



Van Wert County
General Health District

2019 YEARLY REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

The overall mission of the Van Wert County General Health District is to promote and to protect the health and well-being of the community.

VISION STATEMENT

The Van Wert County General Health District will lead the way in protecting and improving the health of the residents of our community by serving as the most reliable source of public health services and information.

VAN WERT COUNTY DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Paul Svabik, President

Appointed February 1988 ◊ Term Expires April 2022

Randy Myers, Vice-President

Appointed April 2009 ◊ Term Expires April 2021

Brian Greve

Appointed April 2013 ◊ Term Expires April 2023

Dr. Thomas Conte

Appointed April 2016 ◊ Term Expires April 2024

Laura Metzger

Appointed Sept 2019 ◊ Term Expires April 2025

*Serving more than 28,000 residents,
including:*

Convoy, Elgin, Harrison Township, Hoaglin Township, Jackson Township, Jennings Township, Liberty Township, Middle Point, Ohio City, Pleasant Township, Ridge Township, Scott, Tully Township, Union Township, Van Wert, Venedocia, Washington Township, Willshire, Willshire Township, Wren, and York Township.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

HEALTH COMMISSIONER/MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Paul A. Kalogerou, MD

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES

Kathy Will, RN, DON

Linda Bissonette, RN

Nikki Kuhlman, RN

Samantha Ball, RN

HELP ME GROW SUPERVISOR

Cheryl Stauffer, MSW

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR

Ruth Gerding, RN, MPH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Britt Menchhofer, RS

Kelly Freewalt, RS

VITAL STATISTICS/ADMINISTRATIVE

Susie Isenbarger, Registrar

Mackinzy Peterson BS, Clerk

Abigail Lopshire, Temporary Clerk

Jeanette Ford MSOP, BS, Administrator

A HUGE thank you to the staff for their hard work, the Board of Health for their service and the District Advisory Council for their continuous support!



From The Health Commissioner.....

Our Van Wert County Health Department and Board of Health welcome the District Advisory Council and appreciate your attendance. We respect the privilege and responsibility to promote and to protect the health and well-being of our community, to empower the public to make responsible healthcare decisions, to keep our environment safe, and to remain prepared for any public health threat.

Our department is composed of our Nursing Division, Public Health Preparedness/Emergency Response Division, Environmental Health Division, Vital Statistics Division, and our Administrative Staff Division.

Our Nursing Division continue to provide services to ensure the health and safety of Van Wert County. Our nurses immunize and educate the public regarding health issues, identify health concerns, monitor health status, and develop partnerships with the local hospital and state agencies to identify and to solve problems. Our department continues to participate in a grant with area law enforcement officials to provide reversal medication for drug overdose cases.

Nursing collaborates with our Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and community partners and the Ohio Department of Health for preparing against catastrophic occurrences.

Our Nursing Division, under the guidance of Director of Nursing, Kathy Will, RN has participated with other community partners to create a Community Health Improvement Plan and Strategic Plan. Nursing also provides services for Children with Medical Disabilities, the "Help Me Grow" program which provides services to underserved parents and newborns, LEAD case investigations, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome counseling, Child Fatality Review, and Obesity.

Our Public Health Preparedness/Emergency Response Division, led by Ruth Gerding, RN, prepares our department in collaboration with community partners and the Ohio Department of Health against potential infectious disease outbreaks, bio-terrorism, and any other public health threats. Emergency Response Plans, including Pandemic Influenza and County Mass Fatalities Plans, continue to be updated. Our department, along with community partners, participates in drills to remain prepared.

Our Environmental Health Division, under the leadership of Director of Environmental Health, Britt Menchhofer, RS, monitors and inspects food establishments, solid waste disposal facilities, manufactured home parks, campgrounds, schools, public pools, and body piercing and tattoo facilities, and also performs rabies investigations.

Our Administrative Staff Division facilitates effective communication between the clerical and nursing divisions. Our Health Department Administrator, Jeanette Ford, MSOP, BS, RRT, has effectively integrated the clerical and clinical staff, improved the billing process, built strong relationships with our board, community partners, and regional health departments, and continues to contribute a major role with our health department's intent to become accredited and continues to communicate regularly with the county and board regarding the fiscal accountability of the organization. The clerical staff continues to compassionately and professionally greet the public. Making certain that a client's visit remains a productive and satisfying experience remains a priority for the clerical and clinical teams. By accepting private insurance for the past several years, in addition to Medicare/Medicaid billing, our department has expanded the community's access to our clinics for their immunization needs.

The Ohio Department of Health is requiring all Local Health Departments to become accredited. The Accreditation status ensures that Health Department standards maintain consistency with nationally recognized guidelines, including continuous quality improvement. Our department continues the process of Accreditation and has an active Quality Improvement Plan. Our department has had a major role in the Van Wert County Health Collaborative group in planning and formulating the Community Health Assessment. Strategic health priorities including obesity and behavioral health have been identified for the Community Health Improvement Plan. A site visit by a Public Health Accreditation Board team is scheduled for the end of May 2020.

We encourage you to review the 2019 yearly report of our health department contribution to Van Wert County. The goals of our department remain the prevention of disease and the promotion and protection of the health of our community.

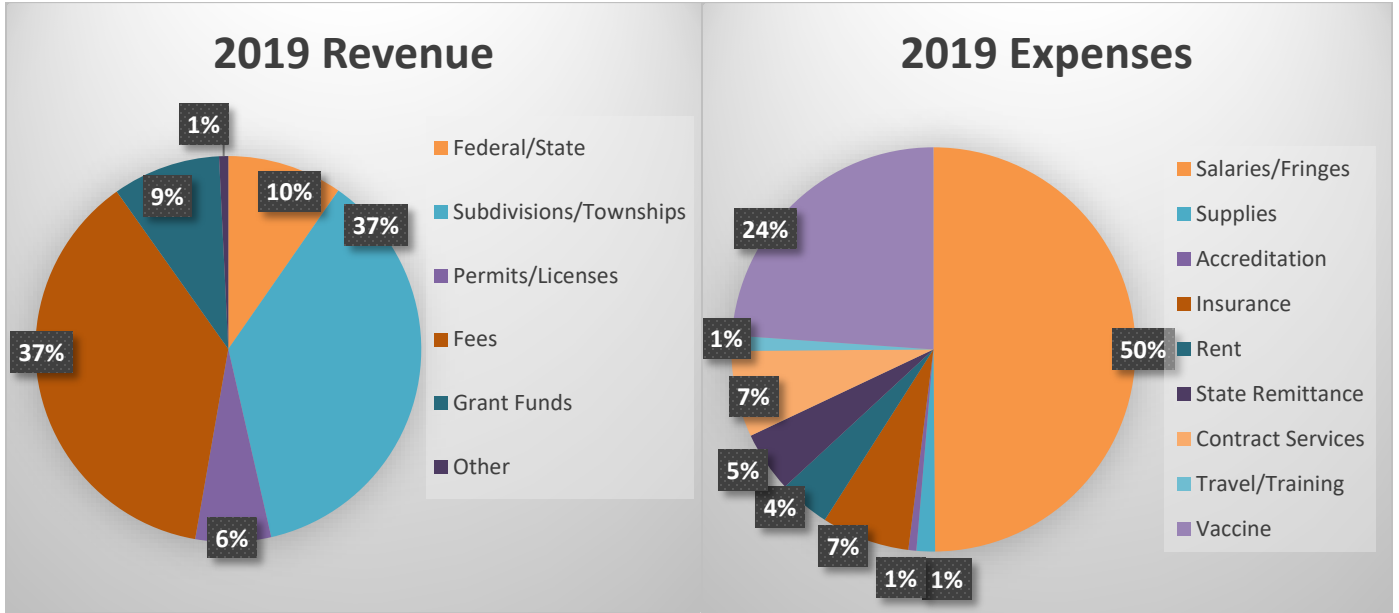
Public health funding continues to be limited and our local health department has been affected. The Van Wert County District Advisory Council's continued support is very much appreciated.

Our department understands that we are public servants. We continue to work closely with the Board of Health to maintain a fiscally responsible budget to ensure that our tax dollars remain efficiently and effectively utilized.

Respectfully,

**Paul A. Kalogerou, MD
Health Commissioner/Medical Director**

Maintaining Financial Stability



Strategic Plan 2018-2020

| People Pillar | Service Pillar | Quality Pillar | Growth Pillar | Finance Pillar | Community Pillar |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Goal: To have a supported, healthy and competent workforce</p> <p>Progress: 100% of staff agree or strongly agree they are satisfied with their professional development and training</p> | <p>Goal: To provide excellent client service agency wide</p> <p>Progress: Completion of successful environmental health internship opportunity</p> | <p>Goal: To promote continuous innovation</p> <p>Progress: Improved client satisfaction tool and process</p> | <p>Goal: To utilize continuous performance improvement in delivering public health services</p> <p>Progress: Participation in multiple community events to promote awareness of services</p> | <p>Goal: To be excellent stewards of taxpayer dollars and efficient management of resources</p> <p>Progress: Internal tracker completed to monitor vaccine reimbursement</p> | <p>Goal: To continuously engage partners and key stakeholders in the community</p> <p>Progress: Active participant in the Van Wert Health Collaborative</p> |

Accreditation

Van Wert County General Health District continues to strive toward accreditation. The department completed submission of documentation to the PHAB (Public Health Accreditation Board) in September 2019. This was a daunting process of over 300 documents and cover pages covering 12 domains. The next step in the accreditation process will be the site visit team review of the documents and then the actual site visit. The site visit will consist of three site visitors from PHAB who will be in the health department for 2 days. They will meet with all staff, board members, and community members to gain a full view of the operations and success of the organization. The health department anticipates this entire process will be completed in summer 2020.

Environmental Health

| Licensing Programs | Licenses | Inspections |
|---|----------|-------------|
| Food Service Operation/Retail Food Establishments | 239 | 451 |
| Schools | | 21 |
| Public Swimming Pools/Spas | 8 | 76 |
| Manufactured Home Parks | | 8 |
| Campgrounds | 2 | 7 |
| Tattoo & Body Piercing Facilities | 4 | 7 |
| Solid Waste Facilities | 1 | 6 |

| Permit Programs | Permits | Inspections |
|----------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Private Water Systems | 30 | 19 |
| Sewage System Installation | 32 | 50 |
| Septage Hauler Vehicles | 14 | 3 |

| Registration Programs | Registrations |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Sewage System Installers | 10 |
| Septage Haulers | 10 |
| Sewage System Service Providers | 4 |



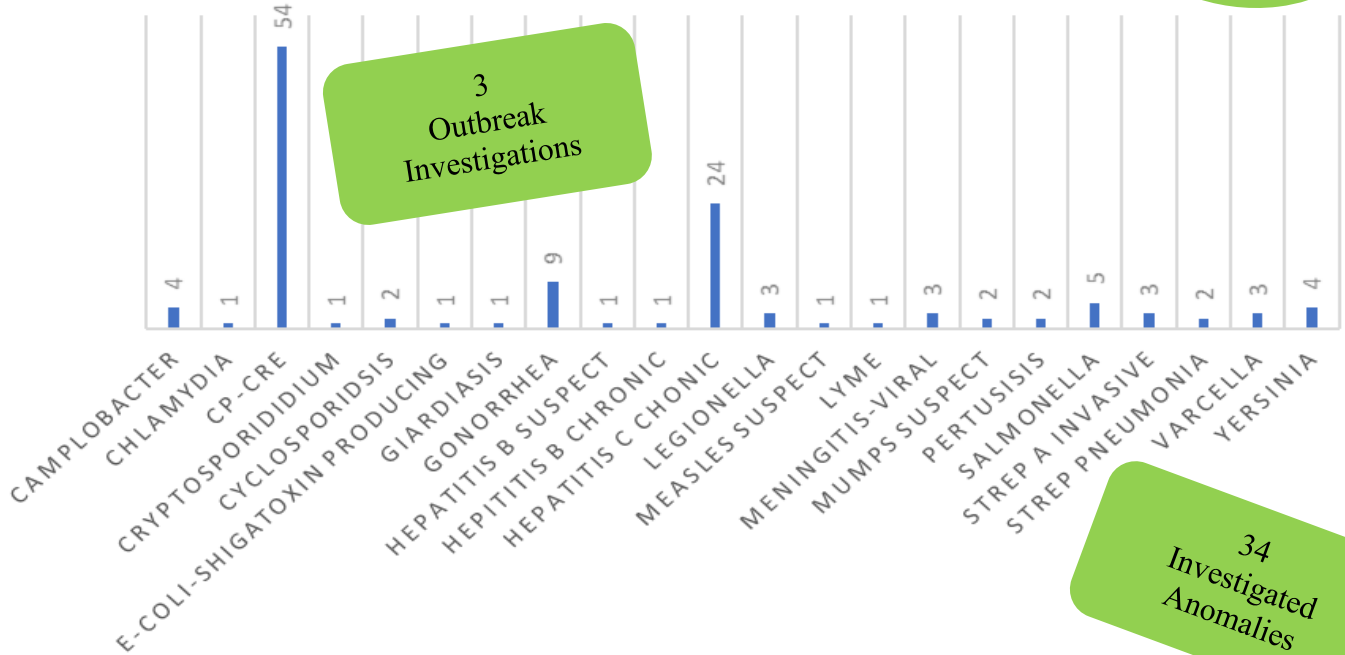
| Miscellaneous Programs and Services | Totals |
|--|--------|
| Nuisance Complaint Investigations/Re-inspections | 60 |
| Real Estate Well & Septic Inspections | 35 |

Public Health Nursing

Communicable Disease

12
Cases of
hospitalized
influenza

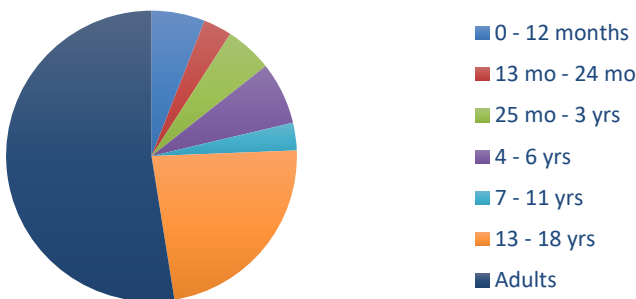
2019 REPORTABLE DISEASES



Immunization Clinic

The immunization clinic is open Monday through Friday with various timeslots through the days to accommodate client schedules as well as late clinic hours being offered during each month.

Immunizations by age



13
Van Wert County Companies
served as part of our Flu
Clinic Outreach

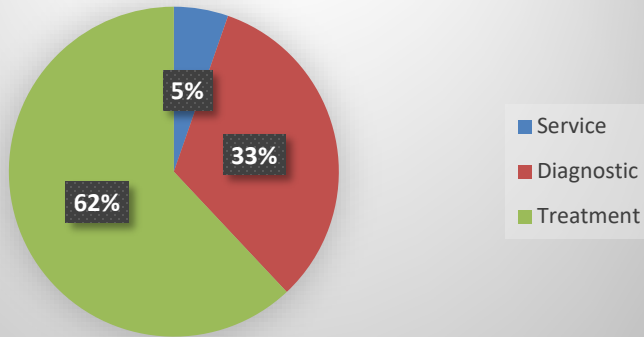
OVER
466
Community members being
vaccinated through this
program

4648 doses of vaccine and TB skin tests

Children with Medical Handicaps Program

The Children with Medical Handicaps programs is an ODH program that helps link families of children from birth to age 21 with special healthcare needs with services, diagnostic testing and treatments.

Children on Different CMH Plans



\$25,600
Revenue

132

Children covered in all three service areas: diagnostic, treatment, and service coordination

Help Me Grow Home Visiting



The Help Me Grow program is an Ohio Department of Health Sponsored program that is implemented by the Van Wert County Health Department. The program is a voluntary family support program for pregnant women or new parents. Help Me Grow Home Visiting is an evidence-based program that promotes healthy growth and development for babies and young children.

Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program revenue
\$42,416.60 in state funding.

This funding was used to purchase materials, staff training, staff salaries, and HMG Supervisor Contract Services.

22

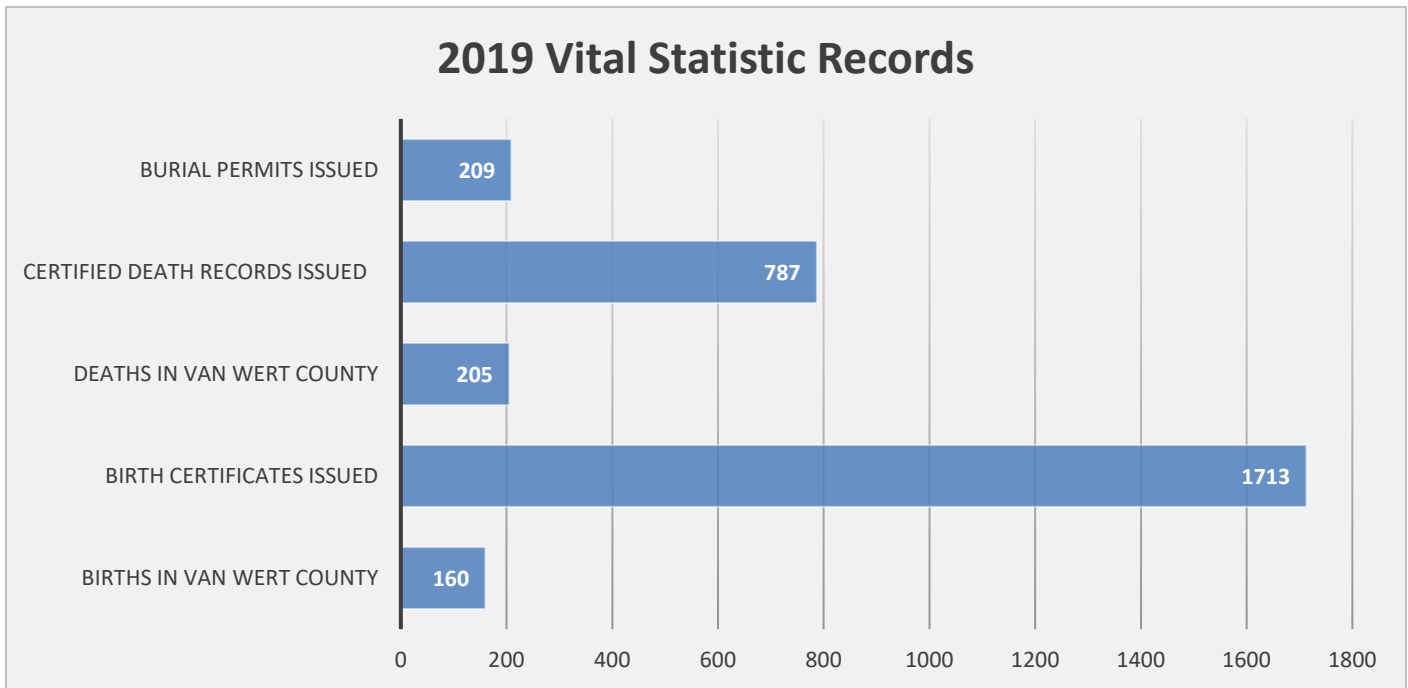
Families in Van Wert County who have been served as part of this program.

Program services including home assessment, parenting tools and tips, cribs, diapers, and access to additional community resources.



Diaper Drive held as part of the Healthy Block Party to collect diaper donations for the Help Me Grow Program

Vital Statistics



14
Registered
Homebirths
(4 Pending)

62%
INCREASE
in Homebirths
from 2018 to
2019

1
Fetal
Death

2
Still
Births

Top 10 leading causes of death for Van Wert County Residents in 2019

1. Ischemic Heart Disease
2. Alzheimer's Disease, Other Diseases of the Heart, Cerebrovascular Diseases
3. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases
4. Cancer (Not specified in another category)
5. Diabetes Mellitus
6. Cancer of the Trachea, Bronchus, and Lung
7. Cancer of the Pancreas
8. Cancer of the Colon, Rectum, and Anus
9. Hypertension and Hypertensive Renal Disease
10. Cancer of the Breast, Cancer of the Prostate, Leukemia

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Target Capabilities:

Community Preparedness
Community Recovery
Emergency Operations Coordination
Emergency Public Information and
Warning
Fatality Management
Information Sharing
Mass Care
Medical Countermeasures
Medical Surge
Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions
Public Health Surveillance and
Epidemiological Investigation
Responder Safety and Health
Volunteer Management.

The health department continues to receive funds from the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant. We are in the second year of a five-year cycle to address 14 Target Capabilities as defined by the Department of Homeland Security.

This year's grant award is **\$62384.00** for Van Wert County Health Department.

An additional grant was awarded to the health department to build and train recruits for the Medical Reserve Corp. This team of individuals will be called into action during an emergency event. They can fill multiple roles from clerical and clinical depending on their capabilities.

This past year, a Mass Fatality Annex, Continuity of Operations Annex and Community Partner Workbooks were developed. Recently, in October, your health department along with county partners, participated in the regional exercise for disease investigation and local communications during an outbreak. Because of the possibility of a major outbreak, or pandemic; the health department continues to increase pandemic influenza planning with special emphasis on Medical Countermeasures and Distribution. This includes Closed Point of Dispensing planning. This will be the primary responsibility for public health. Your health department continues to work with many county partners in planning and response, focusing much on meeting the needs of access and functional needs populations. You, the taxpayer, are always invited to assist with increasing your personal preparedness efforts and at the time of a significant disease outbreak; comply with the information shared with the public on reducing the spread of that particular disease.

Community Involvement

The health department staff participated in multiple community events, health fairs, and serve on multiple teams or committees within the community.

First United Methodist Church's
Operation Back to School

Van Wert County Disaster Task Force

Family and Children First

Live Healthy Van Wert

Domestic Violence
Task Force

Soil Waste Policy Committee

Vantage Health Careers
Advisory Board

Van Wert County
Health Collaborative

Behavioral Health Team