

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016



[www.allencountypublichealth.org](http://www.allencountypublichealth.org)  
Allen County Combined Health District

## PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY SERVICES RESPONSIVE TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

Kathleen A. Luhn, Health Commissioner

When staff at Allen County Public Health (ACPH) developed our **2014-2016 Strategic Plan** in mid-2014, we recognized that it was an ambitious plan. To date, we have completed some objectives, some objectives are well on their way, and some are just now getting started. Based on this, we are continuing our work in several areas and adding to our plan through a **2017-2018 Strategic Plan Addendum**.

Many of the objectives within our Strategic Plan are focused on the theme of quality improvement. We have formed a **Quality Improvement Council** and implemented a **Performance Management System**. Our Performance Management System is a way to document improved efficiencies and outcomes for our agency. We continue to work towards **National Public Health Accreditation**, where the emphasis is clearly on quality improvement. You'll find examples of how the work we do aligns with Accreditation priorities throughout this annual report.

Our Strategic Plan also emphasizes that we are responsive to community needs. We had several new initiatives in 2016 that helped support the **Allen County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)**.

In 2016 we began a new Maternal Child Health (MCH) grant-funded program to improve the health of Allen County babies (**CHIP Priority: Improve Maternal and Infant Health**). This program addressed two key objectives, the first being increasing access to behavioral health services for opiate-abusing and opiate-addicted pregnant women. The second objective is promoting safe sleep environments by distributing Pack 'n Plays through the Cribs for Kids program to qualifying families, and by working with organizations (such as churches and homeless shelters) that may have infants sleeping in their facilities to develop Safe Sleep Policies.

In 2016 we distributed Naloxone to first responders to help prevent opiate-related overdose deaths (**CHIP Priority: Increase Mental Health and Decrease Substance Abuse Issues**). Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services provided kits targeted specifically to law enforcement and other first responders. We partnered with Coleman Professional Services, the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board and local law enforcement officers with the hope of referring and connecting people to treatment whenever first responders use naloxone.

Due to the emergence of the mosquito-borne illness Zika in 2016, we returned to providing mosquito surveillance. Zika outbreaks are currently happening in many countries and territories. The mosquitoes that can become infected with and spread Zika live in many parts of the world, including parts of the United States; however they are not known to be established in Ohio. Through our mosquito surveillance, we can help identify the types of mosquitoes in our area and monitor our risk for possible Zika transmission in Allen County.

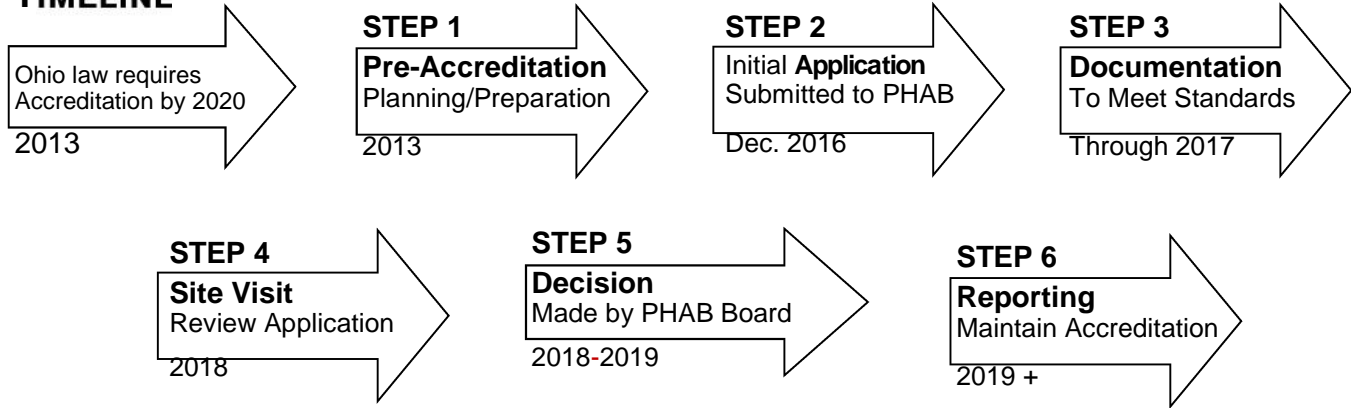
In all of our services, our focus is always on providing the best public health service possible to achieve our vision of healthy people living, working, playing and learning in a healthy environment. On behalf of all our staff, thank you for your support and the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. Luhn, MS, RD, LD, MCHES  
Health Commissioner

# ACCREDITATION

## TIMELINE



ACCREDITATION measures a health department's performance against nationally recognized standards, or domains. The goal of accreditation is to improve and protect the quality of life for residents in the health department's jurisdiction. Achieving ACCREDITED STATUS will confirm that ACPH's work contributes to our residents' health and well-being. ACCREDITATION also confirms to our stakeholders (funders, partners and reviewers) that ACPH adheres to evidence-based processes when providing community health services. The National Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) will evaluate ACPH in the following 12 Domains of Public Health:

ASSESS  
INVESTIGATE  
INFORM & EDUCATE  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

POLICIES & PLANS  
PUBLIC HEALTH LAWS  
ACCESS TO CARE  
WORKFORCE

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT  
EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES  
ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT  
GOVERNANCE

# FINANCIAL REPORT

RECEIPTS	2015	2016
January 1 BALANCE	\$695,270	\$686,743
Grants & Contracts	\$1,717,380	\$1,676,331
Permit & Service Fees	958,484	989,788
Townships, Villages, & Cities	644,306	644,306
Medicaid/Insurance Reimb	258,215	458,086
County Commissioners	33,911	33,911
State Subsidy	20,540	35,574
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,632,836</b>	<b>\$3,837,996</b>
BALANCE AND RECEIPTS	\$4,328,106	\$4,524,739

## ACCREDITATION DOMAINS

Policies & Plans  
Administration & Management  
Governance

EXPENSES	2015	2016
Salaries & Benefits	\$2,583,411	\$2,647,632
Clinic Supplies	143,330	276,597
Payments to State**	219,638	199,291
Building/Occupancy Costs	142,746	187,595
Other (Insurance, Audit, etc.)	214,741	177,643
Other Supplies	138,643	117,693
Equip/Equip Repair/Service	123,183	116,885
Transportation	27,940	29,032
Contractual Services	31,055	11,448
Training/Continuing Ed	9,945	10,332
Lab Expenses	6,731	5,544
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,641,363</b>	<b>\$3,779,692</b>
December 31 BALANCE	\$686,743	\$745,047

\*\*Each year we collect fees that are required to be sent to the state of Ohio. Most fees go to the Ohio Department of Health. Smaller shares go 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.

# NURSING SERVICES AREA

The Nursing Services Area continued to offer **access to care** for Allen County residents and **educate** clients through clinics for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Family Planning. TB testing was also available three times per week.

Immunizations are available at ACPH by appointment. Childhood immunizations (private pay or insurance, or Vaccines For Children) are available, as well as vaccines for adults and individuals who will be traveling abroad. An additional Meningococcal booster is now required for adolescents, and ACPH **educated** the public on the need for this booster. During flu season, flu shots are available by walk-in three times a week.

The Nursing Services Area and the ACPH Epidemiologist **investigate** reports of communicable diseases to stop the spread of disease.

Children with special health needs are linked to available services in the community through the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps.

Service	2014	2015	2016
Immunizations Given	7,713	7,964	8,823
Vaccines For Children	4,494	4,803	5,111
State Funded	446	465	85
Private Pay/Private Insurance	2,773	2,696	3,627
Family Planning Visits	2,369	1,788	1,460
New Patients	503	343	398
TB Skin Tests	941	839	811
BCMh Caseload	656	670	661
Communicable Diseases	1,248	1,359	1,231

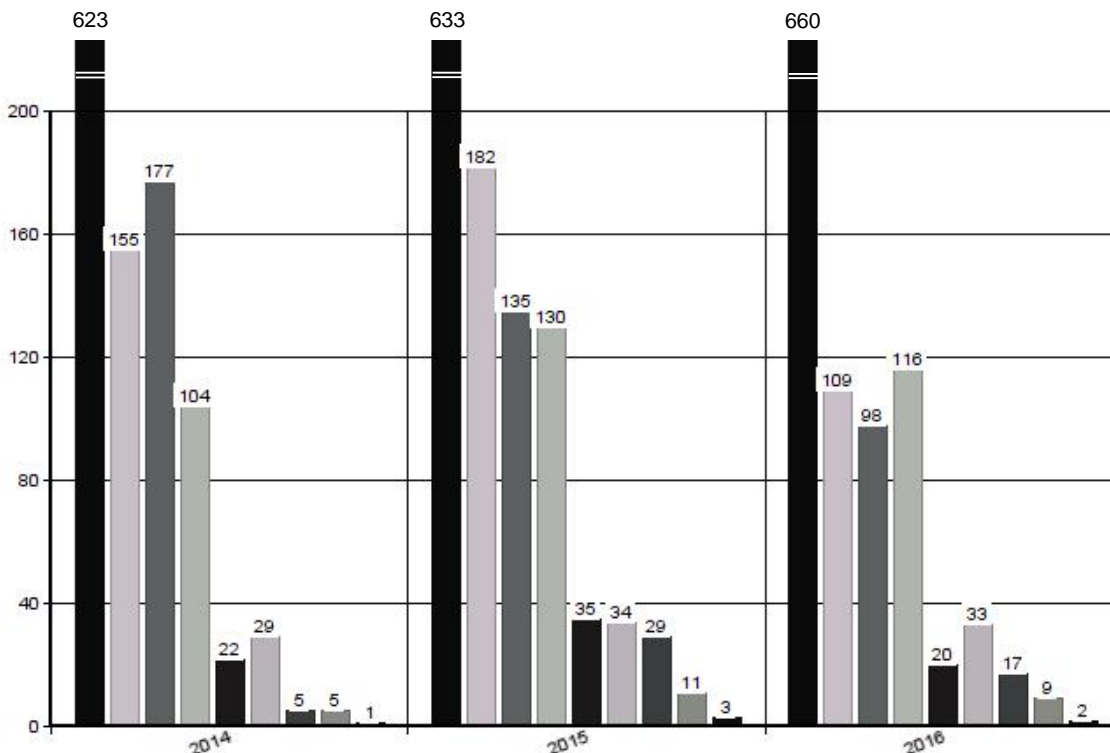
## TB Testing

Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
8:00-9:00 am and 3:00-4:00 pm

## Immunizations

Childhood, Adult and Travel  
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY  
Call or schedule on-line

## Selected Communicable Diseases Reported in Allen County



## STD Clinic

Tues. 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Walk-in Clinic

## Family Planning

Monday & Tuesday  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

## ACCREDITATION DOMAINS

Investigate  
Inform & Educate  
Access to Care

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AREA

The Environmental Health Services Area is charged with protecting residents from public health nuisance conditions and hazards. Registered Sanitarians and our Certified Plumbing Inspector conduct an average of 6,450 field **inspections** or consultations per year in order to assure compliance with applicable sections of **Ohio law**. All the various types of inspections and investigations are shown in the table to the right.

On March 1, 2016 The Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code was revised to require that by March 1, 2017, all Risk level 3 and 4 licensed food sales facilities employ a manager certified in Food Protection to oversee food handling and preparation practices in that facility. To help accommodate the need for food protection **education**, staff sanitarians conducted 3 ServSafe Managers' trainings during 2016 and trained 120 individuals. Passing the final exam makes the student eligible to receive the required Certification from the Ohio Department of Health.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) completed site surveys for the following programs in 2016: Recreational Vehicle/Camps; swimming pools and spas; and private water systems. The surveys all went well showing we have good compliance with the rules. We continue to be the licensing/permitting agency for these programs.

## ACCREDITATION DOMAINS

Investigate  
Public Health Laws  
Inform & Educate

SERVICE	2014	2015	2016
<b>Inspections</b>			
Water Systems	170	223	211
Sewage Systems	1,759	1,699	1,972
Recreational Camps/Parks	23	34	39
Manufactured Home Parks	30	28	69
Public Pools and Spas	106	124	116
Open Bathing Areas	10	9	5
Solid & Infectious Waste	29	33	*
Demolition Waste/Hard Fill	182	96	*
Schools	119	115	107
Plumbing Systems	1,003	970	965
Food Service Operations	1,923	1,807	1,936
Food Vending	138	122	86
Tattoo/Body Piercing Service	11	26	17
<b>Investigations</b>			
Animal Bites	485	475	461
Environmental Complaints	590	501	464
Smoke-Free Complaints	26	33	13

\*These inspections now conducted by Ohio EPA

## VITAL STATISTICS

The Vital Statistics office files records for births and deaths that occur in Lima, Delphos, and all of Allen County. Ohio law only allows for the issuance of certified copies of birth and death records. Our office can 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. Our office issues **Death Certificates** for Allen County deaths only. Certificates for deaths occurring outside of Allen County must be obtained from the county where the death occurred. We accept cash, money order or cashier's check (no personal checks). 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).

Vital Statistics	2014	2015	2016
Births by County of Residence (Allen)	1,280	1,272	1,248
Deaths by County of Residence (Allen)	1,096	1,111	1,125
(2016 Data may not be complete)			

Source: Ohio Dept. Of Health Data Warehouse

Services	2014	2015	2016
Birth Certificates Issued	6,264	5,968	6,454
Death Certificates Issued	5,666	5,690	5,705

**ACCREDITATION DOMAINS**  
Policies & Plans  
Public Health Laws

# WIC PROGRAM

WIC PROGRAM	2014	2015	2016
MONTHLY CASELOAD	3,195	3,082	2,691
Women	739	694	655
Infants	784	818	708
Children	1,672	1,570	1,328

Allen County WIC serves pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding mothers; and infants and children under the age of five who qualify based on income and medical/nutritional need. Individuals and families receive nutrition and breastfeeding **education** and support, **referrals** and a WIC Nutrition card (debit food card) to redeem for nutritious foods at participating groceries and vendors. WIC relies on **agency collaborations** as a great way to use limited resources efficiently and create a healthier community through attainment of common goals. One example of this is when Jill Ogle, educational specialist from the YWCA Resource Center, provides monthly “Dolly Days” story time to improve literacy skills for children, build parenting skills for adults and demonstrate fun activities for parents and children to do together at home. With the recent passing of Tabatha Schmidt, DTR, CLS, WIC Certifying Health Professional, WIC staff and clients miss her special touch with the educational component WIC participants receive when at the WIC office.

## ACCREDITATION DOMAINS

Inform & Educate  
Community Engagement  
Access to Care

# PREVENTION & HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICES

The health educators and community health workers in PHPS employ evidence-based population health strategies to address the social determinants of health that keep our residents from experiencing the best health possible. Population health strategies aim to provide equal opportunities for health in two ways: by providing condition-specific programs to specific populations, and by working with community leaders on programs that ensure healthy options in food supplies and opportunities for activity or exercise. Examples of our evidence-based programs are detailed below.

### Priority: Maternal & Infant Health

#### Goal: Reduce Infant Mortality Rate

In the **Caring for Two** program, 1,164 home visits were conducted in 2016 by ACPH Community Health Workers to pregnant African-American women. Support, education and linkage to community services are done through these home visits.

ACPH also provided 86 Pack ‘N Plays to families that did not have a safe space for their infant to sleep through the **Cribs for Kids** Program.

ACPH leads the **Maternal-Infant Task Force**. The task force focuses on linking OB physicians with drug abuse treatment centers for referring patients, supporting breast feeding, safe sleep, and programs for youth that encourage healthy behaviors.

### Priority: Access to Care

#### Goal: Increase # of Women Receiving Breast & Cervical Cancer Screenings

The **Women’s Preventive Health Care Program** helped over 125 under- or uninsured women find providers who performed screenings for them.

### Priority: Healthy Communities

#### Goal: Make Healthy Choices Easy For Community Members

In 2016, **Creating Healthy Communities (CHC)** assisted with Spencerville and Elida Schools’ participation in *Bike and Walk to School Day*, trained staff at First Baptist Daycare to become certified in the Ohio Healthy Program; helped South Middle School in Lima and the City of Delphos plant “Edible Orchards”; and assisted businesses in Bluffton develop smoke-free properties.

### Priority: Disease Intervention



#### Goal: Prevent the spread of STIs

The **HIV Educator** tested 1,190 individuals for HIV in 2016, with 9 positive results in Allen County. Each person tested receives information about protecting themselves and stopping the spread of HIV. The **Disease Intervention Specialist** receives reports of positive HIV and syphilis tests in Allen and surrounding counties. These individuals receive education on stopping the spread of the disease, as well as information on community services that are available to them and referrals for treatment.

## ACCREDITATION DOMAINS

Evidence-based Practices  
Access to Care  
Inform & Educate





**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**MISSION:**  
To protect and promote  
the health of Allen County

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

The health of Allen County residents depends upon the knowledge and vigilance of our public health workforce, which includes nurses, health educators, environmental health specialists, nutritionists, administrative and support personnel, a social worker and community health workers at Allen County Public Health. ACPH staff continuously evaluate the quality of services, measure staff performance against established standards, and plan proactive strategies to address health issues affecting all residents of Allen County.

In addition to the services documented in this report, ACPH partners with many other organizations in Allen County that also work to ensure public health and safety. **Preparedness** is the ability to mount a timely and effective response to any emerging public health threat that may harm Allen County. The key to this effort is our ability to coordinate resources and provide services to those in need. ACPH and partner agencies conduct exercises every year that test our preparedness and enable us to plan for a variety of public health threats.

ACPH oversees periodic **Community Health Assessments** that survey randomly-selected residents to assess the current health status of Allen County. Information gained from the assessment helps ACPH and its partners develop the **Community Health Improvement Plan**, which, again, coordinates community resources to link services with the people that need them.

Allen County Public Health remains committed to its mission and vision and welcomes community input on emerging health needs and recommendations on addressing them.

The Board of Health meets at 8:00 a.m. on the second Friday of each month, and meetings are open to the public.



**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**PARTNERS**

- Health Care
- First Responders
- Local Government
- Social Service Agencies
- Community Groups

**DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

- 22 Political Subdivisions Reps
- 12 Townships
- 9 Cities & Villages

**GOVERNANCE**

**ALLEN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

- Wilfred Ellis, MD, President
- Eric Kerner, Vice President
- Janis Carse
- Marva Cowan
- Scott Shutt
- Kha Tran, MD
- Ross Kauffman

**ACPH MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Dr. Christine Gaynier

**ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT**

**HEALTH COMMISSIONER**  
Kathleen Luhn, MS, MCHES

**WORKFORCE**

**ACPH STAFF**

- 58 Employees
- 30 Full-time
- 28 Part-time