



ALLEN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

April 21, 2025 Executive Health Board Meeting

5:45p.m. – Citizens Square, 200 E. Berry St., Fort Wayne, IN – ROOM B-035

AGENDA

<https://www.allencounty.in.gov/806/Live-Meetings>

Call the meeting to order – Dr. William Pond, Board President

Meeting Reminder Statements – Mindy Waldron

Approval of the Minutes for the January 27, 2025 Board Meeting – Dr. William Pond**

BOARD APPOINTMENT REPORTS & NEW BUSINESS:

- Health Commissioner's Report – *(Dr. Thomas Gutwein)*
- Medical Director's Report - *(Dr. Anna Menze)*
- Department Administrator's Report – *(Mindy Waldron)*

CONSENT AGENDA: (one vote to accept all items below as submitted) -- (Mindy Waldron)**

- Personnel Report – *(Mindy Waldron)*

Old Business or Additional New Business

Adjournment**

*** Vote is/may be required*

HERE ARE THE REMAINING 2025 BOARD MEETING DATES FOR YOUR CALENDARS:

- **7/21/2025 and 10/20/2025**

.....

MEDIA & PUBLIC NOTE: No questions will be entertained and no interviews will be conducted on the items listed on the agenda above prior to the Board Meeting. For this meeting, all media inquiries will be conducted at the conclusion of the meeting. Since this is a public meeting and not a public hearing, no public comments will be taken for items/issues not already on the agenda. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

NOTICE: Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of Allen County, should contact Allen County Title VI Coordinator Laura Maser, (260) 449-7555, laura.maser@allencounty.us, as soon as possible but no later than forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled event. Individuals requiring special language services should, if possible, contact the Allen County Government Title VI Coordinator at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the date on which the services will be needed. The meeting is open to the public.

Allen County Department of Health Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

April 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Executive Board of Directors of the Allen County Department of Health was called to order in the Council Chambers located at 200 East Berry Street, Fort Wayne, IN at 5:45 p.m., pursuant to the notice sent to all directors in accordance with the bylaws.

Directors Present: Craig Bolinger, Dr. James Cameron, Patti Hays, Mary Hess, Deb Lambert, Steven Schimmele, Sara Trovinger, & Kristin Woebbeking.

Directors Absent: Dr. William Pond

Patti Hays presided over the meeting. Kimberly Meyer recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Patti Hays called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Meeting Reminder Statements from Mindy Waldron:

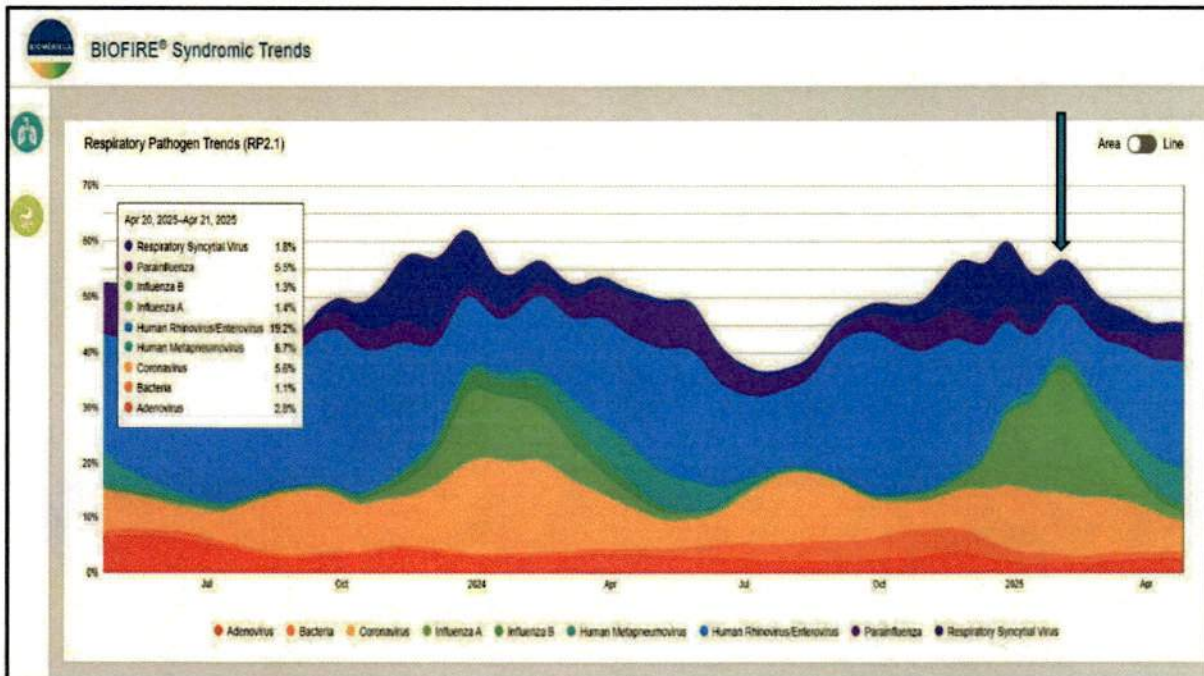
- Remember to speak into your microphone and avoid tapping.
- Due to retirement Mary Hess is stepping down, today is her last meeting.

Summary of Motions Passed at this Meeting:

- A motion was made by Deb Lambert to approve the January 27, 2025, minutes. Craig Bolinger seconded the motion. Motion carried unopposed.
- A motion was made by Mary Hess to approve the consent agenda. Dr. James Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried unopposed.

Health Commissioner's Report - Thomas Gutwein, MD

- Respiratory Pathogen Trends



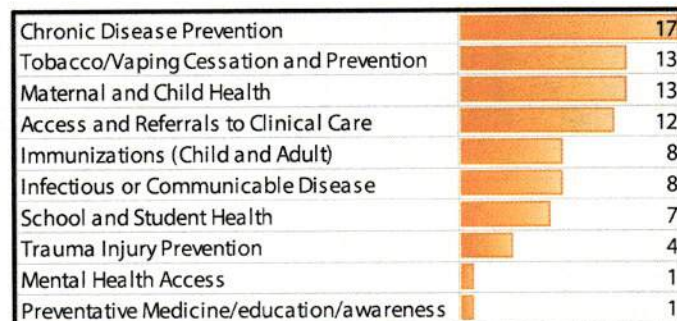
- Health First Indiana, Survey of Allen County Physicians
 - February 2025, all Fort Wayne Medical Society Members were surveyed regarding what areas Health First Indiana funding should be used on. Below is what was asked and the responses received.
 - What area of medicine do you practice?



- Of the State's Core Public Health Service areas which are related to preventive health, which ones do you feel need more emphasis in our community.



- Of the State's Core Public Health Service areas which are related to preventive health, which ones do you see as creating significant barriers to better health for your patients?



- Of the State's Core Public Health Service areas which are related to preventive health, which three would be the most impactful areas to begin implementing programming on - based on your current knowledge.

Chronic Disease Prevention	16
Immunizations (Child and Adult)	14
Tobacco/Vaping Cessation and Prevention	12
Maternal and Child Health	11
School and Student Health	8
Access and Referrals to Clinical Care	8
Trauma Injury Prevention	4
Infectious or Communicable Disease	0

- Follow-up After the Survey
 - Connected with those interested in follow-up for more information.
 - Reviewed current areas of focus for HFAC - on target.
 - Utilizing information for future projects.

Discussion

- No discussion took place regarding Dr. Gutwein's presentation.

Presentation slides are available upon request.

Medical Director's Report - Anna Menze, MD

Refugee Health:

- 55 refugees have been received so far this year.
 - The number of refugees has slowed down significantly since the executive order was issued.
 - From the following areas: Burma, Venezuela, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Medical:

- Continue to see community referrals for Latent Tuberculosis (LTBI).
 - No longer a Priftin shortage, so will be able to offer the preferred 12 week LTBO therapy.
- Civil Surgeon Exams
 - 234 Civil Surgeon exams have been completed since 1/5/2025.
 - Has increased monthly vaccine numbers and patient load in the Immunization Clinic, with all the required pre-exam needs (lab testing, vaccines, mental health screening, etc.).

Immunizations:

- Overall breakdown of vaccines given by month:

NUMBER OF VACCINES GIVEN (PER MONTH)		
	2024	2025
January	440	637
February	397	523
March	461	638
April	414	
May	263	

June	328	
July	528	
August	506	
September	781	
October	777	
November	512	
December	490	
Total	5,899	1,798

- 2023 total vaccines 4,788
- Vaccinations by type (YTD):

VACCINATIONS BY TYPE (YTD)			
Flu	278	Meningitis B	10
IPV	256	Herpes Zoster (Shingrix)	8
COVID-19	247	MMR/Varicella (Proquad)	7
Varicella	217	Rabies	7
TDAP	212	DTAP/IPV/Hib/Hep B	5
Adult Hep B	137	HIB	5
MMR	114	Pediatric Hep B	5
Pediatric Hep A	60	Rotavirus	4
HPV	47	DTAP/IPV (Kinrix)	3
Hep A/Hep B (Twinrix)	34	DTAP/IPV/Hep B (Pediarix)	3
Typhoid	32	DTAP/IPV/HIB (Pentacel)	3
MCV4	30	PPSV23	3
Adult Hep A	27	RSV	2
PCV15	26	PVC20	1
DTAP	15	Mpox	0

Infectious Disease and Case Management Division:

- Received 5 Tuberculosis cases so far in 2025.
 - Continue to treat 5 cases from 2024.
 - 4 pulmonary (TB located just in the lungs) & 1 extra-pulmonary (TB located outside of the lungs)
 - 2 males, 3 females
 - 100% foreign born
 - No resistance found at this time (3 pending cases)
- Top Infectious Diseases for 2025 (YTD):

TOP INFECTIOUS DISEASES AS OF 4/16/2025	
COVID-19	2,165 (confirmed - 902, probable - 1,263)
Hepatitis C	56
Latent Tuberculosis	25
Hepatitis B	25
Influenza - associated death	19
Campylobacter	18
Strep Pneumonia	14
Histoplasmosis	10
Salmonella	9
Group A Strep	8

- HIV/STD Surveillance Data for 2025 Quarter 1:

ALLEN COUNTY HIV/STD SURVEILLANCE DATA FOR 2025 QUARTER 1						
Infection	Qtr. 1 Cases	Qtr. 2 Cases	Qtr. 3 Cases	Qtr. 4 Cases	2024 Total Cases	2023 Total Cases
Chlamydia	490				2092	2414
Gonorrhea	96				540	780
Early Syphilis	13				50	71
Late Latent Syphilis	10				41	57
HIV	6				16	42

*Preliminary Numbers for Allen County as of 4/10/2025

- Early & late syphilis cases are up in quarter one.
 - Obtaining Bicillin (preferred treatment for syphilis) is no longer an issue.
- Gonorrhea has declined significantly.
- Chlamydia infections have declined slightly.

STD Division:

- The mobile unit youth outreach has started the 6 week spring session on Tuesday and Thursdays in North and South locations.
- Special outreach events this quarter: Cinderella Dress Day, Indiana Tech Safe Spring Break Fair, PFW Well-being Summit, educational presentation to a Human Sexuality class at Ivy Tech, vendor table on congenital syphilis at Perinatal Symposium.
- New incentive utilized with prenatal providers to encourage early prenatal testing and syphilis screening three times during pregnancy (first visit, 28 weeks, at birth).

Discussion

- Patti Hays asked if there are any prescription drugs that are imported, like Heparin, that we are dependent on.
 - Dr. Anna Menze said historically there is a national stockpile of drugs that are used for infectious diseases. Many drugs are not manufactured in the US.
 - Sara Trovinger stated that most generic drugs are manufactured outside of the US and non-generic are mostly manufactured in the US.

See meeting supplements for full details.

Measles Update - Dr. Erika Pitcher (Clinical Response)

- Notified 4/7/2025 of a child who potentially had measles, prompting an investigation.
 - Initial reports were sent to another county erroneously over the weekend.
 - The same day lab results reported that the patient was a confirmed case.
- Case investigations quickly revealed 5 other symptomatic contacts.
 - Contacted each person to conduct necessary testing and contact tracing.
 - All 5 became confirmed cases.
- As of 4/21/2025
 - 8 Cases
 - 5 Children (Under Age 18) - All Unvaccinated
 - 3 Adults (Over Age 18) - All Unknown Vaccination Status
- Investigations took place on each confirmed case to gather the following information.
 - Detailed symptom onset timeline.
 - Determination of infectious period (4 days before rash onset through 4 days after).

- Detailed history of contacts during the infectious period, including anyone in their household, school/daycare/church attendance, health care or other public visits, public outings/events, travel, social gatherings, etc.
 - Multiple attempts were made to reach each contact identified for any public exposures (there were hundreds).
 - Contact notification included the following information:
 - Date and location of exposure.
 - Screening each person for symptoms of measles.
 - If immunization records were not in CHIRP, records were requested or the patient was offered a titer.
 - If born 1957 or later and no appropriate immunization documentation, or no documentation of immunity the contact was informed to stay home through the incubation period.
 - Given contact information on who to call if they developed symptoms.
- Additional Clinical Activities:
 - Health care provider update sent out to all urgent care offices, walk-in clinics and hospitals.
 - Memo and ongoing helpful resources sent to all schools.
 - Hotline established to field community calls.
 - Daily update calls with IDOH team, and ACHD team.
- Ongoing:
 - Continued monitoring of contacts (thru incubation period).
 - Continued attempts to reach certain contacts (attempted 3 times).
 - Advising schools as many asked how to be as prepared as possible in the event of school-related cases (resources created to assist).
- Very grateful for the partnerships and assistance received from many organizations while the outbreak investigation was ongoing.
 - Indiana Department of Health
 - Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
 - Local Schools
 - Local Hospitals and Healthcare Providers
 - Surrounding County Health Departments

Measles Update - Mindy Waldron (Administrative Response)

- Other activities going on simultaneously while the clinical team was busy completing case investigations.
 - Media Releases/Interviews
 - Local
 - Journal Gazette
 - WANE TV
 - 21 Alive News
 - WFFT
 - WBOI
 - State/National
 - WTHR
 - AP News
 - Wall Street Journal
 - Most wanted to hear from a medical professional (Dr. Gutwein).
 - Dr. Gutwein did all the live interviews.

- Matt LeBlanc (Communications Director) & Mindy fielded some of the print/national responses.
 - 3rd press release issued on 4/21/2025.
- Kept the following groups/people informed:
 - Executive Board
 - Commissioners & Mayors
 - Staff
- Clinical team fielded hotline calls, and worked to keep hospitals and schools informed with “need to know” information when requested.
- MMR Vaccine Clinic
 - Partnered with Super Shot (2 staff & vaccine) to offer free vaccines on three days (4/10, 4/11, & 4/12).
 - Vaccination Clinic Outcomes

Total Pts	Measles clinic (appt's for measles specifically)	Routine Appts (already on schedule for age-appropriate vaccines)	Grand Total (# of patients)
4/10/2025 10a-7p	94	20	114
4/11/2025 10a-4p	86	19	105
4/12/2025 9a-12p	64	15	79
Grand Total	244	54	298

- Total Vaccines Given: 408
- Measles Vaccines Given: MMR - 189, MMRV - 55
 - Includes 164 additional childhood vaccines that were accepted during this clinic to bring children up-to-date.
- Thank You!
 - Local/State/National Media
 - Super Shot, Inc.
 - Local Elected Officials

Discussion

- Mary Hess commented that a few years back the Health Department passed out to schools a template on how to handle the outbreak of a disease and one of the things on there was how to handle the walking well. With the hotline this is managed well because a lot of the time the focus is on the sick. In the school setting they know what children have or have not been vaccinated and how to handle it if an outbreak occurred at the school. Adults are different, that is where most questions came from.
- Patti Hays asked if people got vaccinated in other areas (pharmacy, doctor's offices, etc.).
 - Anne Menze stated that at her practice they have ordered a lot of titers and there were a lot of nurse visits for the MMR vaccine.
 - Mindy Waldron said that we can request a report regarding this but it would take some time and is a very good question.
- Dr. Cameron asked about the at risk population in Allen County and if this event has lowered the numbers at risk.
 - Mindy Waldron said that it is still a pretty large number. Currently sitting at roughly 61%, which is low, so the event has not put much of a dent in the at risk

population. Measles is very transmissible and this is a good message to educate the at risk population on.

- Erika Pitcher said that the MMR rate is 89.1%. This outbreak has shown how susceptible individuals are that are not vaccinated.
- Dr. Cameron asked why individuals should care about the measles outbreak.
 - Dr. Gutwein said that 2 out of 1,000 people that contract the measles will die. Others will be hospitalized with pneumonia or dehydration. Some will end up with permanent nerve damage and when they turn 7 or 8, they can get subacute sclerosing panencephalitis which can be debilitating.
- Dr. Cameron asked about an individuals immunity decreasing as they get older, after receiving the MMR vaccine series.
 - Dr. Gutwein said that most individuals are 97% immune 20-30 years out from receiving the vaccine.
- Deb Lambert thanked the ACDOH team for how well they are handling the outbreak.
- Sara Trovinger asked about the HFI funding being cut and if it would hinder the response if another outbreak were to occur in the future.
 - Mindy Waldron said that it would but she would like to hold answering this question as future slides will cover this.

Presentation slides are available upon request.

Administrator's Report - Mindy Waldron

- Health First Allen County Updates
 - Local health departments received \$150 million for 2025 (split among all counties).
 - HFI request is for \$100 million for each 2026 & 2027.
 - 1/3 less than what was received in 2025.
 - Legislature is navigating an unprecedented \$2 billion+ budget shortfall for 2026.
 - Prompting large cuts and Health First Indiana funding is in jeopardy.
 - Awaiting the outcomes of HB 1001.
 - Changes in the current version of the bill (could still change):
 - Removed tobacco cessation and emergency preparedness as core public health services.
 - Work or staffing in these areas would have to switch back to local monies.
 - Changed the "split" on allowed expenditures to a 90/10 (preventive health/regulatory & all other) vs. 60/40.
 - Expenditures limited to legal US citizens and Indiana residents.
 - Remaining optimistic, and continue:
 - Site visits to new 2025 granted organizations.
 - To prepare the request for proposals and all associated things for an early June release for 2026 public health grants.
 - Work on local key performance indicators (over and above the IDOH required 33+ KPIs and CPHS work across all fronts) on:
 - Preventing Congenital Syphilis
 - Increasing Childhood Vaccination Rates
 - Increasing Community Childhood Lead Testing
- General Department Updates
 - Began work on all the 2026 budgets.
 - HFAC State Budget
 - HFAC Local Budget
 - General Departmental Budget

- Annual reports, including new HFAC report, distributed and posted.
- HFI look-back 2024 budget for IDOH completed and submitted.
- Working through bills that have passed or will pass with effects to the ACDOH.
 - HB 1577 - Changes licensure, inspections, fees and associated processes for mobile food trucks across the state.
 - HB 1001 - HFI Funding
- New Indiana Food Code
 - Effective 4/16/2025
 - Entire inspection platform/associated documents had to be redone (ordinance, forms, inspection documents, and more).
 - The Food Division has been extremely diligent in their team training, preparation, and testing of the newly updated system for inspections.
 - Thank you to the entire food team and Danielle Alger (Informatics Division) who worked very hard to get the platform updated in time.
- Annual Reports
 - Many past annual reports can be downloaded at [Annual Reports | Allen County Department of Health](#).
 - Program impact statements can be found at [Program Impact Statements | Allen County Department of Health](#).
 -

Discussion

- Patti Hays asked what amount of HFI funding would be needed for the ACDOH to continue doing what it needs to do.
 - Mindy Waldron said that in the first year of HFI funding the amount was \$4.8 million and the second year was \$8.9 million. Could live with 1/3 of the \$8.9 million, much lower and it would be hard. Would still need the local tax amount to stay the same. The local tax amount was set to staircase down with the increase in the HFI funding. However, with a decrease in HFI funding the local tax amount will need to be renegotiated.
- Dr. Cameron stated that there has been a lot of work on lowering maternal and infant mortality in the state but the numbers are still well below the "Healthy People 2030" goal and HFI funding is needed to continue working on this. Finding it difficult how the requirement of not serving non-US citizens will be implemented. How do you tell the programs that they have to document who they serve and if they serve non-US citizens, are they no longer eligible for a grant.
 - Mindy Waldron said that these are questions that have been posed to advocacy groups and the state department of health. The answers coming back are that they are unsure until the bill passes. "We will lose the trust that we have begun to gain when we don't have to ask those questions. If we have to begin asking these, we will become one of the government entities that cannot be trusted by individuals not legally here. We do not care; we are trying to protect everybody."
- Patti Hays asked about the cost to the ACDOH for the measles outbreak, given that it is an unbudgeted expense.
 - Mindy Waldron said that the hours that staff were involved in the measles outbreak have been documented. Also, every cost such as the MMR vaccine, titers, etc. have been tracked. Every cost associated with an outbreak is tracked but at this time there isn't a number for the cost of the measles outbreak.

Presentation slides are available upon request.

Personnel Report - Mindy Waldron

- Hired Positions:
 - Brendan Hoover - Environmental Health Specialist (Pollution Control)
- Open Positions:
 - Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) - HIV/STD Prevention Division

Consent Agenda

- A motion was made by Mary Hess to approve the consent agenda. Dr. James Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried unopposed.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment: 6:46 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: July 21, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,



Thomas Gutwein, MD
Health Commissioner



Patti Hays
Board Vice President