



2018

Geauga County Health District Annual Report

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 Interim Health Commissioner

A tsunami bringing many waves of change rolled through the Geauga County Health District in 2018. In January, I was promoted to serve as the Director of Environmental Health. Four months later, the Director of Nursing announced she would be retiring at the end of the May and, in July, the Health Commissioner left and I was appointed interim Health Commissioner. In late August we added Geauga County resident, Dr. Christine Wyers, to the leadership team as the new Director of Nursing. Dr. Wyers has a doctorate of nursing and had been teaching at the university level for past several years at Kent State University, Chamberlain College, and Herzing University. Prior to her teaching experience she had also worked at both the Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals in Cleveland. She brought with her experience in the direct patient care side of nursing along with health education and accreditation with being involved in the accreditation of the nursing programs at the universities and college where she was teaching.

The Board of Health along with the help of the Geauga County Prosecutor's Office and the Lake County Health District formed a search committee to find the next Geauga County Health Commissioner. Many good candidates applied for the position. The committee extended an offer to the former President of the American Public Health Association and Marion County Health Commissioner, Thomas Quade, MA, MPH, CPH, FRSPH and he accepted. Tom brings a huge positive attitude, local and national public health leadership experience, and a strong public health accreditation background to the position.

The daily operational demands did not diminish as a consequence of the waves of change. Both Population Health and Environmental Health program work and tasks were being completed. During this time we approached University Hospitals Geauga about partnering with Geauga County Health District to help fund the Amish Vision Screening Program that we had been doing for many years. University Hospitals Geauga agreed to help fund this program and subsequently to also help fund two emergency child vaccination clinics in October and November along with the Amish Well Child clinics that were discontinued earlier in 2018.

Most impressively, the entire staff rolled with these massive waves of change and they have emerged from the water stronger and more resilient. I am incredibly proud of them. They took on additional roles until new staff were hired and they chipped in where needed throughout the year. We have continued moving forward with national public health accreditation and the staff have renewed energy toward this goal and achievement.

David Sage

Interim Health Commissioner

Residential Sewage Treatment

GCHD regulates household sewage treatment systems for one, two, and three family residences in Geauga County. Approximately 70% of county residences utilize individual household sewage systems. In 2018, the health district issued 341 permits for sewage systems, which included both new home systems, and replacement systems for existing homes. A sewage permit must be obtained prior to the installation or alteration of a sewage system, and the following permit requires a site evaluation by GCHD, in order to determine the location and type of system that can be installed on the property. Sewage systems are inspected at the time of installation to assure compliance with sewage regulations, and 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. GCHD also maintains an active nuisance complaint program for sewage and other complaints. Complaints must be submitted in writing and signed, upon which they are investigated; if a complaint is justified, orders will be issued to obtain compliance.

2018 New & Alteration Permits	
# of permits	Type of Sewage System
106	Septic tanks followed by leach trenches
6	Pre-treatment followed by leach trenches
38	Septic Tanks to Mound system
0	Pre-treatment to Mound system
4	Septic tanks to Drip Distribution
0	Pre-treatment to Drip Distribution
145	EPA NPDES permit to discharge
21	Spray Irrigation
1	Miscellaneous
20	Alteration Permits
341	Total New and Alteration Permits

Water Pollution Control Loan Fund

The Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) is a grant program provided by OEPA, with support from the Department of Environmental Financial Assistance (DEFA). The mission of the WPCLF is “to benefit Ohio’s water resources and public health by providing lower cost to finance, economic incentives, and project assistance for public and private organizations and individuals”. The WPCLF is a revolving fund designed to provide homeowners with financial compensation and assistance in repairing or replacing a failing sewage treatment system. Our role in WPCLF involves the financial qualification of county residents, assisting in the bidding process to ensure equitable costs, and evaluating the system to ensure proper installation.

2018 For Sale of Property Inspections					
System Type	Total	Pass	Malfunction	% Pass	% Malfunction
Off-lot Discharge					
1000 gallon tank & filter bed	17	4	13	24%	76%
2x1000 gal tank & subsurface sand filter	15	8	7	53%	47%
NSF Class 1 aerator, surface sand	35	34	1	97%	3%
NPDES off-lot discharge	18	8	10	44%	56%
Misc.	2	0	2	0%	100%
On-lot dispersal systems					
2x1000 gal tanks & split trench	293	262	31	89%	11%
2x1000 gal tanks & 500' trench (pre-1985)	111	89	22	80%	20%
New Trench Design 2015 and Newer	3	3	0	100%	0%
Mound	3	3	0	100%	0%
Drip Distribution	4	4	0	100%	0%
Misc.	14	11	3	79%	21%
Total	515				

Geauga County Health District

District Advisory Council

GCHD’s District Advisory Council is composed of Township Trustee chairpersons, and Village and City Mayors. This body is responsible for the appointment of the Geauga County Board of Health members.

Ken Radtke, President

Erwin Leffel, Secretary

Board of Health

The Geauga County Board of Health is the legally recognized Governing Body for Geauga County Health District. Each Board of Health member is appointed to a five year term. The Board of Health is a quasi-judicial, policy development body tasked with determining, establishing, and monitoring public health policy. The Board of Health is also responsible for adopting the annual budget, approving the strategic direction, and ensuring adequate funding for the Health District.

Timothy Goergen, President (term ended in 2018)

Jonathan Wynbrandt, MD (term ended in 2018)

Christina Livers, President Pro-Tem (term ended in 2018)

David Gragg, President (term expires in 2022)

Richard Piraino, President Pro-Tem (term expires in 2023)

Catherine Whitright (term expires in 2021)

Patricia Levan, MD (term expires in 2020)

Stephanie Yeaglin (term expires in 2019)



Personal Health Services

- 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 Clinics & Health Education
- TB Testing & Surveillance
- Walk-in Pregnancy Testing
- Well Child Clinics



Environmental Health Division

- 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



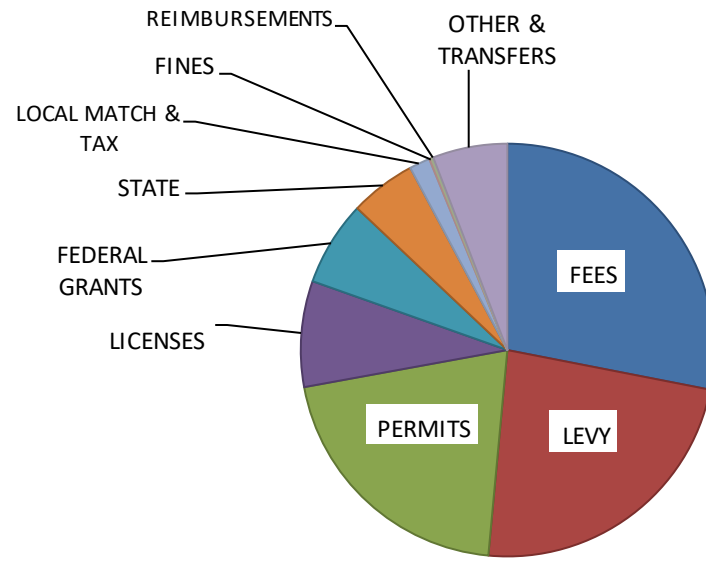
Vital Statistics

- Birth Certificates
 - Death Certificates
 - Burial Permits
- Administration**
- Registrar
 - Fiscal Coordinator
 - Computer Systems Support
 - Community Health Assessment
 - Accreditation Preparation
 - Public Health Emergency Preparedness

2018 Financial Report

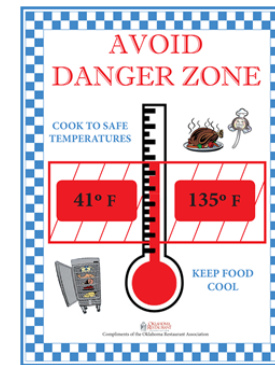
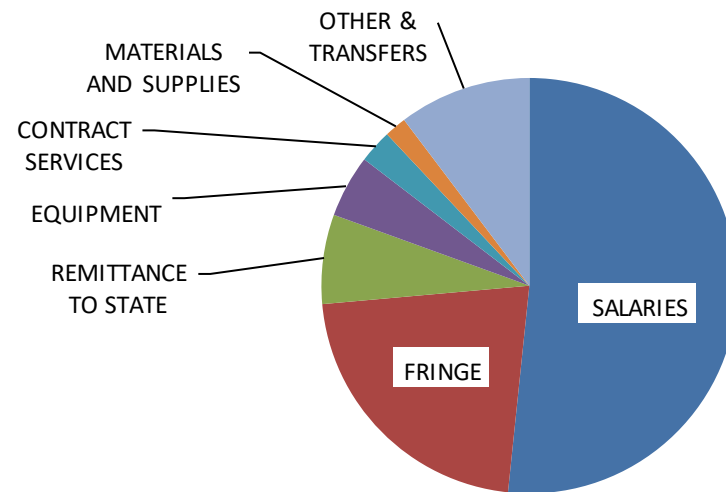
REVENUE

FEES	\$	659,981.65
LEVY	\$	549,860.86
PERMITS	\$	485,462.00
LICENSES	\$	194,896.00
FEDERAL GRANTS	\$	156,141.37
STATE	\$	121,217.38
LOCAL MATCH & TAX	\$	38,026.08
FINES	\$	3,909.50
REIMBURSEMENTS	\$	3,798.53
OTHER & TRANSFERS	\$	137,290.29
TOTAL REVENUE	\$	2,350,583.66



EXPENSES

SALARIES	\$	1,074,501.48
FRINGE	\$	456,590.73
REMITTANCE TO STATE	\$	144,715.32
EQUIPMENT	\$	101,253.10
CONTRACT SERVICES	\$	53,958.18
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	\$	35,541.62
OTHER & TRANSFERS	\$	214,168.59
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$	2,080,729.02



Food Safety Division

The goal of GCHD’s Food Safety Division is to ensure that safe and wholesome food is provided to the public. This is achieved by way of effective and reliable enforcement, information sharing, service, and education to both the public and food facility operators. Locations that sell food directly to the public must fulfill the requirements set forth in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code (OUFSC). A food service license is purchased from GCHD, and inspections are routinely conducted to ensure compliance with OUFSC rules. The types of inspections can be classified as: routine, follow-

up, critical control point, complaint, and foodborne illnesses. A routine inspection is unannounced to the facility, and a complete inspection is conducted to ensure OUFSC compliance. Follow-up inspections are completed when routine inspection items were out of compliance, and a critical control point inspection involves the evaluation and documentation of critical sections pertaining to regulations and critical procedures. A complaint investigation is completed when GCHD receives a food operation complaint, and the complaint details are discussed with the facility manager. When a foodborne outbreak is suspected, an investigation is initiated, food and stool specimens are collected, and laboratory tests are conducted. In 2018, GCHD licensed and inspected 310 food service operations, up from 283 in 2017. We licensed and inspected 151 retail food establishments, up from 134 in 2017. We licensed and inspected 73 mobile food service operations, and 65 temporary food service operations, both on par with 2017. Examples of a food service operation include restaurants, schools, kitchens, daycares, hospitals, bars, and nursing homes. Retail food establishments include grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations, bakeries, and pizza shops. Mobile food service operations also function as a food service operation, though they are not permitted to stay in one location for more than 40 days. Temporary food service licenses are issued to operators preparing food at festivals or fairs, and are only permitted to operate for up to five consecutive days. Inspection frequency, which is based upon state law, is determined by facility risk classification, and areas addressed during an inspection include staff hygiene, food handling, physical facilities, and general sanitation practices. This includes, but is not limited to correct food storage and preparation, employee work practices, cleanliness, proper equipment operation, and food facility maintenance. Each Food Safety Division inspector must have a bachelor’s degree with a minimum of 30 credit hours of math and science. Additionally, inspectors must obtain a minimum of 18 hours of accredited continuing education classes per year, and routinely work with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) for updates on rule changes and state or nationwide food product recalls. The Food Safety Division staff also attend the Northeast Ohio Food Roundtable meetings, the latter of which are composed of state and local health inspectors, in order to discuss public health issues that may affect Northeast Ohio.

Plumbing

The role of the plumbing inspector is to ensure that new and remodeled plumbing align with the Ohio Plumbing Code. In 2018, a total of 57 commercial plumbing permits were issued, and 165 commercial plumbing inspections were completed. Additionally, 347 residential plumbing permits were issued, and a total of 646 residential plumbing inspections were completed. These all represented slight decreases from 2017. Commonly identified issues involve the permitting and inspection of new construction residences or commercial structures, in addition to alterations, additions, and hot water tank replacements. The plumbing inspector also works with GCHD Environmental Health sanitarians and Geauga County Building Department inspectors to ensure food service operation and retail food establishment compliance, and that any remodeling in these facilities align with current codes and regulations. Commonly identified violations include air gaps on waste lines, grease trap flow restrictions, and indirect and direct sink connections.

Private Water Systems Program

GCHD regulates private water systems in the county through the enforcement of the private water system rules, as outlined in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), Sections 3701-28-01 thru 3701-28-19, and a permit is required for the installation, alteration, or sealing of a private water system. In 2018, the Health District issued 156 new well permits, 11 alteration permits, and 8 sealing permits. All new private water systems are required to be tested for total coliform bacteria and nitrates, as the safety of a household’s water supply cannot be assumed from colorless, odorless, and/or neutral-tasting water. Regulations established by ODH require private water systems to contain a total of four coliform units or less to permit the use of the water. During the testing process, total coliform bacteria are considered an “indicator” organism, as pathogen concentrations from fecal contamination are small, and the number of potential pathogens is extensive. As such, it is not practical to test for pathogens in every water sample collected. Instead, the presence of pathogens can be determined with indirect evidence by testing for an “indicator” organism, such as total coliform bacteria. Total coliform bacteria are simple to identify, are present in larger numbers than more dangerous pathogens, and react to the natural environment and treatment processes similarly to pathogens. As a result, testing for total coliform bacteria can be a reasonable indication of whether pathogenic bacteria are present. There are several kinds of defects that can allow for a private water well to become contaminated with total coliform bacteria, and may include a missing or defective well cap, insufficient wire, pipe, or cap seals, well casing cracks or holes, and local contaminant seepage from outside of the well casing. If a well has been contaminated with total coliform bacteria, these contaminants can be effectively eliminated by way of several methods, such as ultraviolet disinfection, chlorine disinfection, filtration, and/or ozonation. Long term options for a contaminated well include well repair, the installation of continuous disinfection equipment, construction of a new well, or connection to a regional public water system.

Body Art

GCHD regulates body art establishments through the enforcement of OAC Section 3701-9 and ORC Section 3730.01. Body art, as defined by OAC Section 3701-9-01(F), consists of “the practice of physical body adornment, including tattooing, permanent cosmetics and/or body piercing. This definition does not include practices that are considered medical procedures by the state medical board, performed with medical devices, that include but are not limited to biopsy or dermal punches and scalpels”. The respective license is valid for one year, beginning January 1 and expiring December 31. Standard inspection frequency consists of one inspection per licensing year, unless a follow-up inspection is warranted, and plan reviews prior to licensing include requirements such as non-absorbable and easily cleaned walls, floors, tables, and equipment, approved disposal of infectious waste, accurate and current record keeping, aftercare procedures, proper sterilization, artist verification of bloodborne pathogen training, artist restrictions and training, the presence of underage consent documents for those under 18 years of age, and an approved infection control plan. In 2018, four body art facilities had active licenses.



Illness and Disease Reports	517
Tuberculosis Tests Administered	44
TB Positive Reactors	0
Adult Immunizations Administered	141
Adult BP evaluations	6
Senior Clinic Visits	41
Seniors Blood Pressure Evaluations	1,243
Flu Shots (adult and children)	160

Communicable Disease Investigation:

GCHD provides surveillance of communicable diseases reported in Geauga County in compliance with the Ohio Department of Health Infectious Disease reporting requirements and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations. Diseases that pose a public health threat due to their ability to spread or their virulence are investigated by the Epidemiologist. There is collaboration with the Environmental Health (EH) division when a food borne illness outbreak is suspected or a vector-borne disease is noted, such as West Nile Virus or Lyme disease. In 2018, the health district investigated 517 reports of communicable disease reports: 36% of these were vaccine preventable diseases, 38% were STDs (sexually transmitted disease), 42% were food and waterborne diseases, 3% were vector-borne illnesses, and 15% were miscellaneous such as non-vaccine preventable diseases and viruses. For comparison in 2017 the health district investigated 414 reports of communicable disease.

Vital Statistics

Geauga County Health District Office of Vital Statistics records all birth and death occurrences in Geauga County. In 2018, there were 1,179 births. Of these, 1,008 babies were born at UH Geauga Medical Center, 152 at the Middlefield Care Center, and 19 home births. In 2018, there were 848 deaths recorded in Geauga County. The Child Fatality Review Board meets annually to review deaths of Geauga County residents under 18 years old. In 2018, there were six child fatalities and six Fetal Deaths. Also included in the death total were 16 Suicides, 6 Drug Overdoses, and 1 Homicide. The Medical Director, Dr. J. Bradley Moritz, M.D. reviews all deaths and compiles statistics of causes of death. 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. Telephone and on-line orders are accepted using Credit/Debit cards for payment. This method of payment is for telephone/On-line orders only, and not at the service counter. Vitalcheck is our on-line provider used for these orders and charges a \$7 service fee per order.

The leading causes of death in Geauga County are those caused by tobacco use, sedentary lifestyle, and unhealthy diets (high in sugar, salt, fat, and cholesterol).

Five causes identified on death certificates comprised nearly 2/3 of all deaths in 2018. These included Cardiovascular diseases (199), Cerebrovascular diseases (187), Pneumonia (61), COPD/Emphysema (56), Lung Cancer (40).

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Immunization/Blood Pressure Clinics for Adults

GCHD Population Health division holds adult walk in clinics on the first and third Friday of every month at the Chardon office for adult immunizations and free blood pressure screenings. Adult immunizations are provided for a \$15 administration fee for residents and \$20 administration fee for out of county residents. Adults who are uninsured and underinsured are eligible at this time. Seasonal flu vaccine is also available to eligible individuals. In 2018, the GCHD nurses administered 141 adult immunizations, 160 flu shots, and performed 6 blood pressure evaluations.



Senior Services

GCHD sent a public health nurse to the Geauga Senior Center four times per month to provide blood pressure screenings, education, and support for both adult day care clients and the general senior population participating in the senior center activities. In 2018, these services were provided to 1,243 seniors.

Tuberculosis Control

In accordance with Ohio law, GCHD promotes Tuberculosis (TB) control and containment by screening high-risk Geauga County populations and immigration investigations, maintaining a register of positive reactors, and following through with suitable treatment for individuals. GCHD public health nurses also perform routine TB testing at the Health District office for \$23.00 during the walk-in clinics. In 2018, the nurses administered 44 TB tests, with no positive reactors. Three TB clinics were held by the medical director at GCHD, providing evaluation and treatment to high-risk Geauga County residents.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

GCHD is actively involved in Geauga County emergency preparedness planning and coordinates its plans with Northeast Ohio health departments, hospitals, emergency services, law enforcement agencies, fire departments, schools, the American Red Cross, and other related agencies. This planning prepares GCHD staff for responding to a wide range of emergencies, which could include natural disasters, severe weather conditions, environmental emergencies, chemical disasters, disease outbreaks, and mass casualty events. Preparation for any emergency, regardless of whether it is a power outage, snowstorm, disease



pandemic, or terrorist attack, requires planning. GCHD urges community members to construct a household disaster plan and gather essential supplies to keep in your home, such that you will know what to do, where to go, and how to communicate in the event of an emergency.

Solid Waste Program

GCHD works in cooperation with the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District (GTSWD) and OEPA, in order to enforce solid waste regulations throughout Geauga County. GCHD also regulates and inspects scrap tire generators, infectious waste generators, compost sites, and investigates solid waste nuisance complaints. There are 14 drop-off recycling locations within Geauga County. Additionally, GTSWD operates the Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Facility, located at their office at 5738 Enterprise Boulevard in Warren, Ohio. The facility is open to all Geauga County residents on Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, beginning May 1, 2019, to October 30, 2019. Microwaves are now accepted, and televisions are accepted for an additional fee. In 2018, GCHD held a one-day collection event, facilitating the disposal of appliances and household hazardous wastes, and offering document destruction services. During this one-day event, the following Geauga County collection totals were documented:

- **4 tons** of documents
- **8 tons** of appliances
- **19 tons** of household hazardous waste
- **88 tons** of scrap tires

Always recycle:



Plastic Bottles & Containers

Plastic bottles, jars, jugs and tubs



Food & Beverage Cans

Tin, aluminum, steel food and beverage cans



Paper

Cardboard, paper, newspaper, paperboard, magazines



Flattened Cardboard & Paperboard

Flatten all boxes (do not bundle/tie up)

Agency Wide Updates

- The Geauga County Health District Strategic Plan was completed. Priorities included Institute financial harmony, Fulfill effective internal processes, Meet the 2020 Accreditation legislative mandate, and the Implementation and Monitoring of the 2019-2020 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Engaged in a successful partnership with the Lake Geauga Ashtabula Tobacco Prevention Coalition to help implement the new HUD 100% smoke free policy for government assisted multi-family residential units.
- Engaged with the Partnership for a Healthy Geauga in the creation of the Community Health Improvement Plan which was completed in February, 2018. The CHIP Priorities include, reducing drug dependency and overdoses, reduce diabetes, decrease infant mortality, Collection of strategies to address health equity. Our partners include: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Catholic Charities, DDC Clinic, Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services, Geauga Family First Council, Geauga County Educational Service Center, Geauga County Health District Advisory Council, Geauga County Job and Family Services, Geauga Metropolitan Housing Authority, Lake-Geauga Recovery Center, Lake-Geauga W.I.C., Ravenwood Mental Health Center, Geauga County Department on Aging, Geauga Transit, Geauga County Township Association, Middlefield Care Center, Ohio Department of Health, Starting Point, United Way Services of Geauga County, University Hospitals– Geauga Medical Center, Veteran Services Commission, WomenSafe, Inc.
- The GCHD Accreditation Coordinator was trained in May so that GCHD may begin the arduous process of documenting its capacity and conformity to the standards and measures set forth by the Public Accreditation Board (PHAB). Documents have started to be reviewed and are being entered into the system.



The Health & Wellness Division 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 summary of our programs and those who are served through them.

Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH)

CMH is an Ohio Department of Health (ODH) program, with the goal of assuring that children with special health care needs receive comprehensive, coordinated care. As the local contact for families, public health nurses provide early identification, evaluation, and referrals for qualifying children from birth to 21 years of age. Families receive culturally competent services from GCHD’s nurses, including child assessments, care plan development, health promotion, and advocacy. In 2018, GCHD nurses managed 94 children who qualified for this program and completed 36 home visits.



Immunization Clinics for Children and Adolescents

In 2018, GCHD administered 2,423 immunizations to 911 children across 38 clinics, not including flu shots. GCHD nurses hold monthly child and adolescent immunization clinics across Geauga County. At the beginning of 2018, these were walk in clinics for qualifying children through 18 years of age. Immunizations were provided free of charge to county residents and were also available for those with insurance. Changes in state funding required modifications to this program. By the end of 2018, the number of monthly clinics decreased, and only children who were uninsured or underinsured could be seen by appointment. This created a significant number of children in the county who were behind on the recommended immunizations. With the generous support of UH

Geauga Medical Center and a handful of dedicated volunteers, GCHD nurses were able to hold two emergency walk-in clinics and provide 370 immunizations.

Maternal/Newborn

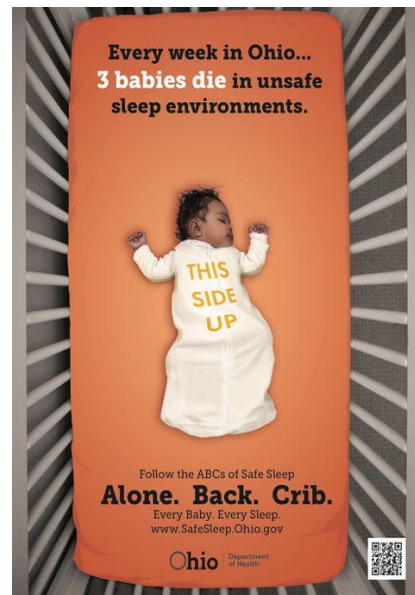
GCHD had to discontinue its newborn and maternal health assessment home visiting program this year because of the lack of funding. The nurses were still able to advocate for safe sleep practices through the *Cribs for Kids* program, passing out cribs and safe sleep education to the parents of 40 of the county’s tiniest residents through funding from ODH.

Nutrition Program

GCHD nurses piloted *The Fruit and Veggie Adventure*, a nutrition program designed to encourage school-aged children to obtain the recommended servings of fruit, vegetables, and water every day. Through interactive lessons and hands on learning, the participants demonstrated a 22.5 % increase in fruit and vegetable intake and a 71.9% increase in water intake over the four week program.

Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) Home Visits

GCHD public health nurses can provide information and referral services to bereaved Geauga County families, offering family members the opportunity to express feelings regarding the death of an infant in a safe and non-judgmental environment. There were no support visits requested in 2018.



Lead Program

GCHD collaborates with ODH to provide elevated blood lead level screenings and follow up services for Geauga County children. GCHD’s public health nurses conduct case management activities, including contacting families of children with elevated lead levels to provide education and medical recommendations, home evaluations, referral resources, and guidance. ODH conducts surveillance activities, and lead level screenings are provided to children at well child clinics and in other high-risk situations. In 2018, 47 lead screenings were conducted, and one elevated blood lead level was identified.

JFS Visits

GCHD nurses provide health screenings for children in the custody of Geauga County Jobs and Family Services on an as needed basis.

School Services

GCHD is the resource to public and private schools in the county regarding outbreak surveillance, vaccination updates, and information relating to child health issues. The public health

nurses provide oversight to any school in the county with less than 100 students, assisting with health record management, vision screenings, and healthcare referrals. In 2018, 57 visits were made to the parochial schools in Geauga County, providing services to 1,312 students. The nurses meet with the teachers of the 50 schools in the Amish community on an annual basis and educate them on vision screening and the Sight for Students program. Additionally, GCHD facilitates the School Nurse Consortium twice a year, which allows all of the county’s school nurses a chance to collaborate on shared issues and health concerns facing their students.

JFS Visits	16
Well Child Clinics	5
Well Child Service Visits	114
Blood-lead Level Screenings	47
Parochial School Visits	57
Parochial Students Seen	1312
Vision Service Plan Referrals	107
Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps Home Visits	36
Children’s Immunization Clinics	38
Children’s Immunizations	2423
Children Immunized	911



Vision Program

GCHD partners with Prevent Blindness Ohio in an effort to provide a Vision Service Plan (VSP) to Geauga County families without insurance, and those that do not qualify for federal aid. The public health nurses identify families in need and arrange for VSP service, which provides an eye examination by a licensed optometrist and glasses at no charge to the family. This service was offered to 107 children in 2018.

Well Child Services

GCHD provided well child clinics for families who met certain financial guidelines or otherwise lacked adequate health insurance. Public health nurses provided developmental, dental, and nutritional screenings, measured growth, and tested for lead and anemia. Health and safety education was provided to the families specific to their children’s developmental stages. A licensed physician performed physical exams, and the public health nurses tracked and administered immunizations for the participants. In 2018, only 5 well child clinics were held, serving 114 children before the clinics were discontinued due to lack of funding.

