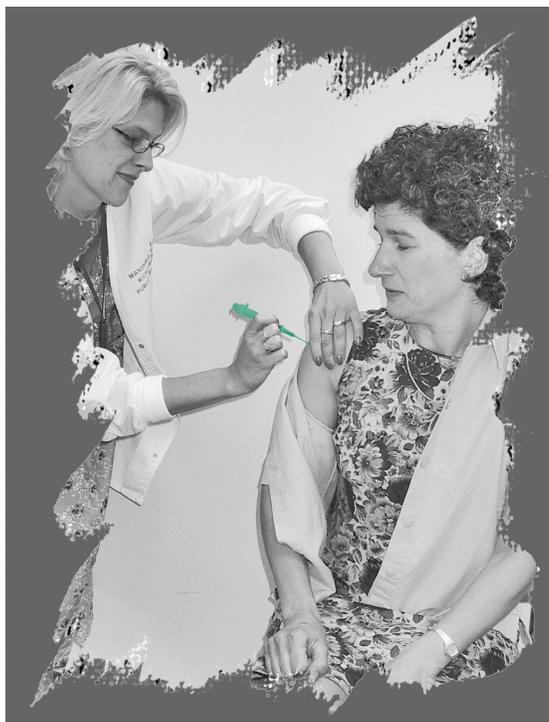


Health Department



Immunizations

Public Health Clinic Services

- Cancer Screenings • 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
- Well Child Physicals • Women's Health
- International Travel Immunizations



Disease Investigations

Public Health Nursing Services

- Child Immunizations • County-wide Public Flu Clinics
- Senior Citizen Clinics • Child Cardiac Clinic • School Nurses
- Help Me Grow/COMFORT Program • Lead Testing and Education • BCMH • Assessment of Family Needs • Parenting Education • Communicable Disease: Reporting and Surveillance • Vision, Hearing, Scoliosis Screening in Schools



Restaurant Inspections

Environmental Health Services

- 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

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.**

As represented in these pages, public health is a multi-faceted effort. The employees of the Mansfield/Ontario/Richland County Health Department are actively involved in increasing the quality and length of life of Richland County residents by ensuring safe food and drinking water and a healthier environment through sanitation standards, safeguarding children through childhood immunizations, improved nutrition, and pre- and post-natal care, protecting teens, adults and seniors through testing and wellness programs and promoting the health of all residents through education, safety awareness, and healthy living choices.

Friends of Public Health Recognized

Health Commissioner Stan Saalman recognized the many individuals and agencies that protect public health in Richland County at the Public Health Day breakfast, April 8.

This year's "Friend of Public Health" awards were presented to Weidner Motors and the Third Street Clinic.

Klaus Cobb, accepting on behalf of Weidner Motors, was praised by Health Promotion director Krista Wasowski for his willingness to support child safety seats and to provide a location for child seat checks.

Retiring Third Street Clinic director Barbara Pore and incoming director Bob Bowers accepted a Friend of Public Health Award from Saalman for having a dental clinic available for clients in need who could not otherwise afford the service.

The seventh annual "Media Award" for coverage of health-related issues was presented to the Mansfield News Journal for its series of articles on "What Killed Corey Jones." The newspaper was credited by Jim Smith, assistant to the Health Commissioner, for bringing attention to the many public health-related issues around the life and death of Corey Jones. The award was accepted by Tom Brennan, editor, and Rob McCurdy, reporter.



Public Health Awards (l-r): Rob McCurdy, Tom Brennan, Klaus Cobb, Barbara Pore and Bob Bowers.

Flu Vaccine Response



Although flu vaccine clinics began in October, an outbreak of flu in late November caused an unprecedented demand in December. The Health Department responded by securing additional doses for high risk individuals. Altogether, nearly 8000 shots were given.

"The public was very understanding," said Regina Smeltzer, Director of Nursing. "The media did an excellent job keeping the public informed of changes and we were thankful for their help."

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

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

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. 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 - 2003

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Senior Health Assessments | 2292 |
| Specialty Clinics | 257 |
| Children Immunized | 1547 |
| Influenza Shots..... | 7221 |
| COMFORT (Newborn) Visits | 949 |
| BCMh Home Visits..... | 371 |
| Lead Investigations | 32 |
| School Health Nurses (Hours)..... | 8947.5 |

What gives with the feet? Besides the many steps to public health, walking is an excellent cardiovascular workout. That's why we launched "Richland Walks!" in May. Participants can buy a pedometer and are provided a daily log sheet to record their steps. For more information call 419-774-4761.

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 13,247 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.

Clinic Visits in 2003 Total

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Adult Medical Clinic..... | 91 |
| Child Health..... | 927 |
| Clinic Flu Shots..... | 617 |
| 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 |
| Total Visits for 2003..... | 13,247 |

*Sexually Transmitted Disease/Infection



Public Health Nursing

Communicable Disease Investigations..... 245

In November, Richland County voters approved a replacement of the Health Department's .5 mil 10-year levy. Most of our 70+ programs receive funds from these levy dollars. We thank those who said "yes."

Senior Care

Approximately 30 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. 2,292 senior screenings provided vital information on their health status.

The Health Department conducted five senior driver classroom refresher courses at various locations. 76 seniors learned how to become safer drivers. And our popular travel immunization program served shots to 652 clients before their overseas travel.

Caring for Our Kids (by the numbers)

8,947.5 = School Health Nursing Hours Performed • 3,121 = Children Immunized in the Clinic • 997 = Children Immunized at Satellite Locations • 949 = COMFORT Newborn Home Visits • 927 = Child Health Clinic clients • 729 = 2nd MMR Vaccine (for 6th graders in school) • 353 = Swimming Pool Inspections • 347 = Lead Contamination Inspections • 138 = Child Car Seat Safety Checks • 47 = Child Cardiac Clinic clients

Bio-Terrorism Planning



The Health Department has been one of the lead agencies in developing a plan in case of a bio-terrorist incident. The county emergency plan encompasses a large number of agencies and involves regional coordination in order to maximize the resources of the area.

The Health Department is partnering with local hospitals against biological threats and new emerging communicable diseases. The plan ensures a smooth flow of communication between local, regional, and national agencies in the event of an emergency.

Vital Statistics

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.

Vital Statistics (trends) 2000..... 2001 2002.... 2003

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Births (includes Shelby)..... | 1,509 | 1,557 | 1,536 | 1,544 |
| To Teens..... | 221 | 235 | 201 | 182 |
| To Single Mothers..... | 604 | 625 | 582 | 658 |
| Deaths (excludes Shelby)..... | 1,106 | 1,106 | 1,110 | 1,094 |
| Male..... | 539 | 548 | 530 | 538 |
| Female..... | 567 | 558 | 580 | 556 |

Causes of Death 2000..... 2001..... 2002..... 2003

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Heart Related..... | 481 | 440 | 436 | 399 |
| Cancer..... | 247 | 219 | 232 | 211 |
| Lung Diseases..... | 92 | 80 | 69 | 89 |
| Strokes/CVA..... | 65 | 63 | 71 | 63 |
| Flu/Pneumonia..... | 52 | 64 | 42 | 43 |
| Accidents..... | 15 | 17 | 25 | 31 |
| Suicide..... | 8 | 19 | 13 | 21 |
| Homicides..... | 3 | 3 | 7 | 7 |
| Stillbirths..... | 11 | 12 | 4 | 2 |
| AIDS..... | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 |

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health Services division conducts 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 2003 Total*

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Air Pollutions..... | 192 |
| Campgrounds..... | 32 |
| Communicable Diseases..... | 92 |
| Foodborne Outbreaks..... | 15 |
| Food Establishments (grocery stores)..... | 518 |
| Food Services (all types & restaurants)..... | 2,500 |
| Lead Contamination..... | 346 |
| Manufactured Home Parks..... | 195 |
| Nuisance - food..... | 25 |
| Nuisance - other..... | 378 |
| Nuisance - sewage..... | 148 |
| Nuisance - solid waste..... | 145 |
| Rabies Control - dogs & cats..... | 349 |
| Rabies Control - wild & others..... | 34 |
| Plumbing - residential..... | 1,736 |
| Plumbing - commercial..... | 1,102 |
| Plumbing - other..... | 215 |
| Schools/Institutions..... | 110 |
| Sewage System, all types..... | 609 |
| New residential, sewage..... | 830 |
| Solid Waste..... | 395 |
| Swimming Pools..... | 273 |
| Vector Control (insects, rats)..... | 719 |
| Water Supply, all types..... | 246 |
| New residential, water..... | 678 |
| All other types (not categorized)..... | 766 |
| *Inspections, Investigations, Consultations..... | 12,648 |

Radon Abatement

Radon is a radioactive gas that comes from the soil. It is odorless and colorless but one out of every 15 homes is estimated to have high radon levels. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer (after smoking) in the United States, causing more than 15,000 lung cancer deaths annually. Testing for levels of radon is the first step toward finding if there is a problem and then fixing the problem.

The Health Department's Environmental Health Division has radon testing kits available at cost (\$3.75 per kit).

Mosquito Control

The pesky West Nile virus continued to be a concern in 2003 and the Health Department increased its monitoring, education and control efforts toward reducing mosquito populations in Richland County.

Lead Risk Assessment

Many houses in Richland County pose a serious health threat to children.

"Anyone with young children who lives in an older (pre-1978) house should have their kids tested at the Health Department," says Andy Barnes, who does environmental lead testing for the Health Department.

The Environmental Health Division tests the home and works with Public Health Nursing for testing of the child occupants.

"The test for the child involves a finger poke," Barnes says. "If we get a report back that there is a high blood lead level we make a visit to screen the home." According to a Centers for Disease Control estimate, 890,000 U.S. children age 1-5 have elevated blood lead levels.

"The first step is testing the child," Barnes reiterates. "Then we can start to address the house and yard treatments and medical care for the child to help correct or improve the situation."

Food Service Inspections

In addition to restaurant inspections, sanitarians at the Health Department offer a pre-purchase inspection service for food service operations. The service is offered, at no expense, to individuals considering a food service operation/retail food establishment in an existing building.



The service is offered to assist the original owner or operator and prospective owner or operator in identifying sanitary deficiencies that exist. The inspection, done by a sanitarian and plumbing inspector, will also address all time limitations that apply to the correction of deficiencies. Prior to issuing a license, particular food service operation standards must be met. The specific requirements will be identified through the pre-purchase inspection and a written report will be provided to the owner detailing findings.

"For individuals considering purchasing an existing restaurant, the pre-purchase inspection could identify plumbing and equipment upgrades that would be required to bring a facility up to code, which could cost thousands of dollars," said Beth Conrad, sanitarian.

A license cannot be issued for conducting a food service operation, including pizza operations, in Ohio until a final inspection confirms applicable items of the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code, have been complied with.

WIC



Above: A WIC client delights in the goodies handed out at the WIC Halloween party.

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, referral to health care, breast feeding classes, a breast pump program and coupons redeemable for nutritious foods at approved local grocery stores.

The total number of WIC food coupons issued for 2003 was 127,801. The value of these coupons was \$1,989,594.80, a significant boost to our Richland County economy. WIC participants served during 2003 averaged 3,135 per month.

Highlights for 2003 included making our required Nutrition Classes more fun for WIC participants. WIC participants enjoyed a "smoothie" class, a special Halloween party with "good for you" snacks, and special Christmas activities featuring story time and visiting our mitten and hat tree.

The WIC Farmer's Market Program distributed 665 sets of coupons redeemable for locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs. A new Farmer's Market in Bellville, operating on Saturday mornings during the summer, provided an additional place for fresh produce shopping (see story below).

Brenkus receives special commendation



Lindsey Brenkus (left), the Bellville fifth grader who organized a Farmer's Market in her town, received a "Resolution of Commendation" from the County Board of Health, December 1, 2003.

The commendation acknowledges Brenkus for "her commitment, initiative and excellence in all aspects of organizing the Farmer's Market in Bellville and operating her individual stand." The commendation further applauds Brenkus as "her diligence and persistence has resulted in healthy choices of fresh vegetables being more readily available for citizens of our community."

Cholesterol Screenings



Health Promotion and Education coordinated 143 cholesterol screenings as part of a public wellness program and performed 668 screenings at local worksites

and county agencies.

HEALTH PROMOTION

The Health Promotion/Education 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.

Health Promotion Services

County Wellness Program: 143 county cholesterol screenings and 668 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 Education;

DUI Awareness Education; Senior Driver Course

Education materials: brochures and videos

SMART Calls: 419-774-4774 (281 calls in 2003)

Maintain Health Department Web Site:

www.richlandhealth.org



Two programs (logos above) managed by Health Promotion are Richland County Safe Communities Coalition and Richland County Heart Healthy Coalition.

The young hiker on the left participated in the annual Winter Hike for Health at Malabar Farm, one of Health Promotion's Heart Healthy activities.

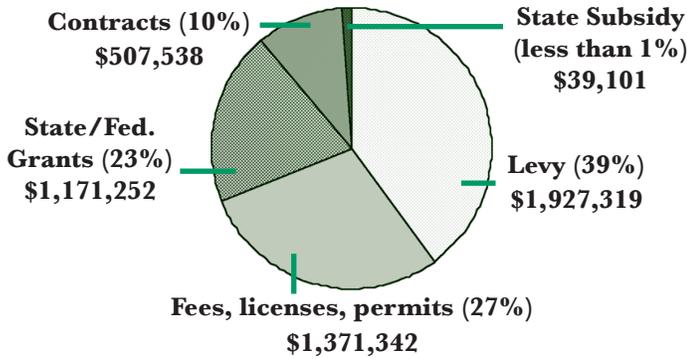


CONTACTING THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 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 |

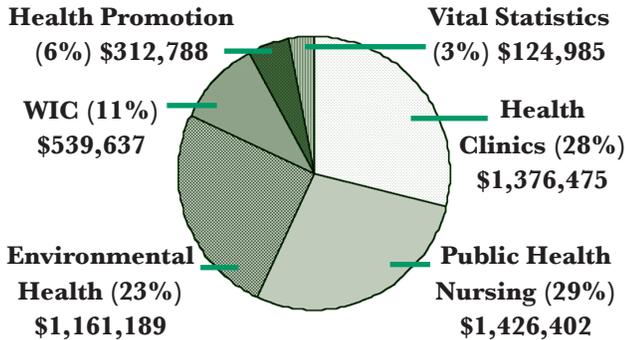
January 1 - December 31, 2003

SUPPORT: \$5,016,552



Carryover from 2003: \$2,807,434

SERVICES: \$4,951,987



GRANT INCOME

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| WIC – Nutrition and Education | \$457,564 |
| Child & Family Health Services | 172,494 |
| Infrastructure | 160,514 |
| Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening | 147,148 |
| Cardiovascular Disease | 85,342 |
| HIV-AIDS Testing, Education, Case Management | 41,872 |
| Immunizations – Satellite areas | 29,447 |
| Senior Health Screenings | 27,761 |
| Abstinence | 24,892 |
| Safe Communities | 23,173 |
| Ohio Minority Health | 1,044 |
| TOTAL | \$1,171,252 |

District Advisory Council - 2003

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 president of the county commission.

Townships - Bloomingrove: Denny Adkins • Butler: Dennis Clawson • Cass: Joseph Miller • Franklin: Jeffrey Kuhn • Jackson: Larry Diekley • Jefferson: Frederick Ackerman • Madison: Larry Ferguson • Mifflin: Roger Cook • Monroe: Roger Maglott • Perry: Walter Berg • Plymouth: Charles Miller • Sandusky: Dave Krichbaum • Sharon: Dale Schroeder • Springfield: Michael Fry • Troy: Darryl Wittmer • Washington: Tim Wert • Weller: Roger Fulk • Worthington: Gary Smith. **Mayors** - Bellville:Carolynn Studenmund • Butler: Paul Bowen • Lexington: Eugene Parkison • Lucas: Deana Vail • Mansfield: Lydia Reid • Ontario: Thom Durbin • Plymouth: Robert Mellas, Jr. • Shiloh: Timothy Wireman. **Chair, County Commissioners** - Daniel Hardwick.

From the Commissioner



Stan Saalman

2003 was another year of surprises in Public Health. We faced new challenges like Monkey Pox and SARS, as well as long-known threats like the common flu and small pox.

For the first time we found ourselves tracking down Prairie Dogs, potentially carrying Monkey Pox, so the Department of Agriculture could quarantine them. We self-isolated travelers from South China who might have been exposed to SARS. And we promoted flu shots for children for the first time.

Before the flu epidemic created a shortage of vaccine, we had already 1000 more doses than we did last year, and when media coverage created greater demand we continually sought additional supplies. We also added clinics to provide vaccine for as many as possible.

Lastly, members of our staff volunteered to risk small pox vaccinations so we would be prepared to handle an outbreak of small pox from a terrorist act.

I want to thank the volunteers and staff who graciously put in hundreds of hours last year so we could provide all the extra flu clinics. I also thank the public for patiently waiting in line and for their understanding as we rationed our limited supply of flu vaccine.

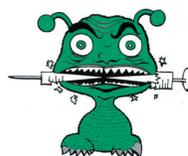
We can't know what new public health challenges 2004 will bring, but we intend to meet them with the same resolve and skill. We are working on response plans for SARS, pandemic flu, West Nile virus, nuclear weapons (including dirty bombs) and biological terrorism. We will do our best to protect your health.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Mansfield: Robert Exten, MD; Harland Groves; John F. Leech, DDS; Matthew Maiyer, R.Ph.; Frank Russo, *Chair*; **Ontario:** David Amalfitano, MD; Daniel Burwell, DO; **County:** Craig Greenlee; Carol Michaels, *Sr. Rep.*; Steven Phillips, DVM; Holbrook Riles, Jr., DO; John Studemund, JD, *Vice-Chair*; Jean Swartz; Violet Wetzel

ADMINISTRATION

Stan Saalman, MSEP, 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

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