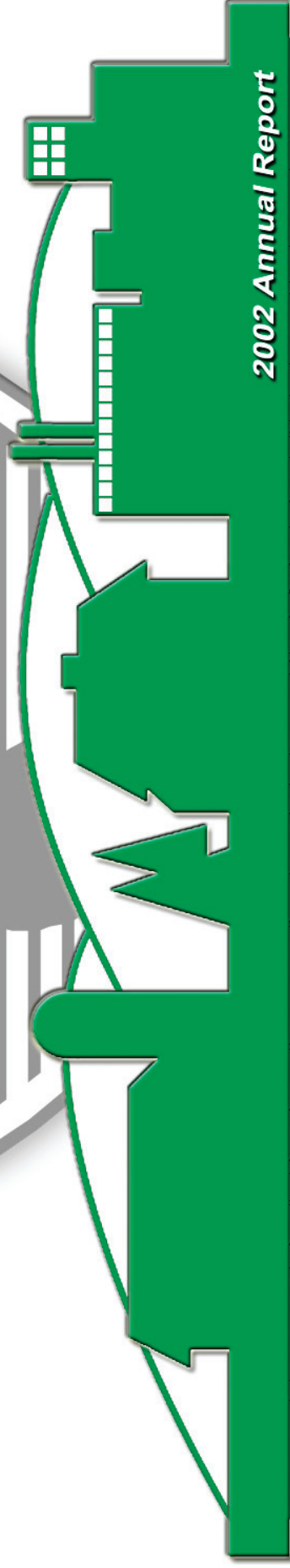
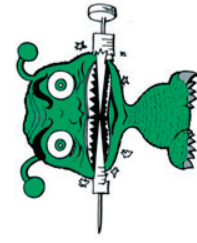


# Protecting Your Corner of the World



2002 Annual Report



**Mansfield/Ontario/Richland  
County Health Department**

## PROTECTING YOUR CORNER OF THE WORLD

The Mansfield/Ontario/Richland County Health Department is actively involved in increasing the quality and length of life of Richland County residents through safe food and drinking water, a healthier environment through sanitation standards, childhood immunizations, improved nutrition, pre- and post-natal care, and the promotion of education, safety, and healthy living.

These pages represent a sampling of the work our people have done over the past year to help protect your corner of the world.

### Friends of Public Health Recognized

Former Ohio Senator Dick Schafrath gave a rousing health promotion speech as the guest speaker at the Public Health Day breakfast, April 3.

Schafrath, through his role as director of the "Healthy Ohioans, Healthy Communities" campaign, said the major health concern was increasing obesity rates due to poor eating habits and lack of exercise.

LuAnn Freppon, OSU Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Science and Community Development, and Jeffrey Scott, an officer with the Mansfield City Police Department, were honored as "Friends of Public Health." Freppon was applauded for her efforts in student and family nutrition education, healthy childhood development, and parenting skill growth. Scott was honored for his efforts to educate the residents of Richland County about the dangers of driving under the influence.

The sixth annual "Media Award" for coverage of health related issues was presented to Chelley Kemper, morning radio personality. Kemper was honored for her willingness to share her experience with breast cancer treatment and for promoting the message of early detection.

### Responding to Potential Crisis

Health Departments across the nation were called on to devise an immunization plan in case of a terrorist threat with the smallpox virus. The Mansfield/Ontario/Richland County Health Department unveiled a plan covering any potential emergency by working with local hospitals, police agencies, fire departments and emergency management services. Information about the smallpox plan is available by calling 419-774-4545.



**Friends of Public Health:** LuAnn Freppon, Jeff Scott, Dick Schafrath, Chelley Kemper.

## Services For All Our Citizens

### Protecting the Young, Old, and Most In Need

At the Health Department, our varied programs in Public Health Nursing cover a full range of services from babies to senior citizens.

We are actively involved in protecting the health of our citizens. We conduct communicable disease surveillance, test children for lead poisoning, do school screenings for vision and hearing, and blood pressure and blood sugar screenings at our senior health clinics throughout the county.

We help protect our youngest citizens through newborn home visits and developmental screenings. We help families in greatest need through our Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh) and assist clients in getting help by linking with other agencies. And, while we may be most visible each year at our county-wide public flu clinics, we do immunizations year round for children and international travelers.

### Public Health Nursing Services

- Child Satellite Immunizations
- International Travel Clinic
- County-wide Public Flu Clinics
- Senior Citizen Clinics: *Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Screenings*
- Help Me Grow/COMFORT: *New Baby Home Visits and Newborn Developmental Screenings*
- Lead Testing and Education
- Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh)
- Assessment of Family Needs
- Referrals and Linking to other agencies
- Parenting Education
- Communicable Disease: *Reporting and Surveillance*
- Vision, Hearing, Scoliosis Screening in Schools
- School Health
- Advocacy

### Public Health Nursing Investigations

Communicable Disease Investigations/Reports.....245



**Left:** Only hurts for a second. County-wide flu shots, hosted by the Health Department in locations throughout Richland County, are an annual event in November and December. **6,664** shots were given during the 2002 flu season.

## Non-Emergency Health Care Services at the Public Health Clinic

At the Health Department, non-emergency medical services are provided by the Public Health Clinic. Our services range from prenatal care, well-child physicals, and immunizations to women's health screenings, HIV / AIDS testing, and general health evaluations.

The Public Health Clinic assisted individuals in **12,863** visits last year.

We evaluate our programs and add services to meet the changing demands of our citizens. Among our newest programs are lactation (breast feeding) consultation and our diabetic education and management program.

### Public Health Clinic Services

- Cancer Screenings
- Child Cardiac Clinic
- Child Health
- Clinic Flu Shots
- Diabetic Education & Management
- General Health Care
- Genetics Counseling Clinics
- HIV Testing
- Immunizations
- Lactation Consultation
- Men's Health
- Pregnancy Tests
- Prenatal Services
- STD Testing & Treatment
- TB Testing
- Travel Immunizations
- Well Child Physicals
- Women's Health



*Left: Cholesterol screening at the Minority Health Fair. The Health Department is the lead agency in organizing this annual event.*

### Protecting Our Seniors

Approximately **25** Senior Health Screenings are held each quarter at ten locations in Richland County. Health Screenings are free and include checks for blood pressure and blood sugar. **2,454** senior screenings provided vital information on their health status.

The Health Department conducted four senior driver classroom refresher courses at various locations. **54** seniors learned how to become safer drivers.

Our popular travel immunization program served shots to **652** clients before their overseas travel.

### Tracking County Births and Death

The Vital Statistics division at the Mansfield / Ontario / Richland County Health Department maintains records of all births and deaths in Richland County since 1908 (excluding Shelby).

The department keeps statistics on Richland County births and teen births, causes of death, and incidences of disease. This information assists in planning health programs and services that meet the needs of our communities.

### Clinic Visits in 2002 ..... Total

Adult Medical Clinic .....	91
Child Cardiac Clinic .....	49
Child Health .....	927
Clinic Flu Shots .....	153
Diabetic Education and Management .....	25
General Health .....	3,461
HIV Testing .....	207
Immunizations .....	3,459
Satellite Immunizations .....	749
Travel Immunizations .....	652
Lactation Consultation .....	11
Prenatal .....	1,147
STD* Testing .....	547
TB Testing .....	1,097
Women's Health .....	262
<b>Total Visits for 2002 .....</b>	<b>12,863</b>

\*Sexually Transmitted Disease/Infection

<b>Vital Statistics (trends)</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Births</b> (includes Shelby)	1,509	1,557	1,536
To Teens	221	235	201
To Single Mothers	604	625	582
<b>Deaths</b> (excludes Shelby)	1,106	1,106	1,110
Male	539	548	530
Female	567	558	580
<b>Causes of Death</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Heart Related	481	440	436
Cancer	247	219	232
Strokes/CVA	65	63	71
Lung Diseases	92	80	69
Flu/Pneumonia	52	64	42
Accidents	15	17	25
Suicide	8	19	13
Homicides	3	3	7
Stillbirths	11	12	4
AIDS	2	4	2



## Prepared To Protect the Public

The Environmental Health Services division directs a variety of programs that prevent, protect, and educate our communities about potentially harmful elements in our environment.

Environmental specialists, plumbing inspectors and sanitarians ensure that local and state standards are met by restaurants and other food establishments, residential sewage systems, residential and commercial plumbing installations, solid waste landfills, swimming pools and parks. This division also monitors public nuisances such as weed & trash control, rodent & mosquito control and other potential public health problems.

### Environmental Health Services

*Inspections, Investigations, Consultations*

Emergency Responses

Campgrounds

Communicable Diseases

Foodborne Outbreaks

Food Establishments (grocery stores)

Food Services (all types & restaurants)

Lead Contamination

Manufactured Home Parks

Nuisance (air pollution, sewage, solid waste)

Rabies Control (wild animals, dogs & cats)

Plumbing (residential & commercial)

Schools/Institutions

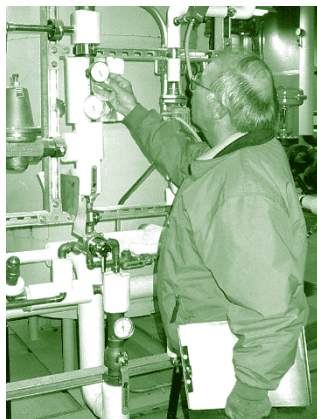
Sewage Systems, residential

Solid Waste

Swimming Pools

Vector Control (mosquitoes, rats)

Water Supply, residential



**Right:** A Health Department plumbing inspector checks out the water fittings in the new extension at MedCentral Hospital.

### Food Inspections Essential to Public Health

One of the most critical functions of the Health Department is inspections of food service businesses (grocery stores, restaurants, vendors). The Health Department employs five sanitarians who inspect more than 1,000 establishments. Last year, 2,112 inspections were carried out to keep Richland County residents safe from food contaminants.

"When we do an inspection we look for critical violations — ones that could cause people to get sick," says sanitarian Beth Conrad. "The three main issues are temperatures of food, handling of food items, and cross-contamination."

Temperatures of hot food, including those on buffet lines, must be kept above 140°. There are strict guidelines for items that will be cooled and reheated as well. Cross-contamination mainly occurs in food storage when items are not stacked properly.

Conrad says they also look at the overall cleanliness of the facility, sanitizing of dishes, eating utensils and the cleaning of tables, and at trash disposal areas outside of buildings.

Conrad says that inspections, which are done unannounced, point out flaws that must be corrected on repeat inspections. Non-compliance can ultimately result in closure when reviewed by the Board of Health.

"We hope we don't have to go that far," Conrad says, "but food-borne contaminants can cause serious illness."

It's the job of the Health Department's sanitarians to protect the public from that possibility so they can have a worry-free dining experience.



**Above:** A Health Department Sanitarian checks the temperature of a refrigerator food item.

### Environmental Health 2002 ..... Total\*

Air Pollutions .....	162
Campgrounds .....	30
Communicable Diseases .....	30
Foodborne Outbreaks .....	36
Food Establishments (grocery stores) .....	545
Food Services (all types & restaurants) .....	2,290
Lead Contamination .....	347
Manufactured Home Parks .....	193
Nuisance - food .....	15
Nuisance - other .....	357
Nuisance - sewage .....	120
Nuisance - solid waste .....	239
Rabies Control - dogs & cats .....	285
Rabies Control - wild & others .....	49
Plumbing - residential .....	1,684
Plumbing - commercial .....	863
Plumbing - other .....	157
Schools/Institutions .....	111
Sewage System, all types .....	1,097
New residential, sewage .....	909
Solid Waste .....	237
Swimming Pools .....	353
Vector Control (insects, rats) .....	716
Water Supply, all types .....	377
New residential, water .....	547
All other types (not categorized) .....	1,254

**\*Inspections, Investigations, Consultations..... 13,003**

## WIC Food and Services



**Women, Infants, Children (WIC)** is a health and nutrition program for pregnant and breast-feeding women, families with infants, and children under age five.

WIC provides nutrition education and breast-feeding support, referral for health care, immunization screening and referral, and supplemental foods.

Highlights of 2002 for the WIC Program included meeting and exceeding our assigned caseload of 3,061 participants per month by serving an average caseload of 3,219 participants per month. Our new caseload, 3,503, allows WIC to add more women, infants and children to the local program. A total of 137,003 WIC coupons for nutritious foods were redeemed in 2002. These coupons were valued at \$2,046,467.70.

A video of a special WIC class featuring fun activities for children was featured at the annual WIC Symposium in Columbus in April 2002.

The Farmers' Market Nutrition Program suffered funding problems in 2002. Still, 485 WIC participants received coupons redeemable for fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs at local farmers' markets.



**Right:** A WIC client beams during the WIC birthday party.

### Protecting Our Children

7,990	School Health Nursing Hours Performed
2,799	Children Immunized in the Clinic
1,326	COMFORT Newborn Home Visits
927	Child Health Clinic clients
743	Children Immunized at Satellite Locations
729	2nd MMR Vaccine (for 6th graders in school)
353	Swimming Pool Inspections
347	Lead Contamination Inspections
138	Child Car Seat Safety Checks
49	Child Cardiac Clinic clients

### CONTACTING THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Main Number .....	419-774-4500
Public Health Clinic .....	419-774-4700
Environmental Health .....	419-774-4520
Health Promotion/ Education .....	419-774-4544
Public Health Nursing .....	419-774-4540
WIC .....	419-774-4560
Health Department Website .....	<a href="http://www.richlandhealth.org">www.richlandhealth.org</a>

## Safer and Healthier Communities

The Health Education/Promotion division provides our community with a variety of programs that address healthy lifestyles and disease prevention. This division organizes public and county cholesterol screenings and provides health information and resources.



**Right:** One of our certified child car seat technicians installs a seat. There are numerous child car seat safety checks at sites throughout the county.



### Health Promotion Services

**County Wellness Program:** performed 190 county cholesterol screenings and nearly 500 screenings at local worksites.

**Heart Healthy Communities Grant:**

*GOLD Plate Restaurant Program; Hike for Health; Cardiovascular Fitness and Healthy Eating Programs*

**Safe Communities Grant:**

*Child Car Seat Safety Checks; Seat Belt Use Education; DUI Awareness Education; Senior Driver Refresher Course*

*Education materials: brochures and videos*

**SMART Calls:** 419-774-4774 (457 calls in 2002)

**Health Department Web Site:**

[www.richlandhealth.org](http://www.richlandhealth.org) (4,581 views in 2002)

### HOURS:

**Monday-Thursday:**

**8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.;**

**Friday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

*Environmental Health Division opens at 7 a.m. weekdays.*

### LOCATION:

**The Mansfield/Ontario/Richland County Health Department is located at 555 Lexington Avenue (Lexington and Sterkel).**

### Our Mission:

- Prevent and control the spread of communicable and chronic diseases.
- Maintain and improve a healthy, safe environment.
- Deliver preventative health services and follow-up care to high-risk people and groups.
- Inform and educate about individual wellness and community health.





## From the Commissioner



Last year our public health system found itself being challenged on many fronts.

West Nile Virus arrived, as anticipated, in our community. For the second time in the past three years we faced

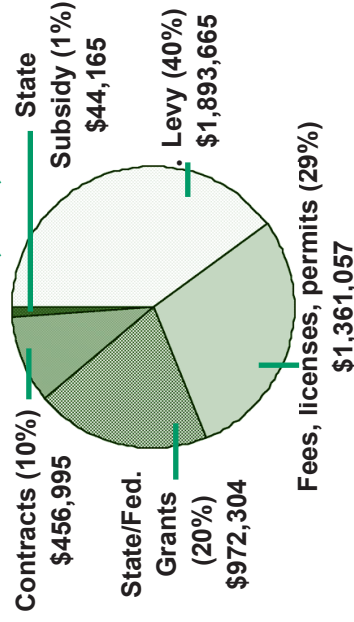
the state's leading outbreak of syphilis. This time our staff had to control the outbreak without historic state staff support, because the state had eliminated its sexually transmitted disease division. Existing staff had to spend hundreds of hours working on pre- and post-event smallpox vaccination plans (both local and regional) with sketchy and ever-changing state and federal guidance. We facilitated the first meetings of the county Child Fatality Review Board and will produce a report, April 1, on the causes of all county childhood fatalities in 2002. Every week we received two to three food recall notices from the Department of Agriculture for tainted or mislabeled food items. We had to revise vaccination plans and schedules due to continued vaccine shortages for both adult and childhood diseases.

And as the need and demand for our services increased as a result of the faltering economy, we received cuts to the funding of our Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps program, Child and Family Health Services program, WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, Childhood Immunization program, and our State Subsidy.

As a result of these cuts, several vacated positions had to remain unfilled and the existing staff picked up the workload.

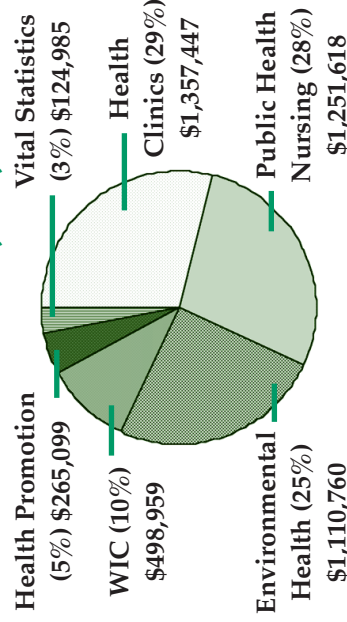
We were challenged. Our communities' health was challenged. I am proud to say our staff, with the help of our many friends in the community, met those challenges and we are prepared to do so in 2003.

## SUPPORT: \$4,728,186



Carryover from 2001: \$2,623,551

## SERVICES: \$4,608,868



## GRANT INCOME

WIC – Nutrition and Education	\$429,952
Child & Family Health Services	169,675
Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening	85,261
Cardiovascular Disease	84,023
Infrastructure	65,580
HIV-AIDS Testing, Education, Case Mgt.	47,521
Senior Health Screenings	29,905
Immunizations – Satellite areas	26,955
Safe Communities	25,134
Abstinence	8,298
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$972,304</b>

**Financially Responsible:** Shirley Sealey, Fiscal Operations Director, reports that the Health Department has had 13 straight clean audits.

## BOARD OF HEALTH - 2002

**Mansfield City:** Harland Groves; Robert Exten, MD; John F. Leech, DDS; Frank Russo, *Vice-chair*; William Spurling.  
**Ontario City:** Julie Beard, MD; Daniel Burwell, DO.  
**County:** Louis Swickley, *Chair*; Susan Clark, DVM; Craig Greenlee; Holbrook Riles, Jr., DO; John Studenmund, JD; Jean Swartz; Violet Wetzel.

## District Advisory Council - 2002

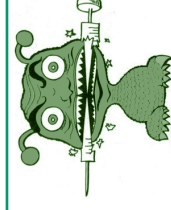
This council meets annually in March to bring health concerns and recommendations to the Board of Health and to appoint new members from the county. Members include the chairman of each township's board of trustees, village mayors and the chairman of the county commission.

**Townships** – Bloomingrove: Denny Adkins • Butler: Edward Huff • Cass: George Shepherd • Franklin: John McCarroll • Jackson: Rudy Korbas • Jefferson: Bob McConkie • Madison: Homer Hutcheson • Mifflin: Roger Cook • Monroe: Roger Maglott • Perry: Walter Berg • Plymouth: Ivan King • Sandusky: Dave Krichbaum • Sharon: Dale Schroeder • Springfield: Michael Fry • Troy: Darryl Wittmer • Washington: Kay Leitenberger • Weller: Dale Hulit • Worthington: Gary Smith

**Mayors** – Bellville: Carolyn Studenmund • Butler: Paul Bowen • Lexington: Eugene Parkison • Lucas: Deana Vail • Mansfield: Lydia Reid • Ontario: Daniel Kreisher • Plymouth: Robert Mellas, Jr. • Shiloh: Timothy Wireman  
**Chair, County Commissioners** – Robert Ashbrook.

## ADMINISTRATION

**Stan Saalman**, MSEPH, JD, *Commissioner*; **Jerome E. Hurley**, MD, *Medical Director*; **Joe Evans**, RS, MPH, *Environmental Health Director*; **Regina Smeltzer**, RN, MSN, *Director of Nursing*; **Tina Picman**, MS, RDLD, WIC Director; **Shirley Sealey**, *Fiscal Operations Director*; **Krista Wasowski**, MSW, MPH, *Health Promotion/Education Director*



Mansfield/Ontario/Richland County

## Health Department

555 Lexington Ave. • Mansfield, OH 44907  
 419-774-4700 • [www.richlandhealth.org](http://www.richlandhealth.org)

Protecting and Promoting Health with an Ounce of Prevention

For a copy of this report, call 419-774-4726.