

# KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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

**Knox County Health Department**



1361 WEST FREMONT STREET  
GALESBURG, ILLINOIS 61401

[KNOXCOUNTYHEALTH.ORG](http://KNOXCOUNTYHEALTH.ORG)

309.344.2224

Healthy People in a Healthy Community  
Knox County, IL

KNOX COUNTY  
HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT

1361 FREMONT

## **A Message from Michele Gabriel, MPH, Public Health Administrator and CEO**

To the members of the Knox County community, if there is something that the public health workforce is familiar with it is change. So, when a community member asks me if things are “getting better” or are “back to normal” at the Knox County Health Department, I always answer no. We are public health! Every occurrence of a new infectious disease or novel influenza virus, each new behavior change promoted to improve your quality of life and/or decrease your chance of developing disease; every single environmental code change implemented to avoid illness or injury; and yes, especially every Pandemic that occurs. These all impact public health as a force of change and eventually absorb into what public health is and what it does. And in the case of COVID-19, it was a tremendous force and a lot of change!



**Michele Gabriel, MPH**

The truth of the matter is, most changes that occurred throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic over the past three years; have moved in, taken over the TV remote, and made themselves feel right at home at the dinner table. Remarkably, the same Knox County Health Department staff who responded abundantly in the face of rapid change have now adjusted to the presence of evolving change. They have integrated COVID-19 related services into day to day activities; thankfully, not at the same level as when we first saw COVID-19, or when we first began providing vaccine to the community.

And, I say remarkably, because they are remarkable. Both as individuals and as a team! As members of the Knox County Community, please rest assured that your public health staff are here for the community they serve. They work continuously, in the face of both rapid and evolving change to promote and protect the health of the individuals, families, and communities we serve. They strive to provide programming that prevents individuals from getting sick or injured, uninterruptedly promote wellness by encouraging healthy habits and behaviors, and tirelessly work in crucial programs to ensure a healthier environment in the County.

The Knox County Health Department is back to business; but, never business as usual. The Health Department will always be evolving in order to meet the needs of the Knox County Community we serve.

### **Thank you!**

We wish to extend a special thank you to our Board members for their time and efforts.

#### **KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

##### **Knox County Board of Health**

Dan Harris – President, Kevin Satisky, MD – Vice President, Doug Gibb – Treasurer,  
Stephanie Grimes – Secretary, Bruce Bobofchak, DDS, Susan Vinson, James Wolf, Carl Strauch, MD,  
Robert Bondi, Knox County Board Liaison

#### **KNOX COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER**

##### **Knox Community Health Center Governance Board**

Karen Lynch – President, Bill Butts – Vice President, Marty Andrews – Treasurer,  
Sammi Durdle – Secretary, Harlan Cook, Angela Petersen, Christina King, Tara Hillier, Amber Miles,  
Diane Munson, Gayle Keiser

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

COVID-19 continues to circulate through Knox County, Illinois. Although the virus has mutated, it spreads in the same manner: through respiratory droplets from person to person. You can lessen the risk to yourself and others and slow the spread of this virus by following simple prevention measures of correct and consistent mask use, social distancing of six feet from others, avoiding crowds and large gatherings, and washing your hands frequently. Additional critical and effective preventative actions that an individual can take is to stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines as recommended by the CDC, staying home when you are sick, and getting tested for COVID-19 when you have symptoms or have been exposed.

COVID-19 Statistics for Knox County, IL	2022	2021	2020
COVID- 19 Vaccinations administered at KCHD	3,355	15,356	N/A
COVID-19 Tests Administered	1,874	6,445	9,166*
COVID-19 Cases	6,917	4,984	4,183
COVID-19 Deaths	50	56	133
COVID-19 Outbreaks	68	41	64
<b>COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics Held</b>			
<b>Total Clinics</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>N/A</b>

\*Testing was offered five days a week and has gradually decreased from 2020-2022 as demand has decreased. Testing is now part of normal services in Knox Community Health Center.



NAACP Backpack Picnic  
Vaccine Clinic



Pride Picnic Vaccine Clinic



# HEALTH PROTECTION PROGRAMS

Health Protection Programs provide the four core services that all local health departments must provide to be a certified local health department in the State of Illinois. In addition to the core programs of food safety, private sewage disposal program, potable water program, onsite wastewater, and communicable disease surveillance, Health Protection also conducts West Nile Virus surveillance, childhood lead poisoning prevention, immunizations, STD testing, and Prep case management. The Program utilizes regulatory codes, best practices, education, enforcement, surveillance, and case management to prevent exposure, eliminate hazards, and provide treatments to protect every visitor and resident of Knox County, whether they are dining out, grocery shopping, drinking water, or participating in recreational activities.



Septic Field Install

FOOD SAFETY	2022	2021	2020*
Licensed Food Establishments in Knox County	296	255	294
Routine Inspections Conducted	617	427	96
Re-Inspections Completed	231	78	37
Temporary Food Permits Issued in Knox County	285	204	100

PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM	2022	2021	2020*
Sewage System Permits Issued in Knox County	48	33	36
Sewage Systems Installed in Knox County	35	26	32
Sewage Systems Inspected in Knox County	35	28	34

POTABLE WATER PROGRAM	2022	2021	2020*
Water Well Permits Issued in Knox County	14	18	11
Water Wells Installed in Knox County	8	10	10
Water Wells Inspected in Knox County	15	4	7
Water Wells Sealed in Knox County	8	14	11

\*Lower numbers reflect the changing priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.



## HEALTH PROTECTION PROGRAMS cont.

CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION	2022	2021	2020*
Children Screened for Lead at Health Department	26	45	9
Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels in Knox County	26	23	25
Nurse Home Visits to Children with EBLL**	24	18	24
Environmental Investigations for Children with EBLL**	24	18	24
Environmental Investigations Closed for the year	18	14	27

\*Lower numbers reflect the changing priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

\*\*EBLL (Elevated Blood Lead Level)

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE	2022	2021	2020
Tuberculosis Disease*	0	1	1
Tuberculosis Infection*	16	6	7
*Tuberculosis Testing Provided	96	98	117
Hepatitis A	2	2	0
Hepatitis B	10	6	7
Hepatitis C	55	23	78
Salmonellosis	3	6	4
Shigellosis	0	2	2
Legionellosis	0	0	0
Histoplasmosis	8	2	3
Lyme Disease	7	1	8
Malaria	0	0	0
MRSA Community Cluster	0	0	0
Streptococcal Disease Invasive	3	2	1
Streptococcal Toxic Shock	0	0	0
Streptococcal Pneumonia	0	0	0
HIV	0	3	0

\*Lower numbers reflect the changing priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## HEALTH PROTECTION PROGRAMS cont.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE	2022	2021	2020
Chlamydia	228	289	283
Gonorrhea	73	116	135
Syphilis	17	13	17
STD Tests Provided through the Program	274	174	106
HIV Tests Provided through the Program	145	91	67

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM	2022	2021	2020*
Children Served through the Program	428	371	253
Immunizations Provided to Children through the Program	932	853	570
Adults Served through the Program	375	331	270
Immunizations Provided to Adults through the Program	412	421	334

\*Lower numbers reflect the changing priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Drive Thru Flu Clinic  
Hinchliff-Pearson-West Funeral Directors  
and Cremation Services



Representative Dan Swanson's Veterans/Senior  
Resource Fair Vaccine Clinic

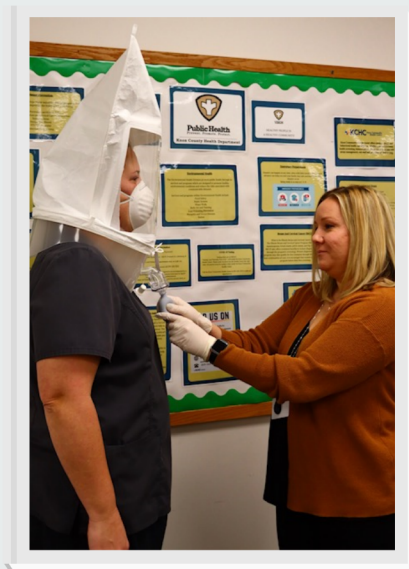
# WELLNESS AND HEALTH PROMOTION

The Wellness and Health Promotion Division promotes good health within Knox County. The division is committed to providing the community with effective educational programs in order to promote healthy lifestyles and an improved quality of life. Presentations for schools, community groups, and businesses are available upon request. Presentation topics include health department and Knox Community Health Center services, and dental education. Our health educators are actively utilizing a variety of social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok, to provide accurate and up-to-date health information as well as resources to our county.



## PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant is a source of funding which allows local health departments to respond during a public health emergency. The Knox County PHEP program collaborates with jurisdictional partners for all phases of emergency management prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. The Program funding aids public health in building and strengthening the ability to effectively respond to a range of public health threats, including infectious disease, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological events. Efforts in 2022 have centered around a continued Covid-19 response and recovery.



Employee fit testing

*The purpose of N-95 Fit Testing is to ensure that the N-95 face masks forms a tight seal around the workers face, protecting them from possible infectious disease. - Mandy Dixon*



# LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides one-time benefits to income eligible homeowners and renters to help with energy bills and for reconnection of energy service.

LIHEAP	2022	2021	2020
Applications Entered through the Program at KCHD	3,235	2,806	2,174
Applications entered through the Program at off site locations	195	176	184
Total applications entered through the program	3,340	2,982	2,358

Furnace Repaired or Replaced through the Program	2	16	6
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# LOW INCOME HOME WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHWAP)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) launched the new Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) established under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. LIHWAP is a temporary emergency program that will help low-income households and families afford water and wastewater services during the Coronavirus pandemic. Along with funding provided under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, LIHWAP will help residents pay their water bills, avoid shutoffs and support household water system

LIHWAP	2022	2021	2020
Applications Entered through the Program	1,682	N/A	N/A



## Thank you to our off-site community partners

### Galesburg locations

Galesburg Towers, Knox County Housing Authority Family Sites, Mary Allen West Tower, Moon Towers and Whiting Hall

### Oneida location

Greig Memorial Library

### Yates City location

Yates City Community Center

### Abingdon location

Blue Bell Towers and John Mosser Library

# FAMILY HEALTH PROGRAMS

The WIC (Women, Infants, & Children) Program is a supplemental nutrition program providing food, healthcare referrals, breastfeeding support & nutritional education low-income, high-risk persons who are pregnant, postpartum, & children from birth to five years of age.

WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN [WIC]	2022**	2021**	2020*
WIC Participants Enrollment	4,246	3,926	3,012
WIC Health Nutrition Education lessons completed	246	868	523
WIC Participants Breastfeeding Initiated, Duration, Exclusivity	467	58	76
Farmer's Markets Vouchers Distributed to WIC Participants	300	131	301
Average Number of Participants Enrolled Monthly in WIC	732	628	597

\*No home, or face-to-face visits after mid-March due to COVID-19.

\*\* Participants began to return for face-to-face visits in November 2021

Family Case Management (FCM) works closely with WIC participants offering services & assistance to locate resources and aiding infants to be born healthy and remain healthy after birth. FCM assists women & infants up to the age of one year with supportive personal contact, health education, developmental screenings to assess needs if required, coordination of medical care, & referral to services as needed.

FAMILY CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	2022**	2021**	2020*
Face to Face Visits Completed with Program Participants (Phone)	692	438	208
Home Visits Completed with High-Risk Program Participants (Phone)	5	42	21

\*No home, or face-to-face visits after mid-March due to COVID-19.

\*\* Participants began to return for face-to-face visits in November 2021

The Illinois Breast & Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP) serves persons living in Knox, Warren, and Henderson Counties providing qualifying individuals with free screenings and treatment for breast and cervical cancer.

ILLINOIS BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER PROGRAM	2022**	2021**	2020*
Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program Participants	17	20	25
Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program Services	13	36	52

\*No home, or face-to-face visits after mid-March due to COVID-19.

\*\* Participants began to return for face-to-face visits in November 2021

# KNOX COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Knox Community Health Center accepts Medicaid coverage through ANY Medicaid Managed Care Organization [MCO], Medicare and some Medicare Advantage plans and patients with private insurance coverage for medical, dental, and behavioral health care services. Call for an appointment 309.344.2225!

El Departamento de Salud utiliza Language Line para ayudar a sus pacientes de habla Hispana.  
Le ministère de la Santé utilise la ligne linguistique pour aider ses patients qui parlent Français.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDED	2022	2021	2020
Medical Visits Provided	1,943	1,684	1,356
Medical Patients Who Received Care	1,129	820	699
Dental Visits Provided	2,519	3,488	3,304
Dental Patients Who Received Care	1,532	2,126	2,004
Behavioral Health Visits Provided	1,918	1,966	3,170
Behavioral Health Patients Who Received Care	335	436	578
Patients Who Utilized More Than One Center Service	321	337	398
<b>Total Visits Provided</b>	<b>6,380</b>	<b>7,138</b>	<b>7,830*</b>
<b>Total Patients Who Received Care</b>	<b>2,684</b>	<b>3,045</b>	<b>2,889*</b>

\*Numbers presented for 2020 in this report have been updated and adjusted from those reported out in the 2020 annual report due to update in Uniform Data System output.

## KNOX COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER CELEBRATES 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Knox Community Health Center celebrated with a health fair on Friday, June 17. “We are honored to say that the Knox Community Health Center has been serving the community for 10 years,” states Michele Gabriel, Public Health Administrator & CEO at KCHC. “Being a federally qualified health center means that we can provide accessible and high-quality health care, behavioral health services and dental care to our patients regardless of their ability to pay. The Knox Community Health Center is a vital component of Knox County’s health care safety net,” says Gabriel.” With an integrated approach to care that helps improve access to services for residents. We hope more families will make this Health Center their medical home. These last 10 years has been achieved through teamwork and dedication toward patient care from the staff and trust from our patients to care for their health care needs.”





# KNOX COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WELCOMES TWO NEW PROVIDERS



Robert Wagner, MD

## Robert Wagner, MD

The Knox Community Health Center signed on two new providers in 2022. Robert Wagner, MD joined the KCHC medical team as the Chief Medical Officer in April and brings with him 49 years of experience. Dr. Wagner is board certified in Family Medicine. He received his medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria. “I am eager to join the provider team at KCHC,” states Dr. Wagner. “I pride myself on establishing long-lasting relationships with my patients and am dedicated to ensuring their well-being. My focus is not only on treating a current illness, but to lend support and most importantly to try and prevent illness from occurring.”

## Crystal Johnson, LCSW

The Behavioral Health Department welcomed Crystal Johnson, a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW), to the provider team in March. Johnson earned a Master of Social Work from St. Ambrose University. She has experience working with people of all ages and is skilled in providing treatment for stress, anxiety, depression, trauma, grief and loss, family/relationship issues and personal growth. “I am excited to be back in the Knox County community providing Behavioral Health services,” Johnson said. “My goal is to increase support and bring awareness to the mental health needs in our community. I enjoy connecting with those I work with and I encourage others to ask for help when they need it so they don’t have to do it alone.”



Crystal Johnson, LCSW

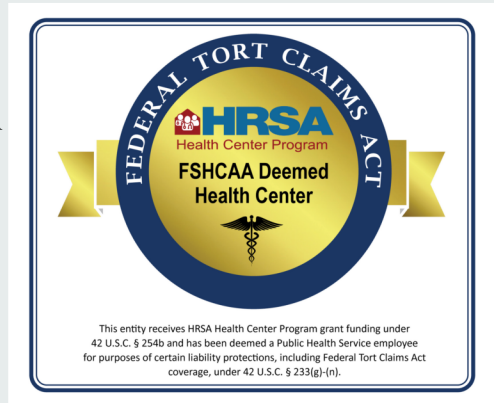
*KCHC is excited about the experience Dr. Wagner and Crystal Johnson have brought to the team. With these additions, KCHC has strengthened the provider team and have given our patients the opportunity to continue to receive the best care in our community.*

# THE 340B PROGRAM

The Knox Community Health Center provides pharmacy services and aid for patients of the Community Health Center through the 340b pharmacy program. The 340B program prescriptions, can be filled at both Walgreen Pharmacy locations in Galesburg.

## FEDERAL TORT CLAIM ACT

The KCHC is a Section 330 Federally Funded Community Health Center and receives HRSA Health Center Program grant funding under 42 U.S.C 254b it has been deemed a Public Health Service employee for purposes of certain liability protections, including Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) coverage under 42 U.S.C. 233(g)-(n). Grant-supported Federally Qualified Health Centers are public and private non-profit health care organizations that meet certain criteria under the Medicare and Medicaid Programs.



## KNOX COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER MAKES CHANGES FOR EASIER PATIENT ACCESS

The Knox Community Health Center closed out 2022 with a construction project centered around ADA updates designed to improve the quality and accessibility of treatment for its patients. KCHC was awarded an ARP-Health Center Construction and Capital Improvement grant funding provided by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. This grant, awarded through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), seeks to modify, enhance and expand health care services and infrastructure. KCHC elected to complete ADA renovations to provide a better more accessible patient experience. These changes will allow KCHC to provide comprehensive services for all patients.



New ADA Dental Chair and Room



New Knox Community Health Center Entrance



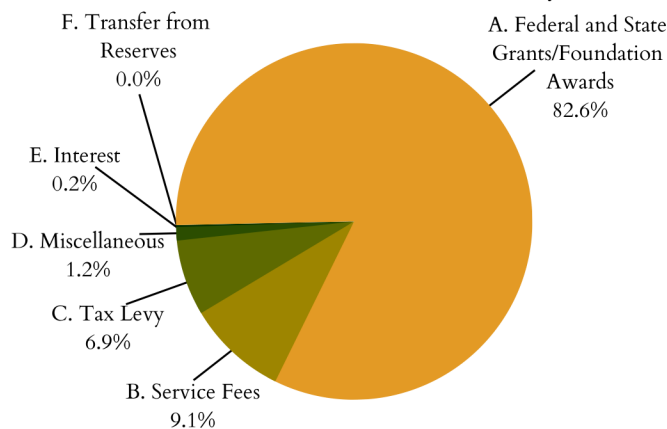
New Dental Lobby

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

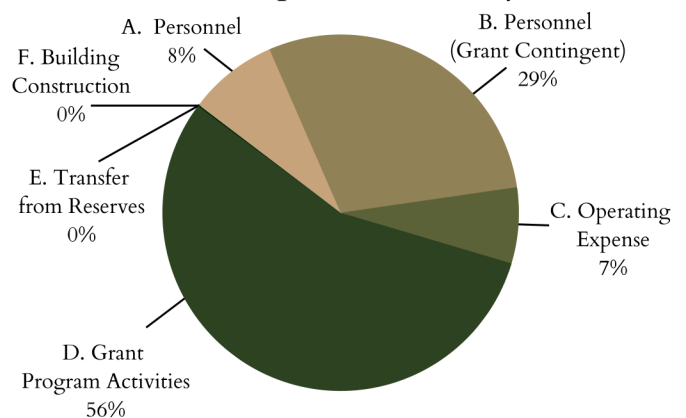
FY22 Revenue Summary	
A. Federal and State Grants/Foundation Awards	\$8,181,300.59
B. Service Fees	\$903,391.38
C. Tax Levy	\$680,544.52
D. Miscellaneous	\$120,935.09
E. Interest	\$16,417.34
F. Transfer from Reserves	\$0.00
	<b>\$9,902,588.92</b>

FY22 Expenses Summary	
A. Personnel	\$775,934.72
B. Personnel (Grant Contingent)	\$2,794,617.40
C. Operating Expense	\$658,170.84
D. Grant Program Activities	\$5,316,971.68
E. Transfer from Reserves	\$0.0
F. Building Construction	\$11,881.11
	<b>\$9,557,575.75</b>

**FY22 Revenue Summary**



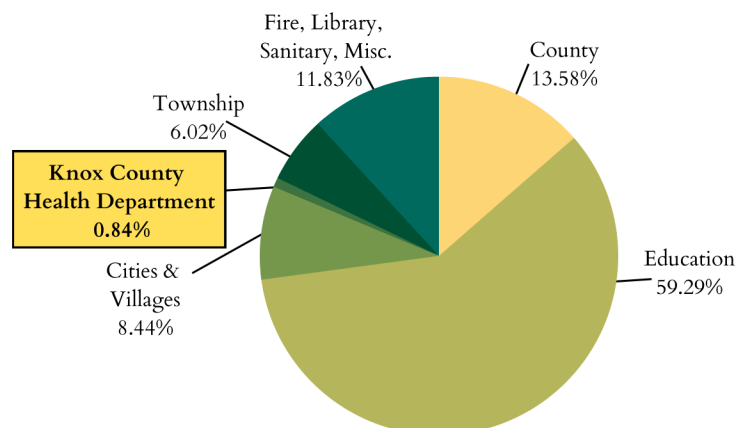
**FY22 Expenses Summary**



## Distribution of Property Tax

Tax Year 2021

Distributed In Knox County - 2022





# 2022 HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Changes to address the State of Illinois Farmers' Market Permit were approved for inclusion in the Knox County Food Safety Ordinance in December 2022; effective February 1, 2023.
- Successfully, amended the Knox County Health Ordinances Article III Potable Water Wells and Closed Loop Wells and implemented.
- Completed comprehensive Wage and Compensation Study collaboratively with the County of Knox; Board of Health approved implementation for of new salary schedule FY23.
- Health Department submitted their Illinois Plan for Local Assessment of Need (IPLAN) in October 2022; a five-year comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Health Department had all seven (7) HVAC units replaced allowing for a greater percentage of fresh air turnover within the building.
- Development of a Workforce Development Plan was completed in December 2022.
- WIC Program staff reimplemented in-person WIC/FCM visits, added a Certified Breastfeeding consultant to the WIC Program; distributed all Farmers Market Program coupons, implemented early morning appointments one day (1) each month, and reached 100% of assigned WIC caseload for two (2) consecutive months.
- Program staff successfully provided the LIHEAP Program and implemented the LIWAP Program for the Knox County community, both programs were top three performers in the State of Illinois.
- Health Department participated in Statewide monitoring of MPOX, provided community education about MPOX, obtained MPV for the Knox County Community; and drafted a MPOX Response Plan to work collaboratively with community partners.
- Added additional Lead Risk Assessor to the Health Protection team with multiple successful lead cases throughout the year.
- Successfully implemented provision of COVID-19 booster doses for the community; 58.84% of Knox County is fully vaccinated.
- The Community Health Center (CHC) successfully completed the comprehensive Virtual Operational Site Visit (VOSV) with no conditions being put on the grant.
- Successfully implemented CHC Health Care Navigator Plan to assist individuals and families with the National Healthcare Marketplace in November 2022.
- CHC program distributed free COVID-19 Self-tests and masks to individuals and families throughout the community and onsite at the CHC.



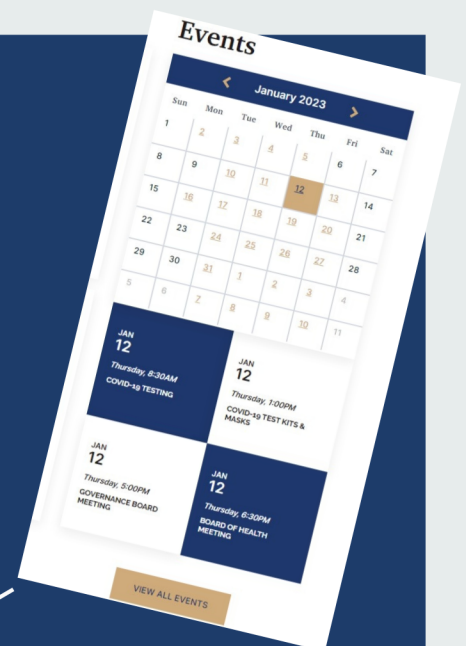
WOW- Check this out!



## KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Welcome to the NEW Knox County Health Department website! Everything you need to know and want to discover is now just a click or scroll away in multiple languages. From New in Public Health, "Events, Community Health Center, Employment, Public Health, and Forms and Codes and beyond- you can now view your Health Department in a whole new way from any mobile or computer device.

Explore your Knox County Health Department from the comfort and safety of your home.



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

SCAN ME to view our  
NEW WEBSITE!