

ALLEN COUNTY COMBINED HEALTH DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

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The Search is Over




Much of 2010 was spent working to find the best home for the Health Department. Our goal was for the Board of Health to become property

owners rather than continue to pay rent and have nothing to show for it. Thanks to a special Committee of the Board of Health including Jon Neuman, Don Schweingruber, and Eric Kerner, we conducted an extensive search. We began the year negotiating with the owners of our current 219 E. Market St. building. We kept our options open and researched several other buildings in the downtown area and beyond. Many thanks for help from County Commissioner Dan Reiff, the Lima Downtown Association, and Rob Nelson of Lima Meaningful Development to name a few. We essentially left no stone unturned!

In the end, most every building we looked at was either in really bad condition, was too large, was too expensive, lacked adequate parking, or had some combination of those deficits.

The good news is once our current landlords discovered we were seriously considering other office buildings, they became much more motivated to deal with us on a purchase price we could accept. A loan was offered from The Union Bank with a favorable interest rate, and as of this writing we have secured the loan and closed on the building purchase. We were able to borrow additional funds which will be utilized to upgrade the building including a new ADA compliant elevator, energy efficient lighting, plus several other upgrades. Even with the additional loan for upgrades, our monthly mortgage payment will be less than our previous monthly rental fee. Our goal is to make our building more energy efficient as well as user friendly for the public who come to us for services and information.

Respectfully submitted,


David L. Rosebrock, MPH
Health Commissioner

A Healthy Community

The Creating Healthy Communities Project of Allen County is working to improve the vitality and well-being of Allen County residents by focusing on where health starts, so that the healthy choice is the easy choice where we live, learn, work and play. We are working with many community partners so that together we can be more effective than working alone. Last year the Creating Healthy Communities Project worked with partners in four settings: schools, the community, healthcare providers, and workplaces.

So where does health start? A lot of times we think of health as something we get at hospitals and doctors' offices. If that were the case, we should be the healthiest people on earth. America leads the world in medical research and medical care. But for some of the most important indicators, like how long we live, we are not even in the top 25, behind countries like Bosnia and Jordan. Scientists have found that the conditions in which we live and work have an enormous impact on our health, long before we ever see a doctor.

Health starts in strong, loving families and in neighborhoods with sidewalks safe for walking and grocery stores with fresh vegetables. Health starts in schools that feed our children healthy meals rather than junk foods, and that send them home safe at the end of the day. And health starts in having the time and financial resources to play at the end of a hard day's work, because unrelieved stress takes its toll on our hearts and immune systems. As we work on fixing health care in America, we need to start where health starts, not just where it ends.

No institution alone can restore a healthy Allen County that nurtures families and communities. That will require leadership, and a partnership of business, government, and civic and religious institutions. We can't eradicate illness, but we can foster health. Creating Healthy Communities is Allen County Health Department's effort to bring people together to accomplish this. Together we can make Allen County a healthier place to live.*

DIVISION UPDATES

Nursing Division:

The biggest challenge of 2010 for the Nursing Division was the outbreak of Pertussis (also known as whooping cough). The outbreak began in March with 2 cases. Our primary mission during the next 10 months was two-fold: to prevent a pediatric death, and decrease the spread of the disease. The number of reported cases quickly swelled to more than 40 or 50 per month. Staff interviewed all known close contacts of the confirmed cases and offered to make arrangements for medication for them as a preventative measure. In all, we had 232 confirmed cases reported and more than 3,000 contacts interviewed and treated. A vigorous vaccination campaign also took place. An outbreak of any size is a challenge; with funding and personnel reductions, the challenge was even greater. The outbreak ended with no pediatric deaths—a public health success story.

WIC Program:

One of the big strides for the WIC Program in 2010 was expanding the Peer Breastfeeding program started in 2008. Thanks to this program, more women are choosing to breastfeed - 62% of new WIC Moms initiate breastfeeding, giving babies a great start in life. Goals of the program are to continue to increase the number of women who choose to breastfeed their newborns and also to increase the percentage of mothers who continue to nurse their babies until the child is older. Over 4,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women, infants and children in Allen County benefit from nutrition and breastfeeding education, healthier diets, and referrals through the WIC program each month.

Environmental Division:

In 2006 the Ohio Department of Health adopted Home Sewage System Rules for statewide application. The Legislature quickly rescinded those in 2007 due to cost concerns. 2010 marked the beginning of the re-write of these rules. The challenge for NW Ohio will be for the rules to allow for sewage systems that are designed to function in our high clay soils and are still affordable for homeowners. We will continue to lobby for this critical need as the rules are finalized for implementation in 2012. Another challenge in 2010 was the reemergence of bed bugs as a significant problem. We provided information to individuals and groups on how to prevent infestations and on how to get rid of these insects once established. Our citizens must rely on licensed pest control operators for extermination since no effective over-the-counter products are available.

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. We do not accept personal checks, but require cash, a money order, or cashier's check. We now offer the use of a debit/credit card machine with an additional usage fee applied to the cardholder when placing an order in the office. Most credit/debit cards are accepted, however VISA credit/debit cards cannot be used at this time. 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.allencountyhealthdepartment.org.

Health Education Division:

Partnership is a key word for the Health Education Division. In 2010, we were awarded a new 5-year Creating Healthy Communities grant (see related article, Page 1) through the Ohio Department of Health. The goal is to work with community partners in schools, healthcare settings, worksites and the community to support policy, systems and environmental changes to reduce the burden of chronic disease. Through the West Central Ohio Health Ministries Program we continue to work with our 29 network partners to promote healthy congregations. Confidential HIV testing continues to be provided at the Health Department and at numerous locations throughout the county. Our goal is to reduce the number of new HIV cases.

Public Health Preparedness/Emergency Response:

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Section finished up our H1N1 Response Phase in the early part of the year and moved forward with the Recovery Phase. We completed an After Action Review and were able to complete our Improvement Plan for how we respond to such an incident. We feel confident that we are prepared to respond to the next event, whenever that may come. In the last half of the year we began revising our Point of Dispensing plans and are excited to present the plans to the community in the coming months. These plans will help us distribute medication to the community should the need arise.

PROGRAM STATISTICS FOR 2010

Nursing Division

Breast and Cervical Cancer Program

Caseload (BCCP) - Serving Allen and 6 surrounding counties

•Pap tests	453
•Screening and diagnostic mammograms, breast ultrasounds	378
•Breast cancer diagnosed	6
•Cervical dysplasia diagnosed	6
•Cervical cancer diagnosed	1

Total Immunizations Given 17,925

•Travel Vaccines	1,954
•Flu Shots (adults and children) - seasonal	1,259
•Childhood Immunizations	14,712

Family Planning Clinic Visits 4,847

•New patients to Family Planning	510
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Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic 880

Visits (STD clinic merged with Family Planning in November 2010)

TB Skin Tests Given 1,420

Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps Caseload - Unduplicated 459

Communicable Diseases Reported 1,306

Caring for Two —African American Infant Mortality Home Visits 1,097

Vital Statistics

Births/Birth Certificates

•Number of county resident births filed	1,267
•Number of certified copies issued	8,538

Deaths/Death Certificates

•Number of county resident deaths filed	1,010
•Number of certified copies issued	5,570

Environmental Division

Private Water System Inspections	223
Private Sewage System Inspections	1,660
Recreational Parks and Camps Inspections	19
Manufactured Home Park Inspections	130
Public Swimming Pool and Spa Inspections	256
Open Bathing Area Inspections	12
Solid and Infectious Waste Inspections	77
Demolition Waste and Clean Hard Fill Inspections	205
School Inspections	129
Plumbing System Inspections	1,561
Food Service Operation Inspections	1,684
Retail Food Establishment Inspections	390
Food Vending Inspections	267
Animal Bite Investigations	578
Environmental Complaint Inspections	519
Smoke-Free Workplace Complaint Investigations	68

Health Education Division

Children's Health Fair—student attendance 760

HIV Tests performed 930

•Positive Tests	8
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WIC Monthly Caseload 4,031

•Women	889
•Infants	884
•Children	2,258

2010 FINANCIAL REPORT

BALANCE January 1, 2010 \$373,853.00

2010 RECEIPTS

	Amount	Percentage
Townships, Villages, and Cities	737,856.00	17.5%
County Commissioners	38,840.00	0.9%
Grants	2,022,188.00	48.1%
Permit and Service Fees	1,321,032.00	31.4%
Medicaid Reimbursement	66,910.00	1.6%
State Subsidy	19,559.00	0.5%
TOTAL	4,206,385.00	100.0%
BALANCE AND RECEIPTS	4,580,238.00	

2010 EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits	2,973,054.00	72.5%
Clinic Supplies	87,552.00	2.1%
Other Supplies	139,565.00	3.4%
Lab Expenses	16,834.00	0.4%
Rent/Occupancy Costs	164,099.00	4.0%
Equipment/Equipment Repair/Service Contracts	106,172.00	2.6%
Training/Continuing Education	9,725.00	0.2%
Transportation	23,583.00	0.6%
Contractual Services	103,931.00	2.5%
Other (Insurance, audits, payments to state, etc.)	479,038.00	11.7%
TOTAL	4,103,553.00	100.0%

Ending **BALANCE** December 31, 2010 \$476,685.00



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

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUNDS COLLECTED FOR STATE

Each year the Health Department 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 Crises Centers, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. A total of \$284,167 was collected and sent on to Columbus in 2010.

ALLEN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

As established in Ohio law, the 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. Board members during 2010 included Dr. Charles Thompson, President; Don Schweingruber, Vice

President; Dr. Wilfred Ellis; Marva Cowan; Jon Neuman; Janis Carse; and Eric Kerner.

Six of the seven Board members are appointed by the mayors, township trustees, and county commissioners of Allen County. The seventh member is

appointed by the Health District Licensing Council. The Board Meetings are almost always scheduled on the second Friday of each month and begin at 8:00 a.m. Meetings are open to the public.

