



Public Health Starts Here

Each year, during the first full week of April, National Public Health Week is celebrated across the United States. This time is used to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight success stories.

The Medina County Health Department is excited to announce this year's theme: *Public Health Starts Here*.

Public health **is not** the efforts of a single person; we all have a direct impact on our local communities and around the world. Public health work can sometimes be unseen, but we want to use this week to make public health visible. It is how we live, interact with others, and prepare for the future.

This week, we will focus on how public health starts here in Medina County. We will share what we have been working on and highlight the valuable efforts and resources of several community organizations.

Our Daily Themes:

Monday, April 7- Public Health Starts Here: Food Access
Tuesday, April 8- Public Health Starts Here: Environmental Health
Wednesday, April 9- Public Health Starts Here: Overdose Prevention
Thursday, April 10- Public Health Starts Here: Surveillance & Preparedness
Friday, April 11- Public Health Starts Here: Improving Connections
Saturday, April 12- Public Health Starts Here: Accessible, Quality Healthcare
Sunday, April 13- Public Health Starts Here: Thank you Medina County

Join us in celebrating National Public Health Week by following us on social media: Facebook, X, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Be a part of the conversation. Say thank you to your favorite public health workers.

SPOILER ALERT! Be the first to read our new blog- <u>Public Health Starts</u> <u>Here: Find a Career</u>

Medina County Health Department



Taking Action, Making Impacts

Our 2025 Annual Report is out now!

This report showcases the collaborative efforts that drive the health of our community. From disease control to outreach initiatives, we rely on partnerships with healthcare providers, government agencies, non-profits, and citizens to improve public health.

Explore the full report to see how we are taking action and making impacts here in Medina County.

2025 Annual Report

View Past Reports



Boy Scouts Take Action in Medina County

Boy Scout Troop 511 out of Granger is making a big impact in our community by raising awareness about the dangers of vaping and the environmental hazards of vape waste. Through their partnership with the Medina County Health Department, they have led a **Youth Impact Project** to advocate and educate about this public health crisis.

Recognizing the growing issue of vaping among youth, the Scouts launched an initiative to inform their peers about the risks associated with e-cigarettes. They created **posters** for their school, warning students about the harmful effects to their health as well as to the environment.

The Scouts extended their advocacy efforts to state leaders. They wrote letters to our state representatives expressing their concerns about increasing vape waste caused by improperly discarded vape cartridges and pods. Their voices were heard—the northeast Ohio office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) acknowledged their efforts and encouraged continued

advocacy. Their letter was forwarded to the Ohio EPA who also responded with appreciation.

In addition, the Scouts also took direct action to combat vape waste in our county by organizing a **vape clean-up** at Brunswick Lake Park/Susan Hambley Nature Center. In total the scouts collected eight bags of litter, including vape cartridges and other hazardous waste. To further spread awareness, they **set up an advocacy booth** at Hinckley's Buzzard Day event, engaging with community members about the dangers of vaping, the environmental impact of vape waste, and asking passersby to sign a pledge to be vape free.

On behalf of the Medina County Health Department, we would like to thank everyone involved with this project, especially Boy Scout Troop 511 and their families. Thank you for advocating for change in our community!







HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT? I will be here 3 years, come July.

WHAT WAS YOUR POSITION BEFORE COMING TO MCHD?

Prior to MCHD, I worked at Buehler's Fresh Foods in their Service Center and Cash Office.

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ROLE AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT?

I currently am a clerical specialist for the Administrative Services

Division, as well as the Deputy Registrar for our Vital Statistics Office.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WORKING AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT? Not only do I get the opportunity to work with some amazing people, but I also am able to connect with the community. In Vital Statistics we work with a large demographic of people from all around the US (and even the world!), and I find the experience of helping those individuals to be very rewarding.

WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL BE YOUR BIGGEST PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE IN THE COMING YEAR?

In the coming months our Vitals office will be transitioning to a completely new program to issue our birth and death records. While this will provide a gateway to many wonderful ways of increasing efficiency, the adjustment for Administrative Services as a whole will be quite the journey!

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN?

I enjoy writing in my free time, as well as reading all different genres of books. On the weekends you can usually catch me going to shows for local music artists and spending quality time with my friends.



Car Seat Checks and Installations

- Wednesday, April 9, 2025
- 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm
- Appointments are required. Call 330-723-9688, option 5, to schedule.
- Free and open to the public

Upcoming Events

Healthy Recipe of the Month:

Southwest Chicken Salad



Ingredients:

- 1 lb cooked, shredded chicken (about 3 breasts)
- 1 can (15.5 oz) black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (15.5 oz) corn, *drained*
- 1-2 fresh jalapeños seeded, chopped
- 3/4 cup cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 1/2 cup red onion, chopped
- 1/4 cup pepitas

Dressing:

- 3/4 cup mayo
- 1/4 cup fresh lime juice
- 1 tablespoon chili powder

- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Instructions:

- Add all of the ingredients for the dressing into a medium bowl. Mix until combined.
- In a large bowl add the shredded chicken, black beans, corn, jalapeños, tomatoes, red onion, and pepitas.
- Pour the dressing over the ingredients and stir to combine.
- Serve on its own, in a sandwich or over lettuce. Enjoy!

Full Recipe











The Medina County Health Department has protected your health since 1913 and has been nationally accredited since 2015. Services are partially supported by your property tax health levy. Equal opportunity provider.



Our mailing address is:

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For questions related to anything on this newsletter, please email Mike Metcalf at mmetcalf@medinahealth.org

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