, 2025 proved to be a busy and productive year for our agency and staff. Below, and throughout other sections of this annual report, is an overview of some of the key accomplishments and highlights from 2025.

At the core of our agency's success in 2025 was our continued commitment to financial stability and long-term sustainability. Through diligent financial oversight and strategic planning, we were able to maintain a strong and stable financial position even in the face of significant challenges. Our Performance Management System played a critical role in this effort by providing leadership with real-time data and actional insights to guide decision-making.

A key component of this system was the use of our Operating Ratio and Profit Margin Dashboard, which allowed us to closely monitor our financial health across critical performance metrics. This proactive approach ensured that we not only maintained financial stability, but also continued advancing our mission and vision while delivering essential public health services to our community.

IN 2025, the health district faced a substantial challenge with the loss of more than $500,000 in grant funding due to federal and state budget cuts. Despite this significant reduction in resources, our organization demonstrated resilience, adaptability, and responsible stewardship of public funds. Through strategic adjustments and the thoughtful reassignment of staff to other program areas, we were able to maintain operations without layoffs while continuing to provide vital services to the community.

These efforts reflect the strength of our leadership, the dedication of our staff, and our unwavering commitment to fiscal responsibility. Even during times of uncertainty, our agency remained focused on protecting public health, supporting our workforce, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of our organization.

In calendar year 2025, our agency began preparing for national re-accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) —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 2025, we participated in virtual meetings with our PHAB consultant in preparation for our virtual site visit with our PHAB site visitors. On December 12, 2025, three site visitors met virtually with staff and representatives of the Board of Health. During the virtual site visit, selected staff and Board representatives were asked to describe various aspect of our agency, which included collaboration and partnerships with other local and state agencies and how those partnerships were vital to our agency, our involvement in the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and how our work is reflected across programs and in our community. The site visit went well and staff at every level consistently echoed the same sentiment, a genuine appreciate for our work environment and a shared commitment to the work we do each and every day.

In 2025, we also partnered with Warren City Health District, Mahoning County Public Health, Youngstown City Health District, Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board, and Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board to develop the 2025 Mahoning Trumbull Community Health Partners (MTCHP) Community Health Assessment (CHA). A CHA is a process used to collect, analyze and understand health data about our communities in order to identify key health needs, strengths and priorities for the communities for which it was conducted. The complete CHA can be found on our website www.tcchd.org

In March 2025, we adopted a new Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plan (PHEP) to strengthen administrative preparedness. The purpose of this plan is to identify and mitigate barriers to the timely acquisition goods and services, the hiring or assignment of response personnel, and the receipt and disposition emergency funds during a public health emergency.

The Trumbull County Suicide Fatality Review Committee held its first meeting in May 2025. Committee members include representatives of law enforcement, public health, mental health, educational service center and the coroner's office. The purpose of this review committee is to discuss risk factors and circumstances surrounding a death by suicide in order to recommend local prevention strategies. By improving our understanding of how and why a person dies by suicide, we may develop recommendations to improve response to suicide deaths and develop prevention initiates to take action to improve the health and safety of our community.

We also said goodbye to two valued employees in our Nursing Division. Jennifer Hudson, a Family Support Specialist in the Help Me Grow Program and Maria O'Brien, a Public Health Nurse. Jen and Maria were valued staff members and we will certainly miss them.

While we said goodbye to two staff members, we also welcomed a new staff member as well. In July 2025, we welcomed Stephen Gerberry as an Environmental Health Specialist-in-Training. Steve works in our Operation & Maintenance program in our sewage division

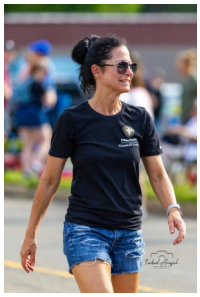
While we've seen some staff transitions, one constant has been the incredible dedication of our entire team. None of the accomplishments outlined in this report could have been achieved without the commitment and hard work of the Trumbull County Combined Health District staff. From every division and 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.

Wear Blue—Child Abuse Prevention Day

Newton Falls Night Out With Law Enforcement

1st Annual Trumbull Co Sheriff's Charity Show



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 2025 might have a budget and performance period that extends into FY 2026, or beyond.

Trumbull County Combined Health District's funding in 2025 was 78% local funding and 22% state funding. Through this funding, our agency was able to provide the following services:

- **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, Suicide 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.

2025 Funding Sources & Expenses

2024 Carry Over Balance	$2,905,935
Inside Millage/Taxes	$643,620
Patient Fees (i.e. Immunizations)	$6,260
TB Contract w/ County Commissioners	$60,000
Environmental Health Fees	$2,109,214
Car Seat Donations	$6,402
Help Me Grow Home Visiting, MAC (Medicare Administrative Contractor) & NACCHO (National Association of County & City Health Officials), Ohio EPA (Mosquito Contracts)	$1,083,056
Misc. Income (PEP—Public Entities Pool of Ohio)	$1,000
State Subsidy	$102,577
ODH State Funding Projects/Grants	$976,000
2025 Total Funding Sources	**$7,894,064**

State & Local Remittances	$68,487
Labor Costs	$4,200,653
Non-Labor Costs	$1,114,152
2025 Total Expenditures	$5,383,292

Inside Millage

	*2020 Population	Value Estimated	2025 Estimated Tax Generated From .15 Inside Millage	2025 Per Capita Expenditure From .15 Inside Millage
Bazetta	5,912	$222,060,250	$ 33,309.04	$5.63
Bloomfield	1,249	33,327,470	4,999.12	$4.00
Braceville	2,467	81,588,140	12,238.22	$4.96
Bristol	2,704	77,998,120	11,699.72	$4.33
Brookfield (Incl. Yankee Lake)	8,447	195,259,760	29,288.96	$3.47
Champion	9,381	261,186,880	39,178.03	$4.18
Farmington (Twp. & Village)	2,993	71,265,310	10,689.80	$3.57
Fowler	2,360	73,467,600	11,020.14	$4.67
Greene	950	27,521,260	4,128.19	$4.35
Gustavus	834	29,831,820	4,474.77	$5.37
Hartford	1,861	64,696,320	9,704.45	$5.21
Howland	17,191	623,534,560	93,530.18	$5.44
Hubbard	5,333	143,183,190	21,477.48	$4.03
Johnston	1,739	53,728,160	8,059.22	$4.63
Kinsman	1,751	52,302,350	7,845.35	$4.48
Liberty	11,936	329,396,660	49,409.50	$4.14
Mecca	2,319	65,807,790	9,871.17	$4.26
Mesopotamia	3,404	69,071,830	10,360.77	$3.04
Newton Falls (Twp. & Village)	8,618	267,934,870	40,217.09	$4.67
Southington	3,731	100,518,840	15,077.83	$4.04
Vernon	1,337	39,361,400	5,904.21	$4.42
Vienna	3,978	141,329,920	21,199.49	$5.33
Warren	4,744	100,889,200	15,133.38	$3.19
Weathersfield	8,072	211,504,430	31,725.66	$3.93
TOTAL TOWNSHIPS	113,311	$3,336,766,130	$ 500,541.78	$4.42
Lordstown	3,332	$207,162,090	$ 31,074.31	$9.33
McDonald	3,172	68,907,750	10,336.16	$3.26
Orangeville	174	3,550,980	532.65	$3.06
TOTAL VILLAGES	6,678	$279,620,820	$ 41,943.12	$6.28
Cortland	7,105	$211,680,280	31,752.04	$4.47
Girard	9,603	163,443,100	24,516.47	$2.55
Hubbard	7,636	175,327,900	26,299.19	$3.44
Niles	18,443	368,894,600	55,334.19	$1.94
TOTAL CITIES	42,787	$919,345,880	$ 137,901.88	$3.22
TOTAL ALL SUBDIVISIONS	162,776	$4,535,732,830	$ 680,386.78	$4.18

**2020 Population EstimateTaken From 2025 Directory of Trumbull County Officials*

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

2025

Grant Awards

The Trumbull County Combined Health District
Was Awarded Over
$2,099,113.08 in Grant Funding in 2025

New Grants:

Child Injury Action Group (CIAG) Pilot Project—$10,000
(January 1, 2025—September 30, 2025)

Purpose: To pilot a policy, systems, or environmental change project that reduces child injury in Ohio. The project focused n training healthcare providers and daycare staff on the safe sleep practices and how best to relay that information to the parents to ensure safe sleep is happening at home.

NACCHO Strengthen Immunization Program Communication Materials - $4,000
(January 1, 2025—July 31, 2025)

Purpose: To support local health departments with resources to strengthen their public-facing communications about vaccines across the lifespan.

Continuation Grants

Creating Healthy Communities—$100,000

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—$134,168

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.

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.

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.

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—$30,000

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—$84,000

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.

MRC STTRONG Grant—$5,000

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.

Mosquito Control Grant—$22,500

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 And Committees

In 2025 we continued to focus on strengthening community partnerships to better meet the evolving needs of our county. These partnerships enabled 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 partner organizations to build and strengthen these important relationships. These collaborations are central to our mission, and 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 2025 to Offer Grants Services:

Warren City Health District

Kent State University—Academic Health Department

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

Trumbull County Drug Court

Trumbull County Adult Probation

Tri**You**nity LLC—TriYou Cares After School Program

Cortland News

Warren-Trumbull County Public Library System

Hubbard Public Library

Kinsman Public Library

Bazetta Township

Cortland City

Howland Township

Hubbard City

Kinsman Township

Newton Falls

Niles City

Warren Township

First Step Recovery of Warren

Mahoning Valley Scrappers

2025 Local Committees, Coalitions & Board Participation:

Ohio Child Fatality Review Board

Overdose Fatality Review Board

Suicide 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

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—Overdose Prevention Network

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention—Faith-Based 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

Mahoning & Trumbull County Health Partnership (MTCHP)

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 or like them on Facebook @ProjectMKC!

TCCHD participates in the Ohio Department of Health's (ODH) 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 2025, TCCHD held 22 classes and provided car seats to 77 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.

TCCHD is a Cribs for Kids partner, an organization that provides safe sleep education and resources. Through funding provided by Department of Children & Youth (DCY), pack-n-plays are made available for distribution to families that do not have a safe place for their infant to sleep. In 2025, TCCHD provided 203 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 2025, 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.

In 2025, TCCHD was awarded a project through the ODH Ohio Injury Prevention Partnership (OIPP) Child Injury Action Group (CIAG), in which TCCHD designed a project to mitigate child sleep-related deaths in Trumbull County. The project was created to provide safe sleep education sessions with local healthcare professionals and early childcare providers in Trumbull County, as well as outreach materials to share with families.

TCCHD participates as a referring agency in the "Prevent Blindness Ohio Vision Care Outreach" Program, previously known as the "Sight for Students" Program. Through funding provided by Prevent Blindness Ohio, the program is 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 program is to ensure that children in Ohio have good vision and healthy eyes. In 2025, our agency assisted 8 families with receiving services. Please contact the office at 330-675-2489 for information.

TCCHD is the county investigative agency for enforcing the Ohio Smoke-Free Workplace Act that was approved in November 2005, which is a smoking ban that prohibits smoking in public places and places of employment. In 2025, TCCHD conducted 14 investigations, which resulted in eight violations discovered with one fine and five dismissals.

In 2025, TCCHD was awarded a grant by the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) called "Strengthening Immunization Program Communications and Outreach Capacity". The project was established by NACCHO to identify and disseminate best practices for managing, maintaining, and addressing vaccine-preventable diseases across the lifespan. TCCHD collaborated with the D5 Group, which is a Trumbull County marketing agency, and centered our project around the rural and Amish communities 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. Several focus groups were conducted with the rural and Amish communities to discuss vaccines and current communication materials. With the collaboration with the D5 Group, several new outreach materials were developed to assist with outreach efforts. 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 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 2025, TCCHD Nursing Staff provided services to 444 patients with a total of 622 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 TCCHD website at 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 America (HFA). 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, HFA, is one of the leading family support and evidence-based home visiting programs. HFA promotes child well-being and prevents the abuse and neglect of children in communities around the world through family-focused and empathic support. HFA 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 during their child's critical years. HFA is a voluntary family support program for eligible pregnant women and new families. Healthy Families America 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
- Call 1 (800) 755-GROW to Speak with an Intake Specialist
- Email Completed Forms to HMGReferrals@helpmegrow.org
- Print and Fax Referrals Forms to (855) 318-3322 or (855) 418-3322

Visit www.helpmegrow.org for more information, or contact our office at 330-675-2489

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 2025, TCCHD was able to reach approximately 12,106 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 2025, TCCHD was able to provide services to approximately 350 families.

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

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 to the community, first responders, treatment facilities and school nurses. In 2025, a total of 5,336 naloxone kits were distributed in Trumbull County, and 1,500 kits were distributed to 20 locations on Overdose Awareness Day. TCCHD was recognized at Ohio Department of Health's OIPP meeting for our Overdose Awareness Day activities. Further breaking down distribution numbers, 508 were distributed to first responders, 1,488 were distributed through emergency access (newsstands, vending machines) and the remainder were distributed to school nurses, recovery centers and members of our community. TCCHD Health Educator also distributed 3,577 fentanyl test strips, 299 Deterra bags, 244 LockMed bags/boxes, 18 Naloxboxes (for emergency use), as well as 194 keychains (holds one dose of naloxone). Six fire/police departments signed agreements for our EMS Leave Behind Program and Trumbull County Jail signed an agreement to distribute naloxone to inmates upon release. TCCHD Health Educator continues to provide naloxone training to Trumbull County Adult Probation and Drug Court, as well as the distribution of naloxone to restaurants/bars (32), barber shops/salons (12) in Trumbull County and members of our rural community. IN 2025 Trumbull County had 54 fatal overdoses (61 in 2024) and 305 non-fatal reported overdoses through emergency department (347 in 2024). Naloxone, Fentanyl Test Strips and Harm Reduction supplies are distributed throughout the year at community resource and health fairs.

Contributed by Tammi Krafft, CHES, Project DAWN Coordinator

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The TCCHD Nursing Division offers many services including:

- Safe Sleep Classes
- Car Seat Classes
- Immunization Clinics for Adults & Children
- TB Testing & Treatment
- Harm Reduction Services
- Pregnancy Testing
- Sight for Students Assistance
- Help Me Grow Home Visiting
- Family Connects Ohio Home Visiting
- Complex Medical Help Program Assistance
- Communicable Disease Investigation
- Rabies & Animal Bite Investigation
- Emergency Preparedness
- Tobacco & Nicotine Prevention, Cessation & Education
- Smoke-Free Workplace Violation Investigation

Please contact us at 330-675-2489 to learn more about our programs or visit our website at www.tcchd.org

EPIDEMIOLOGY REPORT—2025

Reportable Condition (data collected on 2-6-2026)	Trends	# of Confirmed and Probable Cases for 2025	# 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
Amebiasis		0	0	0	2	0
Babesiosis		0	0	1	0	0
C. auris (disease and colonization screens)		14	46	9	0	0
Campylobacteriosis		21	11	18	13	14
Chlamydia infection		573	567	725	836	797
Coccidioidomycosis		0	1	2	0	0
COVID-19		1207	3565	4,692	19,462	21,271
CPO (previously known as CP-CRE) (disease and colonization screens)		91	138	45	8	17
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease		1	0	2	0	1
Cryptosporidiosis		2	3	11	13	6
Cyclosporiasis		0	0	0	0	1
E. coli - enterohemorrhagic (shiga toxin producing) - Not O157:H7		4	4	10	0	0
E. coli - enterohemorrhagic (shiga toxin producing) - O157:H7		0	0	0	3	6
Giardiasis		1	5	5	3	3
Gonococcal infection		202	179	253	445	393
Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease)		8	6	5	6	4
Hepatitis A		0	0	0	0	1
Hepatitis B (including delta) - acute		5	1	0	1	3
Hepatitis B (including delta) - chronic		19	25	20	21	24
Hepatitis C - acute		3	1	1	1	3
Hepatitis C - chronic		121	130	195	201	206
Hepatitis C –perinatal		2	1	1	0	1
Influenza-associated hospitalization		186	51	43	116	0
LaCrosse virus disease (other California serogroup virus disease)		0	0	0	0	1
Legionellosis - Legionnaires' Disease		22	14	16	4	13
Listeriosis		0	3	2	1	1
Lyme Disease		49	39	39	18	18
Malaria		0	0	0	1	0
Meningitis - aseptic/viral		6	8	7	11	6
Meningitis - bacterial (Not N. meningitidis)		1	3	1	1	0
MIS-C associated with COVID-19		0	0	0	2	4
Mumps		0	0	0	0	1
Pertussis		3	4	39	9	0
Rabies-animal		0	0	0	0	4
Salmonellosis		20	16	22	6	6
Shigella		2	2	4	8	1
Staphylococcal aureus - intermediate resistance to vancomycin (VISA)		0	0	0	0	1
Streptococcal - Group A -invasive		21	29	29	28	10
Streptococcal - Group B -Newborn		1	0	0	1	0
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant		22	28	16	24	9
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistant/intermediate		5	3	4	9	1
Syphilis-unknown duration or late		13	11	5	10	5
Tularemia		0	0	1	0	0
Varicella		0	0	0	4	4
West Nile Virus		1	0	0	0	0
Vibriosis (not cholera)		1	1	3	1	0
Yersiniosis		1	2	2	3	2

Trends:	
line shape is a graph representing change in # of cases over 5 years (2025-2021) case # increase over previous year no change compared to previous year case # decrease over previous year	

**Information Compiled by Ericka Clark, MPH, TCCHD Epidemiologist*

2025
Child Fatality Review
Deaths Reviewed

Manner of Death	
Suicide	1
Homicide	0
Accidental	6
Natural	8
Undetermined	0
Unknown/Pending	0

2025
Suicide Fatality Review
Deaths Reviewed
(Deaths Occurred in 2024-Reviewed 2025)

Method	
Firearm	17
Asphyxia by Hanging	8
Exsanguination	2
Carbon Monoxide	1
Poisoning	3
Striking (Train/Vehicle)	1

**Information Compiled by Ericka Clark, MPH, TCCHD Epidemiologist*

2025
Overdose Fatality Reviews
(OFR)

Residence Zip Code	# of Overdose Deaths
44483	21
44446	12
44485	9
44484	8
44420	3
44410	3
44505	3
44444	5
44430	4
44425	2
44451	2
44402	1
44502	1
44440	1
44054	1
44304	1
44491	1
16101	1
33444	1
44473	1
26070	1
44509	1
38131	1
44481	1
44512	1

**Some Zip Codes Listed are Outside Trumbull County, but OD Death Occurred in Trumbull County*

***Information Compiled by Tammi Krafft, CHES, TCCHD Health Educator*

Kristofer J. Wilster, MPH, REHS

Director of Environmental Health Services

In 2025 the environmental division was comprised of 13 inspectors, and 5 clerical staff, who handled 13 environmental programs in all 34 townships, cities and villages within the Trumbull County Combined Health District jurisdiction. 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 addressing vacant and abandoned properties, ultimately helping to reduce blight within their communities.

2025 Declarations of Unfit

Braceville Twp.	Girard City	Johnston Twp.	Liberty Twp.	Warren Twp.	Weathersfield	W. Farmington
7	2	7	2	1	4	1

Our Grants Coordinator worked diligently and again secured mosquito control funding through the Ohio EPA's Mosquito Control Grant Program, enabling the townships, cities, and villages within the health district to carry out mosquito spraying, thereby minimizing the risk of mosquito-borne virus outbreaks. Our inspectors also conduct mosquito surveillance, collecting mosquitoes for testing at ODH. As a result of that surveillance, in July 2025, Trumbull County had one mosquito pool test positive for West Nile Virus, and the health district issued notice and information to the public reminding everyone to be vigilant against being bitten by a mosquito and steps they can take to be safe. 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.

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 2025, our Solid Waste Program and Construction & Demolition Debris Program was surveyed by the Ohio EPA. During the course of the survey, representatives of the Ohio EPA, reviewed our records and documents associated with this program. During the survey they reviewed a percentage of complaints received, how those complaints were resolved, in what manner they were resolved and how many remained unresolved. The Ohio EPA determined that our staff demonstrated knowledge regarding the rules and regulations associated with this program and recommended that our agency remain on the Ohio EPA Director's approved list.

Our Food Program was also surveyed in 2025 by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). It was determined by ODH consultant that our agency and program staff were meeting the acceptable standards as specified by their survey methodology, and our agency was approved as the licensor of the Food Service Operations in our district.

2025
Compliance Trends

Household Sewage Treatment System Program

Compliance Achieved	Non-Compliance	Extensions Granted (Pending/ In Process)	Overall Compliance
32%	27%	41%	33%

Solid Waste Program

Compliance Achieved	Non-Compliance	Extensions Granted (Pending/ In Process)	Overall Compliance
27%	55%	18%	39%

Private Water System Program

Compliance Achieved	Non-Compliance	Extensions Granted (Pending/ In Process)	Overall Compliance
33%	44%	22%	50%

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

Sewage Program

Approximately 32% of the properties complied after an Administrative Hearing was held; however, 27% of the properties did not comply initially, and had to be sent to court. The remainder of the properties, approximately 41%, were granted an extension, or are pending/in process. Overall, the Sewage Treatment Systems Administrative Hearings show a trend of 33% compliance when you add the Administrative Hearing compliance and the Court Forced compliance.

***Compliance decreased 26% from 2024. Non-compliance increased 4% from 2024. After court, the overall compliance decreased 29% from 2024.

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.

***Compliance decreased 19% from 2024. Non-compliance increased 16% from 2024. After court, the overall compliance decreased 11% from 2024.

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.

***Compliance decreased 30% from 2024. Non-compliance increased 13% from 2024. After court, the overall compliance decreased 13% from 2024.

2025 Food Program Inspections

	Inspections	Non-Critical Violations	Critical Violations
1st Quarter	374	334	166
2nd Quarter	336	315	134
3rd Quarter	401	381	168
4th Quarter	373	319	139
TOTAL	1,484	1,349	607

Solid Waste Nuisance Abatement Compliance 5-Year Trend

Year	Achieved Compliance (After Administrative Hearing)	Non-Compliance (Sent to Court)	Extensions Granted (Pending/In Process)	Overall Compliance
2020	31%	53%	16%	81%
2021	23%	48%	30%	63%
2022	38%	31%	31%	69%
2023	5%	34%	61%	10%
2024	46%	39%	14%	50%

Home Sewage Treatment System Program Compliance 5-Year Trend

Year	Achieved Compliance (After Administrative Hearing)	Non-Compliance (Sent to Court)	Extensions Granted (Pending/In Process)	Overall Compliance
2020	33%	38%	30%	63%
2021	36%	37%	25%	64%
2022	48%	4%	11%	83%
2023	46%	8%	46%	47%
2024	58%	31%	11%	62%

Health Education: 2025 Year-in-Review

Through the Creating Healthy Communities (CHC) grant, the Health Education Division:

- ◊ 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 CHC Health Educator collaborates and partners with the Health Community Partnership. Sitting on several action teams within the organization: Active Transportation Action Team, Healthy Food Retail Action Team, Parks & Greenspaces Action Team, and the Steering Committee.

2025 Accomplishments

Hosted a Safer Streets Demonstration Project in the City of Niles. 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.

Partnered with Church Hill United Methodist's Food Pantry to Provide Assistance and Education to Clients. A food pantry is a community-based site where individuals and families in need can receive food directly. Unlike a "food bank", which acts as a massive regional warehouse, a pantry is the "front line" where the food actually reaches the person.

Developed and Recruited a resident to Take on the Role of Transportation Ambassador for the Health Community Partnership's Active Transportation Action Team. The **Community Ambassador Fellowship Program** is a resident-focused leadership development experience designed to empower individuals passionate about building a healthier Mahoning Valley. The goal is to equip local residents to promote equitable opportunities for healthier eating and more active lifestyles, and to support their community in making these choices.

In 2025, the Trumbull County Combined Health District (TCCHD) successfully completed its Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) reaccreditation site visit under Version 2022 standards, affirming the department's continued commitment to quality, accountability, and performance excellence. The reaccreditation process, coupled with PHAB's subsequent Insight to Action discussion, provided a comprehensive evaluation of TCCHD's systems, practices, and community impact, while also identifying opportunities to further strengthen community engagement and communication strategies.

The PHAB Site Visit Report recognized TCCHD as a stable, well-managed health district with a strong foundation in governance, leadership, and cross-sector collaboration. Site visitors noted the department's demonstrated use of data to inform decision-making, its alignment of programs with community health priorities, and its commitment to continuous quality improvement. TCCHD's ability to sustain essential public health services while engaging in strategic planning and accreditation activities was identified as a significant organizational strength. The report further highlighted the department's culture of collaboration, both internally and with community partners, as a critical driver of program effectiveness and service delivery.

Building upon these findings, PHAB's Insight to Action discussion provided tailored guidance to help TCCHD advance from compliance toward deeper impact. This facilitated dialogue focused primarily on strengthening how the department communicates with and engages community members, particularly priority and target populations. The discussion emphasized the importance of identifying intended audiences ealy in the planning process and intentionally involving those populations throughout program development, implementation, and evaluation.

A central theme of the Insight to Action review was the value of two-way communication and trust-building. Rather than relying on prescriptive or one-directional messaging, TCCHD was encouraged to continue evolving toward approaches that "meet people where they are", actively listen to community feedback, and incorporate lived experience into public health initiatives. Site visitors and staff shared examples of current practices that reflect this philosophy, reinforcing that TCCHD already possesses many of the foundational elements needed to deepen community engagement.

PHAB also provided TCCHD with a curated set of evidence-based tools, frameworks, and training resources to support this work, including guidance on effective health campaigns, community engagement stages, and rural health communication strategies. These resources are intended to help TCCHD refine messaging, improve reach and relevance, and ensure communications are responsive to community needs.

Together, the reaccreditation site visit and Insight to Action process reaffirm TCCHD's strengths while offering a clear, actionable pathway for continued growth. The outcomes of this work position the department to further enhance transparency, trust, and community partnership—key elements for advancing public health outcomes and sustaining excellence in the years ahead.

https://m.facebook.com/trumbullpublichealth

https://x.com/trumbull_health

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

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