

# ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Allen County Combined Health District  
www.allencountypublichealth.org

## 2014-2016 Strategic Plan for Allen County Public Health

This past year we completed a 3-year strategic plan for our agency. Developed by our employees and the Board of Health, this plan will guide our work in effectively carrying out our roles and responsibilities aimed at protecting and promoting the health of our community. The process of developing this plan has reinforced the critical role of partnership and collaboration – both within our organization and with our external partners.

Our strategic priorities and associated goal statements support our mission of protecting and promoting the health of Allen County. Our goal is to improve our quality, value, accountability and performance as your local public health department. In order to do this, we are focusing on five key priority areas:

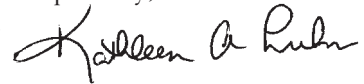
- **Employees** – being an employer of choice in West Central Ohio thereby attracting and maintaining knowledgeable, committed and well-trained staff

- **Accountability** – providing high quality public health services by using evidence-based programs that result in measurable improvements in the health of our community
- **Service** – providing exceptional service and care that results in a positive experience for the customer as well as improved health
- **Resources** – optimizing resources to support mandated and locally determined services while adjusting to our changing environment
- **Innovation** – anticipating and responding to the public health needs of the community and organization so we are always growing and improving

The plan is ambitious. It will help us on our path towards national public health accreditation. I know our staff is up for the challenge. I invite you to review this annual report to see the good work we are already

accomplishing. We look forward to working with you to achieve our vision of healthy people living, working, playing and learning in a healthy environment.

Respectfully,



Kathleen A. Luhn, MS, MCHES  
Health Commissioner

### Allen County Public Health Mission, Vision and Values

**Mission:** Protecting and promoting the health of Allen County.

**Vision:** Healthy people living, working, playing and learning in a healthy environment.

**Values:**

- Collaboration**
- Integrity**
- Respect**
- Equality**
- Empowerment**
- Communication**

## Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

One of the major accomplishments of 2014 was the release of the Allen County Community Health Improvement Plan, or CHIP. This plan is being used by our community partners including governmental, educational and human service agencies, to coordinate and target their activities and resources. A CHIP is critical for developing policies and

defining actions that promote health within a community.

The process involved community partners prioritizing and then selecting key issues where we could have the most impact on improving the health of our community. The four priority areas are:

- Increase wellness
- Improve maternal and infant health

- Reduce mental health and substance abuse issues
- Improve access to care

Within each of these areas are multiple objectives and activities designed to bring about measurable change in Allen County. We invite you to view the [Allen County CHIP](#) document on our website and get involved.



## **DIVISION UPDATES**

### **Nursing Division:**

2014 brought about a massive change in the services provided in the Nursing Division. One of the biggest changes has been with the private purchase vaccine. By purchasing vaccines from the manufacturer and maintaining our ODH supply, we are able to continue to be a resource for our residents. Our staff have also worked tirelessly to implement our Electronic Medical Records (EMR) technology in our Reproductive Health and Wellness clinic. Our staff was trained in July and began using the program in August. This program will increase the efficiency of how we provide services to our clients and will make it possible for us to share records with other healthcare agencies. Finally, our billing staff have improved the way we bill for the services we provide. In addition to increasing the number of insurance companies who we are contracted with to provide services, our staff completes the needed follow-up to assure that we are reimbursed properly.

### **WIC Program:**

In 2014, Allen County WIC tried several new and innovative education methods to promote healthy eating, breastfeeding, safe and healthy child care practices and healthy lifestyle activities for new parents. One new and innovative concept was a prenatal baby shower held for 85 new WIC moms in the county. The educational party was a collaborative effort among WIC, Heartbeat of Lima, CareSource, Help Me Grow, Caring For Two, and the YWCA Resource Center. The goal of this educational function was to improve the health and well-being of our newborns, help families prepare for their new arrival and provide fun, peer support, educational gifts, healthy food, and information about programs that are available to help families when the baby is born. Some attendees had never had a baby shower and were grateful for the experience. Allen County WIC is committed to helping children be the healthiest they can be.

### **Environmental Division:**

After years of planning, revised Household Sewage Treatment System rules were adopted by the Ohio Department of Health on September 29, 2014 for statewide implementation beginning on January 1, 2015. Implementation of these rules required staff training, information sharing with stakeholders and revisions to our regulation adopted by the Board of Health. Beginning in 2015, our department accepted responsibility from the Ohio EPA for the designing and permitting of small non-residential sewage systems which may serve small businesses. Our web page has been revised for the sewage program and now provides a wealth of information for system owners on how systems are designed and their operation and maintenance requirements. Empowering owners to know more about their sewage systems helps to preserve their investment and protect the environment from health hazards which can be created by malfunctioning sewage systems.

### **Vital Statistics:**

The Vital Statistics office files records for births and deaths that occur in Lima, Delphos, and all of Allen County. Our files date back to December 1908, when the filing system for the state began. Ohio law only allows for the issuance of certified copies of birth and death records. Our office can now issue certified birth certificates for all births occurring in the State of Ohio. Any births outside of Ohio must be requested directly from that state. We do not accept personal checks, but require cash, money order, or cashier's check. We also offer the use of a debit/credit card machine with an additional usage fee applied to the cardholder. When possible, Vital Statistics staff issues copies while customers wait—approximately 10 minutes. On-line ordering is available via a link on our website: [www.allencountypublichealth.org](http://www.allencountypublichealth.org).

### **Health Education Division:**

In 2014, the Health Education Division was active in many community initiatives that plan and address the health concerns of our community. In June, our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) was adopted and unveiled to the community. ACPH is working with multiple community agencies to direct and complete the action steps that have been outlined in this plan. In addition, ACPH was a contributing member of our Community Health Assessment Planning Team. This group developed youth and adult survey tools that were administered this fall to gain information about the health status and the perceived needs of our residents. The results of this survey will be shared in April 2015. In addition to these projects, health education staff continue to be partners in community coalitions such as the Bike and Pedestrian Task Force, Safe Communities Coalition and the Northwest Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition that focuses on Human Trafficking.

### **Public Health Preparedness/Emergency Response:**

Several preparedness initiatives made big strides in 2014. Allen County Public Health took the lead for Ebola response planning in the county by meeting, planning and sharing information regularly with our community partners. Ready Allen County, the registry to quickly identify residents that need assistance responding to community emergency situations, now has 100 residents registered. Staff exercised our newly completed agency Mass Fatality Plan with participation from county and regional partners. Three new schools are participating in our SUDS program (Schools United in Disease Surveillance). Staff have also been working with schools on issues related to vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks.

## PROGRAM STATISTICS FOR 2014

### Nursing Division

#### Breast and Cervical Cancer Program

Caseload (BCCP) - Serving Allen and 6 surrounding counties

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| •Pap tests   | 121 |
| • Pelvic Exams without Pap                               | 187 |
| •Screening and diagnostic mammograms, breast ultrasounds | 407 |
| •Breast cancer diagnosed                                 | 6   |
| •Cervical dysplasia diagnosed                            | 6   |
| •Cervical cancer diagnosed                               | 1   |

**Total Immunizations Given** 7,713

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| • VFC Immunizations   | 4,494 |
| • Private Purchase    | 2,773 |
| • Other State Vaccine | 446   |

**Family Planning Clinic Visits** 2,371

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| •New patients to Family Planning | 503 |
|----------------------------------|-----|

**TB Skin Tests Given** 941

**Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps Caseload - Unduplicated** 656

**Communicable Diseases Reported** 1,248

**Caring for Two** –African American Infant Mortality Prevention Home Visits 1,263

### Vital Statistics

#### Births/Birth Certificates

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| •Number of county resident births filed | 1,230 |
| •Number of certified copies issued      | 6,264 |

#### Deaths/Death Certificates

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| •Number of county resident deaths filed | 988   |
| •Number of certified copies issued      | 5,666 |

### Environmental Division

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Water System Inspections                         | 170   |
| Sewage System Inspections                        | 1,759 |
| Recreational Parks and Camps Inspections         | 23    |
| Manufactured Home Park Inspections               | 30    |
| Public Swimming Pool and Spa Inspections         | 106   |
| Open Bathing Area Inspections                    | 10    |
| Solid and Infectious Waste Inspections           | 29    |
| Demolition Waste and Clean Hard Fill Inspections | 182   |
| School Inspections                               | 119   |
| Plumbing System Inspections                      | 1,003 |
| Food Service Operation Inspections               | 1,434 |
| Retail Food Establishment Inspections            | 489   |
| Food Vending Inspections                         | 138   |
| Animal Bite Investigations                       | 485   |
| Environmental Complaint Inspections              | 590   |
| Smoke-Free Workplace Complaint Investigations    | 26    |
| Tattoo and Body Piercing Service Inspections     | 11    |

### Health Education Division

**HIV Tests performed** 1,439

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| •Positive Tests | 4 |
|-----------------|---|

**WIC Monthly Caseload** 3,195

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| •Women    | 739   |
| •Infants  | 784   |
| •Children | 1,672 |

## 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT

|  |                     |                   |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| <b>BALANCE</b> January 1, 2014               | \$596,132.00        |                   |
| <b>2014 RECEIPTS</b>                         |                     |                   |
|  | <b>Amount</b>       | <b>Percentage</b> |
| Townships, Villages, and Cities              | 637,927.00          | 17.7%             |
| County Commissioners                         | 33,575.00           | 0.9%              |
| Grants                                       | 1,623,160.00        | 45.0%             |
| Permit and Service Fees                      | 1,030,505.00        | 28.6%             |
| Medicaid/Insurance Reimbursement             | 259,386.00          | 7.2%              |
| State Subsidy                                | 20,613.00           | 0.6%              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                 | <b>3,605,166.00</b> | <b>100.0%</b>     |
| <b>BALANCE AND RECEIPTS</b>                  | <b>4,201,298.00</b> |                   |
| <b>2014 EXPENSES</b>                         |                     |                   |
| Salaries and Benefits                        | 2,528,168.00        | 72.1%             |
| Clinic Supplies                              | 161,963.00          | 4.6%              |
| Other Supplies                               | 95,658.00           | 2.7%              |
| Lab Expenses                                 | 5,673.00            | 0.2%              |
| Building/Occupancy Costs                     | 148,664.00          | 4.2%              |
| Equipment/Equipment Repair/Service Contracts | 97,591.00           | 2.8%              |
| Training/Continuing Education                | 5,441.00            | 0.2%              |
| Transportation                               | 25,817.00           | 0.7%              |
| Contractual Services                         | 35,645.00           | 1.0%              |
| Payments to State*                           | 236,510.00          | 6.8%              |
| Other (Insurance, audits, etc.)              | 164,898.00          | 4.7%              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                 | <b>3,506,028.00</b> | <b>100.0%</b>     |
| Ending <b>BALANCE</b> December 31, 2014      | \$695,270.00        |                   |

\* Each year our budget is inflated by fees that we are required to collect and send to the state of Ohio. Most of these fees go to the Ohio Department of Health with a smaller share going to Ohio Children's Trust Fund, Ohio Family Crisis Centers, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the Ohio Department of Agriculture, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. A total of \$236,510 was collected and sent on to Columbus in 2014.

## ACPH HOSTS CDC ASSOCIATE

Allen County Public Health has been participating in the Public Health Associate Program since July 2013. We have benefited greatly by having Jalisa Herron, a CDC employee, placed with us. During her time at ACPH, Jalisa has worked in our Public Health Preparedness and Environmental Divisions and performed many duties such as assisting with the development of plans, updating our website, assisting with our school surveillance program and completing inspections. She also assisted the health departments in Auglaize, Mercer and Van Wert Counties with their special programs. We would like to thank Jalisa for all that she has done to enhance the services we provide to our residents.



## ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

219 E Market Street

PO Box 1503

Lima, OH 45802-1503

Phone: 419-228-4457

Fax: 419-224-4161

Information Line: 419-228-INFO

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



Like us on Facebook and  
follow us on Twitter!



*Allen County Public Health is an equal  
opportunity employer and provider of services.*



Printed on recycled paper.

## ALLEN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

As established in Ohio law, our seven member Board of Health is our policy-making body with authority to adopt regulations and establish programs to promote public health within the district. As of January 2015, Board members are Dr. Wilfred Ellis, MD, President; Eric Kerner, Vice President; Janis Carse; Marva Cowan; Scott Shutt and Kha Tran, MD. After 21 years of serving on the Board of Health, Don Schweingruber, has stepped down. He will be missed. The District Advisory Council will appoint his replacement to complete his term on the Board.

Six of the seven Board members are appointed by the mayors, township trustees, and county commissioners of Allen County. The District Licensing Council appoints the seventh member. The Board meets at 8:00 a.m. on the second Friday of each month, and meetings are open to the public.

