



25 YEARS



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Knox County Health Department

1992-2017
Annual Report



A story that starts right in your back yard...

The Knox County Health Department was created by citizen referendum in November 1992. On December 2, 1992, the Knox County Board of Health held its inaugural meeting at Galesburg Cottage Hospital.

Greg Chance was hired as the first Public Health Administrator for the Department on April 3, 1993. At that time, the Health Department was located at 2320F Veterans Drive in Galesburg. The initial focus of the Health Department was to establish the four core programs required by the State of Illinois: food safety, private sewage disposal, potable water, and communicable disease surveillance. These programs remain the center of public health in Knox County today.

The Board of Health adopted the 1st Community Health Improvement Plan on May 26, 1994, successfully becoming a certified health department in Illinois. In July, the Health Department assumed the administration of the WIC and Healthy Moms/Healthy Kids programs for Knox County which resulted in a significant increase of both staff and revenue for the Department.

With the addition of more programs and staff, the Board of Health quickly realized that the Health Department would require more space. Subsequently, later that same year, the Department moved into a 14,000 square foot space located at 519 McClure Street in Galesburg which previously had been the location of the OMC factory.

Over the next several years at this location, the Health

Department added programs in lead poisoning prevention, immunizations, health education, and committed to the development of a preventative dental health clinic. The Department expanded its programming to also include Breast & Cervical Cancer, tobacco cessation, cardiovascular health, vector and mosquito surveillance, nurse practitioner services in women's health, maternal and child health services, STD testing/reporting, teen pregnancy prevention, accessible and affordable health care, TB testing/reporting, and dental health services.

In February of 1999, the decision was made to build its own facility. A groundbreaking ceremony was held at the new building site in August 1999. Additionally, in May of that year, the Board of Health adopted its 2nd Community Health Improvement Plan which identified priority community health issues and outlined specific intervention strategies, including the establishment of Chronic Disease Prevention and also Teen Pregnancy Prevention Task Forces to collaboratively address priority health concerns for the residents of Knox County. This Health Improvement Plan also identified the lack of affordable and accessible health care for the working poor in Knox County. In July, 1999, the Knox County Community Health Clinic was created utilizing volunteer physicians and nurses to provide services. The clinic was sponsored by Galesburg Cottage Hospital, Galesburg Clinic P.C., OSF St Mary Medical Center and the Health Department; all who remain partners of the Knox Community Health Center today.

The Knox County Health Department moved into its new

...with the very people you live and work with.

facility at 1361 West Fremont Street in Galesburg on May 15, 2000. It continued operation of the Knox County Community Health Clinic, expanding its services through the addition of a Family Nurse Practitioner. Additional programs such as Freedom from Smoking classes, radon testing kits, teen parent services, reproductive health, cholesterol screening, breastfeeding promotion, and Smoke-Free Restaurant Recognition were added as grant funds became available.

In 2002, the Health Department recognized 10 years of service to Knox County. It continued to develop additional plans in Public Health Emergency Response, Pandemic Flu Response, and West Nile Virus Response. The Department contracted with the Galesburg Sanitary District to perform grease trap inspections at restaurants, worked with Illinois EPA to host two used tire collection events, and completed a building expansion project to increase available dental services. It received State of Illinois funding to provide primary health care services through the Knox County Community Health Clinic, adopted the 3rd Community Health Improvement Plan, held the first-ever Knox County Teen Summit, revised County Health Department Ordinances, and began Smoke-Free Illinois Enforcement. The Health Department celebrated its 15-year anniversary just prior to its inaugural Administrator leaving early in 2009.

In September of 2009, the Board of Health hired Heidi Britton as the new Public Health Administrator for the Health Department. Over the next five years, under the leadership of Ms. Britton, the Department successfully implemented an H1N1 Influenza Response Plan, began administering the Body Art program, celebrated 20 years of service to Knox County residents, received three years of Federal Quality Improvement program development grant funding, and created the Governance Board for the Knox Community Health Center. In addition, the Department was awarded and implemented the We Choose Health grant officially



recognizing the Department as a Healthy Workplace, branded the Health Department by adopting the national public health logo, received Section 330 federal recognition as a Community Health Center, and developed a Quality Improvement Plan. The Board of Health also adopted its 4th Community Health Improvement Plan in 2011.

In December of 2014, the Board of Health hired Michele Gabriel as the Public Health Administrator for the Knox County Health Department, occurring during year one of a two-and-a-half-year period of no State budget. During this time, the Health Department worked with state and local partners implementing a plan for the largest Ebola outbreak since its discovery in 1976. A 5th Community Health Improvement Plan for Knox County was adopted. The Health Department successfully applied twice and received CDC fellows to work at the Department through the Public Health Associate Program, expanded the Knox County Medical Reserve Corp, and began the application process for Public Health Accreditation Board recognition. The Health Center expanded its hours to better serve patients, added integrated mental health services and additional medical/dental/mental health providers to increase access to care, and transitioned to a new electronic health record, billing system, and population platform.

Beginning this past November 2017, the Board of Health began a year-long celebration of 25 years of service to the Knox County Community, thanking its many partners over the years and reaffirming the value of public health as an integral component of public safety in Knox County. It is still the mission of the Knox County Health Department to "Serve Knox County by assessing health and environmental needs, developing policies, and assuring those needs are effectively addressed" for the next 25 years.



Message from the Administrator

Residents of Knox County

Thank you for taking a moment to look back on 2017 with me, as well as celebrating the 25th anniversary of the successful referendum passed in November 1992 which formed the Knox County Health Department. It has been a pleasure to serve another year as the Public Health Administrator for the Knox County Health Department.

I have been with the Health Department for nearly 18 years. In that time, I have interacted with many Knox County residents for many reasons; watching the priorities of public health change over time. Whether due to flu, food-borne illness, teen pregnancy, or simply politics. The face of public health may change; but, our purpose remains constant. "Public health promotes and protects the health of people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play." So in recognition of the Health Department's 25th anniversary, I would like to share what I believe public health is for Knox County, Illinois.

Public health is about prevention, promotion, and protection efforts provided through programs and activities, or policy and legislation. The Health Department is part of the public safety system that protects Knox County and its residents from harm and provides an environment where you can live your best life. Our responsibility as public health, is to do our work in such a way that we prevent bad things from ever happening. In fact, if we are successful, you will not need us, and you may even forget that we are here.

But, we are here. And we work every day to take steps to provide a healthy environment for you and

your family. Health Protection staff, for example, inspect and educate restaurants as part of our core services, in order to ensure use of best-practices & discourage the occurrence or spread of food-borne illness. If a food-borne outbreak did occur, Health Department staff would investigate to limit the spread of the illness, ensure treatment for anyone who could have been exposed, discover what caused the outbreak, and educate everyone involved to protect the community from future occurrences. But, in an ideal scenario, the food-borne illness would be avoided through the everyday practices of the Health Department, and the community would never experience the occurrence of an outbreak; and, as a result, may never truly understand why we do what we do. But that is why we are here.

Similarly, many members of the community we serve may have a limited perspective of what the Health Department does. Some believe we are only here to provide human services to poor people, just to inspect restaurants, wells, and sewage systems. Others simply know that we provide flu shots, or childhood immunizations and school physicals, or just healthcare services for the un- or under-insured. We are sometimes viewed in a negative light as we take steps to protect you; however, we are most often seen as an integral and positive part of your community. We are so much more than all of our many programs, we are the sum of all our purposes. We are public health. You see, public health benefits every member of the Knox County community. So, even if you have never walked through our doors we have touched your life.

Michele Gabriel, MPH
Public Health Administrator

KCHD MISSION

To serve Knox County by assessing health and environmental needs, developing policies, and assuring those needs are effectively addressed.

KCHD VISION

"Healthy people in a healthy community!"

KCHD VALUE STATEMENTS

EXCELLENCE! Make every effort to ensure services are the best they can be.

INTEGRITY! Adhere to set standards to provide consistency and accountability for our actions

CREDIBILITY! Ensure our name is consistent with lawful, ethical and empathetic actions in the community.

DEPENDABILITY! Establish services that are consistently reliable and repeatable.

RESPECTFUL! Treat everyone with dignity and acceptance; recognize everyone has something to offer.

YOUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARDS

Current Board of Health Members

Carol Scotton, President
Dan Harris, Vice President
Doug Gibb, Treasurer
Kevin Satsky, Secretary
DuRae Fletcher, Sr.
Bruce Bobofchak, D.D.S.
Samuel Fox, M.D.
Elvith Santoyou-McNaught
David Amor, County Board Liaison

Current Governance Board Members

Pastor Dan Siems, President
Angela Petersen, Vice President
Karen Lynch, Secretary
Sally Fischell, Treasurer
Komi S. Adamessi
Marty Andrews
Harlan Cook
Ronda Olin
Helen Ludwig

Past Board of Health Members

Betty Nelson; Roger Myers; Carl Strauch, M.D.; Tommy West, M.D.; Gayle Keiser, County Board Liaison; H.J. Sandercock, D.D.S.; Leon Campbell; Jim Hankes; Sally Keener, County Board Liaison; Jacquelyne Turner; B. Lance Renfroe, D.D.S.; Jeffrey Krug, M.D.; Jeanne Harland; Marc Katchen, M.D.; Terry Bruner; Dale Parsons, County Board Liaison; Amy Mefford; Janet K. Occhi, County Board Liaison; Jeffery Koszcuk, D.O.; Linda Roberts, County Board Liaison; Frank Peppers, M.D.; Greg Bacon, County Board Liaison; Kim DeSutter; Cheryl Nache, County Board Liaison; Russ Nelson, County Board Liaison; Pam Davidson, County Board Liaison

Message from the President

For the past 25 years, we've had the honor to serve you and you've supported us in many ways. Knox County Board of Health held its inaugural meeting on December 2, 1992. Since that time, you've seen big changes along with our steady commitment in building a healthier community for all. You've partnered with us in serving our community through: holding Teen Leadership Summits and Dental Days; supporting the HIV/AIDS taskforce, Emergency Preparedness, investigation of disease outbreaks and West Nile surveillance. We've worked together to assure safe food and drinking water; to advocate for safer streets and mental health services; and a Federally Qualified Health Center to provide comprehensive health services, behavioral health and dental care.

More importantly, as you see in our annual report, we have brought new resources into the county and have been good stewards of the tax dollars

you have entrusted to us. We provide good jobs so that neighbors are helping neighbors. Our first 25 years have made an impact on the community. You can be proud of what you made happen when you voted to create the Board of Health.

We're grateful for the many people who have served on the Board of Health and have worked for us as staff since 1992, for the community members who have served on task forces and volunteered their time and knowledge, and for everyone in the community who have used our services. We hope you'll join us in celebrating our first 25 years during Public Health week in April 2018. The board meets the 2nd Thursday of each month and you are invited to attend. If there are concerns regarding the public's health, we want to hear from you.

Carol Scotton
Board President

THEN AND NOW



Dr. Carl **STRAUCH**, M.D.



Sally **KEENER**



Doug **GIBB**, GRP-C., GCCA-C., GC-C

A story told by our past and present Board of Health members

WHAT WAS IT LIKE ON THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH WHEN YOU FIRST STARTED?

Dr. Carl Strauch

When the board first started back in 1993, we were 8 individuals committed to starting a health department. We knew nothing, met in a conference room at Bridgeway at Hawthorne Center, and had, I believe, help from the state. Betty Nelson was our first board chair and her leadership was invaluable.

Sally Keener

It was a learning experience for me and the whole board. I joined the Board in 1994 as it was just getting off the ground. I learned all the Health Department could do in and for the people of Knox County.

Doug Gibb

When I first joined the Knox County Board of Health in 2001, we had just recently moved to the new facility housed at its current place. Although our mission statement was a bit different, we were and are always striving to have the vision of having healthy people in a health community.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE HEALTH DEPARTMENTS LARGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WERE WHEN YOU WERE ON THE BOARD?

Dr. Carl Strauch

This is an easy one-First, was hiring Greg Chance as our first administrator. He was the perfect choice and the department is, in many ways, his legacy. Secondly, was getting the various programs started like WIC, restaurant inspection, well inspection and water safety. As I recall (and I could be wrong), the Henderson County Health Department helped us. Finally was settling on a site for a new and permanent location for the department which we did.

Sally Keener

I felt there were two big accomplishments during my tenure: Making sure the community knew the Health Department existed and all they had to offer, and building and moving into its own building.

Doug Gibb

During my tenure, many entities have taken place from certifications to programs that continue to aid in the development of healthier people. For example, Bioterrorism, West Nile and Smoke-Free policies just to name a few were implemented. Great successes have been accomplished especially with the Federally Qualified Health Center coming into existence.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH IS?

Dr. Carl Strauch

I think public health has a bright future with more and more people falling through the health insurance cracks. Dental and health clinics and the basic department services will always be needed. The public health system can do this in a cost-effective manner.

Sally Keener

The future of public health depends on several moving parts working together: Government agencies, private agencies and the community to name a few. Everyone should work together to make a healthier world.

Doug Gibb

Public Health continues to be a challenging issues for our community and the health department with uncertainties in health care. Whether or not one has private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid or no insurance, one is eligible to receive care at the Community Health Center. The hope is that Public Health will continue to provide services that are of need and of great value with the ever changing cost of health care; however, the Health Department keeps abreast of recent trends in medicine and services so our community can continue to have the resources available to them.

Food Protection

Our Food Protection Program strives to ensure food safety through: licensure of food facilities, inspections, and educational programs in our community. Health inspectors work with food vendors of all types to ensure the food you eat is safe.

	2017
Licensed Food establishments	306
Number of Routine inspections conducted	527
Number of Re-inspections	178
Number of complaint investigations	21

Potable Water Safety

The Potable Water Safety Program aims to reduce the risk of contracting a waterborne disease from community, non-community, and private water wells. The Knox County Health Department samples water for bacteria and nitrates, indicators of contamination.

	2017
Number of water well permits issued	21
Number of water wells installed	10
Number of water wells inspected	6
Number of water wells sealed	12

Onsite Wastewater Disposal Program

Because so many toxic chemicals and pathogens are in sewage, it's extremely important to ensure proper treatment of sewage. The Knox County Health Department works in conjunction with Private Sewage Contractors, Home Owners, and the Illinois Department of Public Health to protect the environment from contamination.

	2017
Sewage System Permits Issued	43
Sewage Systems Installed	44
Sewage Systems Inspected	45
Sewage Complaints Received & Inspected	1

Immunizations

We provide immunizations to infants, children, and adults at minimal or no cost to protect against vaccine-preventable diseases.

	2017
Children served	719
Immunizations given - children	1712
Adults served	901
Immunizations given - adults	1002

STD Reports

	2017
Chlamydia	268
Gonorrhea	83
Syphilis	6

	2017
HIV Tests Performed	200
STD Tests Performed	172

Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

	2017
Children Screening at KCHD	59
Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels in KC	12
Lead Nurse Home Visits	11
Environmental Investigations Performed	9
Environmental Lead Cases Opened	49
Environmental Lead Cases Closed	10

	2017
Number of presentations given	243
Number of Attendees	7135



\$21 Million

Has received over \$21 million dollars in federal and state grant funds

44,117

Administered over 44,117 childhood immunizations



4,691

Screened over 4,691 children for lead poisoning

841

Issued over 841 water well construction permits



8,164

Investigated over 8,164 reports of communicable disease

14,339

Conducted over 14,339 routine food safety inspections and 5,023 follow-up surveys



2,965

Analyzed over 2,965 water samples from private water wells

94,700

Conducted more than 4,900 health education presentations to nearly 94,700 people



5 Has facilitated five county-wide community health assessment and plan development projects

11,134

Conducted over 11,134 TB skin tests



25 YEARS OF NUMBERS

APPROVED!
Citizen referendum passed that created the Knox County Health Department

November
1992

December
1992

FIRST BOARD MEETING HELD
Knox County Board of Health held its first board meeting

Began **Dental Sealant grant program** in Knox County schools

July
1993

October
1993

Health Department began annual administration of **seasonal flu vaccine**

Board of Health adopted its first **Community Health Improvement Plan**

May
1993

June
1994

Health Department began its **childhood immunizations program**

Granted Local Health Protection dollars to **aid in provision of core programs**

July
1994

July
1994

Health Department began providing **WIC/FCM programs**

WOMEN'S ASSISTANCE
Began providing assistance for **women's breast and cervical cancer programs**

January
1995

May
1995

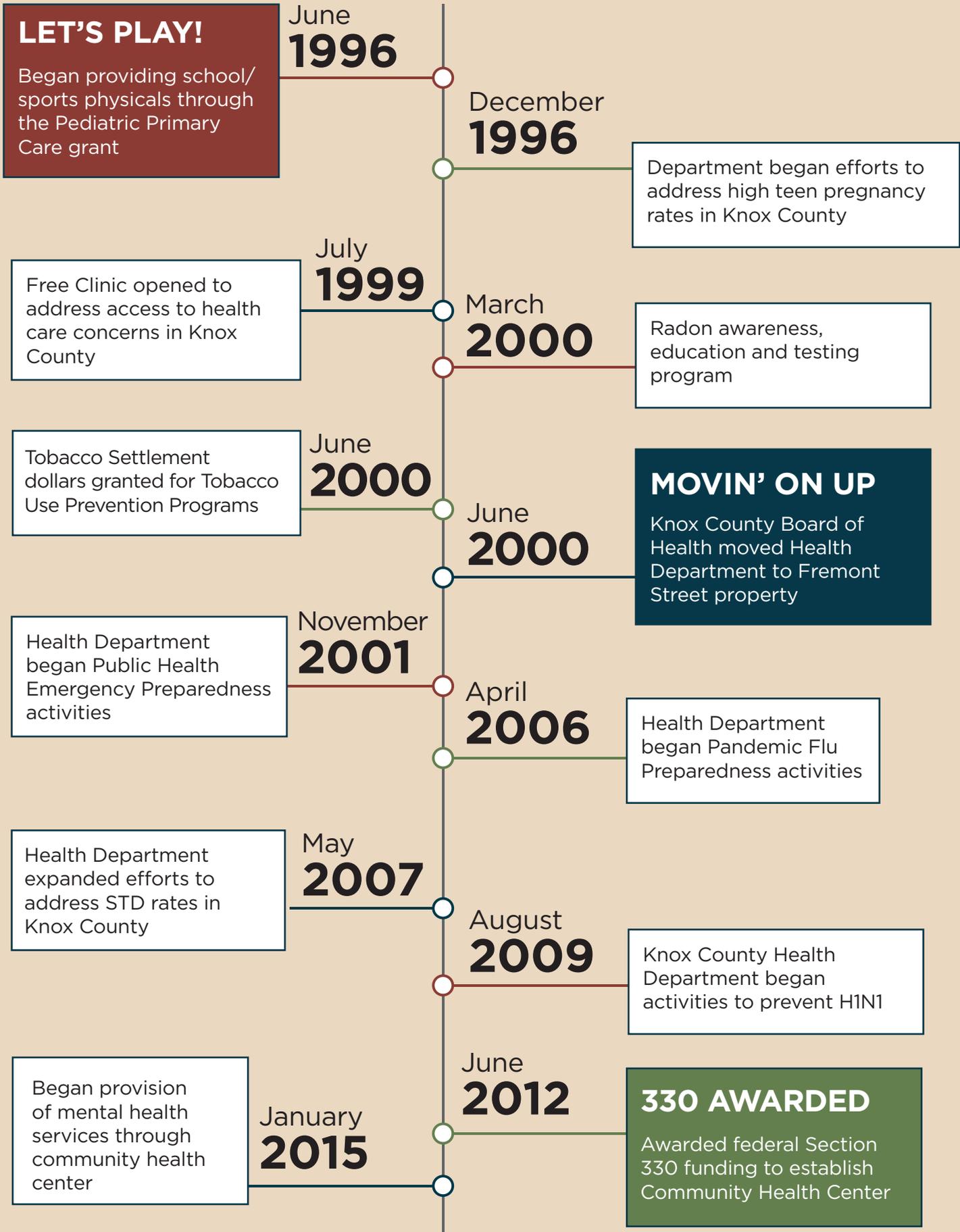
Health Department began providing **safety-net dental services** for Knox County

HIV/AIDS awareness, education and testing program

January
1996

May
1996

Health Department began **Mosquito/Vector Control Programming**



DECEMBER 2017 BOARD OF HEALTH CELEBRATED COMPLETION OF 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO KNOX COUNTY



Community Health Improvement Planning

The Community Health Improvement Planning process takes place every five years and is completed by the Knox County Health Department as a collaborative community-wide effort to improve the health status of residents in the Knox County community. The purpose of community health improvement planning is to improve the capabilities of the local public health system to conduct community health assessments, complete strategic action plans, and apply results for improved health outcomes and public health policies for the community. Priority health concerns identified are selected because they are fundamental health challenges facing Knox County; which must be given priority in order for the overall health of the community to improve. These strategic health concerns have significant consequences and impact the overall health and well-being of the community if they are not addressed.

Gone are the days when communicable diseases like Cholera, troubled us the most. Those diseases are still of concern today; but now, chronic diseases, such as diabetes and obesity, are the big challenges. And these types of illnesses do not lend themselves to traditional, four-walled approaches to health. So public health is continuing to look outside those four walls to the public health system that is our community..to the social determinant of health that contribute so much to the overall health of the Knox County community. And with that comes engaging non-health sectors because what drives public health problems is not solely within the purviews of the public health or health care systems. So the non-health sectors like schools, housing, planning, transportation, and others are important in addressing the health needs of this community. Health needs to be part of everything we do.

Public Health is a Team Sport

When the Knox County public health system is at its best, it is more than the Knox County Health Department inspecting restaurants, trying to get children immunized, preventing a disease outbreak, or ensuring access to dental care. It's an entire system with many important players... from government agencies, schools, and health care providers to non-profit organizations and the people who live here themselves... doing their part to prevent illness, treat health problems, and promote good health.

As Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu, Director of the Fairfax County Health Department, has said, "It's a team sport."

A special thank you to every organization and individual, from every sector of, Knox County who has contributed to the past 25-years. The Knox County Board of Health and Health Department appreciates you! We could not have done it without you and we are looking forward to the future and another 25 Years.

Family Health Program Activities

Certified Clients	1491
Clients Who Attended Nutrition Education	1468
Clients Who Attended Breastfeeding Education	245
Community Clients Breastfeeding Visits/Contacts	175

Family Case Management Program

Face to Face Visits	2602
Home Visits With At Risk Clients	14
New Clients Enrolled in Program	591

Breast & Cervical Cancer Program

IBCCP/Komen Nurse Contacts	110
New IBCCP Patients	5
IBCCP Exams	25
Mammograms	29



16

KCHC has 1 full-time APN/Medical Director, 1 full-time APN, 2 full-time dentists, 1 Psych APN, 3 full-time behavioral health counselors, 2 full-time hygienists, 1 full-time RN Care Coordinator, 2 full-time LPN's 1 part-time dentist, 2 part-time hygienists

4508

4508 unduplicated patients were seen at the Knox Community Health Center

27

27% of our patients participated in the sliding fee schedule

95.71

95.71% of our patients say it is very easy to make an appointment

110

110 patients used same day appointments for medical services

55

55% of all KCHC patients are aged 19 and older and 5.94% are over the age of 64



THEN AND NOW

The oral health
lifeline that created
a decades worth
of smiles



Dr. Matt **ROZNY**, D.M.D.



Lori **QUICK**



Dr. Lance **RENFROE**, D.D.S.

WHAT DO YOU FEEL THE IMPACT OF DENTAL HEALTH HAS HAD OVERALL IN OUR COMMUNITY?

Dr. Matt Rozny

It has allowed many to see the dentist who otherwise would be unable to see one.

Lori Quick

I feel the Knox Community Dental Clinic has had a huge, positive impact of the Dental Health in our community. Over the years it has went back and forth. In earlier years there were several dentists in Knox County that took Medicaid and we only had a part time dentist, now I believe, we are the only ones who take Medicaid and have an income based sliding fee scale, but we have a much larger staff. I am very proud to have been with the program from the start and watch it grow into what it is today.

Dr. Renfro

Since the health departments inception we have addressed children's dental needs first. Having been active with public aid patients for about 7 years in private practice, I know that there is a tremendous need in Knox. It is a basic and unmet need. From a private practice perspective, the need can overwhelm a practioners practice. The need is best served within an institution like the Health Department. From the basic 2 rudimentary chairs on McClure Street to our state of the art clinic on Fremont Street, now I feel the need is being addressed.

HOW GREAT DO YOU FEEL THE NEED STILL IS IN OUR COMMUNITY? DO YOU FEEL WE HAVE MET THE ENTIRE NEED AS A COMMUNITY?

Dr. Matt Rozny

There is still a great need. Good dental care requires regular check-ups. We still see people every day with acute dental needs.

Lori Quick

We still have a need in the community, we try to get people in as quickly as possible, we have emergency

appointments and an emergency list, there are always names on the list. There are transportation needs and specialized care needs that can't be met at our facility.

Dr. Renfro

Having been removed from the Health Department for a few years, I may not have the most current access to the numbers going through the Dental Clinic, but I know there is an increasing population of Knox County Members that qualify for most state aid programs. This creates a need that is hard to fully meet. The work of the Health Department and the Dental Clinic has to continue as service to Knox.

WHAT MORE CAN THE COMMUNITY DO?

Dr. Matt Rozny

Support the Community Health Center and tell people in need about us. Remember that everyone is welcome to come here for care.

Lori Quick

Spread the word, I am amazed after all these years, I have people come in every week and say wow, I didn't know you offered so many services. The Knox Community Health Center services are for all people in the community, we have a great staff and a great facility.

Dr. Renfro

I think any and all of the preventive services available should be continued and provided regardless of the Knox population's ability to pay or not. Dental Prophylaxis Topical Fluoride Treatments, Dental Sealants, and restoration of decayed teeth is paramount. It has been reported that hospital ER visit are down with tooth ache issues when a clinic like at the Health Department is in operation. School age children miss less school and are free of pain so when they are at school they can concentrate and learn. The work force misses less work when they do not have to deal with severe tooth pain from untreated disease. An active and well-staffed Dental Clinic like at the Knox County Health Department better serves the county by being there day after day, week after week and so on.

KCHC Vision

A community without barriers to healthcare.

KCHC Mission

The mission of the Knox Community Health Center is to serve as a medical home providing comprehensive health care for all walks and stages of life.

We are dedicated to providing services which unite the ideals of prevention, wellness, and disease management; resulting in enhanced physical and mental well-being for the community members we serve.

Health Center Value Statements

INTEGRITY

We act with a consistency of character and are accountable for our actions.

RELIABLE

We provide forthcoming, impartial, and courteous care for every patient every time.

QUALITY

We achieve an exemplary level of service through individual efforts and teamwork.

ATTAINABLE

We eliminate barriers that impede an individual's ability to access medical and dental care.

COMPASSIONATE

We nurture a sense of family and community among our patients and ourselves.



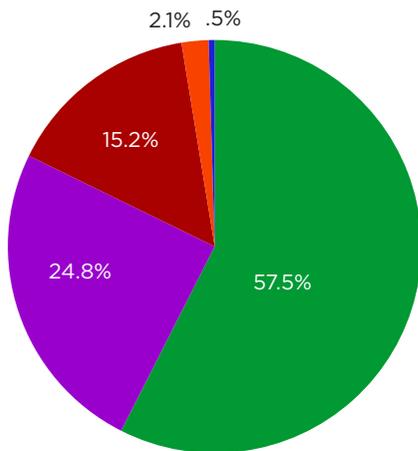


KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1361 West Fremont Street
Galesburg, Illinois 61401

309-344-2224

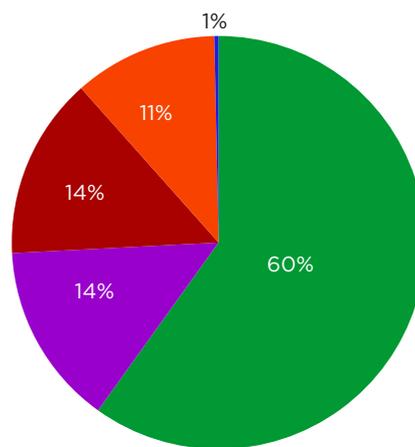
www.knoxcountyhealth.org
www.facebook.com/KCHD92/



**2017 Revenue Summary for
Knox County Health Department**

Federal & State Grants/ Foundation Awards	2,283,127.42
Service Fees	984,317.08
Tax Levy	603,357.54
Miscellaneous	83,743.61
Interest	18,470.02
Account Transfer	0.00

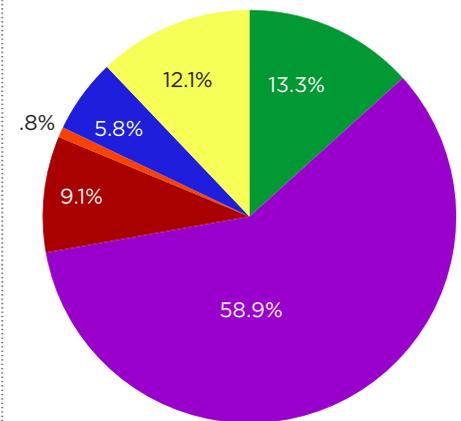
Total 3,973,015.67



**2017 Expense Summary for
Knox County Health Department**

Personnel (Grant Contingent)	2,205,348.88
Personnel	524,715.99
Grant Program Activities	413,771.68
Operating Expense	525,654.31
Building Construction	12,099.83
Account Transfer	0.00

Total 3,681,590.69



**Distribution of Knox County
2017 Property Taxes**

Education	58.9%
County	13.3%
Fire, Library, Sanitary, Misc.	12.1%
Cities & Villages	9.1%
Township	5.8%
Knox County Health Dept.	0.8%