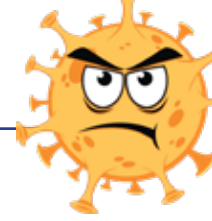


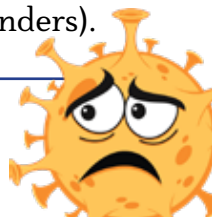
*RICHLAND PUBLIC HEALTH
AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC*



The (mostly Ohio) 2020 COVID-19 Timeline



- 12/31/2019: The World Health Organization (W.H.O.) is alerted to a new virus causing cases of pneumonia in Wuhan, China.
- 1/7/2020: Chinese authorities confirmed that they had identified a new virus. This new virus is named “2019-nCoV.”
- 1/21/20: First case in the U.S. (Washington state).
- 1/29/20: First person to person case reported in Chicago.
- 2/11/20: The new coronavirus disease has received an official name from the W.H.O.: “COVID-19.”
- 2/18/20: Diamond Princess cruise ship quarantined in Japan reports 542 cases of coronavirus among its 3,700 passengers.
- 2/23/20: Outbreaks of COVID-19 include South Korea, Italy, Japan, and Iran.
- 2/29/20: Washington reports first COVID-19 death in the U.S.
- 3/9/20: Three positive cases are the first in Ohio; Governor Mike DeWine declares State of Emergency.
- 3/11/20: The W.H.O. declares COVID-19 a Pandemic.
- 3/13/20: U.S. President Donald Trump declares a national emergency over the new coronavirus.
- 3/19/20: Richland County has its first confirmed case of COVID-19.
- 3/20/20: Ohio has its first death due to COVID-19.
- 3/22/20: Gov. DeWine issues a “Shelter at Home” order.
- 4/8/20: Richland County has its first death from COVID-19.
- 4/10/20: Deaths from COVID-19 worldwide exceed 100,000.
- 4/11/20: U.S. takes the world lead in COVID-19 cases and deaths.
- 5/7/20: Gov. DeWine announces many businesses can reopen (“Restart-Ohio”).
- 5/30/20: The U.S. eclipses 100,000 COVID-19 deaths.
- 6/30/20: The U.S. reported 50,000 cases of the coronavirus, a new daily record.
- 7/2/20: Gov. DeWine announces color coding of counties to indicate COVID-19 spread risk: Richland County starts out “Red” (Level 3 of 4).
- 7/22/20: Gov. DeWine makes face coverings mandatory for the whole state.
- 9/18/20: Confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide exceeds 30 million cumulative cases.
- 11/5/20: Gov. DeWine reports that all 88 Ohio Counties have “High Incidence” warnings with “very high exposure and spread” of COVID-19.
- 11/19/20: Gov. DeWine starts 21 day curfew of 10 p.m. for Ohio retail businesses that is later extended to January 10, 2021.
- 12/3/20: Richland County goes to “Purple” color coding (indicating severe exposure and spread of COVID-19).
- 12/11/20: The U.S. approves vaccinations for COVID-19.
- 12/14/20: First doses of COVID-19 vaccine are given in the U.S. (including Ohio).
- 12/17/20: Richland County is the only remaining “Purple” County (Level 4 of 4) under the color coding.
- 12/18/20: Richland County launches “CountOnMeRichland County” COVID-19 unified messaging.
- 12/24/20: Richland County goes back to Level “Red” and will remain “Red” until active cases go under 50 per capita.
- 12/28/20: Richland Public Health begins giving COVID-19 vaccine shots (Moderna) to Phase 1A (emergency responders).



Before the Pandemic Shutdown

Before Ohio even had its first case, Richland Public Health went about its normal business. *Below left:* The Winter Hike for Health had its best turnout ever on a snowy February day. *Below:* In March, Community Health & Prevention Sciences had a coalition meeting for its Personal Responsibility Education Program grant (PREP).



Above: Just before the Ohio pandemic shut down (March 11), emergency planners and stakeholders met to discuss COVID-19 operational plans.

Richland Public Health Renovation



Above: The new entry has a distinctive green roof.

Left: The front entry leads to Environmental Health Services, with birth and death certificates offices, Public Health Clinic and WIC to the right.

The Board of Health broke ground in November of 2019 for a renovation project at Richland Public Health, giving the building a new front entrance while improving the spaces for Environmental Health and Vital Statistics. The new entry provides more immediate access to the services the public and businesses need the most and removed an unnecessary doorway to WIC and the Public Health Clinic.

Creative during the Shutdown

Richland Public Health closed its doors to the public in mid-March as part of Ohio's initial COVID-19 response. That didn't mean our activities shut down. Behind the scenes, Environmental Health continued to do critical inspections and many services began virtual operations. Zoom™ meetings became the norm while Public Health Nursing turned to COVID-19 response. When you can't operate as normal, you have to get creative.



Left: We virtually supported Children Services and National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April with a group Zoom™. **Above:** WIC and Public Health Nursing participated in a very popular drive-thru baby shower in October on Park Avenue West in Mansfield. **Below Left:** Amanda Crawford, RN, was one of the Richland Public Health nurses giving flu shots in October with a drive-thru clinic at the Richland County Fairgrounds. **Middle Left:** Kashema Ginn outdoors with the Dental Health program at the North End Farmers Market. **Middle Right:** From his office, Chief Plumbing Inspector Frank Brykalski conducts an electronic plan review during a virtual inspection. **Below Right:** When the popular Shawshank Hustle 7K couldn't be held due to coronavirus concerns, the event was held virtually. As an event co-sponsor, Richland Public Health joined in efforts to promote the virtual run online (that's the "Warden" posing with "Red" for a commercial spot).

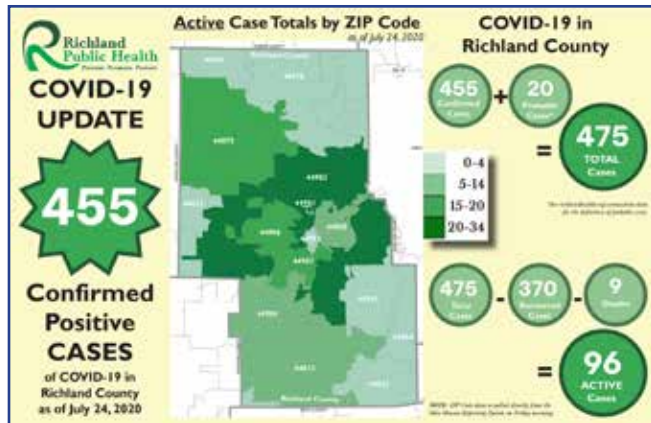


Information Demands

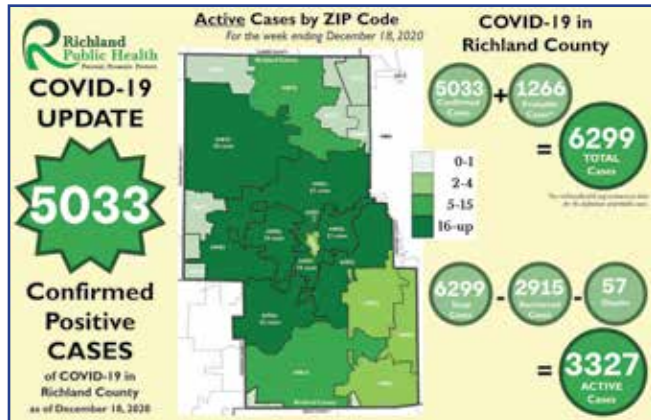
Richland Public Health, like every other local health department, filled requests to stay up-to-date with COVID-19 information. Our guidance wasn't always popular, but we stuck to the science during interviews with local and state media. Our website (richlandhealth.org) and social media sites became a local must for information. We created a Zip Code map to track COVID-19 spread, produced videos and graphs, and published twice-a-week updates on the pandemic numbers locally, in Ohio, the U.S. and globally. Our overall message never varied: Wear Your Mask; Social Distance; Wash Your Hands. Late in the year, we added the unified message: "Count On Me, Richland County," to encourage everyone to mask up.



Above: Health Commissioner Sarah Humphrey and Public Health Nursing Supervisor Courtney Dill interview with WMFD-TV.



Left (COVID-19 cases by Zip Code): How bad did it get? To the left are the zip code maps for active cases and cumulative cases (in the bubbles) from the first map in late July to the last map in late December of 2020. In five months, confirmed cases increased 11-fold and active cases multiplied by nearly 35 times. The number of Richland County COVID-19 deaths for 2020 was 125 after many pending cases were finalized.



Facebook exposure: The video (**screenshot left**) promoting the CountOnMeRichlandCounty initiative gained 14,000 views. **COVID-19 Response:** With the help of Richland Public Health and the Ohio National Guard, an August 22 COVID-19 drive-thru testing site (**below**) at the Richland County Fairgrounds tested 131 people.



Administration & Board of Health



Dr. Daniel Burwell
Medical Director

The **Board of Health at Richland Public Health** plans or authorizes activities benefiting the department's purpose. Terms are for five years. Board meetings are normally the third Monday of the month (except January and February) at 6 p.m. at 555 Lexington Avenue. Meetings are open to the public and the agenda includes an opportunity for public comment. 2019-2020 Members: Barbara Cinadr RN, Thelda Dillon, Stuart Durbridge DVM, Robert Exten MD, John Leech DDS, Matthew Maiyer RPh, Della Phelps, Dave Remy, Jean Swartz, Ary van Harlingen, Violet Wetzel.



Dave Remy
Board President

Richland Public Health
555 Lexington Avenue
Mansfield, Ohio 44907

www.richlandhealth.org
General Office Hours
Mon–Thu: 8a–4:30 p; Fri: 8a–4p

419-774-4500; Clinic: 419-774-4700
Main number answered 24/7 for public health emergencies and reporting of communicable diseases after hours.

Richland Public Health Divisions



Community Health and Prevention Sciences (CHPS) is the art and science of studying and assessing community health needs. This involves organizing and provisioning comprehensive community health services, and doing the work of educating and developing health care programs. The objective of that work is promoting health and preventing diseases. We are committed to reducing the leading preventable causes of illness, disability, and death – and promoting community health – in Richland County.

Dr. Julie Chaya, Director, Office Phone: 419-774-4761; Office email: CHPS@richlandhealth.org



Environmental Health is the branch of public health that focuses on the relationships between people and their environment; promotes human health and well-being; and fosters healthy and safe communities. Environmental Health is a key part of any public health system. The field works to advance policies and programs to reduce chemical and other environmental exposures in air, water, soil, and food in order to protect and provide communities with healthier environments.

Joe Harrod, Director, Office Phone: 419-774-4520; Office email: env@richlandhealth.org



Public Health Nursing is defined as the practice of promoting and protecting the health of populations using knowledge from nursing, social, and public health sciences. By working with whole communities, public health nurses are able to educate people about health issues, improve community health and safety and increase access to care. Richland Public Health has two distinct areas of Public Health Nursing Services: the Public Health Clinic and Public Health Nursing.

Amy Schmidt, Director, Public Health Nursing 419-774-4540; Clinic 419-774-4700; Office email: aschmidt@richlandhealth.org



The **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)** is federally funded through the USDA. WIC's mission is to provide supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutritional information to income-eligible pregnant, breastfeeding, postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk. WIC is the nation's premier and most cost effective public health nutrition program. Currently, WIC serves 53 percent of all infants born in the U.S.

Tina Picman, Director, Mansfield 419-774-4560; Ashland 419-289-3359; Office email: tpicman@richlandhealth.org

Community Health & Prevention Sciences

As the voice of Richland Public Health, CHPS spent most of 2020 communicating about COVID-19 safety protocols and finished the year talking about vaccines. Our grant programs had to make many changes (like Zoom™ Coalition meetings). It was a year of cancellations, rescheduling, social media, web updates, and finding new ways to get Richland Public Health out in front of the public. Data, graphs, charts, and adapting on the run (literally in the case



CHPS Staff (L-R): Gurpinder, Kashema, Jill, and Coordinator Shannon.



of the Virtual Shawshank Hustle), were the keys to our year and our successes.

Left: PREP boxes ready to go. Contact Shannon for more information at 419-774-4761 or snelson@richlandhealth.org



Contact Gulp (419-774-4754) about Drug Free Communities and Kashema (419-774-4723) about our Smile BIG Richland! program.



Sign of the times: CHPS did the COVID signage (Retriever Board **above**) and sanitation stations, available to loan, located in the building's new entryways.



Environmental Health

The challenging COVID-19 pandemic brought innovative changes to the Environmental Health Division. For example, the plumbing program transitioned from physical inspections to real-time virtual inspections conducted with contractors for both residential and commercial properties. Using Skype™, FaceTime™ and Google Duo™, plumbing staff successfully worked through the challenges of technology to deliver continuous, quality services to the public in multiple counties.

The Environmental Health Division provided the public with the option to send design plans, permits and other documents through departmental e-mail for timely review. Phone consultations, support and assistance was available on a daily basis for individuals seeking guidance on pandemic orders through the state Governor's office.

Together as a division, we will continue to address the obstacles presented by the pandemic to ensure our communities remain safe and healthy.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH Inspections/Permits - 2020

Campgrounds.....	15
Food	1,340
Plumbing-Commercial.....	496
Plumbing-Residential.....	565
Private Water Systems	146
Public Pools/Spas	168
Rabies.....	270
Schools	98
Sewage Treatment Systems.....	125
Solid Waste.....	16
Tattoo & Piercings Facilities.....	17



Above: Our Mosquito Control team helping clean tires from along the B&O bike trail. 4,622 total acres were sprayed to kill adult mosquitoes during 2020. 190 traps were set to collect mosquitoes for testing.

Public Health Clinic and Public Health Nursing

PUBLIC HEALTH CLINIC - 2020

Immunization Visits	914
International Travel (visits/consults)	19
COVID Vaccinations (December)	304
Total Visits	1,235
The Public Health Clinic closed in Mid-March.*	

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING - 2020

CMH (family contact hours)	4,469
CMH Client Visits	112
Community Health Screenings	162
Influenza Vaccines	286
Newborn/Prenatal Home Visits	165
Cribettes Distributed	96
School Nurses (hours/student care)	2,103

*Although Public Health Nursing/Clinic activities were restricted starting mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many activities continued using inventive initiatives. The Newborn Home Visits were conducted virtually and Cribettes were dropped at the door of qualifying clients.

Communicable Diseases - 2020*

Infectious Diseases (other than Flu/STI)	238
Coronavirus	6,850
Hospitalizations due to COVID-19	511
Influenza (A&B)	1,282
Sexually Transmitted Infections	
STI Positive Results	780
Chlamydia	526
Gonorrhea	254
Syphilis	0
AIDS/HIV	0

*RPH public health nurses coordinate communicable disease surveillance and reporting per the Ohio Department of Health Guide for Reportable Infectious Diseases in Ohio (OAC 3701-3).



Left: RPH Nurse Denise Close extracts a COVID-19 Vaccine dose for the first time. RPH got the Moderna vaccine.

COVID-19 Vaccinations: Among the first to qualify for the COVID vaccine were first responders, here from Shiloh and Shelby with Denise Close, RPH Nurse. Amanda Crawford, RPH Nurse, shows the vaccination card from the CDC. Others among the early vaccinated included those taking care of our most vulnerable populations. Doing the vaccinations above are Paula Musgrove, RPH Nurse, and Casey Britton, RPH Nurse.

WIC: Women, Infants, and Children

For Women, Infants and Children (WIC), the safety of both our staff and our participants due to the pandemic became paramount.

From March 17 through December 1, WIC staff became “WIC Warriors.” Our staff braved all types of weather to provide “curbside service” to WIC participants. Appointments were completed over the phone as much as possible and on the day of their appointment, people receiving our services pulled into a WIC designated parking spot and a masked WIC staff member would go to each car. That employee would take the participant’s WIC Nutrition Card back into our office, sanitize the card and load the next three months of WIC food onto the card. They returned the card and any needed paperwork to the participants as they waited in their car.

On December 1, appointments continued to be completed over the phone with a WIC staff member asking one masked adult from the participant’s family to bring the WIC Nutrition Card into the office for loading of benefits.

“Tele-Health” WIC appointment were allowed via waivers granted to WIC from the United States Department of Agriculture. The waivers remain in place until mid-May 2021.



Above: Ria Rodriguez, WIC breastfeeding peer helper, delivers WIC information to a client using COVID-19 social distancing protocols.

Download WICShopper App from Google Play or the App Store today!

LOOK WHAT'S NEW ON OHIO WICSHOPPER APP!!!

You can now check your WIC benefit balance all on the app!

Click “My Benefits” and you will be prompted to register your card. After registering your card, you will be able to view your remaining benefits by clicking the “My Benefits” button. When scanning products, the app will tell you if the product is WIC eligible AND if you have the benefits to purchase the product. (Note: The benefits you see are delayed by 24 to 48 hours.)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

WIC Income Guidelines	Family Size	Annual Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income
Gross income (before taxes) cannot exceed the following amounts:*	1	\$23,606	\$1,968	\$454
	2	\$31,894	\$2,658	\$614
	3	\$40,182	\$3,349	\$773
	4	\$48,470	\$4,040	\$933
	5	\$56,758	\$4,730	\$1,092
	6	\$65,046	\$5,421	\$1,251

**Effective 7/1/2020. If you have 7 or more people in your family, please contact us at 419-774-4560. Richland Public Health is an equal opportunity provider.*

Are you expecting and thinking about breastfeeding? Are you a new breastfeeding mom? Congratulations! Breastfeeding is the natural and best



way to feed your baby. WIC can provide support through trained health professionals to help you to have a successful breastfeeding experience.

Call WIC at 419-774-4560 for more information.



New WIC foods are available! Chocolate milk, whole wheat pasta, and yogurt are now WIC authorized foods.

Applying for WIC is easy. Go to richlandhealth.org. Click on “Departments” and choose **WIC**. Call 419-774-4560 (419-289-3359 in Ashland) for an appointment. Like our **Facebook** page at [wic_richland-ashland](https://www.facebook.com/wic_richland-ashland) to learn the latest about WIC, watch videos, and get new recipes.

WIC Services 2020	
New Participants (1st time signing up).....	2,041
Recertifications.....	3,560
Other Contacts.....	5,510
Total Contacts (Ashland & Richland).....	11,111

Vital Statistics

1,334 Births in Richland County
103 Births to Teens (ages 13-19)



Behind the Numbers

- 868 repeat births.*
- 142 non-hospital births.
- Of the 103 teen births in 2020, 55% of those births were to 19-year-old teens.
- 18 teens had second babies.
- 7 births were to married teens.
- 7.7% of total births were to teens, the second lowest rate since tracking began in 1991 (31 years).

*repeat births are second or more child to the same mother

Born in Ohio? Purchase birth certificates online from Richland Public Health: <https://richlandhealth.org/personal/birth-death-certificates/>

Causes of Death-Richland County: 1,666 Total Deaths

- 506 - Heart Disease (30% of all deaths)
- 255 - Cancer - all types (15%)
31% of cancer deaths were lung cancer
- 146 - Alzheimer's/Dementia (9%)
- 139 - Lung Diseases (8%)
- 125 - COVID-19 (7%)
- 83 - Strokes (5%)
- 91 - Accidents (6%)
67% of accidental deaths were drug OD
- 66 - Renal/Kidney
- 43 - Flu & Pneumonia
- 20 - Parkinson's Disease
- 16 - Suicide

CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN 2020

Birth Certificates	5,194
Death Certificates	5,045
Burial Permits	976

COVID-19's Effect on Vital Statistics

At the close of the year the scientists who track the nation's mortality reported that in 2020 the United States recorded the most deaths in its history. One would expect that possibility with 350,000 deaths attributed to COVID-19 alone. But the actual increase was 475,000 deaths over a normal year.

Most likely, the excess deaths account for some otherwise untallied COVID-19 deaths — those who may have died without being tested or who died at home and whose deaths were not counted as caused by the coronavirus. But the number probably also includes people who died because they

were scared to seek medical care because of the pandemic or had their care interrupted, or didn't keep up with medications.

In 2020, Richland County ended with 125 COVID-19 deaths with 77 of those in December. The number of deaths from suicide and drug overdoses were up and deaths from lung diseases skyrocketed. Overall, total deaths were up by 404 over 2019.

The number of births in the county were up, as were repeat births (2nd or more live births to the same mother). Most of the births came in April and June, so probably not COVID-related.

Richland Public Health Online

2020 Use Data*

richlandhealth.org
280,369 page views
102,633 users
Avg. time on site: 1:53
Page views per visit: 2
•2020 Google Analytics

User Demographics

61% Female
39% Male
Age 18-24: 7.6%
Age 25-34: 19.8%
Age 35-44: 17.5%
Age 45-54: 17.8%
Age 55-64: 20.7%
Age 65+: 16.4%

Most Visited Pages

1. Coronavirus-Data
2. News
3. About Us
4. Environmental Health
5. Job Openings
6. Birth/Death Certificates
7. WIC
8. Food Services (EH)
9. Community Health (CHPS)
10. Public Health Clinic



Facebook:
4,619 followers



Twitter:
@richlandhealth1
736 followers

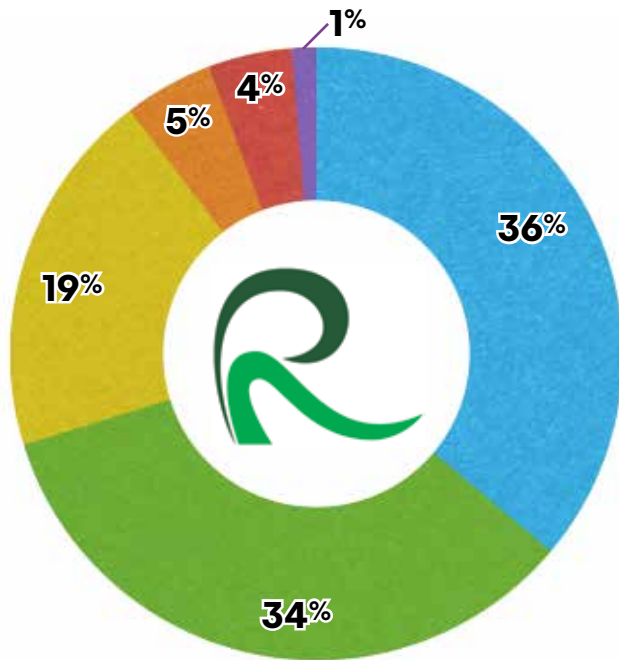
Did you see us? All of our advertising venues combined gathered more than 4 million impressions in 2020.

Financial

Kevin VanMeter
Fiscal Officer

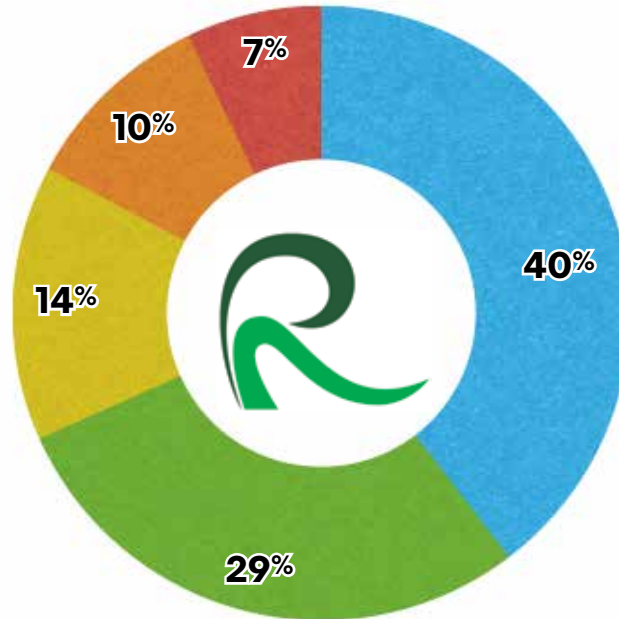


The Fiscal Office is also in charge of overseeing the Vital Statistics Office where the county birth and death certificates are completed. More than 10,000 certificates were generated in 2020.



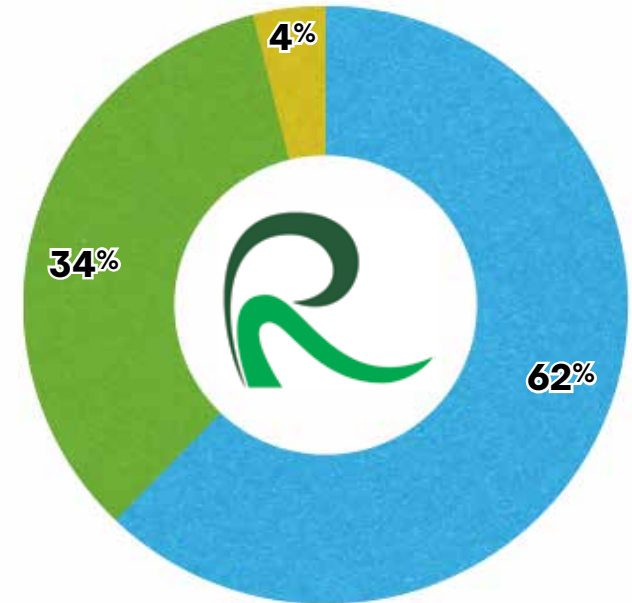
- Levy
- State/Federal Grants
- Fee/License
- State Rollback/Utility
- Contracts
- State Subsidy/Other

REVENUE - 2020	
Levy	\$2,503,764
State/Federal Grants	\$2,359,205
Fee/License	\$1,343,250
State Rollback/Utility	\$326,255
Contracts	\$306,615
State Subsidy/Other	\$89,017
TOTAL REVENUE	\$6,928,106



- Public Health Nursing
- Environmental Health
- WIC
- CHPS
- Vital Statistics

EXPENSE - 2020	
Public Health Nursing	\$2,524,076
Environmental Health	\$1,830,816
WIC	\$923,004
Community Health & Prevention Sciences	\$646,641
Vital Statistics	\$451,555
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,376,092



- Payroll & Fringes
- Operating
- Equipment/Building

BUDGET - 2021	
Payroll & Fringes	\$4,119,825
Operating	\$2,245,233
Equipment/Building	\$257,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$6,622,058



Exceptional Times; Exceptional Action

Reflecting on a pandemic year and the next steps

Sarah Humphrey

Health Commissioner
Richland Public Health

I'm sure there are many words to be used to describe 2020 and specifically the COVID-19 Pandemic that so drastically altered the way many of us conducted everyday life, but I will focus on the word Exceptional.

For those in the patient care profession who have served on the frontlines of this healthcare crisis, your work continues to be Exceptional.

For the teachers, parents, social service workers and more, your dedication to help families and youth navigate through mountains of uncertainty, your fortitude and flexibility are Exceptional.

For the workforce that continued to see how their work plays into the larger picture, to get the community the supplies and services they so desperately needed during times when even running basic errands posed a health risk to our most vulnerable population, your commitment is Exceptional.

And to the friends, family, and anyone who showed that extra ounce of kindness, patience, help, and understanding, your humanity is Exceptional.

We all fall in to a category of Exceptional Action during this past year, but please, don't grow tired and weary quite yet.

Richland County is navigating the tide of COVID-19 vaccine roll-out. As new tiers of individuals become eligible to receive the vaccine, it is important that we again bond together to reach our ultimate goal, which is to save lives, help our hospitals not become overburdened, and regain the social, educational, and business interactions we so dearly miss.

Please, I ask you to receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it's your turn and continue to hold steadfast to the preventative measures until we reach a vaccination point when it's safe to relax them. I am optimistic for 2021, but that can only be true if we all decide to be part of the vaccination plan to get there. *#CountOnMeRC*

I wish you and your loved ones only the best in health and safety in 2021.

Sarah Goodwill Humphrey

March, 2021

