

A shower of colorful confetti in shades of red, blue, yellow, and pink falls from the top of the page.

Celebrating Excellence



Medina County Health Department
2015 ANNUAL REPORT



HEALTH COMMISSIONER



Krista Wasowski, MSW, MPH

I am very pleased to present the 2015 Medina County Health Department Annual Report. This past year has been a very busy and successful year for your Medina County Health Department. After many months of preparation, we hosted a team of health officials from other states who assessed the functioning of our operation. I can proudly tell you that in November 2015 Medina County became the 6th local health district in Ohio to achieve national accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). With over 3,000 health districts in the nation, your local health department has become 1 of 96 across the U.S, and 1 of only 8 in Ohio, to attain this status. I am sure many readers of this document are familiar with the standards of various industries. For this annual report we have decided to share with you the 12 domains by which we were judged, along with examples of the work we are doing for you in each. We want citizens of Medina County to have a better understanding of what occurs beyond the usual numbers that we report for inspections. You can still find that traditional summary on our website.

This document reflects some of the work your health district has done throughout the year to improve the health of our communities, to mobilize and strengthen community partnerships, and to ensure that we, as a public health agency, are continuously working to improve the quality of the services we deliver. I am proud of the team approach that we have both within our agency and among our many community partners for the protection and improvement of health in our county. From healthy meals, to drug prevention, to child health, to transportation, I am always amazed at the many efforts health department staff members are involved in throughout the county with a wide range of coalition partners. This level of commitment is an example of why Medina is an amazing county. I am proud that your Medina County Health Department is an active partner, and that we are all working together to prevent disease, assure a healthful environment, prolong life, and promote well-being for the citizens of Medina County.

GOVERNANCE

The board of health plays an important part of improving and promoting health in Medina County. Made up of seven members from every community in the county, they offer direction and guidance.

Buck Adams
City of Wadsworth

Diane Capretta, BSN, RN, MBA, CCRN
City of Brunswick

Thomas Jenkins
City of Medina

Thomas Lehner, MD, FAAFP
Board of Health Physician

Ronald Ricci, DDS
Township Representative

Robert Romeyn
Licensing Council

Todd Supeck
Township Representative

ASSESS

Addressing the health needs of the community is our #1 priority. Before we can do that, we have to know what those needs are. Research, surveys, and data collection are the essential tools we use to plan, develop and execute programs and services that best serve you and your family.

A series of **focus group** discussions helped us identify the reasons why Medina County residents from low income households were not easily receiving proper healthcare. Sixty residents shared their stories.

As a leader and facilitator in the **Living Well Medina County** coalition, we've been able to partner with other social service organizations to identify and address health concerns facing our community. This collaboration was noted as an area of excellence by PHAB.

You are our customers. **We value your opinion** and invite you to tell us how well we are doing. Visit our website at www.medinahealth.org and click on our feedback link.

INVESTIGATE

We explore and examine a variety of health problems and environmental hazards that impact the community.

Measles, ebola, and even the common flu are just a few of the diseases we monitor around the clock. **Our 24/7 surveillance system** enables us to identify and provide information about threats, challenges, and hazards that can affect your health and safety.

By utilizing a **geographic information system (GIS)** we can capture, store, monitor, and analyze data related to every septic system in the county. This information helps us ensure that safe water standards are being met. PHAB recognized our use of GIS technology as an area of excellence during the accreditation process.

Our staff investigated **623 cases of reportable communicable diseases** and monitored **63 travelers for symptoms** after they returned from ebola affected areas.





INFORM AND EDUCATE

As a trusted source of health information, you can count on the Medina County Health Department to deliver current and reliable information through a variety of communication channels including community events, school presentations, the local press, and printed materials. **We are recognized throughout the state** as having a strong public presence with our agency website and social media efforts. Public outreach was noted as an area of excellence by PHAB.

As a **Project DAWN** distribution and training site, we provide overdose education and naloxone to individuals who have a family member struggling with opioid addiction. The program also offers information about other community resources that can provide addiction support and counseling.

Medina County Health Department dietitians and educators deliver nutrition and physical activity programs to 20 schools throughout the county. **Obesity prevention** programs are also conducted at various after-school programs, preschools, and to our clients in our Health and WIC clinics.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No man is an island, and neither is the Medina County Health Department. By building **relationships with community partners**, we expand our resources, reach more people, and most importantly, support the residents of Medina County.

We are the administrator of the **Safe Communities Coalition**, a collaboration of business leaders, educators, healthcare professionals, and law enforcement officials aimed at reducing traffic related injuries and deaths.

Nearly 400 residents have joined our efforts in emergency and disaster response by becoming **Medical Reserve Corps** volunteers. Our program was recognized as an area of excellence by PHAB.

POLICIES AND PLANS

The power of planning and policy development encourages partners to work together to eliminate gaps in services, prepare for the future, and promote healthy choices. Collaborative planning with other local and regional organizations has made us more efficient and ready to **respond to the needs of our community**.

Emergency operation plans are serious business. We are continuously developing, practicing, and modifying plans so we are prepared to respond to any emergency at any time. Whether it an epidemic like measles or ebola, or a natural disaster, the Medina County Health Department is ready to serve its community.

Participation in state-wide planning groups was an area of excellence noted by PHAB.

In 2015, our staff completed extensive planning to identify a location in each city (**Brunswick, Medina, and Wadsworth**) to dispense medications or vaccinations during a public health emergency,

PUBLIC HEALTH LAW

Working in conjunctions with **local and state legislators**, we are able to balance the individual rights of our residents and our public responsibility to protect and promote the health of the community.

The process that we use to review pending laws and rules on topics ranging from vaccination requirements to sewage to tobacco-free workplaces was recognized as an area of excellence by PHAB.

The **electronic tracking system** used by our food safety inspection team helped us inspect over 2,563 food establishments and was identified as an area of excellence by PHAB.

follow us at **medinahealth** on





ACCESS TO CARE

Despite a wealth of healthcare providers and services throughout the county, many residents find it **difficult to connect with the services** they need. We're working to break down those barriers that get in the way of healthcare delivery.

We worked with the Medina County Sanitary Engineer's office to secure **a grant for \$300,000** from the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund to help low and middle income homeowners replace failing septic systems in 2016.

WIC has made nutritious food more easily accessible to qualified families by converting to a simplified **electronic payment method**.

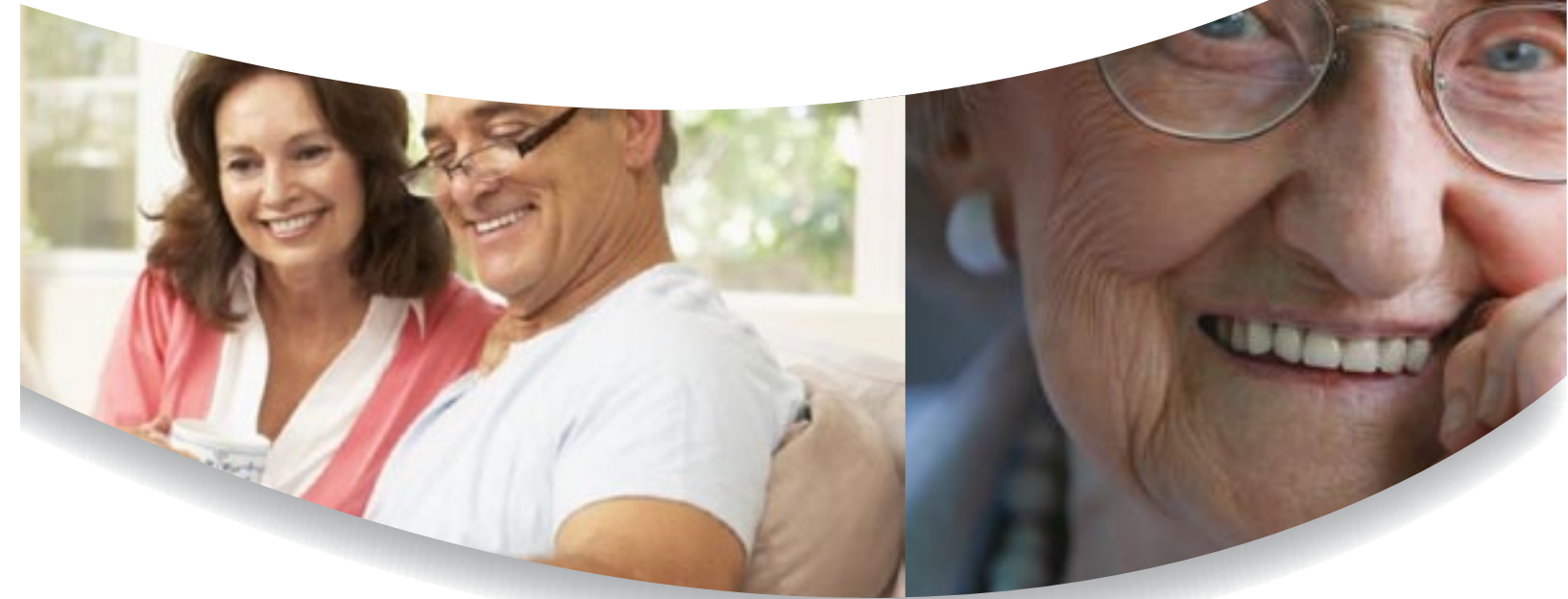
Our dental clinic makes **emergency care** more accessible to the community by offering walk-in clinics twice a week. These clinics served 916 emergency dental patients in 2015.

WORKFORCE

The value of any organization is, in large part, due to the skill and expertise of the staff. Assessing, evaluating, and providing learning opportunities for our employees on every level and in every service area improves the quality of our programs and services, reduces operating costs, and ultimately, increases customer satisfaction.

The average tenure of our employees is **10 years**, indicating their dedication and commitment to the community. Eighteen staff members have 15 or more years of service with the organization.

Internships were provided for 33 students seeking professional opportunities in such areas as nursing, dentistry, nutrition, health promotion, emergency management, environmental health, and administration. Our internship programs were recognized as an area of excellence by PHAB.



QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Often times improvement calls for change, however, not all change results in improvement. That's why we use a methodical planning process to dissect a situation, determine what is working, what is not working, and most importantly, how we are going to change the process to ensure we are delivering the **best service possible**.

This past year, we identified our front desk experience as an area needing attention. Working through the quality improvement process helped us develop a new way to deliver excellent service to you, our customers.

Staff were also invited to present a successful quality improvement project at the Northeast Ohio Environmental Association conference. That project illustrated a newly adopted method for increasing animal owner compliance during a rabies investigation, resulting in better relationships with animal owners and reduced costs of investigation.

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES

By combining expert opinion, scientific proof, and community insight, we are able to provide services that are proven to be effective and ultimately result in better health outcomes.

Research clearly illustrates the **benefits of breastfeeding** for both baby and mom. The support and education available through WIC has resulted in a 71.9% breastfeeding initiation rate. . . meaning the majority of mom's enrolled in our WIC program choose to introduce breast milk to their infant before formula.



ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT

Strong leadership, sound financial planning and solid policies and procedures are the building blocks of the health department's infrastructure. Having a stable foundation lends itself to the daily operation of each division and the health department as a whole.

2015 Fiscal Report

Revenue

Levy Tax & Other	\$2,918,176
Client Fees & Contracts	\$2,779,395
Grants	\$659,001
Federal Funds	\$0
State Subsidy	\$46,125
Transfers/Advances	\$369,830
	\$6,772,527

Expenses

Salaries	\$3,346,358
Benefits	\$966,137
Supplies	\$273,137
Remittances to State	\$195,329
Property/Liability Insurance	\$32,962
Advertising & Printing	\$22,226
Travel & Training	\$83,487
Contract Services	\$318,388
Postage	\$14,221
Other Expenses	\$75,229
Utilities	\$41,835
Equipment	\$44,859
Grant Indirect Costs	\$36,527
Transfers/Advances	\$369,830
	\$5,820,525

Medina County Births & Deaths

Total Resident Births	1725
Resident Births in the County	716
Resident Births Outside the County	1009

Leading causes of death in 2015

1. Heart Disease
2. Cancer
3. Chronic lower respiratory disease
4. Unintentional injuries
5. Stroke

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



www.medinahealth.org

330-723-9688

4800 Ledgewood Dr. • Medina, Ohio

2015 Communicable Diseases

Disease	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Arboviral neuroinvasive/non neuroinvasive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	5	0	1	2	2	4	3	4	1	2	4	1	29
Chlamydia infections	20	21	27	12	26	24	32	32	25	22	18	25	284
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	5
E. coli 0157: H7/ Shiga toxin-producing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Giardiasis	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	7
Gonococcal Infections	1	1	3	3	5	4	6	3	2	2	6	8	44
Haemophilus influenzae	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	6
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis B	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	6
Hepatitis C	10	8	9	5	11	7	3	7	9	4	4	4	81
Influenza	35	9	5	9	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	65
Legionnaires' disease	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	2	12
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Meningococcal disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningitis, Aseptic	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	7
Meningitis, Bacteria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mycobacterium disease (non-TB)	1	1	4	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	11
Pertussis	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
Salmonellosis	0	2	1	1	2	2	4	2	2	1	0	5	22
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Streptococcal disease, Group A, invasive (IGAS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Streptococcal disease, Group B Newborn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive (ISP)	1	1	6	5	2	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	21
Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Varicella	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	2	9
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (_____)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cases	75	45	61	44	53	47	59	62	50	36	41	50	623



2015 Health Inspections

Inspection Type	Townships																Cities			Villages					TOTAL Inspections for 2015		
	Brunswick Hills	Chatham	Granger	Guilford	Harrisville	Hinckley	Homer	Lafayette	Litchfield	Liverpool	Medina	Montville	Sharon	Spencer	Wadsworth	Westfield	York	Brunswick	Medina	Wadsworth	Chippewa Lake	Gloria Glens	Lodi	Seville		Spencer	Westfield
Campground Programs	1	5	2	4	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	28
Food Protection Programs	57	23	29	18	73	46	9	52	68	81	180	113	32	4	1	42	33	450	661	372	2	0	86	87	17	27	2563
Semi-Public Sewage Systems	2	2	3	20	10	12	3	13	2	2	1	9	5	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89
Plumbing/Medical Gas	258	26	89	25	11	142	6	81	43	115	274	370	201	22	48	19	93	3	20	534	11	4	7	59	4	39	2504
Pool, Spa, Special Use Pools	0	0	7	11	0	3	4	4	0	0	17	36	0	2	0	2	2	69	35	38	0	0	0	2	0	0	232
Rabies Control	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	3	2	2	8	14	0	0	0	1	0	0	39
Real Estate Programs	7	10	52	14	11	57	2	27	13	16	20	10	48	3	20	17	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	346
Schools	0	0	8	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	6	2	0	2	6	8	25	23	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	102
Sewage Programs	54	64	83	68	14	168	15	80	44	129	67	89	196	24	58	36	40	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1232
Solid Waste Programs	9	0	17	1	1	5	0	7	4	8	0	6	1	0	2	17	5	2	11	10	3	1	1	8	0	0	119
Tattoo/Body Piercing	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Water Programs	4	2	15	11	6	25	0	5	0	2	4	10	45	0	14	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152
Smoking Ban	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	8	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	28
Miscellaneous*	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
TOTAL 2015 INSPECTIONS	394	132	305	173	127	467	40	269	175	356	569	649	536	58	146	152	205	568	767	1000	16	5	94	157	21	68	7463