

Geauga County General Health District

Health District Advisory Council

Composed of chairpersons of Township Trustees and Mayors of Villages and Cities, oversees the appointment of Board of Health members and reviews reports and finances of the Health District. Dave Snively, President; Michael Brown, Secretary.

Board of Health

One Board member is appointed annually for a five year term. Board members serve as advocates for public health services and programs. This Board is a quasi-judicial, policy development body tasked with determining, setting and monitoring public health policy. They are responsible for adopting the annual budget and ensuring adequate funding for the Health District.



Timothy Goergen, Pro-Tem
Hambden Township, Term Expires 2013



Dr. Janet O'Hara
Munson Township, Term Exp. 2015



J. David Benenati, President
Chester Township, Term Expires 2016



David Gragg
Newbury Township, Term Expires 2017



Christina Livers
Russell Township, Term Exp 2014



Robert K. Weisdack, RS, MA, MPH
Health Commissioner / Environmental Health Director



J. Bradley Moritz, M.D.
Medical Director



Personal Health Services (440) 279-1950

- Adult Immunization Clinics
- BCM Home Visits
- Children & Adolescent Immunization Clinics
- Communicable Disease Surveillance
- Illness & Disease Reporting
- Influenza (seasonal & pandemic flu) Clinics
- Health Promotion & Education
- Maternal & Newborn Home Visits
- School Health Services & Coordination
- Senior Clinics & Health Education
- TB Testing & Surveillance
- Walk-in Pregnancy Testing
- Well Child Clinics
- Women, Infant's & Children (WIC)



Environmental Health Division (440) 279-1900

- Animal Bite Investigation
- County Camp & RV Park Inspections
- Manufactured Home Park Inspections
- Nuisance Complaint Investigations
- Plumbing Permits & Inspections
- Potable Water Hauler Permits & Inspections
- Private Water Well Permits & Inspections
- Rabies Prevention & Surveillance
- Retail Food Establishment Inspections
- Restaurant / Food Service Inspections
- Temporary & Mobile Food Service Inspections
- School Environmental Inspections
- Semi-Public Sewage Certificates & Inspections
- Septage Land Application Site Inspections
- Septic Tank Cleaner Permits & Inspections
- Sewage Treatment Permits & Inspections
- For Sale of Property Permits & Inspections
- Solid & Infectious Waste Inspections
- Swimming Pool Inspections
- Tattoo & Body Piercing Permits & Inspections
- Vending Machine Inspections



Vital Statistics (440) 279-1902

- Birth Certificates
 - Death Certificates
 - Burial Permits
- #### Administration
- Registrar
 - Fiscal Coordinator
 - Computer Systems Support
 - Community Health Assessment
 - Bio-terrorism Planning
 - Public Health Emergency Preparedness



2012 Geauga County General Health District Annual Report

The Geauga County Health District is dedicated to providing public health services by **detecting**, **educating** and **preventing** personal and environmental health problems in our community.

A Note from the Health Commissioner

We have experienced many changes in the field of Public Health in Geauga County and it is obvious that there are many more to come. The face of public health is ever changing all over the state of Ohio. Grant money from the federal government is being cut and even money that funded certain state programs is being greatly reduced, if not eliminated. The number of people seeking these much needed services has increased; however, the funding to support such programs is diminishing at a very rapid pace. The amount of money available or spent per capita to provide public health services is at an all time low. The era of high tech has created an atmosphere of demands but such technology comes at a price. Not all information found on the internet or social media is always accurate and often is incomplete. Efficiency has become the key issue regarding the future of public health. Geauga County Health District has, and will continue to make progressive changes that will benefit the community with the insight of keeping costs down.

The manufactured home parks program has been taken over by the Manufactured Home Park Commission; therefore, the local health district has no jurisdiction in those facilities based on the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio Department of Health has finished developing the new sewage rules which will be implemented sometime in 2013. As previously mentioned, the cost of these new sewage systems will drive the price much higher than anticipated. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) are becoming more stringent regarding approvals for off lot discharging systems. The private water rules have had recent changes as well. We are seeing more and ever changing rules and regulations being handed down for the local health districts to enforce.

We now have the capability to issue a birth certificate regardless of where you were born in the state of Ohio which has been a goal set for this department.

In addition, we now have a regional plan to address any public disaster preparedness and have been working in conjunction with a defined regional group of other counties.

Gas well fracking and injection of the by-product has become a hot topic and the health district has been asked to take a close look at this practice. We are as concerned about the possibility of ground water contamination via fracking and injection of the waste product. Everyone should know that this process comes under the jurisdiction of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Gas and Oil well drilling. The verdict regarding this issue is still out but we are monitoring it the best that can. We do recommend that residents have a chemical water test conducted on their drinking water supply if drilling is taking place in your area.

Last, but certainly not least, the Environmental Health Division is in the process of becoming a web-based digital health district. So what does this mean, you ask? The health district is in the process of having all permit records scanned with the hopes that the residents will be able to have direct access to this information without having to leave their homes. These are trying times in all aspects, and will continue to test the patience of all of us. There is no doubt that we can meet these challenges through continued dialog and resolve by everyone in the community.



Robert K. Weisdack
Health Commissioner



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



470 Center Street Building #8 • Chardon, Ohio 44024 • (440) 279-1900

Visit Us Online at <http://www.geaugacountyhealth.org>

Residential Sewage Treatment

The Geauga County Health District regulates household sewage treatment systems for one, two, and three family residences in Geauga County. Approximately 70% of the homes in the county utilize individual household sewage systems. In 2012, the Health District issued 279 permits for sewage systems, including new homes and replacement systems for existing homes.

A sewage permit must be obtained from the Health District prior to the installation or alteration of the sewage system. Prior to issuance of a permit, the Health District staff conducts a site evaluation of the site to determine the location and type of system which can be installed on the property. Sewage systems are inspected at the time of installation to assure compliance with the sewage rules.

2012 New & Alteration Permits	
# of Permits	Type of Sewage System
144	Septic tanks followed by leach trenches
1	Pre-treatment followed by leach trenches
7	Septic tank to drip distribution
4	Pre-treatment to drip distribution
101	EPA NPDES permit to discharge
1	Septic tank/pre-treatment to a mound
2	Miscellaneous
19	Alteration Permits
279	Total Permits

2012 For Sale of Property Inspections					
System type	Total Tested	Pass	Mal-functioning	% Pass	% Mal-functioning
Off-lot discharging systems					
1000 Gallon tank & filter bed	17	4	13	23%	77%
2-1000 gallon tanks & subsurface sand filter	10	6	4	60%	40%
NSF Class 1 Aerator, Surface Sand filter & disinfection	31	31	0	100%	0%
NPDES off-lot systems	2	1	1	50%	50%
On-lot dispersal systems					
2-1000 gallon tanks & split trench fields	261	251	10	96%	4%
2-1000 gallon tanks & 500' trench (pre-1982)	105	97	8	92%	8%
Mound	3	3	0	100%	0%
Drip systems	0	0	0	0%	0%
Miscellaneous	11	11	0	100%	0%
Total system inspections	440				

All homes sold in Geauga County are required to have a point of sale inspection of the sewage system by the Health District.

This department maintains records on systems installed in the county. Homeowners can obtain information on the type and location of their sewage system. The Environmental Health staff is available to homeowners who would like information about sewage systems.

The department maintains an active nuisance complaint program for sewage and other complaints. Complaints must be submitted in writing and signed. Complaints are investigated and if the complaint is justified, orders will be issued to obtain compliance.

This office licenses and inspects semi-public sewage systems that treat less than 25,000 gallons of sewage effluent per day. This includes about 140 extended aeration commercial systems and 550 commercial septic tank systems.

Environmental Health Services Summary 2012

Plumbing Permits.....	325
Plumbing Inspections	700
Private Water System Permits.....	144
Private Water System Samples/Inspections	328
Semi-Public Sewage Certificates	495
Semi-Public Sewage Inspections.....	177
Sewage Permits	279
Sewage Inspections	544
Sewage Lot Evaluation Permits	237
Sewage Lot Evaluations	412
Service Provider Registration	13
For Sale of Property Permits.....	486
For Sale of Property Inspections	1,539
Solid/Infectious Waste Inspections...	107
Animal Bite Investigations.....	198
Rabies Specimens Processed	46
Positive Rabies Cases in Animals.....	0
County & State Camp Inspections.....	21
Manufactured Home Park	26
Nuisance Complaint Inspections	121
School Inspections.....	120
Swimming Pool & Spa Inspections.....	93
Food Service Protection	
Mobile, Temp & Vending Permits.....	167
FSO & RFE Permits	409
Food Service Operation Inspect	1,095
Vending Machine Inspections.....	39
Retail Food Establishment Inspect.....	384
Mobile & Temporary Inspections.....	137

Private Water Systems

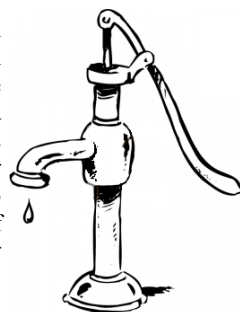
The fresh water supply in Geauga County is found in the rock formations beneath the surface of the ground. This provides the water we need for everyday use. The private water system program is designed to protect our valuable ground water resources and to assure that our drinking water is safe.

The Geauga County Health District regulates Private Water Systems in the county through the enforcement of the PWS rules, Ohio Administrative Code Sections 3701-28-01 through 3701 28-19. New private water systems rules became effective on April 1, 2011. These rules regulate the siting of the well, drilling, alterations, installation of the components, and sampling of the water and sealing of abandoned water wells. Water well drillers and private water system contractors are required to be registered and bonded with the Ohio Department of Health.

A permit is required for the installation, alteration or sealing of a private water system. In 2012, the Health District issued 126 new well permits, 15 alteration permits and 4 sealing permits. All new private water systems are required to be sampled for coliform bacteria and nitrates. The water systems are approved after the system is inspected, tested, and there is an acceptable level of coliform bacteria.

The Geauga County Health District has a portable Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectra Photometer available to conduct scans on water wells for volatile organic compounds.

Homeowners who are concerned about their water well and the drilling of gas and oil wells near their water well, should seriously consider having their water well tested before the gas and oil wells are drilled. This information will provide a baseline of their water quality prior to gas and oil wells being drilled. This information is important should the water quality change after a gas or oil well is drilled. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and Ohio Division of Natural Resources has a list of recommended parameters for testing a well to establish background water quality.



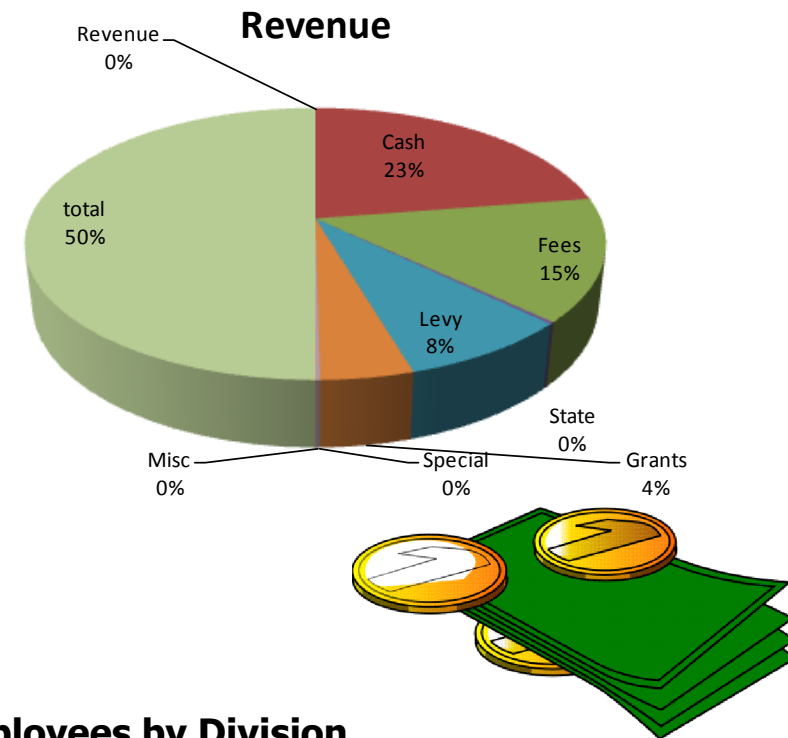
2012 Financial Report

Revenue

Fees	\$ 1,062,258
Township Assessment.....	0
State Subsidy	17,442
Levy	592,913
Miscellaneous.....	8,036
Special Project (CQI)	7,000
Cash Carryover	1,642,749
Grant Reimbursements	316,536
Total Receipts	\$ 3,646,934

Expenditures

Personnel Costs	\$ 1,498,782
Supplies	14,876
Vaccine	5,175
Equipment.....	14,165
Maintenance contracts.....	6,546
Remit to State	110,411
Travel & Training	28,079
Advertising & Printing.....	2,436
Contract Service.....	4,725
Lab fees	7,047
Other	95,814
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,788,086
Grant Revenues	404,518
Grant Expenditures	432,556



Employees by Division

Personal Health Services	8
Administration & Vital Statistics.....	5
Environmental Health.....	10
Women, Infant, Children	4
Total Employees	27

Vital Statistics

The Geauga County Health District Office of Vital Statistics records all birth and death occurrences in Geauga County.

In 2012, there were 1,252 births including 641 females and 611 males. Of these, 1,069 babies were born at UH Geauga Medical Center, 163 were born at Middlefield Care Center, and 21 were home births. There was one less birth in 2012 than in 2011.

In 2012, there were 722 deaths recorded in Geauga County, which is an increase of 57 last year. The Child Fatality Review Board meets annually to review deaths of anyone under 18-years old. In 2012, there were 16 child fatalities. The Medical Director reviewed 715 death certificates and compiled the following leading causes of death in Geauga County:

2012 Leading Causes of Death

Heart Diseases (CAD/Valvular/CHF)	162
Cancer (Lung 43, Hematopoietic 17)	160
Neurologic (Dementia 92, CVA 30)	148
Infection (Pneumonia 52, Sepsis 11)	92

Certified copies of birth and death records are available at our office or by mail for \$23 each payable by cash, check, or money order. Credit and debit cards can be used for telephone orders only, but not at the service counter, and they incur a \$7.00 per order processing fee.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The Geauga County General Health District continues to be actively involved in emergency preparedness planning for Geauga County. We coordinate our plans with the other health departments in Northeast Ohio, hospitals, emergency services, law enforcement, fire departments, schools, the American Red Cross and other related agencies. This planning prepares staff for responding to a wide range of emergencies such as: natural disasters, severe weather conditions, environmental emergencies, disease outbreaks such as the H1N1 Flu Pandemic, and mass casualties.

In 2012, the Health District staff was involved in the following emergency planning projects:

Continued to train staff and MRC volunteers on incident command, communication methods, emergency notifications, MARCS Radios, ICS job action guides, and setting up and running a Point of Dispensing (POD) site in addition to a drive-thru POD site.

Developed a functional Communications Room that would act as a DOC (Department Operations Center)

Tested our emergency plans by participating in emergency seminars, workshops, tabletops and drills with community partners across Northeast Ohio

- Continued recruiting Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers and hosted annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- Attended local, regional, state and federal training programs
- Participated in the SNS (Strategic National Stockpile) annual assessment conducted by CDC
- Participated in monthly MMRS (Metro Medical Response System) meetings in Lake and Geauga County
- Participated in monthly LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) meetings for Geauga County.
- Participated in bi-monthly meetings with public health regional partners and regional Epidemiologists
- Participated in quarterly meetings with RICC (Regional Infection Control Committee) and state epidemiologists
- Participated in weekly ODH conference call
- Continued meeting with regional and local partners to establish/update local and regional plans to include:
 - ◆ Mass Prophylaxis/Vaccination Plan
 - ◆ Geauga County Health District Communicable Disease Policy
 - ◆ Emergency Response Plan, First Responder Plan, Continuity of Operations Plan and Communications Plan
 - ◆ Geauga County Health District Foodborne Outbreak Response Team (FORT)

Being prepared for any emergency, whether it is a house fire, power outage, snowstorm, disease pandemic or terrorist attack requires planning. We urge members of the Geauga County community to take the time to work out a disaster plan and to gather supplies to keep in your home and workplace. It is important to include your household members in this plan so that everyone will know what to do, where to go, and how to communicate in an emergency.

Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

WIC, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, is a fundamental part of Ohio's public health system and is intended to reach income eligible pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women. The program also provides services to infants and children up to the age of 5, who have a health or nutritional risk. The Geauga WIC program provides nutritious foods, supplemental infant formula, nutrition education, breastfeeding support and education. In addition, WIC offers health screenings, referral services to prenatal and pediatric health care, and human service programs. Nutrition education and counseling is provided by licensed dietitians on staff. In fiscal year 2012, Geauga WIC had 523 new applicants, 1,656 re-applicants, and 2,280 nutrition education visits. The Geauga WIC 2012 Farmers Market Nutrition Program supported local farmers by offering \$8,625 in coupons for Ohio grown fresh fruits and vegetables. Geauga grocery vendors brought in \$795,243 in WIC monies redeemed by participants of Geauga and surrounding counties.



In 2012, Geauga County WIC had one of the highest breastfeeding initiation rates in Ohio, with an average of 71.8% of mothers breastfeeding. Emphasis is placed on the benefits of breastfeeding to all participating pregnant women and breastfeeding classes are held monthly in Chardon and Middlefield. A Bonding with Breastfeeding support group meets bimonthly at the Middlefield library, and is open to all Geauga county residents who are pregnant or breastfeeding. Education and support is provided by a certified lactation consultant and trained health professionals. WIC also offers a Peer Helper Program which provides mother to mother support. In 2012, the Peer Helper Program provided: 33 hospital visits, 7 home visits, 644 support phone calls to pregnant and breastfeeding moms, and 114 on site clinic counseling sessions. Throughout the year Geauga WIC loaned breast pumps to support 49 moms returning to work or school, or with special circumstances. Several events to celebrate Breastfeeding Awareness Month, which is in August, were organized by Geauga WIC as well. Breastfeeding gift baskets were given to the first breastfed baby born in August at Geauga Regional Hospital and the Middlefield Care Center, Geauga WIC participated in a tri-county breastfeeding walk and picnic with Lake and Ashtabula WIC Programs, and hosted a Geauga WIC breastfeeding walk and picnic in which Sheriff McClelland and Midge led the walk.

Geauga WIC and University Hospitals Rainbow Injury Prevention Center collaborated to offer low cost car seats to families. In addition, Geauga WIC offers free car seat inspections to any Geauga county resident. Geauga WIC provided 19 car seats and 9 community car seat inspections in 2012 through our certified car seat technician.

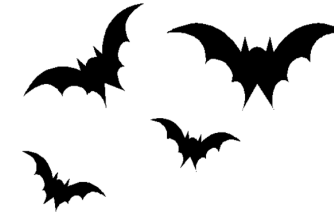
WIC offers three clinic locations, in Chardon, Middlefield and Chagrin Falls, for Geauga County residents. More information is available online at <http://geaugacountyhealth.org> or by contacting Geauga WIC at (440) 279-1936.



Rabies Surveillance

The Geauga County Health District continues to take an active role in monitoring the presence of rabies in the county along with participating in efforts to prevent the spreading of rabies across the state. Throughout the year we have collected and tested various wildlife species for rabies including bats, skunks, dogs and cats.

In cooperation with the Ohio Department of Health and the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services, oral rabies vaccine baits were distributed throughout the county targeting the raccoon population. In the spring and fall of 2012, oral rabies vaccination is delivered to raccoons through fishmeal baits that are distributed by hand in more populated areas and by aircraft in less populated areas. These baits are not toxic to humans or household pets.

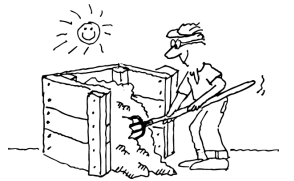


The Health District also monitors animal bite/rabies exposure events each year. In 2012, there were 211 reported animal bite/exposure events in Geauga County. This included 126 dog bites and 42 cat bites reported to the Health District. We submitted 46 animals to the Ohio Department of Health laboratory to be tested for rabies. There were no confirmed cases of rabies in Geauga County in 2012.

There were 40 confirmed cases of rabies in animals in Ohio during 2012, including 38 bats and 2 raccoons that tested positive for rabies. Rabies is a fatal disease. The goal of public health is to prevent human exposure to rabies through education, and to prevent the disease with treatment when a possible exposure to rabies occurs. Education and common sense are important in limiting a person's exposure to rabies. All dogs and cats are required to be vaccinated for rabies in Geauga County. Homeowners and children should stay away from wild animals, strays, sick animals and domestic pets that you are unsure of. Animal bites or scratches should be reported to the Health District. The Geauga County Health District has educational materials available and can answer any questions concerning rabies or possible exposures to wild animals.

Solid Waste Program

The Geauga County Health District (GCHD) works in co-operation with the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) to enforce solid waste regulations throughout the county. The health department regulates and inspects scrap tire generators, infectious waste generators, compost sites, and investigates solid waste nuisance complaints. A new solid waste transfer station opened this year in Hambden Township.



In 2012, the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District held the several one-day events, including appliances, household hazardous waste, document destruction and e-waste collections. The following were collected in Geauga County for recycling:

Scrap Tires	7,597 tires	Solvents	4,473 lbs
Document destruction9,192 lbs	Paint	44,745 lbs
Appliances12.5 tons	Pesticides	5,203 lbs
E-Waste (electronic waste)	28,715 lbs	Aerosols	2,111 lbs
NiCad/Alkaline Batteries	553 lbs	Acids and Bases	1,121 lbs

The Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District operates the Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Facility at their office located at 5738 Enterprise Blvd. in Warren, Ohio. The facility is open to all Geauga County residents on Wednesdays beginning May 1, 2013 to October 30, 2013 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. In 2013, the facility will also be open to Geauga County residents on Saturday May 4, June 1, August 3, September 7 and October 5 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Food Program Division

The goal of the Food Safety Division of the Geauga County Health District is to ensure that safe and wholesome food is provided to the public. Locations that sell food to the public such as restaurants, grocery stores, mobile food stands, temporary food stands, farmer's markets, and vending machines must fulfill the requirements set forth in the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code. A license is purchased from the Geauga County Health District and inspections are routinely conducted to ensure compliance with the rules of the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code. Inspection frequency is based upon state law and is determined by risk classification of the facility. Areas addressed during an inspection include staff hygiene, food handling, physical facilities, and general sanitation practices.

In addition to educating the operators of the food facilities during inspections and completing several personalized consultations, our department offered two ServSafe seminars on food safety. We held the ServSafe seminars on June 11th and 12th at our office and one on December 13th and 14th at The Geauga County Department of Aging office. This class is designed to give restaurant staff and managers the knowledge to make their food establishments a safer place for their customers. The Food Safety Division staff also provides education to the public and investigates foodborne illnesses. When a food borne outbreak is suspected, it is investigated, food and stool specimens are collected, and laboratory tests are conducted. There were no foodborne outbreaks associated with any Geauga County licensed food facility in 2012.

Each inspector in the Food Safety Division takes a minimum of eighteen hours of accredited continuing education classes each year, and routinely works with the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Agriculture for updates on rule changes and state or nationwide recalls of food products. The Food Safety Division staff also attends The Northeast Ohio Food Roundtable meetings, where state and local health inspectors discuss public health issues that may affect Northeast Ohio.





The Personal Health Services Division of the Geauga County Health District is responsible for maintaining a healthy and prepared community through various programs. Our focus is on prevention, and many of our services are offered at different locations throughout the county, as well as limited home visits. The following is a summary of our programs and those who are served through them.

2013 Children's Immunization Clinics

Free to Geauga County residents regardless of income. Out of county residents are charged \$5.00 per child.

Chardon

Gauga County Health District
470 Center St. Bldg 8, Chardon, OH 44024
1st Wednesday - 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Chardon Evening

Gauga County Health District
470 Center St. Bldg 8, Chardon, OH 44024
2nd Thursday - 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Middlefield

St. Lucy Mission
16280 Kinsman Rd. (Rt. 87 East of 608)
Middlefield, OH 44062
2nd Wednesday - 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM
3rd Wednesday - 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Middlefield Evening

St. Lucy Mission
16280 Kinsman Rd. (Rt. 87 East of 608)
Middlefield, OH 44062
3rd Thursday - 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Newbury

Grace Evangelical Bible Church
14951 Auburn Rd. Newbury, OH 44065
4th Wednesday (every other) 9 AM—11:30 AM

Troy

Troy Community Center
13950 Main Market Burton, OH 44021
4th Wednesday (every other) 9 AM—11:30 AM



Friday Morning Clinic Adult Immunizations TB Testing Blood Pressure Screening

Gauga County Health District
470 Center St. Bldg 8, Chardon, OH 44024

Children's Services

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh): BCMh is an Ohio Department of Health (ODH) program, with the goal of assuring that children with special health care needs receive comprehensive coordinated care. Public health nurses are the local contact for families and provide early identification, evaluation, and referral for qualifying children from birth to 21 years of age. Families receive culturally competent services from public health nurses and services include child assessments, developing care plans, health promotion, and advocacy. In 2012, the public health nurses made 57 home visits to children who qualified for this program.

Immunization Clinics for Children and Adolescents: Public health nurses hold monthly child and adolescent immunization clinics at four locations in Geauga County. These are walk-in clinics that require no appointment. Immunizations have been free of charge to Geauga County residents, although this practice will change in 2013. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) supplies some of the vaccines for these clinics. In 2012, the nurses administered 5,411 immunizations to 1,756 children at 71 clinics, not including flu shots. 251 flu shots were administered to children and adolescents.

Lead Program: The Personal Health Services (PHS) division and Ohio Department of Health (ODH) collaborate to provide prevention and remediation services to children with Elevated Blood Lead (EBL). Public health nurses conduct case management activities, including contacting families of children with elevated lead levels, and providing educational and medical recommendations or guidance. ODH conducts surveillance activities. Lead level screenings are provided to children at well child clinics and individually in high-risk situations. In 2012, the nurses completed 78 lead screenings.

Maternal/Newborn Home Visiting: Public health nurses visit new mothers and their infants upon the request of the family or physician. A home visit includes an evaluation of the mother's recovery, assessment of the infant's early growth and development, information on a variety of preventive health issues, and referrals to other community agencies when indicated. In 2012, the nurses made 114 home visits to families in the county, and collected blood specimens on 7 newborns for genetic screening.

School Services: The Health District provides public health nurses to assist with health record management, vision screenings, and health care referrals for Geauga County schools with less than 100 students. Currently, there are 45 parochial schools in Geauga County, and in 2012 nurses visited 39 schools and serviced 986 students. Public health nurses network with local school nurses at public and private schools, regarding outbreak surveillance, vaccination for students, and information related to child health issues. Public health nurses also meet with public school nurses twice a year to collaborate on related issues.

SUIDS Home Visits: The Health District information and referral services to bereaved families, offers family members the opportunity to express feelings surrounding the death of an infant, in a safe and non-judgmental environment. Although no support visits were required by Geauga County staff in 2012, the nursing director did participate in the first Infant Mortality Summit in Ohio. The Summit was held to prevent SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) and SUIDS (Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Syndrome) deaths in Ohio, where SUID rate is the 11th highest in the Nation.

Vision Program: The Geauga County Health District partners with Prevent Blindness Ohio, in an effort to provide a Vision Service Plan (VSP) to qualifying families in Geauga County. Families include those without insurance and do not qualify for federal aid. Public health nurses identify a family in need and arrange for VSP service. This plan provides an eye examination by a licensed optometrist who can prescribe glasses, contact lenses, vision therapy, or vision treatment. In 2012, 364 children were seen and 290 VSP referrals made.

Well Child Services: The Health District provides well child clinics in Middlefield for children whose families meet certain financial guidelines or lack adequate health insurance. The nurses screen children's development, dental, lead, anemia, vision, hearing, and nutrition status. At the clinics health education is provided to family members, a licensed physician performs physical exams, and public health nurses administer immunizations. This service is supported by funding from the Ohio Department of Health's Child and Family Health Services (CFHS) grant. Well Child clinics served 382 children, at 24 clinics, in 2012.

Adult Services

Communicable Disease Investigation: The Personal Health Services (PHS) division provides surveillance of communicable diseases reported in Geauga County, in compliance with the Ohio Department of Health Infectious Disease reporting requirements and CDC recommendations. The disease surveillance specialist and public health nurses perform investigations of diseases that pose a public health threat due to their communicability or virulence. PHS collaborates with the Environmental Health (EH) division when a food borne illness outbreak is suspected. In addition, PHS division provides information and data collection for any possible or confirmed vector-borne disease in collaboration with EH, such as West Nile virus, Lyme disease, and Rocky Mountain spotted fever, to name just a few. In 2012, the Health District investigated 296 illness and disease reports, including one extensive food borne illness outbreak.

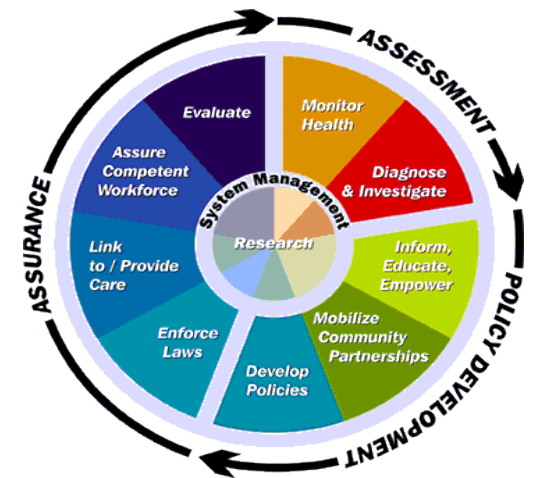
Immunization/Blood Pressure Clinics for Adults: The Personal Health Services (PHS) division holds clinic every Friday at the Health District office for adult immunizations and blood pressure screenings by public health nurses. Seasonal flu vaccine clinics are held at different sites throughout the county. Blood pressure screenings are provided at no charge, while the cost of adult immunizations is determined by the Board of Health, based on the cost plus a modest administration charge. In 2012, the nursing division administered 531 adult immunizations, 840 flu shots, and 702 blood pressure readings. Historical note:

Maternity Licensing Survey: The Personal Health Services may send a representative to the annual maternity licensure survey of the local hospital and birthing center. This survey is conducted by the Ohio Department of Health. The Board of Health is usually presented with the survey results to review for input towards the approval or denial of re-licensure for each of these facilities. The PHS division is also responsible for investigating any complaints received regarding the maternity facilities. The Middlefield Care Center birthing center successfully passed their licensing survey in 2012.

Senior Services: The Health District sent public health nurses to provide services for 399 adult day care clients at the Geauga Multi-purpose Senior Center. This is funded by the Title III/Community Block Grant managed by the Department on Aging. Nurses give presentations on various topics to the general senior population at the senior center on a weekly basis. There were 399 seniors in attendance at 37 presentations at the senior center during 2012.

Tuberculosis Control: In accordance with Ohio law, the Health District promotes Tuberculosis (TB) control and containment in Geauga County by screening high-risk populations, contact investigation, maintaining a register of positive reactors, and following through with suitable treatment for appropriate individuals. Nurses perform routine TB tests at the Health District office and during visits at residential facilities. In 2012, the PHS nurses administered 155 TB tests, and had 0 positive reactors.

Hepatitis B: A follow up to a possible Hepatitis B exposure for employees of a local business was addressed by nurses this year, when an individual with Hepatitis B was identified in a work setting. Hepatitis B vaccination was provided, on-site, for over 50 individuals. The first and second in a series of 3 vaccinations were provided in the previous year and follow up was completed with the third dose this year, completing the series for most of those employees. Subsequently, new employees will attend the Friday morning clinic for prophylactic Hepatitis B vaccination in the future.



Personal Health Services Summary 2012

Illness and Disease Reports.....	296
Tuberculosis Tests Administered	155
TB positive reactors	0
Newborn Home Visits.....	114
Well Child Clinics.....	24
Well Child Service Visits.....	382
Parochial School Visits	39
Parochial Students Seen	986
Vision Service Plan Referrals	290
Vision Service Plan Visits	364
BCMh Home Visits.....	57
Adult Immunizations Admin	531
Children's Immunizations Clinics	71
Children's Immunizations	5,411
Children Immunized.....	1,756
Senior Clinic Visits at Sr. Centers	399
Senior Clinic HD Office	702
Flu Shots (adult/childrens).....	840
Pregnancy Testing	1

