



Butler County Health Department

2015 Annual Report

BUTLER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

*Butler County Health Department
301 S. Third Street, Hamilton, OH 45011
(513) 863-1770
Web Site: www.butlercountyohio.org/health
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BUTLER COUNTY ADVISORY HEALTH COUNCIL

2015

MAYORS

James R. Jackson, Village of College Corner
Steve Miller, City of Fairfield
Michael W. Sword, Village of Jacksonburg
Robert P. Settles, Sr., Village of Millville
Robert E. Routson, City of Monroe

Patti J. Hanes, Village of New Miami
Kevin McKeehan, City of Oxford
Vivian M. Gorsuch, Village of Seven Mile
Paul Saurber, Village of Somerville
Calvin G. Woodrey, City of Trenton

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Fairfield - Tara Downie
Shannon Hartkemeyer
John S. McGinnis

Oxford - Larry Frimerman
John Kinne
Gary R. Salmon

Hanover - Douglas L. Johnson
Fred J. Stitsinger
Larry Miller

Reily - Dennis H. Conrad, Jr.
C. Nicholas Schwab
Tim Miller

Lemon - Kevin Majors
Joe Routson
Janet K. Majors

Ross - Raymond Wurzelbacher
Thomas Willsey, Jr.
Ellen Yordy

Liberty - David E. Kern
Christine Matacic
Thomas P. Farrell

St. Clair - Gary R. Couch
Tom Barnes
Judy Valerio

Madison - Brian Brooks
Alan Daniel
Brian McGuire

Wayne - Tim Taylor
Larry Setser
Steve Countryman

Milford - Paul Gillespie
Russell McMillian
Brad Mills

West Chester - Mark S. Welch
Lee Wong
George Lang

Morgan - Nancy J. Poe
Darryl D. Huff
Brett Updike

BUTLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Cindy Carpenter
T.C. Rogers
Donald L. Dixon

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

2015

Leon Simpson
Chairman of the Board
Wayne Township

Alan J. Burley, D.D.S.
Vice-Chairman of the Board
Trenton City

Molly Emmert, M.D.
Member
Oxford City

Stephanie Johnson, R.N., B.S.N.
Member
Reily Township

Nancy Harrison
Member
Fairfield City

Stephen Schulte
Member
Morgan Township

Ryan Welsh, P.E.
Member
Ross Township

John Mihevic
Member/Representative
Health District Licensing Council

Robert J. Lerer, M.D.
Health Commissioner
Serves as Secretary to the Board

The Butler County Board of Health is the governing body of the Butler County General Health District, which consists of 13 Townships and 10 Cities and Villages. The Board consists of 8 members who are each appointed for a 3 year term.

The Board is the policy making body for the health department and has the authority to adopt rules and regulations according to the law. The Butler County Board of Health meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

*“Boards can be the forward thinking, value oriented, leading bodies we claim them to be.
Board members are as conscientious and giving a group as one could ever find.
Personal drive of board members has accomplished formidable tasks.
Perseverance of board members has surmounted seemingly intractable barriers.
Generosity of board members has made the impossible possible.”*

John Carver

HEALTH DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

2015

Dr. Robert J. Lerer, Health Commissioner
Patricia F. Burg, Director of Administration

Administrative Staff

Brian Williamson, R.S., Chief of Environmental Services
Jerry Frederick, Chief Plumbing Inspector
Jennifer Bailer, R.N., B.A., M.S., Nursing Director
Rhonda Smith, Fiscal Officer/Office Manager

Environmental Staff

Jeffery Agnew, R.S.
Robert Krinov, R.S.
Jennifer Frederickson, R.S.
Marlene Bradley, R.S.
Jodi Gibson, R.S.
Bart Kelhoffer, R.S.
Awni Dababneh, R.S.
Mark Knapke, R.S.
Nicole Pennington, S.I.T.

Emergency Preparedness

Jessica McElroy, Emergency
Preparedness Coordinator

Maintenance

Scott Deaton

Clinic Support Staff

Dr. Kenneth Wehr, Tuberculosis
Clinic Physician

Child and Family Health Services Staff

Marie Augustin
Jennifer Carter
Natalie Jones
Latoiua Foster
Michelle Tubbs

Nursing Staff

Betsy Waldeck, R.N.
Sue Glutz, R.N.
Mary Beth Grollmus, R.N., B.S.N.
Sandena Bickers, R.N., B.S.N., Epidemiologist
Karen Carr, R.N., B.S.N., Epidemiologist

Plumbing Staff

Gordon Rister
Mike Schlabach
John Baumgartner

Office Staff

Tina Combs
Nikki Girdler
Kathy Ripley
Annette Bellman
Kimberly Geisler
Tyeste Cornwall

The department is responsible for honoring all requests for services within the scope of available programs.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

2015

To the citizens of Butler County

As your Health Commissioner, I bring you greetings. While you read the various reports contained in our annual publication of facts, figures, and statistics of the Butler County Health Department, it will remind you of many important public health activities which occupy us every day. Each of us in the administrative, environmental, nursing, plumbing, and clerical divisions loves the important work we do because we know it makes a positive impact on the health of our families and our growing community.

Restaurant inspections and education on proper handling of food optimizes the likelihood of preventing gastrointestinal infections. Insuring proper disposal of sewage and waste prevents toxic exposures and diseases. Nursing epidemiological investigations of contagious disease cases prevent the spread of infections to our community. We immunize children and adults in our clinics in order to prevent communicable diseases.

You may say that much of what we do is in the area of infection prevention, but we also have a belief in educating the public about healthy practices for healthy living. Much disease burden suffered in our society results from poor diets, stressful lives, lack of exercise, and unhealthy habits such as smoking. No government agency can force citizens to follow healthy practices, so only self motivation works. We must all take responsibility for our health.

The alarming overuse of prescription narcotics for chronic pain, resulting in addiction, has become a major public health issue, especially with the use of intravenous heroin as a cheaper alternative to pills, resulting in deaths. Many public and private agencies are attempting to deal with this new epidemic. This is a national problem as well as a local one. Drug addiction affects many aspects of health from newborns to the elderly.

New diseases (at least new to us) such as Ebola, West Nile, and Dengue, all caused by exotic viruses, require our personnel to update knowledge on these rare conditions. Old diseases, such as hepatitis, measles, and mumps continue to plague Ohioans, especially those vulnerable due to lack of proper immunizations. Hepatitis C, which is not preventable with vaccines, continues to be a local health problem, in part, due to addicted intravenous drug users sharing needles.

Another important activity by our health department is a program aimed to reduce the infant mortality rate among minorities. This multi-agency and trans-disciplinary effort was launched three years ago, with many of its components now in place. We look forward in the next few years to witness a reduction in teen pregnancy rates, diminution of premature births, increased surveillance by health care personnel during pregnancies, healthier diets, and improved access to obstetric services.

I am writing this introductory letter in early January, which gives me an opportunity to wish each of you a happy and healthy 2016.

Robert J. Lerer, M.D., F.A.A.P.
Commissioner of Health
Butler County

BUDGET AND FINANCE MANAGEMENT

- **Vital Statistics**
- **Public Records Maintenance**
- **Communications**
- **Permits**
- **Grant Management**
- **Customer Service**



The Butler County Health Department employs a staff of dedicated men and women who continue to carry out the vital functions of the department in a professional manner.

BUDGET & FINANCE

2015

All Board of Health Funds

REVENUE		EXPENDITURES	
2014 Balance	1,442,747.69	Salaries	1,248,609.41
Taxation	135,000.00	PERS	176,857.36
Grants	721,453.48	Workers Compensation	28,049.42
Fees & Miscellaneous	1,042,364.09	Medicare	15,766.62
State Subsidy	48,176.16	Group Insurance	255,997.68
Food Service	599,345.64	Supplies	151,783.28
Pool Licenses	55,532.17	Travel & Expenses	18,363.17
Recreational Vehicle/Camp Licenses	380.00	Contractual Services	461,775.80
Household Sewage Treatment Systems	159,730.11	Equipment	91,134.65
		Other	43,367.08
		State Portion	227,977.38
		Contingency	1,485,047.49
TOTAL REVENUE	4,204,729.34	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,204,729.34

VITAL STATISTICS

2015

Births

Males.....	1,318
Females.....	1,313
TOTAL.....	2,631

Age of Mothers

13 – 19 years.....	136
20 – 30 years.....	1,531
31 – 40 years.....	939
Over 40 years.....	25

Unwed Mothers

13 – 19 years.....	122
20 – 30 years.....	723
31 – 40 years.....	205
Over 40 years.....	6

Place of Birth

McCullough-Hyde.....	407
Mercy Fairfield.....	1,820
Home Birth / ER.....	19
West Chester Hospital.....	385

Residence of Mothers

Butler County.....	1,558
Non-County.....	1,073

Deaths

Males.....	771
Females.....	836
TOTAL.....	1,607

Age at Death

Under 1 month.....	18
1 month – 1 year.....	3
1 – 4 years.....	1
5 – 9 years.....	2
10 – 19 years.....	8
20 – 29 years.....	27
30 – 39 years.....	46
40 – 49 years.....	71
50 – 59 years.....	154
60 – 69 years.....	223
70 – 79 years.....	320
80 – 89 years.....	470
90 & over.....	264

Causes of Death

Undetermined.....	3
Accidents.....	95
Suicides.....	23
Homicides.....	2
Cardiovascular.....	488
Cancer.....	193
Respiratory.....	340
All Other.....	460
Pending.....	3

The basic unit of health services is the family. The family is the center of well-being.

PLUMBING PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS

- **Commercial**
- **New Construction**
- **Remodels/Repairs**
- **Medical Gas Inspections**
- **Plan Review**
- **Backflow**



Every citizen of our community is entitled to achieve the maximum potential of health and physical comfort.

PLUMBING DEPARTMENT

2015

Permits Issued.....	3,758
Rough Plumbing Inspections.....	1,938
Final Plumbing Inspections.....	1,675
Water Line Inspections.....	502
Sewer Line Inspections.....	409
Backflow Inspections.....	9
Medical Gas Inspections.....	36
TOTAL INSPECTIONS.....	4,569
Registered Plumbers.....	268
Registered Journeyman Plumbers.....	163
Registered HSTS Installers.....	32
Registered Septage Haulers.....	22
Registered Service Providers.....	30

Recipients of health services should evaluate and help develop meaningful community health programs.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- Rabies Control
- Housing – New Subdivisions and New Lots
- Swimming Pools
- Schools
- RV Parks/Camps
- Restaurants – Food Service Operators
- Vending
- Retail Food Establishments
- Household Sewage Disposal Systems
- Private Water Systems
- Water & Sewage Surveys
- Nuisance Abatement
- Smoking
- Jail Inspections
- Tattoo Parlor Inspections
- Vector Control



Public health programs seek to maintain the safety of our environment conducive to health.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

2015

Rabies – Bites Reported

Bats.....	12
Investigations.....	12
Dogs.....	274
Investigations.....	274
Cats.....	40
Investigations.....	40
Wild Animals.....	5
Investigations.....	5
Other Pets.....	3
Investigations.....	3
TOTAL BITES.....	334

Rabies – Laboratory Specimens Submitted

Dogs.....	11
Cats.....	6
Bats.....	10
Positive Rabies Results.....	0

Housing

New Subdivisions and Reapprovals.....	43
New Lots and Reapprovals	491

Swimming Pools

Swimming Pool Sites.....	128
Licenses Issued.....	193
Inspections.....	603

Schools

Number of Schools.....	60
Inspections.....	121

Evaluation and research are necessary tools to meet the changing needs of the community.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

2015

Camps

Licenses Issued.....	2
Inspections.....	3

Food Service Operations

Licenses Issued.....	819
Inspections (combined with 30 day follow up & prelicenses).....	2,887
Foodborne Outbreak Investigation Sites.....	71
Plan Reviews.....	173

Vending Operations

Licenses Issued.....	138
Inspections.....	83

Retail Food Establishments

Licenses Issued.....	315
Inspections (combined with 30 day follow up & prelicenses).....	618
Foodborne Outbreak Investigation Sites.....	14
Plan Reviews.....	21

Food Temporary

Licenses Issued.....	177
Inspections	173

Food Mobile

Licenses Issued.....	57
Inspections.....	62

Assessments are being made of the situation involving the recipients of services and their families.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

2015

Household Sewage Disposal Program

New Installation Permits Issued.....	39
New Installation Inspections.....	39
Alteration Permits Issued.....	16
Alteration Inspections.....	18
Aerobic Systems.....	1,619
Aerobic System Inspections.....	1,787
Site Evaluation Inspections.....	75
Site Review.....	38
Soil Evaluation.....	58
Design.....	56

Private Water Systems

New Installation Permits Issued.....	12
New Installation Inspections.....	2
Alteration Permits Issued.....	6
Alteration Inspections... ..	3
Well Sealing.....	7

Water and Sewage Surveys

Private Sewage Surveys.....	2
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Nuisance Abatement

Garbage.....	35
Refuse.....	2
Housing.....	72
Sewage.....	39
Food.....	92
Insect-Rodents.....	24
Animals.....	17
Mosquito.....	19
Commercial.....	25
Other.....	3

Smoking

Number of Complaints.....	53
Actions.....	195
Consultations.....	47

Miscellaneous Inspections/Reviews

Jail Inspections.....	5
Tattoo Parlor Inspections.....	20
Zoning Reviews.....	10

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

- Public Health Nursing
- Communicable Disease Investigation
- Children and Adult Immunizations
- School Health Consultations
- Perinatal Hepatitis B Monitoring
- STD Education
- Tuberculosis Control
- Child and Family Health Services
- Epidemiology
- Infant Mortality Reduction
- Fetal Infant Mortality Review
- Home Visiting for High Risk Pregnancy
- Ebola Monitoring, Consultation & Response
Coordination



Wellness is a balance of physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease.

NURSING DIVISION

2015

Communicable Diseases*

Campylobacteriosis.....	51	Lyme Disease.....	11
Chlamydia.....	876	Malaria.....	3
Coccidioidomycosis.....	1	Meningitis, aseptic.....	21
Cryptosporidiosis.....	8	Meningitis, bacterial.....	5
E. coli O157:H7.....	0	Meningococcal disease.....	0
E. coli, not O157:H7.....	4	Mumps.....	1
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis.....	0	Mycobacterium, not TB.....	32
Giardiasis.....	9	Pertussis.....	28
Gonorrhea.....	236	Rocky mountain spotted fever.....	1
Haemophilus Influenzae.....	5	Salmonellosis.....	24
Hepatitis A.....	2	Shigellosis.....	4
Hepatitis B, acute.....	36	Streptococcal, Group A, invasive..	14
Hepatitis B, chronic.....	124	Streptococcal, Group B, newborn...	2
Hepatitis B, perinatal.....	10	Streptococcus pneumonia, invasive.	32
Hepatitis C, acute.....	1	Syphilis.....	43
Hepatitis C, chronic.....	640	Syphilis – congenital.....	1
Hepatitis E.....	0	Tuberculosis.....	3
Influenza-associated hospitalization...	144	Varicella.....	14
Legionellosis.....	9	Yersiniosis.....	0
		TOTAL.....	2,395

* includes suspect, probable, and confirmed cases in the jurisdictions of Butler Co. and the City of Middletown

Children / Vaccinations

Total Number of Clients.	1,051
Total Shots Given.....	2,673

Adult / Travel Vaccinations

Total Number of Clients.....	807
Total Shots Given.....	1,034
HIV Tests Performed.....	42

Infant Mortality Reduction

High Hopes Program

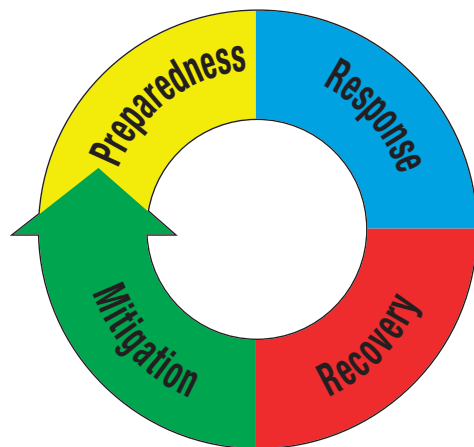
Mothers Enrolled.....	110
Babies Born.....	64

Tuberculosis Clinic

Clinics Held.....	100
TB Active cases.....	3
Patients Tested.....	105
New Suspect Cases	5
New Latent Cases.....	29
Chest X-rays.....	26
Lab Tests.....	0
MD Consultations.....	178
Home Visits.....	19

DISASTER AND EMERGENCY HEALTH PROGRAMS

- **Community Preparedness and Recovery**
- **Emergency Operations Coordination
(Emergency Support Function #8)**
- **Public Information and Crisis
Communication**
- **Mass Care**
- **Mass Casualty and Fatality Management**
- **Medical Counter Measures**
- **Strategic National Stockpile**
- **Epidemiological Investigation**
- **Cities Readiness Initiative**
- **Tri-State Medical Reserve Corp**
- **Hazard Mitigation Plan**



The Butler County Health Department will function at the highest level of efficiency possible, and remain a viable agency of the community.

From the Desk of the Director...

This 2015 Annual Report is a statistical snapshot of the work carried out by our staff. Statistics speak of populations, but behind every number is a county resident who has been touched somehow by the work we do as your health department. The statistics herein do not do justice to the many hours our staff spends to try to safeguard your health.

The success of public health has been long taken for granted. Responsibilities are great in providing basic health needs, averting disasters, and meeting crises. Resources are often slim, and the job to be done is great. Then, we are reminded that Einstein was four years old before he could speak and seven before he could read; a newspaper editor fired Walt Disney because he had no good ideas; Louis Pasteur was rated mediocre in chemistry when he attended the Royal College; and Winston Churchill failed the sixth grade. There are many things yet to be done, old problems sometimes arise again, and others resist even the best of efforts.

The journey to health is an arduous one for all of us. It is filled with laughter and tears, rewards and frustrations, eagerness and hesitancy. Our call to Preserve, Protect, and Promote will never diminish as long as disease, illness, and social challenges continue to plague mankind. Regardless of the roadblocks, our department will continue to face the ever present challenges of public health, and be thankful for all of you who have made our jobs so rewarding. From the food you eat, to the air you breathe, to the water you drink, your health department is with you.

In closing, I would like to offer my heartfelt appreciation to the health department staff and board of health members who so faithfully give their time and efforts in support of a desire for improved health and safety for the residents of Butler County. They deserve much credit in their efforts to improve the quality of services offered by this department. Without their caring, compassion, efficiency, gentleness, and often times sense of humor, the programs you have just reviewed would not be possible.

It has been a pleasure to be involved with a profession that is both challenging and fulfilling. We will continue our ongoing efforts to provide the best public health services to you, the citizens of Butler County. Thank you for your continued support! It is with great expectation that we look to the future.....

Patricia F. Burg
Director of Administration

What is Public Health?

Public health connects us all.

Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for disease and injury prevention and detection and control of infectious diseases.

Overall, public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations. These populations can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as big as an entire country or region of the world.

Public health professionals try to prevent problems from happening or recurring through implementing educational programs, recommending policies, administering services and conducting research – in contrast to clinical professionals like doctors and nurses, who focus primarily on treating individuals after they become sick or injured. Public health also works to limit health disparities. A large part of public health is promoting healthcare equity, quality and accessibility.

CDC Foundation



“This agency is an equal provider of services and an equal employment opportunity employer – Civil Rights Act 1964 (CRA)”