

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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Message from the Health Commissioner –



Dr. Thomas Gutwein, FACEP

What is the healthiest county in America? Why not Allen County, Indiana?

I have been Health Commissioner for Allen County since July 2022, but I have already had the opportunity to work with a team of individuals that show great teamwork and innovative, professional attitudes. Public health is about working to make us all healthier, and that encompasses a lot of different areas – many of which most of our residents might never think about, until there is a problem.

Benjamin Franklin said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" in the 1700s, and that was also instilled in me as a child from both my grandparents and parents. That is really the essence of public health. We all want to live a healthy, worry-free life, but few are afforded that luxury. We also realize as we

get older that health is one of your most valuable possessions. It's something you can't buy, and that makes it more valuable than gold.

I have grown as an emergency medicine physician over the past 30 years, working primarily here in Allen County, and you might think that is the wrong lens through which to view public health. I challenge that by arguing it is absolutely the best lens through which to view the impact of public health.

I have seen lives changed because of smoking, seat belts, air bags, bicycle helmets, chemotherapy, heroin and other opioids and vaccinations – just to name a few. Availability, acceptance and use of life-saving items have changed dramatically in my time as a practicing physician, and almost all for the better. Lives have absolutely been saved and people have lived to see another day because of these – not just to live another day, but another happy, fulfilling time with family, or another day they can go to school, ride their bike, hug their friends or travel across the country.

That's all possible because of what has happened in the past. Now, on to the future. I see the future as a wonderful opportunity to build on the great work that has already been done. And I see a challenge to overcome the barriers of many of our residents to accepting the recommendations of public health officials because of the recent controversy in vaccinations, treatment and safety precautions around the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic we are slowly crawling out of. But, we can take this opportunity to rethink what we do, why we do it, make sure it is safe and effective, and then share it with all our citizens and encourage them to help us at the Health Department be a part of building a healthier Allen County.

We could not claim to be the healthiest county in America now, and you will see the data and comparisons on many different areas of public health as you look through this report. But becoming the healthiest certainly can be our goal – one that we all should embrace, one that we all participate in making happen, and then we will all, both today and in the future, benefit from those positive changes. My goal and dream is that I can help, working with our excellent team at the Allen County Health Department, get us all closer to our dream.

homas & Luturo mo

Thanks for the opportunity.

Message from the Department Administrator -



Mindy Waldron BS, REHS, CP-FS

Following two very intense years combating COVID-19, 2022 was a year of transition. By transition, I mean moving back to a certain level of normalcy department-wise, adjusting to a more endemic phase of COVID-19 and all that entails, as well as many staff changes (including a change in Allen County Health Commissioner).

In early 2022, we transitioned most COVID-19 activities to either a smaller footprint or discontinued them based on need and status of the pandemic. Our COVID-19 testing site closed in May of 2022, but vaccinations continued at our Medical Annex. While we are still tracking the disease and offering vaccinations, we are not dedicating quite the amount of staff resources to it as we once were. At about the same time we were downsizing efforts related to COVID-19, we began efforts to combat the quickly rising nationwide outbreak of monkey-

pox (now called mpox). We began assisting with testing and vaccinations for this disease mid-year. Overall, quick public health efforts across the United States, using tried and true methods associated with disease suppression, worked to quell the outbreak by the end of the year.

The Governor's Public Health Commission continued to meet through summer of 2022 – at which time its final and comprehensive report was released. The report details the concerning state of public health outcomes in Indiana and the significant need for not only better funding and resources to carry out

public health services, but a change in some cases to the way in which we provide services to our communities. As a member of the Commission, I learned a great deal



INDIANA

GOVERNOR'S PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION

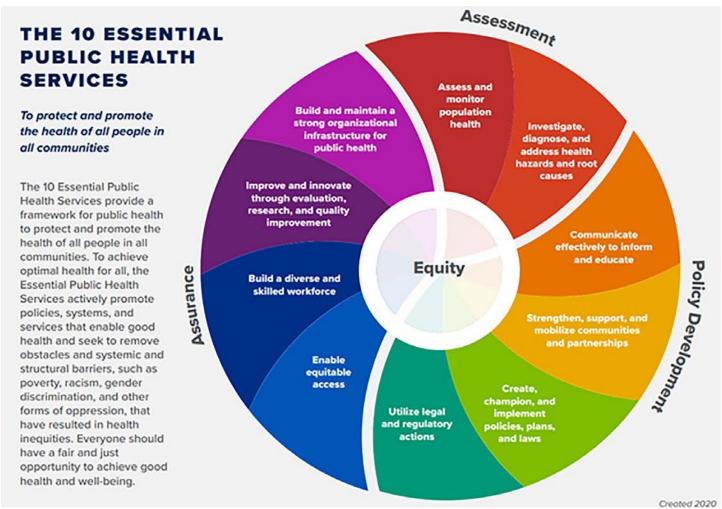
throughout the process about the disparately allocated resources dedicated to public health in each county and was humbled to have worked alongside such a supportive group of individuals as we developed a plan for the future aimed toward betterment. Legislative efforts will ensue in 2023 to work toward securing more monetary resources for the Indiana Department of Health and local health departments as well as define the core public health services we should all be providing to ensure consistent delivery of programs across the state. My sincere hope is that in the 2023 Annual Report I will be able to detail significant change in our future budget, our planned programming and our overall staffing levels to allow for more commensurately meeting the needs of our community. Areas such as maternal and child health, school health, mental health and various chronic medical conditions need more resource dedication and attention from local public health departments.

Local health departments act as a bit of a safety net for those who are underserved or under-resourced. This means we need to be equipped, trained and able to offer assistance on a wider variety of public health issues for our patient base. We interact with so many people each day and, if we can provide them with better or more robust services or connect them well to those who can, we may begin to see changes in our medical outcomes overall. Healthier communities are more economically attractive communities, and we need to begin to truly invest in public health in Indiana.

Years ago, I recall saying in an annual report that we were nearing a public health "cliff"— where we could either decide as a state to start to resource and support public health properly — or where service provision would need to be downsized to a concerning level. Today, as I write this, I'm energized by the work of the Governor's Public Health Commission over the past two years as well as the positive conversations about the importance of our line of work. Let's get behind these efforts and work toward providing more robust and more connective services to our constituents!

Lastly, I continue to be amazed at all of the issues we address (large and small), the diseases we battle or work to prevent, and staff efforts on a moment's notice to lessen risk to the community or make a person's medical journey better. Our staff is our most precious resource, and I continue to feel blessed to have one of the most dedicated teams in the public health field!

Public health is ...



Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Allen County By the Numbers -

Allen County Health Rankings*	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Health Outcomes	44	47	46	55	49	46
Length of Life	31	37	44	48	43	43
Quality of Life	56	51	52	66	56	50
Health Factors	53	37	43	52	28	48
Health Behaviors	59	32	45	61	32	50
Clinical Care	24	29	34	32	41	26
Social & Economic Factors	54	57	47	52	32	60
Physical Environment	82	37	68	65	34	25

^{*}Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation & University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute rank of 92 Indiana counties

Department of Health By the Numbers	2021	2022
COVID-19 Deaths*	454	258
Total Deaths	5,611	5,176
Total Births	7,387	7,322
STI Appointments	3,047	3,047
Active TB Cases	11	12
Children's Vaccinations	905	2,092
Adult Vaccinations	849	4,887
Food Permits Issued	2,411	2,590
Animal Bites	783	688
Lead Screenings	3,789	3,773
Mosquito Samples Tested	40	184
Phase 1 Environmental Requests	134	120
Public Records Requests	543	508
Media Requests	363	181

^{*}Figures subject to change over time based on periodic review of state and local data.

Top Infectious Diseases in Allen County	2021	2022
COVID-19	47,937	45,057
Hepatitis C	256	270
Hepatitis B	38	66
Hepatitis A	0	<5
Campylobacteriosis	30	65
Salmonella	36	36
Giardiasis	12	28
Shiga-toxin Producing E. Coli	6	22
Influenza-associated Deaths	<5	14
Legionellosis	24	18

Communications -



Matt LeBlanc, BJ, MS Director

This year saw a welcome reemergence from beneath the blanket of COVID-19 that had covered so much of the Communications Division and the Allen County Department of Health since early 2020.

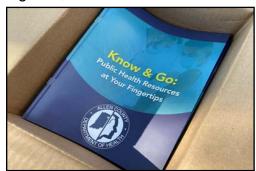
The pandemic in 2022 finally began to wane, with case counts significantly lower and effective vaccines and treatments readily available. To be sure, COVID-19 is still with us – but the coronavirus is no longer the threat it once was.

Reflecting that, the work of the Communications Division expanded from messaging almost entirely

about COVID-19 to engaging more with the community. That marked somewhat of a return to normal following a pandemic that shifted many priorities for more than two years.

We were once again able to join colleagues and partners at health and safety fairs. A news conference was held to highlight a different – but no less important – public health concern: animal bites.

We worked to communicate directly with Allen County residents by producing free, full-color booklets filled with public health resources and informa-



tion about our Department. The "Know & Go: Public Health Resources at Your Fingertips" booklets were among the most significant communications efforts of 2022, aiming to provide information to thousands of constituents about topics ranging from food safety and vaccines to substance use disorder treatment and resources for mental health.

The publication was distributed free with local newspapers and is also available at Allen County Public Library branches, at Department of Health offices at Citizens Square and our Medical Annex, 4813 New Haven Ave., and on our website, allencountyhealth.com.

The Communications Division helped announce the appointment of a new Allen County Health Commissioner, Dr. Thomas Gutwein, and introduce him to the community by coordinating interviews with local reporters interested in learning more about him.

More interviews would follow in 2022, as COVID-19 lessened its effect on the local population but did not completely fade.

2022At a Glance

III
News Releases/
Alerts

181 Media Requests

87
Interviews

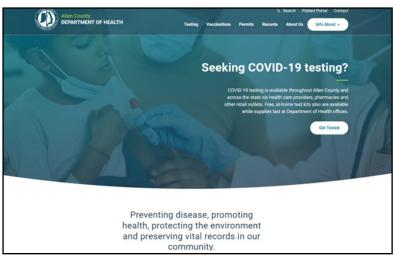
508
Public Records
Requests

166
Immunization
Record Requests

120 Phase I Requests News releases were prepared and distributed to notify the public about COVID-19 testing availability, proper disposal of food following a strong summer storm as well as testing for HIV and the launch in June of a redesigned Department of Health website – a move that has made it easier for Allen County residents to reach us and access our many services.

The website is an essential tool in providing accurate, up-to-date public health information to our constituents.

The Department in September organized and hosted a drive-through clinic in which people could receive bivalent COVID-19 boosters. More than 300 of the vaccines were provided at the event, which the Communications Division helped plan and promote through a news release and announcements on our website and social media



Social media – Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – remains a way for the Department to engage with residents and provide details about topics such as meetings of the Executive Board of Health and information about public health.

The Communications Division in 2023 will continue to use all of the tools it has to promote and protect the health of Allen County residents. The division oversees front-facing support staff at the Department's Citizens Square office and also will continue to provide excellent customer service through work such as helping with requests for public records and needed permits.

Communications Division, in action ...



Clinical Services & Case Management -



Erika Pitcher, MPH Director

Infectious Disease Case Management:

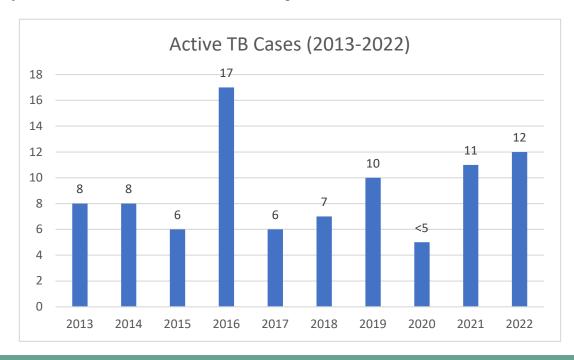
The past year was one of transition for the Infectious Disease Case Management team. We saw COVID-19 contact tracing come to a close in early 2022, and then we quickly transitioned to a new outbreak, mpox (formerly known as monkeypox). As the world reopened to community gatherings and travel, we saw increases in travel-associated diseases and the reemergence of more familiar diseases, such as tuberculosis (TB) and Ebola.

In 2020, Allen County reported fewer than five cases of tuberculosis. In 2021, that number increased to 11, and by 2022 we had surpassed both years with 12 confirmed cases of active tuberculosis. Many of our patients this year had advanced or drug-resistant disease at the time of diagnosis, and the cases were

very complex to treat. Our team continues to collaborate with the Indiana Department of Health and Rutgers University, a TB Center of Excellence, to ensure we are providing the best care for our patients.

As we transitioned from daily COVID-19 contact tracing, we embarked on a new public health issue, mpox. Mpox is an orthopox virus that causes symptoms similar to smallpox, although less severe. Smallpox was eradicated in 1980, but mpox has continued to spread in countries in central and west Africa. In May 2022, countries outside the area with known transmission began seeing a significant increase in cases linked to a high-risk population. The United States ended 2022 with more than 30,000 cases. Allen County reported five confirmed cases for the year. We provided many vaccinations and conducted testing for mpox throughout the outbreak.

Along with the reemergence of new TB cases, we also saw a reemergence of something from 2015 – Ebola. The World Health Organization declared an outbreak of Ebola in Uganda in September 2022. Due to this outbreak, local health departments across the country were required to monitor any traveler returning from Uganda for 21 days from their departure. This traveler monitoring included a risk assessment and daily, bi-weekly or weekly check-ins depending on the assessed level of risk. The outbreak was officially declared over, and traveler monitoring ended Jan. 11, 2023.



Clinical Services:

Our staff spent the first part of 2022 transitioning out of the COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic at the Coliseum back into their normal roles at the health department. As with many other businesses and organizations throughout the community, our department lost several staff members during the pandemic to resignations. The first half of 2022 was a year of rebuilding and reorganizing our clinical services department.

Infectious Disease Clinic -

Due to staffing changes and COVID-19 response, our Infectious Disease Clinic was pared back significantly for the first part of the year. In this clinic we primarily see community latent tuberculosis referrals, active tuberculosis cases and complete medical screenings on all incoming refugees, asylees and parolees. Allen County received more than 250 refugees/asylees/parolees this year, primarily coming from Myanmar, Ukraine, Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This refugee screening process requires us to complete three screenings with all incoming refugees within the first 90 days after their arrival.

Sexually Transmitted Infection Clinic -

The Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Clinic remained open and fully operational through all the COVID-19 pandemic response. This clinic continues to see patients daily primarily with symptoms of gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis, trichomonas and bacterial vaginosis. We also see patients to offer testing that do not yet have symptoms, but have been notified that they were a close contact to a person who tested positive for one of the aforementioned diseases.

The nursing staff in this clinic also conducts weekly STI testing at the Allen County Jail. In 2022, our nursing staff was able to test and treat 426 individuals there. While our primary goal is to address STI needs, our nursing staff also addresses any routine missed vaccinations for each patient while they are in the clinic. We administered 748 vaccines in the STI clinic in 2022 (which bolstered our overall vaccination catch-up efforts of the Immunization Clinic itself).

Immunization Clinic -

The Immunization Clinic was greatly impacted by the department's COVID-19 pandemic response. As the mass COVID-19 vaccination site at the Coliseum closed, we transitioned COVID-19 vaccines back to the health department's Immunization Clinic. Much of 2022 was spent promoting and offering COVID-19 primary vaccine, COVID-19 boosters and all other routine childhood and adult immunizations. In 2022 we saw more than 3,500 patients for immunization purposes.

The Immunization Clinic also works very closely with the Infectious Disease Clinic to complete initial screening on all incoming refugees/asylees/parolees. This initial screening typically includes blood draws for several routine labs, tuberculosis testing, vision and hearing exams; all routine vaccinations are also provided.

A nurse from the Immunization Clinic participates in bi-weekly outreach at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission and Charis House each month to ensure all residents and community members visiting those locations have easy access to vaccines. In 2022 we provided more 400 vaccinations through this outreach effort.

Infectious Disease Clinic	2021	2022
ID Physician/NP Appointments Completed	181	407
ID Physician/NP No Show Appointments	6	19
No Show Appointment Rate	3%	4%
ID Nurse/MA Completed Appointments	56	79
ID Nurse/MA No Show Appointments	5	9
No Show Appointment Rate	9%	10%
ID Phlebotomy Draws	42	8
Directly Observed Prophylactic Therapy Appointments in Clinic	38	40
Tuberculosis Skin Tests in Clinic	65	53

Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Clinic	2021	2022
STI Appointments Completed	3,047	3,047
No Show Appointments	780	895
No Show Appointment Rate	26%	29%
STI Appointment at Allen County Jail (ACJ)	365	426
Immunizations Administered	1,218	748
COVID-19 Vaccines Administered	73	132
Genital Wart Treatments	25	32

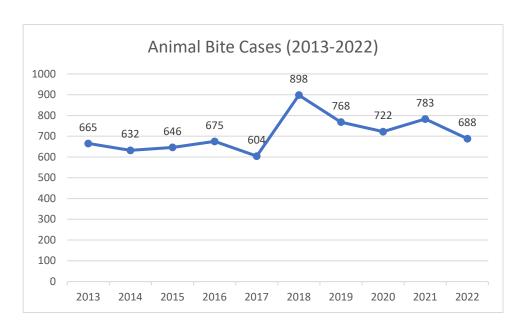
Immunization Services	2021	2022
Immunization Appointments	1,641	3,590
Immunization No Shows	261	458
Immunization No Show Rate	16%	11%
Foreign Travel Appointments	9	67
Civil Surgeon Appointments	0	0
Anti-Malarial Appointments	0	0
Child Appointments	296	768
Child Immunizations Administered	905	2,092
Adult Appointments	481	1,965
Adult Immunizations Administered	849	4,887
Outreach Immunization Appointments	35	182
Outreach Immunizations Administered	67	433
Total Refugees/Asylees/Parolees Screened	104	211
Primary Refugees Screened	104	119
Secondary Refugees Screened	0	6
Asylees Screened	0	2
Parolees Screened	0	74
"Other" Screened	0	11
COVID-19 Vaccines Administered	654	1,272

Syringe Services Program -

The Allen County Syringe Services Program continues to operate weekly, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoons. Participants can exchange used syringes for clean ones, but they can also receive naloxone and overdose education, basic wound assessment and care, testing for hepatitis C and HIV and routine immunizations. We also work with community partners to ensure there is a mental health professional on site each week to discuss treatment options with participants, and a hepatitis C case manager from the Northeast Indiana Positive Resource Connection comes bi-weekly to meet with patients with hepatitis C to discuss treatment options and make referrals, as needed.

Demographics for All Clinics (ID/STD/IMM)		
Client Age Range	2021	2022
<15 years	<1%	12%
15-19 years	8%	8%
20-24 years	26%	12%
25-29 years	22%	12%
30-34 years	16%	11%
35-44 years	18%	14%
> 45 years	9%	31%
Client Sex	2021	2022
Male	56%	52%
Female	44%	48%
Unknown/Not Reported	0%	0%

Also ... Animal bites are reportable to the Department of Health. We monitor and track them, as well as advise on any needed prophylaxis for bites.



Infectious Diseases Reported	2021	2022
COVID-19	47,937	45,057
Confirmed	24,805	21,947
Probable	23,132	23,110
Animal Bites	783	688
CP-CRE	9	7
Campylobacteriosis	30	65
Confirmed	27	53
Probable	3	12
Cadida auris, clinical	<5	<5
Coccidioidomycosis	<5	<5
Cryptosporidiosis	8	13
Confirmed	8	12
Probable	0	1
Cyclosporiasis	<5	0
Dengue	0	0
Giardiasis	12	28
Confirmed	10	26
Probable	2	2
Haemophilus influenzae, invasive	<5	11
Hepatitis A	0	<5
Hepatitis B (acute and chronic)	38	66
Confirmed	22	25
Probable	16	32
Unknowr	0	9
Hepatitis C (acute and chronic)	256	270
Confirmed	118	128
Probable	74	73
Unknowr	64	67
Suspec	t 0	2
Hepatitis D	0	<5
Histoplasmosis	6	11
Confirmed	3	6
Probable	3	4
Unknowr	0	1
Influenza-Associated Deaths	<5	14
Latent Tuberculosis Infection	41	64
Confirmed	40	43
Suspec	! 1	21

Infectious Diseases Reported (Continued)	2021	2022
Legionellosis	24	18
Listeriosis	<5	<5
Lyme Disease	<5	<5
Malaria	<5	<5
Mpox	0	5
Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS)	10	6
Mumps	0	0
Probable	0	0
Suspect	0	0
Neisseria meningitidis, invasive	0	0
Pertussis	<5	0
Confirmed	<5	0
Probable	<5	0
Salmonellosis, excluding S. typhi and S. paratyphi	36	36
Confirmed	23	28
Probable	13	5
Unknown	0	3
Severe Staph in a Previously Healthy Person	<5	<5
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC)	6	22
Confirmed	4	17
Probable	2	4
Suspect	0	1
Shigellosis	6	<5
Confirmed	5	<5
Probable	1	0
Strep pneumoniae, invasive	30	44
Confirmed	30	44
Probable	0	0
Streptococcal disease, invasive, Group A	11	21
Streptococcal toxic-shock syndrome	<5	0
Tuberculosis	11	12
Varicella	<5	9
Confirmed	<5	5
Probable	<5	3
Unknown	<5	1
Vibriosis	<5	0
West Nile Virus (neuroinvasive)	<5	0
Yersiniosis	5	<5
Confirmed	5	<5
Probable	0	<5

Food & Consumer Protection –



Steve Schumm, REHS, CP-FS Director

In 2022, the Food & Consumer Protection Division was able to get back on track following the challenges of COVID-19 in recent years. In the first quarter, though, food safety staff were reassigned from regular duties to the department's COVID-19 testing site. When the site closed in late spring, the division was able to resume full staffing dedicated to food safety. Several staff members then assisted with the COVID-19 bivalent booster drive-through clinic in September, along with a large portion of department staff.

The division saw an increase in the issuance of food establishment permits in 2022, compared to 2021. While there was a slight decrease in permits issued for food service establishments and mobile food units, all other permit categories increased. Temporary food establishments saw the most significant increase in the number

of permits issued, due to events such as fairs and festivals returning after many were canceled during the pandemic. Similarly, there were more inspections conducted in nearly every category in 2022. The Luke Bryan Farm Tour returned to Allen County in September, and there were nine temporary permits issued for that event. Health Department staff participated in online and on-site planning meetings with various other county departments as well as Bryan's security team.



Department of Health staff were busy in 2022 with food inspections.

Because there were gaps in inspections during the pandemic, resuming routine inspections in facilities led to more opportunities for education and, in a few cases, more need for compliance enforcement. The compliance and enforcement process works to ensure improved safety measures are practiced to protect Allen County consumers.

Assistant Director Michelle Radosevich continued to be involved in major food establishment development projects in 2022 for new and expanding facilities. One of the larger projects completed in 2022 was completing all plan reviews, preliminary inspections and opening inspections for the Union Street Market and Electric Works. There are 14 active permits at that site, and four pending projects for that substantial project on Broadway for 2023. While the department saw fewer requests for plan reviews for establishments, there was an overall increase in the number of requested preliminary and opening inspections throughout the year.

The number of tattoo and body piercing facility permits increased, and several more tattoo and body piercing artist permits were issued. This resulted in an increase in all types of tattoo inspections. There was a significant increase in the number of temporary tattoo facility and guest artist permits issued, as Allen County welcomed the Fort Wayne Tattoo Festival, which was held at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in August. This resulted in opening and then follow-up inspections for the 125 tattoo booths and 200-plus artists live tattooing at the event. It was a total team effort in meetings with the Special Event Coordinator, organizing all the facility/artist paperwork, conducting inspections at the event and then reviewing all of the patron and infectious waste disposal records following the event.

Food Inspections Conducted	2021	2022
Food Service (Fixed and Mobile)	1,073	2,081
Food Market (Fixed and Mobile)	543	760
Temporary Food Establishments	659	801
Follow-up Inspections	417	816
Recalls Phone/Email	93	100
Recall Inspections	0	0
Consumer Complaints	636	505
Preliminary Inspections	239	270
Opening Inspections	257	269
Plan Reviews Conducted	309	289
Closures	18	17
Administrative Hearings	0	2
Food Establishment Trainings	0	0
Investigations (fire, overturned trucks, foodborne illness		
investigations, reportable disease investigations)	447	513
Railroad Camp Car Inspections	0	0

Food Permits Issued	2021	2022
Food Service Establishments	1,260	1,231
Food Market Establishments	529	556
Mobile Food Units	132	123
Temporary Food Establishments	399	582
Annual Off-Site & Farmers Markets	81	88
Food Venue Establishments	2	2
Vending Machine	8	8

Tattoo & Body Piercing Inspections Conducted	2021	2022
Inspections (Routine, Follow-up and Temporary)	98	301
Complaints	7	13
Preliminary/Opening	47	47

Tattoo & Body Piercing Permits Issued	2021	2022
Tattoo & Body Piercing Facility	63	86
Tattoo & Body Piercing Artist	241	282
Temporary Tattoo Facility	0	125
Guest Tattoo Artist	7	205
Special Event Coordinator	0	1

One of the highlights of 2022 included the Food & Consumer Protection Director and two Environmental Health Specialists participating in the FD112-Food Code Virtual Instructor Led Training Course. This three-day training course covered the requirements and guidance provided in the 2017 FDA Model Food Code and its public health reasons to prepare regulators for application of the food code to retail food establishments. Course topics included management duties and responsibilities, employee, food, equipment water plumbing, waste, physical facilities, poisonous/toxic materials, compliance and enforcement.

The Food & Consumer Protection Director also participated in three other, similar educational courses. The FD204-Temporary Food Establishments is a four-day virtual instructor-led training course covering application/menu review, the inspection of temporary food establishments and corrective actions. FD207-Plan Review for Food Establishments is a five-day virtual instructor-led training with an overview of the plan review process for retail food establishments with an emphasis on equipment and architectural design. FD218-Risk Based Inspection Methods at Retail is a five-day virtual instructor-led training designed to further enhance the knowledge, skills and abilities of food safety inspection officers in conducting risk-based inspections.

The division has an ongoing goal each year of focusing on education related to one of the five major risk factors contributing to foodborne illness. The focus for 2023 will be to ensure that all handwashing facilities are only used for the purpose of handwashing and kept clean for employee use. This was the most common critical violation cited by the Food & Consumer Protection Division in 2022.

Poor personal hygiene is a risk factor identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a contributor to foodborne illness outbreaks, and having an accessible and clean hand sink for employee use lessens that likelihood.

The goal of the division is to reduce the number of critical violations made by food handlers that lead to foodborne illness.

The division will continue to monitor establishments and verify that handwashing sinks are kept clean and not used for other purposes. The division will continue to provide educational materials such as our handwashing stickers and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Proper Handwashing posters to operators.

CLEAN

Wash hands and surfaces often

Wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds before and after handling food and after using the bathroom, changing diapers, and handling pets.

Wash your cutting boards, dishes, utensils, and counter tops with hot soapy water after preparing each food item.

Consider using paper towels to clean up kitchen surfaces. If you use cloth towels, launder them often in the hot cycle.

Rinse fresh fruits and vegetables under running tap water, including those with skins and rinds that are not eaten. Scrub firm produce with a clean produce brush.

With canned goods, remember to clean lids before opening.

Source: U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Environmental Services –



Josh Blauvelt, BS Director

Pollution Control Program:

The Pollution Control Program continued working with homeowners in 2022 to troubleshoot failed onsite sewage systems. The program works to develop potential solutions for these failed systems but also to prevent premature system failures. Many failures were discovered during routine inspections under the Allen County Onsite Wastewater Management District, which is administered by the Pollution Control Program. One of the purposes of the district is to improve maintenance of existing systems, which extends the life of systems once they are installed. While the troubleshooting process continues, one of the contributing factors identified on many of the sites is the presence of expansive clays in the soil. Additional testing is being implemented to identify these problem soils so they can be avoided, or the system modified to overcome soil limitations for

appropriately treating sewage. Research has also begun to look for systems that can function properly in these soils.

In 2022 we also worked with the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) and other local health depart-



Staff regularly collect samples of potential pollutants to protect public health in Allen County.

ments on much-needed updates to the state onsite sewage system rules. IDOH is predicting the revised rule will go into effect in July 2023.

The Pollution Control Program also continued to review plans for public and semi-public swimming pools to identify any deviations from state rules before the project was underway to prevent corrections required by installers after construction. One of the most overlooked items is providing a shower in the vicinity of the pool so patrons can clean themselves before entering the pool after using the restroom. Newly constructed facilities will have this in place to protect public health and help keep contaminants out of public pools.

The Pollution Control Program continues working to reduce public health hazards from sewage and public swimming pools to improve public health in Allen County.

Swimming Pools & Spas	2021	2022
Annual Pool / Spa Permits Issued	59	55
Seasonal Pool / Spa Permits Issued	176	163
Pool / Spa – Water Chemistry Tests	782	1,120
Pool / Spa – Inspections	195	264
Pool / Spa – Follow-up Inspections	66	90
Pool / Spa – Citizen Complaint Inspections	7	7
Water Bacteriological Sample Reports Received	5,006	5,188
Miscellaneous	2021	2022
Railroad Camp Car Inspections	0	0

Site Soil Assessments 289 217 Soil Wetness Tests/Initial test 70 80 Soil Wetness Tests/Retest 72 20 OSS Plans Reviewed 123 103 OSS Construction Permits Issued: 123 125 Types of OSS Construction Permits Issued: 28 20 Alteration 28 20 Commercial 1 2 New Set Construction Permits Issued: Replacement 41 37 Replacement 41 37 New Septic System Install Initial Inspections 109 232 New Septic System Install Follow-up Inspections 403 430 ACOWMD* Operation Permits Issued (New): 100 105 Types of OSS Installed: Elevated Sand Mound 6 15 Elevated Sand Mound 6 15 Elevated Sand Mound 6 15 Elevated Sand Mound 6 15 <td co<="" th=""><th>Onsite Sewage Systems (OSS)</th><th>2021</th><th>2022</th></td>	<th>Onsite Sewage Systems (OSS)</th> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th>	Onsite Sewage Systems (OSS)	2021	2022
Soil Wetness Tests/Retest	Site Soil Assessments	289	217	
OSS Plans Reviewed 123 103 OSS Construction Permits Issued: 123 125 Types of OSS Construction Permits Issued: 28 20 Alteration 28 20 Commercial 1 2 New Septic System Install Initial Inspections 41 37 Replacement 41 37 New Septic System Install Follow-up Inspections 403 430 ACOWMD* Operation Permits Issued (New): 100 105 Types of OSS Installed: Elevated Sand Mound 6 15 Elevated Sand Mound 6 15<	Soil Wetness Tests/Initial test	70	80	
OSS Construction Permits Issued 123 125 Types of OSS Construction Permits Issued: Alteration 28 20 Commercial 1 2 New 54 41 2 Repair 27 25 25 Replacement 41 37 New Septic System Install Initial Inspections 109 232 New Septic System Install Follow-up Inspections 403 430 ACOWMD* Operation Permits Issued (New): 100 105 Types of OSS Installed: Interpretation Permits Issued (New): 100 105 Types of OSS Installed: Interpretation Permits Issued (New): 17 11 11 11 11 11 105	Soil Wetness Tests/Retest	72	20	
Types of OSS Construction Permits Issued:	OSS Plans Reviewed	123	103	
Alteration	OSS Construction Permits Issued	123	125	
Alteration	Types of OSS Construction Permits Issued:			
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Repair 27 25 Replacement 41 37 New Septic System Install Initial Inspections 109 232 New Septic System Install Follow-up Inspections 403 430 ACOWMD* Operation Permits Issued (New): 100 105 Types of OSS Installed: Intervireal Instance	Commercial	1	2	
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Types of OSS Installed: Elevated Sand Mound		100	105	
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OSS Abandonment Permit Follow-up Inspections2212Improvement Location Permit Reviews1,8201,504				
Improvement Location Permit Reviews 1,820 1,504	-			
	Improvement Location Permit Reviews (Hours)	286	245	

*Allen County Onsite Wastewater Management District

Vector Control Program:

2022 was a year of transition, as most of Vector Control staff who had been working COVID-19 test sites and vaccination clinics returned to normal duties and responsibilities. The Vector Control Program began operating at full capacity again, providing lodging inspections, mosquito and rodent control, along with the enforcement of the Allen County Public Health Hazards Ordinance. Across the board this year, we received a significant rise in complaints and inspections. This can most likely be attributed to the general public returning to a more normal routine, post-COVID-19.

An area that saw a drastic uptick in complaints was mosquitoes. The number of complaints more than doubled those from 2021. Some of this was attributed to early summer rainfall that created a heavy nuisance mosquito presence. This year, 1,505 water sites, coming from citizen complaints and permanent breeding sites, were inspected. The program was able to hire two part-time employees who spent their time inspecting and treating these sites. The department continues to use environmentally friendly larvicides approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reduce the mosquito population. In addition, the program tested 184 mosquito samples for West Nile Virus, finding a 5% positivity rate among those samples. The program continues to work in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) to have mosquito samples tested for St. Louis Encephalitis, La Crosse Encephalitis, West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). We will continue to keep a close eye on EEE, as there have been equine cases of the disease in nearby counties.

Another area that saw a growing number of complaints was our environmental services inspections ranging from indoor air quality (mold/water damage) inspections to public health pest inspections (bed bugs, cockroaches and fleas). The program performed 417 environmental inspections in 2022. The most frequent complaints received were for public health pests (98), indoor air quality (71) and unsanitary conditions (101). The program continues to have a high rate of compliance with orders being issued under the Allen County Public Health Hazards Ordinance. This ordinance has been an effective tool in promoting public health.

The program returned to performing annual lodging establishment inspections this year, with more than

80% of local hotels receiving an "A" grade. Scores and grades from annual lodging establishment inspections can be found at allencountyhealthinspector.acfw.net. The program also follows up on all lodging complaints reported by citizens and visitors to Allen County to ensure lodging establishments are meeting the minimum sanitation standards for the businesses.

The Vector Control Program completed 250 citizen complaint inspections for rodents in 2022. Of those, 197 properties had rat activity. Rodent complaints have been steady over the past three years, and we have averaged 250 rodent complaints per year during that timeframe. In conjunction with baiting measures being Lodging inspections rose significantly in 2022.



provided by the program at properties with rat activity, we continue to educate citizens about rodent food sources and exclusion tips that help prevent rodents from entering homes.

In 2023, the Vector Control Program will continue to offer our services to the citizens of Allen County with the intent and goal of providing a healthier environment for all citizens.

Environmental Services	2021	2022
Total Initial Inspections* (Citizen Complaints, Referral Complaints, and Violations Observed without Citizen/Referral Input)	307	417
Total Follow-Up Inspections*	236	429
Citizen Complaints Received	210	359
Code Violation Referrals	4	9
Legal Notifications Provided to Property Owners/Occupants	63	133
Code Violations Corrected**	60	121
Percentage Violations Corrected	95%	91%
Fines Issued	0	0
Ordinance Violation Hearings	0	0
Indoor Air		
Indoor Air Complaint Inspections (Mold, Noxious Odor)	24	71
Indoor Air Complaint Follow-Up Inspections	10	40
Legal Notifications	4	18
Smoking Complaint Inspections	0	1
Smoking Complaint Follow-Up Inspections	0	1
Public Health Pests		
Bed Bug Inspections	21	30
Bed Bug Follow-Up Inspections	7	21
Legal Notifications	6	5
Cockroach & Flea Inspections	17	68
Cockroach & Flea Follow-Up Inspections	11	55
Legal Notifications	4	10
Methamphetamine Labs		
Occurrence Reports Received	0	0
Abatement Orders Issued	0	0
Follow-Up Inspections to Ensure Structure Not Occupied	0	0

*Includes lodging establishment complaints
**Some violation cases remain active

Environmental Services (Continued)	2021	2022			
Railroad Camp Cars					
Inspections	0	0			
Discarded Refrigerators/Freezers					
Inspections	1	10			
Follow-Up Inspections	1	12			
Legal Notifications	1	10			
Discarded Tires					
Inspections	10	28			
Follow-Up Inspections	18	28			
Legal Notifications	6	13			
Trash & Debris					
Inspections	47	59			
Follow-Up Inspections	40	71			
Legal Notifications	14	23			
Unmaintained Swimming Pools					
Inspections	47	44			
Follow-Up Inspections	37	62			
Legal Notifications	9	12			
Unsanitary Conditions					
Inspections	62	101			
Follow-Up Inspections	55	80			
Legal Notifications	7	14			
Property Records Environmental Assessments					
Requests	134	113			

Lodging Establishments	2021	2022
Active Lodging Establishments in Allen County	68	68
Operating Permits Issued**	68	74
Probationary Inspections/Permits Issued	4	6
Establishment Inspections	0	65
Establishment Follow-Up Inspections	0	63
100% "A" Grade Issued on Initial Inspection	*	29
Non-100% "A" Grade Issued on Initial Inspection	*	30
"B" Grade Issued on Initial Inspection	*	5
"C" Grade Issued on Initial Inspection	*	0
"F" Grade Issued on Initial Inspection	*	1
Hearings (Potential Closure/Willful Violation)	0	0
Fines Collected	\$0	\$950
Complaint Inspections	71	90
Complaint Follow-Up Inspections	60	69

*Due to minimal staff available, no inspections were conducted **Change in owners triggers new permit

Rodent Control	2021	2022
Citizen Complaints Received/Locations Visited	269	250
Citizen Complaint Locations Inspections	241	242
Bait Used (pieces)	713	862
Door Hangers	64	77
Citizen Complaint Locations Re-Visited	523	540
Citizen Complaint Follow-Up Inspections	504	478
Bait Used (pieces)	1,428	1,146
Door Hangers	149	182
Non-Requested Locations of Possible Rat Activity Inspected	183	47
Bait Used (pieces)	122	146
Door Hangers	105	15
Referrals from Other Departments	3	6
Referral Location Inspections	3	6
Bait Used (pieces)	12	8
Door Hangers	1	1
Referral Location Follow-up Inspections	7	1
Bait Used (pieces)	36	5
Door Hangers	1	0
Properties Identified with Rats	300	197
Properties Identified with Mice	50	81

Rabies Prevention	2021	2022
Assistance to Animal Control Agencies (Instances)	1	3
Animal Samples Couriered to IDOH Rabies Lab	7	12
Rabies-Positive Samples	1	1

Mosquito Prevention & Control	2021	2022
Citizen Complaints	64	134
Water Site Inspections (Citizen Complaint Locations, Non-Citizen Complaint Locations, Permanent Site Locations, and Referral Locations)	522	1,505
Sites Treated	177	409
Larval Specimens Collected	144	283
New Permanent Breeding Sites Added	2	47
Mosquito Fish Sites	0	0
Mosquito Samples Tested	40	184
West Nile Virus-Positive Samples	2	10
West Nile Virus Positivity Rate	5%	5%
Larvicide Used:		
CocoBear (fl oz)	191	322
Natular (oz)	0	2,045
Natular G30 (lbs)	43	2
Natular XRT, 180-day (# tablets)	61	146

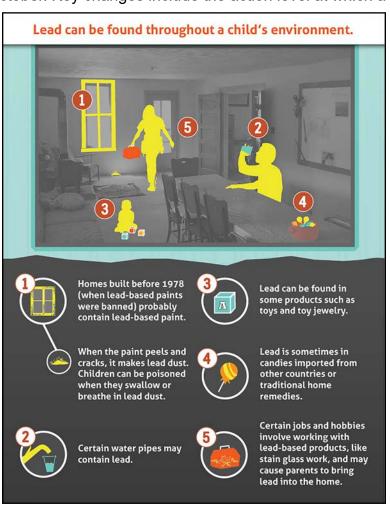
Healthy Homes Program:

The Lead and Healthy Homes Program was able to resume normal operations at the end of March 2022, once all staff returned from COVID-19 assignments. Resuming full-time services, along with changes in the Indiana Lead Rule, resulted in a significant increase in lead cases during the year. Fifty-eight children were referred to the program in 2022, compared to 32 in 2021. Of those, 42 families accepted home-based services to learn more about their child's exposure to lead and any applicable services and referrals to improve the outcomes.

The Indiana Lead Rule – 410 IAC 29-1-2 – provides reporting, monitoring and prevention guidelines for local health departments and was updated in October. Key changes include the action level at which a

health department provides services, the child retesting schedule and the need for confirmatory blood testing at lower levels. Allen County has been offering services to children with lead levels greater than 5 micrograms per deciliter since 2012: the new rule ensures all counties are providing the same services and recommendations. A child is then followed until they have had two results less than 5 micrograms per deciliter. At that point, the case can be closed. This is a change from the previous recommendation of two results less than 10 micrograms per deciliter. Another important change is the need for confirmatory testing when the capillary result is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter or higher. This amendment resulted in 152 capillary results needing follow up by the case manager to get a confirmed blood lead result.

We also expect the number of children identified with elevated lead levels to increase in 2023, as Indiana moves towards universal testing for children. Previously, only children enrolled in Medicaid were targeted for lead testing, but Indiana House Enrolled Act 1313 highlights the need to test all children. It requires health care providers to confirm each child younger than 7 has had at least one lead test, regardless of risk



Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

factors. Children covered by Medicaid make up a large percentage of elevated lead cases, but many children are likely missed due to a lack of testing. The move toward universal testing will hopefully identify children who would benefit from the Department's services but would have otherwise been missed.

As we look to 2023, the Lead and Healthy Homes Program will continue working with the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) and medical providers to ensure all families impacted by lead receive the services and support needed to make informed decisions about their child's physical, environmental and developmental health.

Lead Screening	2021	2022
Total Screenings	3,789	3,773
Case Management Services	2021	2022
Number of Children Referred for Lead Case Management Services	32	58
Number of Children with Confirmed Elevated Blood Lead Levels (≥ 5 μg/dL*) Who Went on to Receive Case Management Services	9	42
Number of Capillary Results (Initial) Requiring Follow-up**	-	152
Number of Venous Blood Results (Initial) Requiring Follow-up**	_	58
Children Receiving Lead Education via Initial Home Visit**	-	42
Developmental Assessments Completed**	-	39
Developmental Assessments	2021	2022
Initial Assessments	3	39
Annual Assessments	2	0
Total Assessments	5	39
Environmental Risk Assessments	2021	2022
Assessments Conducted	3	31
Housing Age:		
Pre-1940	1	25
1940-1978	2	6
Post-1978	0	0
Housing Type:		
Private Rental	1	20
Owner-Occupied	2	9
Land Contract/Rent to Own	0	1
Section 8	0	1
Number of Lead Hazards Noted:		
0 Hazards	1	1
1 - 15 Hazards	1	8
16 - 30 Hazards	0	19
31 or more Hazards	1	3

*Micrograms per deciliter **Data newly developed for 2022 publication

HIV/STD Prevention –



Kathy Thornson Director

The HIV/STD Prevention Division focuses on providing high-impact prevention of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) by preventing new infections, improving health outcomes for people diagnosed with HIV or other STIs and reducing HIV-related disparities and health inequities. In 2022, the division provided intervention services to approximately 3,200 diagnosed cases of various STIs.

The HIV/STD Prevention Division highlight during 2022 was the reopening of numerous outreach testing sites that had been on hiatus during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Staff were more than ready to get back out in the community with their intervention and prevention efforts. Outreach HIV/ STI testing and education services picked up momentum as the year unfolded. Staff were excited to restart outreach testing services in April at the YWCA site,

followed by the Center for Behavioral Health in May. Our test site at Walgreens on Creighton Street kicked off the return of services on June 27, the National Day of HIV Testing, with a special event

held in the parking lot. The Handing out Hope event at the main branch of the Allen County Public Library downtown continued throughout the year with growing attendance each month. The provision of HIV/STI/HCV (hepatitis C virus) testing and education at the Allen County Jail outreach site also continued. The prevention team was excited to participate in the massive drive-through COVID-19 bivalent booster vaccination event the health department held in the parking lot of the Medical Annex in September. A special HIV/STI testing event was held in October for Syringe Services Program participants. October was also National Disease Intervention Specialist Day, during which our staff attended HIV/STD Prevention Division staff returned in 2022 to a local Walgreens for an HIV testing event. a statewide meeting hosted by the Indiana De-



partment of Health in Indianapolis to recognize the special efforts and services provided by the Disease Intervention Specialists of Indiana.

December 1 was the 34th World AIDS Day. Lindenwood Cemetery held a rededication ceremony at the AIDS Memorial site on its grounds. The service honored the millions of lives lost worldwide to AIDS-related illnesses and encouraged renewed commitment to improving the lives of people with HIV and ensuring equitable access to prevention services for all who could benefit. This year's World AIDS Day theme was Equalize – emphasizing accountability and action, highlighting the importance of meeting people where they are with the services they need to stay healthy. Today, people with HIV can live long, healthy lives thanks to improved therapy and powerful prevention tools including simple and effective HIV treatment and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). HIV transmission can practically be eliminated with the use of these tools by all who could potentially benefit from them.

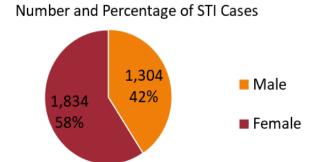
In 2023, the prevention team will work diligently to implement comprehensive, whole-person approaches to HIV/STI prevention and care and promoting health equity.

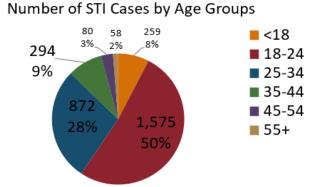
Allen County STI Data								
	Gonorrhea	Chlamydia	Early Syphilis	Late Latent Syphilis	HIV	Total cases reported	% change of reported cases from previous year	
2016	702	2,215	7	15	28	2,967	+7.3%	
2017	947	2,264	13	11	24	3,259	+9.9%	
2018	1,049	2,496	10	11	29	3,595	+10.3%	
2019	1,041	2,793	24	10	21	3,889	+8.2%	
2020	1,023	2,470	37	15	15	3,560	-8.4%*	
2021	880	2,271	29	30	19	3,229	-9.3%*	
2022	774	2,276	53	35	26	3,164	-2%	

Provisional data from the Indiana Department of Health.

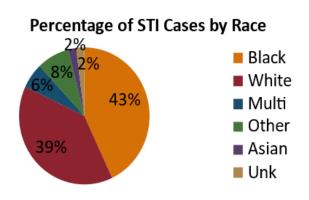
2022 STI Gender Breakdown, n=3,138 Gonorrhea, Chlamydia & All Syphilis Cases

2022 STD Age Group Breakdown, n=3,138 Gonorrhea, Chlamydia & All Syphilis Cases

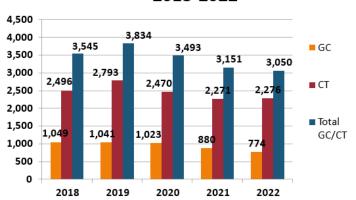




2022 STI Race Breakdown n =3,138 Gonorrhea, Chlamydia & All Syphilis Cases



Allen County Five Year Trend of Gonorrhea and Chlamydia Cases 2018-2022



^{*}Decrease likely due to two years of COVID-19 impact on health care. To reduce person-to-person exposures, telemedicine visits and prescriptions without lab visits increased. Cases must be laboratory confirmed to be counted as morbiditiy.

Disease Rate per 100,000 population*	2020	2021	2022
Chlamydia			
National	481	491	-
State**	496	-	-
Allen County	658	589	590
Gonorrhea			
National	207	210	-
State**	210	-	-
Allen County	272	228	201
Primary & Secondary Early Syphilis			
National	12.7	15.8	-
State**	7.8	-	-
Allen County	2.2	2.0	5.4
Allen County rate for primary, secondary and early latent syphilis	9.9	7.5	13.8
HIV			
National	9.2	-	-
State**	6.4	-	-
Allen County	3.9	4.9	6.7

^{*}Rates from 2021 and 2022 based on preliminary data

**Provisional data from the Indiana Department of Health, which must suppress numbers less than five. The
COVID-19 pandemic created difficulty and uncertainty in interpreting data from 2020 and 2021. Cases based
on actual testing.

Informatics -



Jana Sanders, M.En. Director

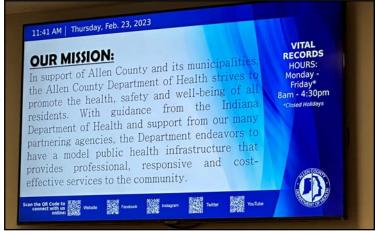
During 2022, the Informatics Division saw a transition back to normal activities following the COVID-19 pandemic response.

The Informatics Division staff had assisted with running the department's COVID-19 testing site since 2020, but the site permanently closed at the end of May 2022. This allowed for deployment of many IT projects that had been postponed due to COVID-19 response. Projects completed in 2022 included, but were not limited to, migration of email and office products to Office 365, Microsoft Teams deployment, Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and Printix deployment to streamline how department printers are distributed to staff. None of these projects were small tasks, given the Department of Health has nearly 70 employees, and most projects involved work on each user's computer.

Another significant project completed in 2022 was deployment of five new video display boards. The

digital display boards were strategically placed at three of our five locations to provide citizens important public health information when visiting one of the department's sites. The Informatics Division was solely responsible for developing and implementing this project and was responsible for ensuring the devices were populated with up-todate information of relevance.

The Informatics Division was also instrumental in helping the rest of the department plan and complete the COVID-19 bivalent booster drive-through clinic in September.



Development of the enterprise-wide Accela database used for permitting and inspections continued in 2022. Information Systems and Special Projects Coordinator Melissa Woodworth attended the Accela national conference, "Accelarate 2022," in Salt Lake City, Utah, to gain more knowledge regarding the capabilities of the software. The enterprise has chosen to move from on-site hosting to cloud hosting for the system, so preparation has begun for this large undertaking, projected to occur in 2023.

The Informatics Division continued to actively participate in the Allen County Overdose Fatality Review Team (OFRT), spearheaded by community partner Allen County Drug and Alcohol Consortium (DAC). Comprised of community representatives from various disciplines, the goal of the OFRT is to learn from past deaths of individuals battling substance use disorders to identify potential intervention strategies that could potentially prevent additional overdose fatalities.

Allen County Health Department Harm Reduction Coordinator Sara Burriss is now an active member of the team as well. Members of the team also participated in the IN CARES ECHO, which included statewide leadership trying to combat overdose deaths. Informatics Director Jana Sanders participated in a panel discussion and spoke on overdose death-related data at the Northern Indiana Opioid & Mental Health Summit hosted by the city of New Haven. This meeting included a wide variety of politicians, service providers, educators, first responders, government staff and many other disciplines to collaborate on effective interventions to combat substance use disorder.

Carl Suba, a student at Wabash College, interned with the Informatics Division during the summer of 2022. Carl did a deep dive into 2021 overdose death data and a preliminary review of 2020 data. One

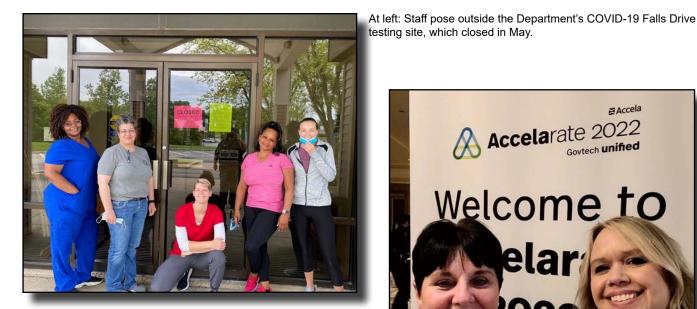
hundred sixty-four (164) deaths were associated with drug-related overdoses in 2022, the largest number since 2008.

Carl found that 85% of 2021 decedents were employed at the time of their death, highlighting the devastating economic impact of drug abuse and potentially aiding in the de-stigmatization or perceptions of individuals that have substance use disorders. Of the individuals with a medical history listed, 78% had a known history of substance abuse.

For the first time in the study's history, just as many people had fentanyl in their system (76%) as those Intern Carl Suba presented his findings to Department of Health who had over-the-counter stimulants such as caffeine staff in August. and nicotine (77%).

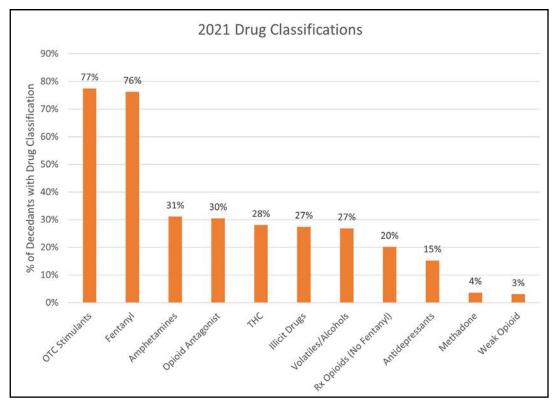


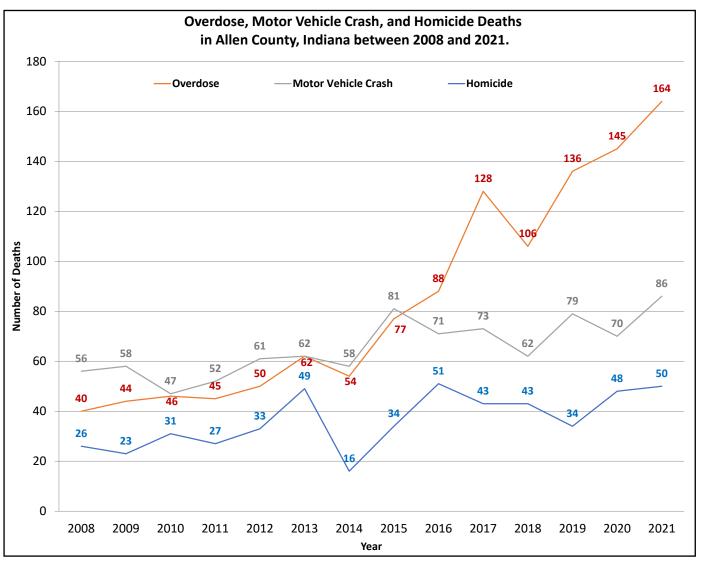
Informatics Division, in action ...



Melissa Woodworth, right, of the Informatics Division, poses with Kate Love-Jacobson, of the Allen County Information Technology Department, at the "Accelarate 2022" conference in Salt Lake City in October.







Vital Records -



Kristi Gephart Director

The Vital Records Division is responsible for registering, issuing and preserving records of the birth and death events of Allen County. This includes updating records with court orders, adoptions, birth notifications, correction affidavits and paternity affidavits and accurately issuing birth and death certificates in a timely and professional manner. We also offer paternity affidavit appointments under Indiana law, which allows parents the opportunity to add the father of a child to a birth record and gives the child an agreed-upon last name.

Phase II of the Indiana Department of Health's (IDOH) Database for Registering Indiana's Vital Events (DRIVE) was implemented. In June, the DRIVE system launched the fetal death and terminated pregnancy (ITOP) modules. This transition eliminated an outdated fetal death system and allowed the filing of birth, death and fetal death records to be completed in one electronic system.

This was the second full year of using the new DRIVE system, and we have learned additional ways to utilize and troubleshoot the program.

We ended 2022 with continued collaboration with IDOH, including monthly statewide online meetings to address issues and important topics and will also be involved with upcoming manuals.

This year, we continued with a document imaging project that spanned eight years of documents, which was over 11,000 images that had been stored in boxes and file cabinets and are now entered into a program that allows for easy access. Our goal is to ensure all documents are permanently and safely stored, with the ability to have immediate access to them.

We welcomed a new staff member in 2022. This fourth Vital Records Clerk has allowed for increased coverage at the window to better serve our in-person customers, assist callers and schedule appointments. It has also increased our ability to cross-train in all positions.

Vital Records Services	2021	2022
Birth Certificates	17,307	20,082
Death Certificates	29,194	27,454
Paternity Affidavits Upon Marriage	8	20
Paternity Affidavits	154	272
Affidavit of Amendments (Corr. Affidavits)	31	21
Court Order Determining Parentage	286	329
Adoptions	264	191
Legal Name Changes	124	145
Correction by Birth Notification	331	320
Genealogy Requests	16	11

Allen County Births	2019	2020	2021	2022
Location of Birth				
Dupont Hospital	2,386	2,202	2,381	2,476
Lutheran Hospital	1,192	1,186	1,142	1,062
Parkview Randallia Hospital	687	600	636	653
Parkview Regional Medical Center	2,988	2,972	2,972	2,916
St. Joseph Hospital*	2	2	2	0
Holy Family Birthing Center	49	120	191	164
Home/En Route	90	65	63	51
Total Births	7,394	7,147	7,387	7,322
Residency				
Allen County Resident	5,168	5,052	5,103	4,983
Non-Resident	2,226	2,095	2,284	2,339
Born to Married Parents				
Male	2,341	2,253	2,411	2,330
Female	2,240	2,074	2,303	2,321
Born to Non-Married Parents				
Male	1,453	1,453	1,381	1,408
Female	1,360	1,367	1,292	1,263

*Facility was torn down and replaced in 2022

Allen County Deaths	2020	2021	2022
Coroner Cases			
Accident	365	430	381
Homicide	48	51	26
Suicide	57	77	73
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)	7	8	6
Undetermined*	16	16	26
Pending	0	0	3
Natural Causes			
Heart Disease	375	424	686
Cancer	658	724	725
Pneumonia	113	67	100
Diabetes	237	242	205
Cirrhosis	65	77	98
Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease	226	187	190
Premature Infant	25	26	21
HIV/AIDS	8	3	7
Tuberculosis	0	0	2
Influenza	14	1	13
All Other Natural Causes	3,200	3,286	2,620

*Includes SIDS

Allen County Deaths (Continued)	2020	2021	2022
Location of Death			
Hospital	2,427	2,848	2,411
Visiting Nurse & Hospice	329	314	263
Residence, Nursing Home, etc.	2,651	2,449	2,502
Total Deaths	5,407	5,611	5,176
Residency			
Allen County Resident	3,869	3,726	3,630
Non-Resident	1,538	1,885	1,546
Gender			
Male	2,866	2,575	2,797
Female	2,541	3,036	2,379
Age			
Fetal Deaths	51	49	50
Less Than 28 days	37	45	35
29 days to 1 year	17	14	16
1 year to 14 years	18	28	26
15 years to 24 years	67	87	69
25 years to 44 years	303	341	301
45 years to 64 years	1,035	1,206	1,069
65 years to 74 years	1,129	1,330	1,126
75 years to 84 years	1,361	1,331	1,286
85 years and older	1,440	1,229	1,248

Finance –



Jennifer Miller Director

The Finance Division's routinely assigned duties include managing budgets and grants, completing all accounts payable, processing payroll, maintaining personnel records, placing all requested medical, office and field supply orders and more.

In addition to its regular duties, the Finance Division successfully launched an online version of its electronic accounting software in March. The updated software enhances the division's ability to track monthly expenses, reconcile monthly reports from the Allen County Auditor and develop budgets. The software allows for greater collaboration among division staff by offering the ability to share individualized fund reports.

In August, the Finance Director partnered with the Allen County Human Resources Department to incorporate required staff training modules into an electronic portal. The portal increased the department's efficiency in tracking staff completion rates and offered centralized communication tools to send all staff messages about their scheduled trainings.

In 2023, the division plans to review internal financial control policies and will collaborate with the Department Administrator to determine if any changes in policy are needed. The division's main goal for 2023 is to continue to increase the efficiency of the division with additional cross-training in all areas among staff, development of a centralized electronic purchasing guide and reviewing division SOPs to ensure all essential processes are covered accurately.

Disbursements	2021	2022
Health Fund	\$4,979,870.90	\$4,984,744.00
Allen County COVID-19 Vaccine/Testing Fund	\$164,458.14	\$0.00
Coroner's Death Certification Fund (715-75-01)	\$67,502.25	\$63,778.50
Fine Collection Fund (849-73-01)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Foundation Fund (880-73-01)	\$30,828.21	\$2,667.52
IDOH Immunization Grant (Competitive) (847-73-01)	\$72,665.85	\$88,196.35
IDOH (HIV) Sub Abuse Prev & Treatment Grant (768-73-03)	\$51,255.63	\$45,000.13
IDOH Syringe Services Program Grant (863-73-01)	\$57,867.29	\$86,674.90
IDOH Vaccine/Testing Site Grant (878-73-01)	\$451,154.35	\$118,555.03
IDOH Moderna/Pfizer Grant (878-73-05)	\$61,391.30	\$6,682.01
IDOH Routine/COVID Imm Grant (883-73-01)	\$53,934.99	\$489,330.42
IDOH Co Ag Grant (891-73-01)	\$0.00	\$157,000.00
Local Health Maintenance Fund (through IDOH) (286-73-01)	\$146,028.60	\$159,955.52
Onsite Waste Water Management Fund (790-73-20)	\$143,778.02	\$129,916.49
Tobacco Master Plan/Trust Fund (762-73-07)	\$110,896.37	\$102,497.68
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (includes all disbursements from all funds)	\$6,391,631.90	\$6,434,998.55

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REVENUE SOURCES			
TAX REVENUES (285-73-01)	2021	2022	
General Property Taxes	\$2,888,386.97	\$3,099,791.09	
Excise Taxes	\$244,780.57	\$239,211.12	
Financial Institution Taxes	\$21,244.81	\$23,904.71	
Commercial Vehicle Taxes	\$18,005.82	\$18,533.49	
Taxes TOTAL:	\$3,172,418.17	\$3,381,440.41	
PERMIT & DOCUMENT-RELATED FEE REVENUES (285-73-01)	2021	2022	
Food & Consumer Protection Permits & Fees**	\$585,481.44	\$614,894.56	
Lodging Establishment Permits & Fees	\$10,575.00	\$11,150.00	
Railroad Camp Car Permits & Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Septic System Permits & Fees	\$41,180.00	\$30,185.00	
Swimming Pool/Spa Permits & Fees	\$51,687.50	\$51,635.00	
Tattoo & Body Piercing Permits & Fees	\$35,720.00	\$61,308.75	
Vital Records Documents***	\$714,178.37	\$682,403.50	
Permit-Related Fees TOTAL:	\$1,438,822.31	\$1,451,576.81	
**An add'I \$103.384.94 (2021) \$108.510.94 (2022) was collected as food fees, but was allocated to the LHMF			

^{**}An add'l \$103,384.94 (2021) \$108,510.94 (2022) was collected as food fees, but was allocated to the LHMF (286-73-01) - not included in this total ***An add'l \$67,857.75 (2021) and \$61,717.50 (2022) was collected as Vital Records fees, but was allocated to

^{***}An add'l \$67,857.75 (2021) and \$61,717.50 (2022) was collected as Vital Records fees, but was allocated to the Coroner's Education Fund per statute - not included in this total

MEDICAL-RELATED FEE REVENUES (Self-Pay) (285-73-01)	2021	2022
Client Self-Pay Medical Fees for Clinical Services	\$101,030.33	\$98,833.30
Medical-Related Fees TOTAL:	\$101,030.33	\$98,833.30
MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENTS (285-73-01)	2021	2022
Medicaid/Medicare	\$235,281.34	\$310,545.68
Private Insurance	\$49,412.85	\$65,051.72
COVID-19 Vaccination Admin Fee Insurance Reimbursement (IDOH)	\$401,534.88	\$485,734.95
COVID-19 Vaccination Admin Fee Insurance Reimbursement (ACDOH)	\$4,981.44	\$642.79
Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)	\$1,894.06	\$15,019.96
Medical Reimbursements TOTAL:	\$693,104.57	\$876,995.10
INTEREST (interest from ALL funds which accrue interest)	2021	2022
Health Fund (285-73-01)	\$7,257.36	\$35,794.45
Local Health Maintenance Fund (286-73-01)	\$191.54	\$1,002.97
Onsite Septic Fund (790-73-20)	\$406.48	\$1,510.46
Interest TOTAL:	\$7,855.38	\$38,307.88

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REVENUE SOURCES (Cont.)			
MISCELLANEOUS REIMBURSEMENTS & AWARDS (285-73-01)	2021	2022	
Reimbursement of Legal Fees	\$750.00	\$0.00	
Corrections by Auditor	\$137.00	\$250.00	
JP Morgan Rebate	\$367.82	\$659.46	
Park Center (Rent Payment for use of Annex)	\$1,764.00	\$0.00	
Opioid and Substance Use Disorder Data Collection	\$0.00	\$6,121.17	
Sales of Equipment	\$8,780.00	\$0.00	
Vendor Refunds and Rebates	\$1,168.73	\$678.00	
Vaccine Reimbursement	\$3,956.40	\$0.00	
Reimbursement for Indiana Dept of Health (IDOH) Survey	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Misc. Reimbursements	\$118.30	\$10.00	
Miscellaneous Reimbursements TOTAL:	\$17,042.25	\$8,718.63	
FINE COLLECTION FUND REVENUES (Fine Fund) (849-73-01)	2021	2022	
Food Fines	\$2,650.00	\$4,375.00	
Lodging Fines	\$0.00	\$525.00	
Tattoo Fines	\$725.00	\$1,265.00	
Fines TOTAL:	\$3,375.00	\$6,165.00	
GRANT REVENUES	2021	2022	
IDOH HIV/AIDS Prog. Fund/Educ Grant (CLEAR) (767-73-06) F	\$5,400.00	\$0.00	
IDOH Immunization Grant (Competitive) (847-73-01) F	\$80,681.29	\$85,712.48	
IDOH (HIV) Sub Abuse Prev & Treatment Grant (768-73-03) F	\$48,551.66	\$45,000.05	
IDOH Syringe Services Program Grant (863-73-01) F	\$55,874.92	\$68,871.54	
IDOH COVID Test Site Grant (878-73-01) F	\$220,960.00	\$0.00	
IDOH Moderna/Pfizer Vaccine Grant (878-73-05) F	\$111,493.82	\$0.00	
IDOH COVID/Childhood Imm Grant (883-73-01) F	\$53,559.71	\$414,348.64	
IDOH Lead Poisoning Prevention Grant (285-73-01) F	\$0.00	\$25,498.20	
IDOH School CoAg Assistance/School Health Grant (891-73-01) F	\$0.00	\$825,000.00	
Local Health Maintenance Fund (through IDOH) (286-73-01) S	\$72,672.00	\$72,672.00	
Tobacco Master Plan/Trust Fund (through IDOH) (762-73-07) S	\$123,989.34	\$128,141.55	
Grants TOTAL:	\$773,182.74	\$1,665,244.46	
S=State Direct F=Federal Pass-Through LF=Foundation			
Each of the above grant's revenues and expenditures are detailed on the follow		2222	
OTHER FUND REVENUES	2021	2022	
Clinic Donation Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Foundation Fund (880-73-01)	\$30,828.21	\$2,667.52	
Onsite Waste Water Management Fund (790-73-20)	\$123,000.00	\$150,750.00	
Other Funds TOTAL:	\$153,828.21	\$153,417.52	
	2021	2022	
TOTAL REVENUE (includes all Fund Revenues & Grant Revenues above)	\$6,531,901.65	\$7,850,927.55	

INDIVIDUAL FUND REPORTS		
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Health Fund		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$2,390,273.13	\$2,840,077.22
Receipts	\$5,422,417.63	\$5,843,062.45
Interest	<u>\$7,257.36</u>	<u>\$35,794.45</u>
	\$7,819,948.12	\$8,718,934.12
Disbursements	<u>-\$4,979,870.90</u>	<u>-\$4,984,744.00</u>
Balance, December 31	\$2,840,077.22	\$3,734,190.12
Allen County Onsite Waste Water Management (776-73-01)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$183.47	\$2,237.24
Receipts	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Interest	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$14.15</u>
	\$10,183.47	\$12,251.39
Disbursements	<u>-\$7,946.23</u>	<u>-\$9,686.99</u>
Balance, December 31	\$2,237.24	\$2,564.40
Clinic Donation Fund		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$11,413.22	\$11,413.22
Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00
, to so, p.to	\$11,413.22	\$11,413.22
Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance, December 31	\$11,413.22	\$11,413.22
Coronaria Dooth Cartification Fund (745 75 04)		
Coroner's Death Certification Fund (715-75-01) Beginning Balance, January 1	\$6,689.25	\$7,044.75
Receipts	\$67,857.75	\$61,717.50
Neccipia	\$74,547.00	\$68,762.25
Disbursements	<u>-\$67,502.25</u>	<u>-\$63,778.50</u>
Balance, December 31	\$7,044.75	\$4,983.75
	ψ1,044.11 0	Ψ-1,000.1
Fine Collection Fund (849-73-01)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$32,566.70	\$35,941.70
Receipts	<u>\$3,375.00</u>	<u>\$6,165.00</u>
	\$35,941.70	\$42,106.70
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance, December 31	\$35,941.70	\$42,106.70

INDIVIDUAL FUND REPORTS		
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
IDOH HIV/AIDS Prog. Fund/Educ Grant (CLEAR) (767-73-06)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	(\$5,400.00)	\$0.00
Receipts	<u>\$5,400.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	\$0.00	\$0.00
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance, December 31	\$0.00	\$0.00
IDOH Immunization Grant (Routine) (847-73-01)	(44= 4=0.04)	(40.400.00)
Beginning Balance, January 1	(\$17,472.34)	(\$9,486.90)
Receipts	\$80,651.29	\$85,712.48
	\$63,178.95	\$76,225.58
Disbursements	<u>-\$72,665.85</u>	<u>-\$88,196.35</u>
Balance, December 31	(\$9,486.90)	(\$11,970.77)
IDOH (HIV) Sub Abuse Prev & Treatment Grant (768-73-03)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	(\$5,945.79)	(\$8,649.76)
Receipts	\$48,551.66	\$45,000.05
1 toodipte	\$42,605.87	\$36,350.29
Disbursements	<u>-\$51,255.63</u>	-\$45,000.13
Balance, December 31	(\$8,649.76)	(\$8,649.84)
	(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	((1)
IDOH Syringe Services Program Grant (863-73-01)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	(\$9,851.49)	(\$11,843.86)
Receipts	\$55,874.92	<u>\$68,871.54</u>
	\$46,023.43	\$57,027.68
Disbursements	<u>-\$57,867.29</u>	<u>-\$86,674.90</u>
Balance, December 31	(\$11,843.86)	(\$29,647.22)
IDOH COVID Vaccine/Test Site and Moderna/Pfizer Vaccine Grant		
(878-73-01) (878-73-05) Beginning Balance, January 1	¢205 229 97	\$125 227 0 <i>4</i>
Receipts	\$305,328.87 \$332,453.82	\$125,237.04 <u>\$0.00</u>
Receipts	\$637,782.69	\$125,237.04
Disbursements	<u>-\$512,545.65</u>	-\$125,237.04 -\$125,237.04
Balance, December 31	\$125,237.04	\$0.00
Balance, Becomber of	Ψ120,201.04	ψ0.00
IDOH COVID Childhood Imm Grant (883-73-01)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$0.00	(\$375.28)
Receipts	<u>\$53,559.71</u>	<u>\$414,348.64</u>
	\$53,559.71	\$413,973.3 6
Disbursements	<u>-\$53,934.99</u>	<u>-\$489,330.42</u>
Balance, December 31	(\$375.28)	(\$75,357.06)
	•	-

INDIVIDUAL FUND REPORTS		
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
IDOH School CoAg Assistance/School Health Grant (891-73-01)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Receipts	<u>\$0.00</u>	\$825,000.00
	\$0.00	\$825,000.00
Disbursements	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>-\$157,000.00</u>
Balance, December 31	\$0.00	\$668,000.00
Local Health Maintenance Fund (through IDOH) (286-73-01)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$26,087.09	\$56,306.97
Receipts:		
State Fund	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Tobacco Settlement Monies	\$22,672.00	\$22,672.00
Interest	\$191.54	\$1,002.97
Food Permit Fees (transferred)	<u>\$103,384.94</u>	<u>\$108,510.94</u>
	\$202,335.57	\$238,492.88
Disbursements	<u>-\$146,028.60</u>	<u>-\$159,955.52</u>
Balance, December 31	\$56,306.97	\$78,537.36
Onsite Waste Water Management Fund (790-73-20)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$127,679.72	\$107,308.18
Receipts	\$123,000.00	\$150,750.00
Interest	<u>\$406.48</u>	<u>\$1,510.46</u>
	\$251,086.20	\$259,568.64
Disbursements	<u>-\$143,778.02</u>	<u>-\$129,916.49</u>
Balance, December 31	\$107,308.18	\$129,652.15
Tobacco Master Plan/Trust Fund (762-73-07)		
Beginning Balance, January 1	\$18,809.01	\$31,901.98
Receipts	<u>\$123,989.34</u>	<u>\$128,141.55</u>
	\$142,798.35	\$160,043.53
Disbursements	<u>-\$110,896.37</u>	<u>-\$102,497.68</u>
Balance, December 31	\$31,901.98	\$57,545.85

Our Mission

In support of Allen County and its municipalities, the Allen County Department of Health strives to promote the health, safety, and well-being of all residents. With guidance from the Indiana Department of Health and support from our many partnering agencies, we endeavor to have a model public health infrastructure that provides professional, responsive, and cost-effective services to the community.

Our Vision

To be a center of excellence for public health by preventing disease, promoting health, protecting the environment and preserving vital records in our community.

Executive Board of Public Health

The Allen County Department of Health is governed by a seven-member Executive Board. Board members are unpaid community volunteers; their backgrounds can vary but at least two must be physicians. The Allen County Board of Commissioners appoints all members of the board, and the board appoints the Health Commissioner and Department Administrator.

From top left: Ted Sobol; Marlon Wardlow; Mary Hess, RN. From bottom left: James Cameron, MD; William Pond, MD; Patricia Hays, RN. Not pictured: Debra Lambert



Allen County Board of Commissioners

F. Nelson Peters - District 1
Therese M. Brown - District 2
Richard E. Beck - District 3

Allen County Council

Sheila R. Curry-Campbell - 1st District
Thomas A. Harris - 2nd District
Paul W. Lagemann - 3rd District
Chris A. Spurr - 4th District
Robert A. Armstrong - At-Large
Ken Fries - At-Large
Kyle Kerley - At-Large



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Allen County Department of Health works with a number of partners to fulfill its mission of promoting the health, safety and well-being of all residents by providing professional, responsive and cost-effective services to the community. We are grateful to all of the listed agencies and organizations for their ongoing collaboration and partnership.

122nd Indiana Air National Guard

A Hope Center

Aging & In-Home Services of Northeast Indiana

Allen County Community Corrections

Allen County Government

Allen County Partnership for Water Quality Allen County Purdue Extension Office Allen County Sheriff's Department

Allen County TRIAD

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

Amani Family Services American Lung Association American Red Cross Associated Churches Ball State University

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Indiana Inc.

Bowen Center Brightpoint Catholic Charities

Center for Behavioral Health Center for Nonviolence

Citilink

City of Fort Wayne City of New Haven

CleanSlate Addiction Treatment Centers

Community Harvest Food Bank Crime Victims Care of Allen County

Cross Border Partners Inc.

Drug and Alcohol Consortium of Allen County

East Allen County Schools Euell A. Wilson Community Center First Steps of Allen County

Forensic Nursing Specialists Inc. Fort 4 Fitness

Fort Wayne Community Schools

FWCS Career Academy

Fort Wayne Downtown Rotary Club Fort Wayne Housing Authority

Fort Wayne Medical Education Program

Fort Wayne Medical Society Fort Wayne Police Department

Fort Wayne Recovery

Fort Wayne Sexual Assault Treatment Center

Fort Wayne Urban League

Fort Wayne-African American Cancer Alliance

Grabill Town Hall

Great Kids Make Great Communities

Healthier Moms & Babies

HealthVisions Midwest Huntington University

Indiana 211

Indiana Attorney General Indiana Immunization Coalition Indiana Department of Health

Indiana Tech

Indiana Wesleyan University

IU Lafayette Street Family Health Clinic IU School of Medicine-Fort Wayne Ivy Tech Community College Leo-Cedarville Town Hall Lutheran Health Network

Lutheran Social Services of Indiana

Manchester University

March of Dimes

Matthew 25 Health & Dental Clinics McMillen Center for Health Education Monroeville Utility Department Multicultural Council of Fort Wayne

Mustard Seed

Neighborhood Health Clinics Northwest Allen County Schools

Omni Care Park Center Parkview Health

Planned Parenthood of Indiana

NE Indiana Positive Resource Connection

Prime Time Youth Center Purdue University Fort Wayne Southwest Allen County Schools

St. Joseph Community Health Foundation St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative

Stop Child Abuse & Neglect

Super Shot Inc.

The Rescue Mission/Charis House Three Rivers Ambulance Authority

Tobacco Free Allen County

Turnstone

United Way of Allen County University of Saint Francis

Veterans Center

Volunteer Center@RSVP

Walgreens

Wayne Township Trustee Woodburn City Hall

YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne YWCA of Northeast Indiana





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