

2015

Geauga County General Health District Annual Report



The Geauga County Health District is dedicated to improving public health by **monitoring, educating** and **promoting** community and environmental health services in Geauga County, Ohio.

A Note from the Health Commissioner

In December 2015, the Health District was awarded funding through Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Water Pollution Control Loan Fund to assist qualified residents in replacing or repairing failing sewage treatment systems. We are looking forward to the opportunity to assist Geauga County residents through this program.

Since January 2015, the Health District has faced the difficult task of implementing new sewage treatment system rules adopted by the Ohio Department of Health. The rules have caused many Ohio residents with increased requirements and expenses when installing or repairing their household sewage treatment system. The cost of a drip treatment system can average \$21,000.00 and a mound system can be considerably higher. Many sewage installers are struggling with the new design and sizing criteria of the new systems. The Environmental Health staff continues working to become acclimated to the new sewage treatment system rules and it is expected we will need additional staff to handle the workload.

The Geauga County Board of Health has formed an Operation and Maintenance Shareholder Committee composed of a variety of Geauga County residents. As part of the new sewage regulation, the committee is overseeing implementation of an operation and maintenance program with the goal of the reducing the potential negative impact to the homeowners when this program becomes effective.

Disaster preparedness continues to be a major concern for residents. The Health District staff constantly updates its response plans by working with our emergency response partners. We all play a part and must be vigilant in our preparedness to natural and manmade disasters.

The Personal Health Services and Women Infants and Children program continues to improve the services provided to residents. Good public health starts within the community. This is a message that the Geauga County Health District works at getting out to the public continuously.

All local health departments in Ohio are facing financial challenges and constant changes to every state-mandated program. Many of these state requirements are unfunded and consume significant resources to implement. The Health District responds to emerging needs, which will require community support to implement the requirements.

The clock for accreditation is ticking as every local health district in Ohio is legally required to become accredited by 2020. The Health District has made great strides towards becoming nationally accredited. Unfortunately, this comes at a cost, financially and in terms of staff time invested in meeting requirements. Even with that in mind, we are required to continue on the path to accreditation.

Even with the challenges faced in 2015 and will face in 2016, the Geauga County Health District will continue to be dedicated to improving public health by monitoring, educating and promoting community and environmental health services for Geauga County.

In closing, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to J. David Benenati. Mr. Benenati passed away in August of 2015. He was a Geauga County Board of Health member from 2001 to 2015. He contributed an enormous amount of his time and energy by assisting in the development of programs which helped the residents of Geauga County. Mr. Benenati truly cared about Geauga County and shared his talents for the betterment of all Geauga County residents.



Robert K. Weisdack
Health Commissioner



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Household Sewage Treatment Systems Program

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 2015, the health district issued 285 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 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. All homes sold in Geauga County that have a household sewage system are required to have a point of sale inspection by the health district.

New household sewage treatment system rules became effective in the State of Ohio on January 1, 2015. The staff is in the process of

2015 New & Alteration Permits		2015 For Sale of Property Inspections					
# of permits	Type of Sewage System	System Type	Total	Pass	Mal-function	% Pass	% Mal-function
91	Septic tanks followed by leach trenches	Off-lot discharge					
61	Pre-treatment followed by leach trenches	1000 gallon tank & filter bed	19	2	16	16%	84%
7	Septic tank to drip distribution	2x1000 gal tank & subsurface sand filter	19	12	7	63%	37%
0	Pre-treatment to drip distribution	NSF Class 1 aerator, surface sand filter and disinfection	35	35	0	100%	0%
126	EPA NPDES permit to discharge	NPDES off-lot discharge	23	11	12	48%	52%
23	Septic tank/pre-treatment to mound system	On-lot dispersal systems					
2	Miscellaneous	2x1000 gal tanks & split trench field	394	270	24	94%	6%
20	Alteration Permits	2x1000 gal tanks & 500' trench (pre-1982)	118	97	21	82%	18%
285	Total New and Alteration Permits	Miscellaneous	26	24	2	92%	8%
		Total (including 24 incomplete)	658				

implementing the new rules in Geauga County. The health district 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.

The health district 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 2015

Plumbing Permits	350
Plumbing Inspections	867
Private Water System Permits	182
Private Water System Samples & Inspections.....	565
Semi-Public Sewage Certificates	484
Semi-Public Sewage Inspections.....	71
Sewage Permits.....	379
Sewage Inspections	802
Sewage Lot Evaluations	286
Sewage Lot Evaluations Inspections	466
Service Provider Registration	17
For Sale of Property Requests.....	658
For Sale of Property Inspections	2,276
Solid/Infectious Waste Inspections.....	72
Animal Bite Investigations.....	245
Rabies Specimens Processed.....	24
Positive Rabies Cases in Animals.....	0
County & State Camp Inspections.....	25
Nuisance Complaint Inspections	245
School Inspections	180
Swimming Pool & Spa Inspections	121
Food Safety Program	
Mobile, Temp & Vending Permits	179
FSO & RFE Permits.....	416
Food Service Operation Inspect	1,021
Vending Machine Inspections	18
Retail Food Establishment Inspect	304
Mobile & Temporary Inspections	167

Private Water Systems Program



The Geauga County Health District regulates private water systems in the county through the enforcement of the private water system (PWS) rules, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Sections 3701-28-01 through 3701-28-19. New PWS 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 2015, the Health District issued 147 new well permits, 12 alteration permits and 2 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 and tested. Testing must reveal an acceptable level of coliform bacteria prior to use of the water.

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.

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 have a list of recommended parameters for testing a well to establish baseline water quality.

Food Safety Program

The goal of the Food Safety Program of the Geauga County Health District is to ensure that safe and wholesome food is provided to the public. This is achieved by providing effective and reliable enforcement, information sharing, service, and education to the public and food facility operators. Locations that sell food directly 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.



The Geauga County General Health District is responsible for inspecting over 575 food service operations and retail food establishments in addition to any mobile or temporary operation that sells food at a festival or public event. Some examples of food service operations are restaurants, school kitchens, daycares, hospitals, bars, and nursing homes. Retail food establishments include grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations, bakeries, and pizza shops. 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. This includes, but not limited to correct food storage and preparation, employee work practices and cleanliness, proper operation of equipment, and general cleanliness and maintenance of the food facility.

In addition to educating the operators of the food facilities during inspections and completing several personalized consultations, our department hosted a ServSafe seminar on food safety. We held the ServSafe seminar on April 13th and 14th, 2015 at our office. This class is designed to give restaurant staff and managers the knowledge to make their food facilities 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.

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.



Infectious and Solid Waste Program



The Geauga County Health District (GCHD) works in cooperation with the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) to enforce infectious and solid waste regulations throughout the county. The Health District regulates and inspects scrap tire generators, infectious waste generators, compost sites, and investigates solid waste nuisance complaints.

In 2015, the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District held several one-day events, including appliances, household hazardous waste, document destruction and electronic waste collections.

The following were collected in Geauga County for recycling:

Acids/bases	824 pounds	Fluorescent bulbs	869 units
Aerosol cans	11,220 pounds	Lead batteries	1,8200 pounds
Appliances	70 units	Bulk oil	5,200 pounds
Freon-bearing Appliances	70 units	Paint	32,071 pounds
Bulk fuels (solvents)	2,644 pounds	Pesticides\Herbicides	2,409 pounds
Document destruction	6,705 pounds	Propane Tanks	229 pounds
Electronic waste	4,802 pounds	Scrap Tires	107,820 pounds

There are off recycling within Geauga County. The Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District operates the Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Facility at their office located at 5738 Enterprise Boulevard in Warren, Ohio. The facility is open to all Geauga County residents on Wednesdays beginning May 4, 2016 to October 26, 2016 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. In 2016, the facility will also be open to residents on May 7, 2016, June 4, 2016, August 6, 2016, and October 1, 2016 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Microwaves are now accepted. Televisions are accepted for an additional fee.



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.

2016 Children's Immunization Clinics

Free to qualifying Geauga County residents. Available to those with health insurance without office visit fees.

Chardon

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

Chardon Evening

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

Middlefield

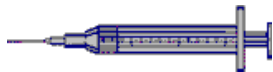
St. Lucy Mission
16280 Kinsman Rd. (Rt. 87 East of 608)
Middlefield, OH 44062
2nd Wednesday - 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM
3rd Wednesday - 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

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
No Clinic in November

Troy Community Center

13950 Main Market Burton, OH 44021
4th Wednesday in February, April,
June, Aug. & Oct. 9:00AM - 11:30AM

Clinic 

Friday
Morning

Adult Immunizations
TB Testing
Blood Pressure Screening

Geauga County Health District
470 Center St. #8, Chardon, OH 44024
Fridays - 8:30 am to 11:00 am

Children's Services

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh): BCMh is an Ohio Department of Health 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. These services include child assessments, care plan development, health promotion, and advocacy. In 2015, the public health nurses completed 52 home visits to children who qualified for this program.

Immunization Clinics for Children and Adolescents: Public health nurses hold six monthly child and adolescent immunization clinics at four locations throughout Geauga County. These are walk-in clinics that require no appointment. For qualifying children through 18 years of age, immunizations are provided free of charge. This service is supported by funding from the Immunization Action Plan and the Ohio Department of Health supplies these vaccines, through a federally funded program titled Vaccines For Children. Immunizations are also available for those with insurance. In 2015, the nurses administered 4,840 immunizations to 1,560 children at 63 clinics, not including flu shots.

Lead Program: The Personal Health Services Division and Ohio Department of Health (ODH) collaborate to provide screening for elevated levels of lead in blood and follow up services for children found to have elevated levels of lead in their blood. Public health nurses conduct case management activities, including contacting families of children with elevated lead levels, and providing educational/medical recommendations or guidance. ODH conducts surveillance activities. Lead level screenings are provided to children at well child clinics and in other high-risk situations. In 2015, 102 lead screenings were conducted and nurses provided education, home evaluation, and referral resources for three children with elevated blood levels.

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, detailed education on a variety of preventive health issues (including safe sleep), and referrals to other community agencies when indicated. In 2015, the nurses completed 39 maternal/newborn home visits to families in the county.

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. In 2015, nurses made 56 visits to the parochial schools in Geauga County, providing service to 1,180 students. In addition, public health nurses network with local school nurses, both public and private, 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.

Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) Home Visits: The Health District nurses offer information and referral services to bereaved families and offer family members the opportunity to express feelings surrounding the death of an infant in a safe and non-judgmental environment. No support visits were requested in 2015.

Vision Program: The 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 those that do not qualify for federal aid. Public health nurses identify families in need then arrange for VSP service. This plan provides an eye examination by a licensed optometrist who can prescribe glasses. In 2015, 277 family contacts were made resulting in 409 children visiting VSP providers.

Well Child Services: The Health District provides well child clinics for families that meet certain financial guidelines or lack adequate health insurance. Nurses screen children's development, dental, lead, hemoglobin, and nutrition status. In addition, health education is provided to family members, a licensed physician performs physical exams, and public health nurses counsel and administer immunizations. This service is supported by funding from the Child and Family Health Services grant through the Ohio Department of Health. In 2015, there were 25 well child clinics providing service to 341 children.

Adult Services

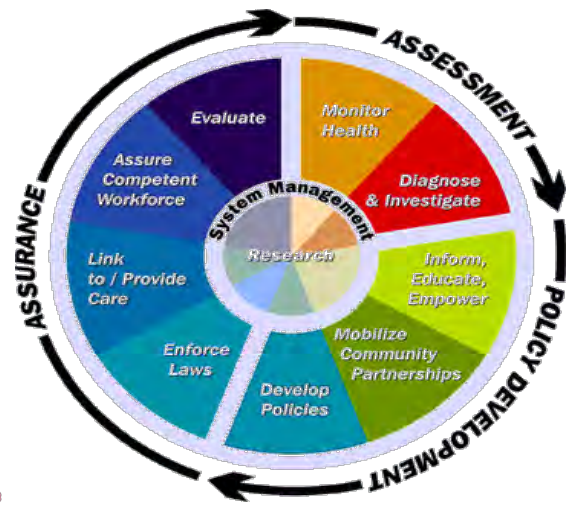
Communicable Disease Investigation: The Personal Health Services (PHS) division provides surveillance of communicable diseases, in children and adults, in compliance with the Ohio Department of Health Infectious Disease reporting requirements and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations. The disease surveillance specialist and public health nurses perform investigations of diseases that pose a public health threat due to their communicability or virulence. For example, in 2015, 53 cases of Hepatitis C and 11 cases of Hepatitis B were reported and investigated. As part of hepatitis prevention, Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B vaccines are available at Geauga County Health District immunization clinics. PHS collaborates with the Environmental Health (EH) division when a food borne illness outbreak is suspected. In addition, PHS 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.

Immunization/Blood Pressure Clinics for Adults: The Personal Health Services division holds clinics every Friday at the Health District office for adult immunizations and blood pressure screenings by public health nurses. Blood pressure screenings are provided at no charge, while the cost of adult immunizations is based on vaccine cost plus a modest administration fee. Seasonal flu vaccine clinics are held at different sites throughout the county. In 2015, the nursing division administered 356 adult immunizations, 789 flu shots, and performed 10 blood pressure evaluations.

Maternity Licensing Survey: The Personal Health Services (PHS) division 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 reviews ODH's survey results and provides its opinions about the approval or denial of licensure for each of these facilities. The PHS division is also responsible for investigating any complaints received regarding the maternity facilities. In 2015, the Middlefield Care Center birthing center and UH Geauga Medical Center completed their licensing surveys and there were no maternity facility complaints to investigate.

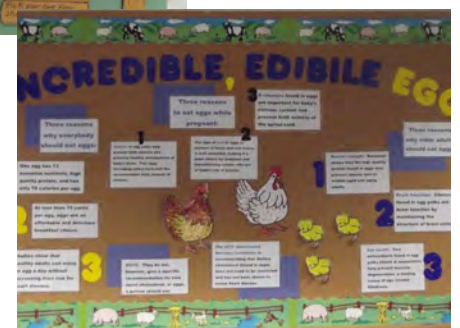
Senior Services: The Health District sends a public health nurse to the Geauga Multi-purpose Senior Center four times each month. Nurses provide blood pressure screening for adult day care clients and the general senior population who are participating in activities at the senior center. Public health nurses also provide education, support, and are available to answer questions. These services are funded by the Title III/Community Block Grant managed by the Department on Aging. During 2015, services were provided to 647 seniors.

Tuberculosis Control: In accordance with Ohio law, the Health District promotes Tuberculosis (TB) control and containment by screening high-risk populations, contact investigations, maintaining a register of positive reactors, and following through with suitable treatment for individuals. Nurses perform routine TB testing at clinics and during visits at several residential facilities. In 2015, nurses administered 160 TB tests with zero positive reactors. The medical director held TB clinics for several high-risk county residents in 2015.



Personal Health Services 2015

Illness and Disease Reports.....	353
Tuberculosis Tests Administered.....	160
TB positive reactors	0
Newborn Home Visits	39
Well Child Clinics	25
Well Child Service Visits	341
Blood-lead Level Screenings	102
Parochial School Visits	56
Parochial Students Seen	1,180
Vision Service Plan Referrals.....	277
Vision Service Plan Visits	409
BCM Home Visits	52
Adult Immunizations Admin	356
Children's Immunizations Clinics	69
Children's Immunizations	4,840
Children Immunized.....	1,560
Senior Clinic Visits at Sr. Centers	647
Flu Shots (adult/children's).....	789
Pregnancy Testing.....	2



Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The Geauga County General Health District continues to be actively involved in emergency preparedness planning for our entire county. We coordinate our plans with the other Northeast Ohio health departments, 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, chemical disasters, disease outbreaks and mass casualties.

In 2015, the Geauga County Health District was involved in regional and local Ebola Viral Disease (EVD) and Other Special Pathogens (OSP) planning. This planning was collaboration between health departments, hospital, law enforcement, fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

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.



Communicable Disease Surveillance and 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 (Center for Disease Control) recommendations. The Epidemiology Director, disease surveillance specialist assistant and public health nurses perform investigations on 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, the PHS provides information and data collection for any possible or confirmed vector-borne disease, such as West Nile Virus, Lyme Disease, and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. In 2015, the health district investigated 353 reports of communicable disease, of which 33% were vaccine preventable diseases, 33% were sexually transmitted diseases (STD's), 14% were food and/or waterborne diseases, and 20% were non-vaccine preventable diseases and/or viruses. In comparison, health district staff investigated 352 reports of communicable disease in 2014. Rabies case management is also managed as a collaboration between PHS and EH staff. The EH staff investigated 177 animal bite reports and processed 29 specimens to ODH lab for testing. The PHS staff investigate human exposure to rabies. In 2015, the Health District processed thirty-eight rabies specimens with no positive results.

Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program

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 and infants and children up to the age of 5, who have a health or nutritional risk. The Geauga WIC program provides nutritious foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support and supplemental infant formula. 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 2015, Geauga WIC had 480 new applicants, 1131 re-applicants, and 1,569 nutrition education visits. The 2015 Farmers Market Nutrition Program provided \$8,640 in coupons for purchase of Ohio-grown fresh fruits and vegetables.

In 2015, Geauga County WIC had one of the highest breastfeeding initiation rates in Ohio, with an average of 71% of WIC mothers breastfeeding their babies at birth. Emphasis is placed on the benefits of breastfeeding to all participating pregnant women. Twenty six pregnant women attended breastfeeding classes 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. Sixty-six attendees participated in special events through the support group. 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.

Our Peer Helper provided breastfeeding support through 764 contacts and 11 home visits. Throughout the year Geauga WIC loaned breast pumps to support 17 mothers returning to work or school and assisted other WIC moms in getting breast pumps through their health insurance.

Several events to celebrate Breastfeeding Awareness Month were organized by Geauga WIC, including the 5th Annual Geauga WIC Breastfeeding Walk. Twenty one participants enjoyed a pizza party and prizes donated by local businesses. Geauga WIC also provided breastfeeding reference books to area obstetricians.

Gauga WIC and University Hospitals Rainbow Injury Prevention Center collaborated to offer low cost car seats to WIC families. In addition, Geauga WIC offers free car seat inspections to any Geauga County resident. Thirty-six child car seats and six community car seat inspections were provided by a certified car seat technician in 2015. Basic car seat education was provided on two occasions to new social services staff in Geauga County.

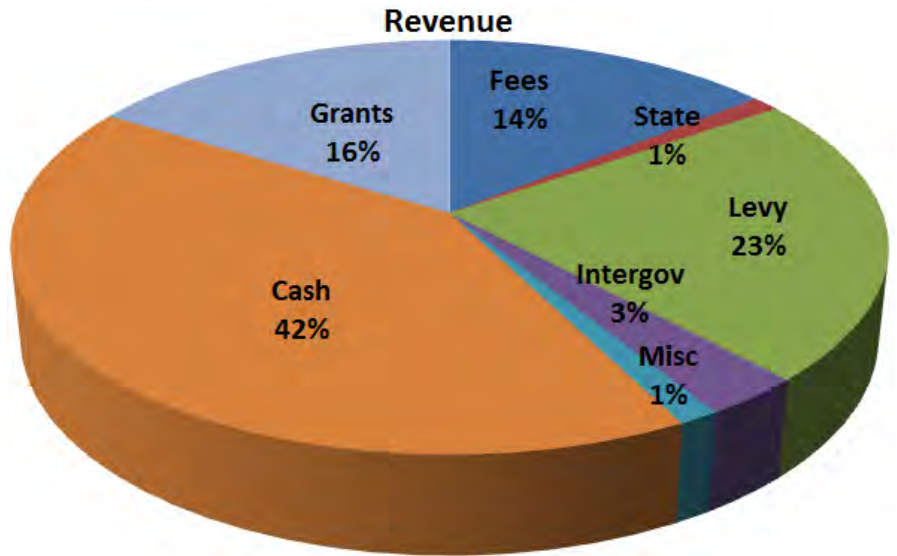
Gauga WIC has clinics in Chardon and in Middlefield. More information is available online at <http://geaugacountyhealth.org> or by contacting the office at (440) 279-1936.



2015 BOH Financial Report

Revenue

Fees	\$ 337,751
Township Assessment.....	0
State Subsidy / VS Rebate	27,756
Levy	534,667
Inter-governmental.....	75,333
Miscellaneous	30,289
Cash Carryover	978,318
Grant Reimbursements.....	385,575
Total Receipts	\$ 2,369,689



Expenditures

Personnel Costs.....	\$ 1,166,467
Repair & Maintenance	4,905
Supplies	11,646
Vaccine	4,817
Equipment.....	17,083
Travel & Training.....	10,619
Advertising & Printing	2,484
Remit to State	90,362
Contracts	25,068
Liability, Legal & State Audit	18,540
Other	23,413
Total Expenditures.....	\$ 1,375,404
Grant Revenues.....	397,699
Grant Expenditures	438,335

Employees by Division

Personal Health Services	8
Administration & Vital Statistics.....	5
Environmental Health.....	13
Women, Infant, Children	4
Total Employees	30



Vital Records & Statistics

The Geauga County Health District Office of Vital Statistics records all birth and death occurrences in Geauga County. In 2015, there were 1,086 births including 599 females and 599 males. Of these, 1,034 were born at UH Geauga Medical Center, 139 were born at Middlefield Care Center, and 13 were home births. There were 187 less births recorded in Geauga County in 2015 than in 2014.

In 2015, there were 859 deaths recorded in Geauga County, which is an increase of 97 from 2014. In 2015, there were five child fatalities, all of which were the result of extreme prematurity and congenital defects. The Child Fatality Review Board meets annually to review deaths of anyone under 18-years old.

The Medical Director reviewed 857 death certificates and compiled the following leading causes of death in Geauga County:

2015 Leading Causes of Death

Heart Diseases (Cardio/vascular)	201
Neurologic (Dementia 124, Stroke 34).....	181
Cancer (Lung 49, Colon 15)	173
Infection (Pneumonia 57, Sepsis 26)	114
Pulmonary (COPD)	45

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.

Geauga County General Health District

Working together to promote a healthy community

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. Ken Radtke, President; Erwin Leffel, 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 operating budget and ensuring adequate funding for the Health District.



J. David Benenati
Chester Township, Term Expires 2016



Dr. Denis Rubal
Munson Township, Term Expires 2020



Timothy Goergen, President
Hambden Township, Term Expires 2018



David Gragg
Newbury Township, Term Expires 2017



Christina Livers, Pro-Tem
Russell Township, Term Expires 2019



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
- BCMh 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 BP Clinics & Health Education
- TB Testing & Surveillance
- Walk-in Pregnancy Testing
- Well Child Clinics
- Women, Infant's & Children (WIC)



Environmental Health Services (440) 279-1914

- Animal Bite Investigation
- County & State Camp 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 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
- Child Fatality Review Board

Administration

- Fiscal Coordinator
- Grants Administration
- Computer & Information Technology
- Community Health Assessment
- Community Health Improvement Plan
- Accreditation Preparation
- Health Education
- Bio-terrorism Planning
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness

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

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