

FULTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WORKING WITH YOU...IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Annual Report 2008

HEALTH COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE MICHAEL P. ORICKO, MSEPH

Health care is vital to all of us some of the time, but public health is vital to all of us all of the time. -C. Everett Koop



Since the early 1900's, the average life expectancy of Americans has increased by almost thirty years. Most of those thirty years have been due to basic public health accomplishments: immunizations, improved nutrition, a safe food supply, safe water and improved waste disposal. Additionally, as our knowledge of public health issues has increased so has our mandates and programs.



For example, while many of us and our children receive vaccinations from the Health Department, the staff of the department is also tracking diseases in the community and actively investigating any outbreaks of many serious communicable diseases in

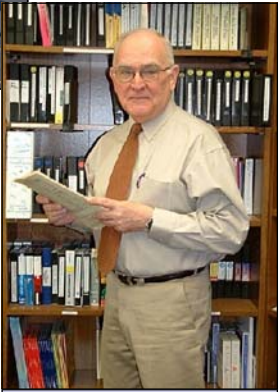


order to prevent their spread. Not only is nutrition education provided, but nutritious supplemental food is provided to those who qualify through the WIC program. Regular inspections of food facilities and inspections of water and wastewater systems help to provide healthier lives. In this annual report you will find

information on these and more programs provided by your Health Department.

The current

economic situation will challenge us all and force many difficult decisions. Even so, public health is vital to all of us and you have our promise that your Health Department will continue to work hard to ensure that its programs protect us all.



Dr. Harry Murtiff, Medical Director



2008 Board of Health Members
Dave Nafziger, Keith Lehman, MD, Judy Murtiff, Denise Heban and Ed Roth
Not pictured: David Pelok, DDS

Visit us on the web: fultoncountyhealthdept.com



VITAL STATISTICS



Administrative Support Staff

Vital statistics records and issues certified copies of all birth, death, and fetal deaths that occur in Fulton County. Some records dating from 1909 and all from 1951 to present are in volumes and on card file. The fee is **\$18.00** for each certified copy.

GENERAL BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday—8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
The first Thursday of each month until 6:00 p.m.

2008 Statistics

In County Births 347

In County Deaths 311

Causes of Death

Accident 11

Alzheimers/Dementia 15

Cancer 60

Cerebrovascular Accident/Disease 23

Fetal Death 4

Heart 96

Other Natural 33

Pulmonary/Pneumonia 49

Renal 13

Suicide 6

Pending Cause of Death 1

If you need to obtain a birth certificate for legal reasons such as a driver's license, school enrollment, passport, etc. and you were born in Fulton County, you may either purchase one here at the Health Department or connect online at www.vitalchek.com to order one. The same is true for obtaining death certificates.

Not all live births for residents of Fulton County occur in the county. Due to a delay in reporting from the Ohio Department of Health, 2007 data is as follows:

Defiance County	14
Franklin County	1
Fulton County	248
Henry County	7
Lucas County	270
Summit County	1
Williams County	21

Public health is vital all the time, even where vital statistics are concerned. If your local health department was not here, you would have to go through the Ohio Department of Health in Columbus to obtain a birth or death certificate. Their shortest processing time is three weeks, even if you order online and pay for overnight delivery.

Top names of boys in 2008 for Fulton County were: Aiden, Caleb, Jacob and Logan

Top names of girls in 2008 for Fulton County were: Alexis, Brooklyn, and Sophia

WIC OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday—8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

First & Third Thursdays—8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

What would Fulton County be like without the WIC program? There would be more hungry children, more anemic children, more premature births, fewer

breastfed infants, increased infant mortality rates, and fewer immunized children. More children with special needs would not be connected with health services because the WIC program was not there to help them. There would be an increase in harmful or unsafe feeding practices such as diluting formula so it will last longer because families cannot afford formula or giving cow's milk to infants.

WIC has improved children's health, growth and development and prevented health problems for 35 years. WIC is a cost-effective investment that ensures the health of our children. For every dollar spent for WIC, \$3.00 is saved in Medicaid costs. Nationally, WIC serves more than 8.2 million mothers, infants and children and nearly half of all America's infants.



WIC Staff

Our country is in an economic crisis and this has certainly impacted the WIC program. In 2008, Ohio WIC set new caseload records and new caseload records were set at the local level as well. We saw an

increase of 9% in clinic visits from 2007. We predict that we will set new caseload records in 2009.

In 2008, a Breastfeeding Peer Helper was hired. She has been an asset to the program through her breastfeeding promotion and support efforts. Her role as a Breastfeeding Peer Helper is to educate prenatal clients and encourage breastfeeding mothers who encounter breastfeeding difficulties. As a result of establishing rapport through mother to mother counseling, our breastfeeding rates have improved. Promoting breastfeeding is an essential WIC service and a national public health strategy to protect children from serious health issues. The benefits of breastfeeding go beyond reducing the risk of many lifelong chronic conditions.

WIC is a program that provides nutritious foods to pregnant, breastfeeding or postpartum women and children up to the age of five. Please call to see if you or a family member qualify for the WIC program. Our telephone numbers are (419) 337-6979 or (800) 888-4804.



WIC (Women, Infants and Children)

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES



Community Health Services Staff

Child and Family Health Services are offered to families with children. These “wrap around” services include: assisting with transportation to medical appointments, finding a medical home, applying for Medicaid and interpretation for Spanish speaking families.



IMMUNIZATIONS

It's been a long time since a case of measles or mumps has been diagnosed in Fulton County. There haven't been cases of Hib meningitis either. Preventing diseases by vaccinating against them is one of the biggest public health achievements of our era. Your Health Department helps to protect you and your family by providing affordable immunizations. Last year, 2,557 immunizations were given. In addition, 1,936 flu shots were administered to adults and children.

Vaccines were developed to protect people from diseases that cause serious disability and death. These diseases are still a threat. Americans travel all over the world. They visit countries where such diseases are common. There are also visitors from other countries in the United States daily. The chances that unvaccinated citizens could be exposed to a vaccine preventable disease are a definite possibility.

When children are not immunized properly, they are at risk of catching the disease. Once infected, they can transmit disease in the community. Unvaccinated adults and children can pass diseases to babies who are too young to be immunized and to children or adults who have problems with their immune system.

When disease outbreaks occur, unimmunized children cannot attend school or child care until the outbreak is over. While this is meant to protect the child, it's also necessary to protect others. This can cause hardship for families who must stay home from work to care for the child.

So, what would happen if a large number of people decided to stop getting vaccinations? Already, your Health Department has assisted with whooping cough outbreaks and a measles outbreak that occurred in another state. It reminds us that dangerous diseases are still out there. Unfortunately, this increase may be due to people choosing not to vaccinate. If this trend continues, disease rates could return to pre-vaccination levels.

Your Health Department is here to protect the health of our citizens. “Public health is vital to all of us” and is everyone's concern. Personal health choices are a private matter and the decision to immunize is ultimately your decision, but it also affects your neighbors and the community. Your concerns are understood. Please discuss them with a trusted healthcare provider as well as the professionals at your Health Department.

NURSING HOURS

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

IMMUNIZATION HOURS

Friday mornings
8:30 a.m.—12:00 noon
First & Third Thursdays
2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.



Public Health Nurses are available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to assist you from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can have your blood pressure checked, hearing tested, and more.

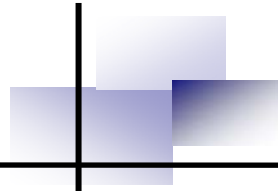


Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of injury-related deaths in children. The Fulton County Health Department has trained **car seat technicians** that stay educated on new laws and recommendations to protect kids in cars. Call to schedule an appointment for a car seat check. For more information, including the NEW booster seat law, see our website.



The Fulton County Health Department uses **interpreters** and trained staff to provide our services to those in our community who are hearing-impaired or non-English speaking.





The **Prenatal Clinic** provides care to women throughout their pregnancy. Most women seen in the clinic do not have insurance. They would not be able to afford quality care to assure their baby is born healthy. The clinic also provides access to care for Spanish speaking women with the assistance of interpreters. In 2008, 49 women received prenatal care at the Fulton County Health Department.

The **Breast and Cervical Cancer Project** is a ten county project that helps provide yearly exams such as: pap, pelvic, clinical breast exams, and mammograms to uninsured, low income women. The project helps provide these services at no cost to the woman.



BCCP



Early help for young children with developmental or health problems is important so that they can start school healthy and ready to learn. **Help Me Grow (HMG)** gives this help. Public Health Nurses make HMG newborn home visits and work with families of children with medical needs. They also do vision and hearing screenings in public preschools and link families with specialists for further testing when needed.



Prevention is the focus of **Health Educators** at the Health Department. They provide Fulton County community members with tools and support to become healthy, productive individuals in work and life. Education sessions, community events, classroom presentations and encouragement are available to all residents.



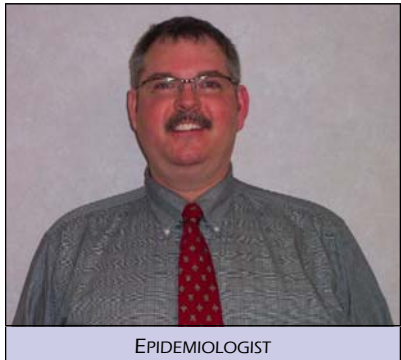
Health Educators

The Health Department has a public health nurse assigned to several of our county schools. Our **school nurse** provides recommended vision, hearing, scoliosis, and BP screenings. She also assists with monitoring immunization records and communicable diseases.



PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUCCESS

Public Health Nurses serve families through the **Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMH)**. This program covers some medical bills for eligible children who have or may have certain medical problems. Our nurses can help you apply for the program!



EPIDEMIOLOGIST

An important role of public health is to understand and prevent **communicable disease**. In 2008, over 150 disease reports were investigated. Through this process, your Fulton County Health Department is able to provide education, watch trends, and protect the public. We work with local health care providers to gather reports.

The **reproductive health services** provided here help women and men of all ages stay healthy. Physical exams, pap tests, STD screening, and birth control are some of the services provided. Clients pay for their services on a sliding fee scale based on their income. The clinic served 990 clients in 2008.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

Preventing the High Cost of Water Pollution

Clean water is one of the main barriers between health and disease. A visit outside the United States can be an eye-opening experience. We would think twice about lowering our bucket into the nearest creek and carrying it home to cook or bathe. However, in some countries this practice is common. The Ohio EPA assures the town water supplies are safe and clean. Your Health Department assures a rural home water supply system is safe and clean. The water system must comply with water quality and construction standards. If you have questions concerning water quality and water testing, call the Health Department. The average person uses about 75 gallons per day. The Health Department is here to help assure each drop is clean and pathogen free.



Environmental Staff

Each year throughout the world, **rabies** kills approximately 50,000 people, mostly children.

Wastewater Treatment is Important



Water-related diseases are the most common cause of illness and death among the poor of developing countries.

Around the world, 1.6 million deaths per year are due to three things. They are: unsafe water, poor sanitation and poor hygiene. Most of these deaths occur outside the United States. Wastewater treatment is a vital step to prevent and control the spread of disease. Wastewater comes from the drains of toilets, laundry, sinks, bathtubs, etc. Your Health Department monitors and inspects sewage treatment systems. These checks help to assure water leaving these systems does not cause an unsafe condition. The OEPA regulates town sewage treatment plants. Your local health department regulates about 8,000 home sewage treatment systems. Assuring that these systems are not draining potential disease carrying water into the environment is a large task. If you have questions about your sewage treatment system, please contact your Health Department.

During the early 1900's, contaminated food, milk and water caused many **food borne** infections, including typhoid fever, tuberculosis, botulism, and scarlet fever.

2008 ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

Animal Bites Reported	90
Specimens Sent to the Lab	15
Rabies Positive	0
Total Food Licenses Issued	432
Food Service Operations/ Retail Food Establishments	202
Licensed Mobile Units	15
Temporary Licenses	146
Vending Licenses	69
Private Water Permits Issued	65
Total Water Samples Taken	383
Bacterially Safe	217
Bacterially Unsafe	88
Other Water Tests	78
Private Sewage Permits Issued	55
Home Sale Certifications	19
Campgrounds Licensed	5
Manufactured Home Parks Licensed	19
Nuisance & Housing Complaints Investigated	305
Swimming Pools Licensed	20
Subdivision/Lot Split Consultations	118
Food Service Inspections/Consultations	1141
Indoor Air Inspections	10
School Inspections	51
Scrap Tire Inspections	6
Solid Waste Inspections/Consultations	52
Tattoo/Piercing Consultations	8
Infectious Waste Inspections	15
Smoking Inspections/Consultations	46

STAFF MEMBERS

Health Commissioner

Michael P. Oricko, MSEPH

Administrative Support Staff

Sandy Burkholder, Environmental
Jeannie Hamilton, Account Clerk
Sandy Heising, Adm. Assistant/Registrar
Barb Pfost, Nursing
Jill Precht, Account Clerk
Jane Sauder, Fiscal Supervisor

Environmental

Kim Cupp, RS, BS, Environmental
Director
Jeff Crisenbery, RS, BS
Oscar Hernandez III, SIT, BS
Pat Wiemken, RS, BS

Epidemiologist

Mark Eckhart, MPH

Community Health Services

Cindy Rose, RN, BSN, Nursing
Director
Mary Apodaca, RN, BSN
Christa Bickel, BCCP Clerk
Linda Burkholder, RN
Jaime Fogarty, LSW
Lisa Grime, LPN
Meredith Grime, BS
Dee Jackson, RN
Heather Johnson, RN, BSN
Karen King, RN, BSN
Rachel Kinsman, BS
Amy McVey, RN
Lou Moody, RN, MSN
Brenda Oyer, M ED
Karen Pennington, BS
Deb Roth, RNC, OGNP
Becky Schermond, BA
Andrea Schwiebert, RN, BSN

Beth Thomas, MSW, LSW
Stefanie Tussing, RN, BSN
Deb Weirach, RN

Cardiovascular Health Educators

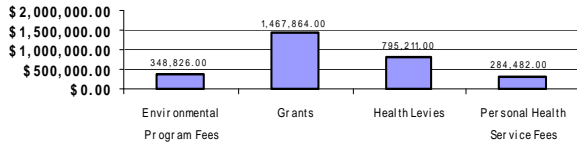
Audra Roesti, RDLD
Gina Veres, BA

WIC

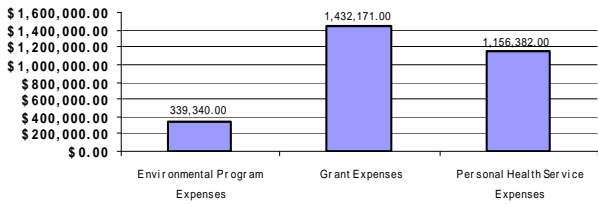
LuAnne Stanley, RDLD, WIC
Project Director
Amy Clark, Breastfeeding
Peer Helper
Gina Gruber, DTR
Kelley Hester, Clerk
Maureen Lammy, RDLD
Erica Miller, DTR
Jessica Torres, Clerk

HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUNDING COMES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

Income in 2008 \$2,896,383



Expenses in 2008 \$2,927,893



COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Clinic Related Contacts	12,114
Nursing Hour Coverage (Individuals served)	3,425
Blood Pressure Clinics (Individuals served)	454
Persons Immunized (Childhood and Adult Immunizations)	2,557
Adults Immunized Against Flu	1,936
Prenatal Clinic Visits (49 patients served)	262
Reproductive Health Clinic Visits (serving women and men of all ages)	3,432
Case Management Contacts & Services (for Help Me Grow, BCMH, BCCP, Child & Family Health, Communicable Diseases, General Public Health, Lead Screening)	3,189
Individuals Screened by School Nurses (Evergreen, Fayette & Holy Trinity Schools) 86 children referred for further evaluation; case management services provided to 41 school children.	3,980
Additional School-Related Services (all schools in the county—including Baby Think It Over, teen pregnancy prevention efforts & tobacco education)	1,839
Health Education and Outreach Contacts (145 sessions including: After School Program, Early Childhood & Preschool Evaluations, HMG Community Screenings, car seat education & preschool nutrition programs)	942
Community Health Education Contacts (225 sessions/events conducted)	5,414
WIC Clinic Visits	4,973

fultoncountyhealthdept.com

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION AND
ADDITIONAL ARTICLES, INCLUDING INFORMATION
ON MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS,
VISIT US ON THE WEB:

E-Mail: fultcohd@odh.ohio.gov

Fax: (419) 337-0561

Phone: (419) 337-0915

WAUSEON OH 43567

606 S SHOOP AVENUE

FULTON COUNTY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

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