



Ross County



Annual Report
2008

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND BALANCES FOR FY ENDING DEC. 31, 2008

Fund	Balance (1-1-08)	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending (12-31-08)
Administrative	759,392.08	1,195,949.37	1,281,726.23	673,615.22
Home Health	111,799.65	2,430,095.80	2,430,095.80	111,799.65
Environmental	.00	480,847.53	480,847.53	.00
Community Health	12,867.75	1,464,346.28	1,423,605.26	53,608.77
Health Education	(102,672.27)	592,311.23	554,925.78	(65,286.82)
Public Health Infrastructure	(3,291.19)	137,953.71	144,887.98	(10,225.46)
Total Health District	778,096.02	6,301,503.92	6,316,088.58	763,511.36

** (Negative balances reflect grant funds receivable at year's end.)



Ross County Board of Health

Seated L-R: George Vandemark; Ceil Corcoran; Charles Halm, President; Gary Prater, Vice-President.
 Standing L-R: Dianna Gray; Thomas Hamman; Mike Holdren; Dr. David McKell.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Board of Health shall be to prevent communicable and other diseases and the pollution of the water, air and land; prevent contamination or adulteration of food; improve the health of all its citizens; and offer programs, education and activities which ensure the accessibility of health services to all citizens within the Ross County Health District.

2008 Activities

HEALTH EDUCATION

HEALTH EDUCATION

Director: Cordy Boedeker, BA

Number of Employees: 10

Programs: Help Me Grow: 364 children served
 Newborn Home Visits: 182

Additional programs include: Heart Health of Ross County; Tobacco Use Prevention Coalition; Parents as Teachers; Father 2 Father; 21st Century.

Year in Review: *Cardiovascular health program works with other area agencies and businesses to promote healthy workplaces (county earned a Healthy Ohio Community Gold Award); car seat fitting stations held; grant allows Tobacco Use Prevention activities to continue; 4th Annual Community Baby Shower held in September; collaboration with County MR/DD to establish DEA Team; helped to establish a preschool transition group for Part C families at the Child Development Center (OUC).*

HOME HEALTH

HOME HEALTH

Director: Wanda Whetsel, ADN

Number of Employees: 70

2008 Visits:

- Medicare: 8,678
- Medicaid: 20,999
- PASSPORT: 3,024
- Private Insurance: 569
- Veterans: 1,464
- Workers Compensation: 112
- Total Visits: 34,855

Year in Review: *No citations were received during JCAHO triennial survey, ODH Recertification survey or the annual PASSPORT survey; implemented on-site training classes for recruiting home health aides; added a third Licensed Physical Therapy contract; streamlined billing through purchase of new clinical software.*

Compiled and designed by the Ross County Health District's Communication Division, Rami Yoakum, Director

2008 Activities

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Director: Lana Cherrington, RS

Number of Employees: 8

Programs: *Food Service* - Licenses 429, Inspections - 1,203

Sewage - Permits 313, Inspections 1,540

Water Systems - Permits 16, Inspections 15

Recreational - Permits 65, Inspections 251

Plumbing - Permits 61, Inspections 189

Tattoo/Body Piercing - Licenses 14, Inspections 20

Rabies - Tests 26 (two positive), Investigations 280

Nuisance Investigations - 588

Year in Review: *Added food service inspection summaries to the health district Website; performed aeration inspections in Green, Colerain, Springfield, Harrison, Liberty, Jefferson and Franklin townships; abated two illegal manufactured home parks (Liberty Hill and Massieville roads); conducted two Serv-Safe food protection classes; achieved approval from the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board to provide training for licensed plumbers; performed public awareness concerning June E.coli outbreak (no local cases); collected birds and trapped mosquitoes to be sent to state lab and tested for West Nile (no local cases); resolution increased licensing fees for some EH services; Senior Sanitarian Kelly Spindler named "Southeast Ohio Sanitarian of the Year."*

VITAL STATISTICS

Registrar: Debbie Miner

2008 Births - 1,282

2008 Deaths - 769

2008 Fetal Deaths - 8

2008 Twins - 10 pair; Triplets - 0

2008 Home Births: 3

2008 Leading causes of death: Heart Disease - 317; Cancer (all types) - 157; Pneumonia - 67; Sepsis - 36; Alzheimer's - 35; Stroke - 32; Suicide/Homicide (to include drug and alcohol overdose) 29; Accidents - 18; Renal/Kidney disease - 16; Other - 62.

FROM THE DESK OF THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

To the Citizens of Chillicothe and Ross County:

As it probably was for many of you, 2008 proved to be a challenging year for the Ross County Health District.

The turbulent economy affects a public agency such as ours, just as it does other businesses. However, we tightened our belt and focused on making responsible and intelligent decisions that ensured continued public health services for our citizens.

Financially we remain sound, but cautious when it comes to managing your tax dollars. Our programs remain viable, and as plentiful as funding allows.

Since July many of you have taken advantage of the food service inspection summaries we are posting on our Web site. We hope you find these informative and beneficial to public health. We're working with other area agencies to improve health in the workplace: obesity, poor eating habits and inactivity remain significant public health barriers. We continue to plan for emergencies; to vaccinate our children; to make life-saving cancer screenings available to women; and every day our sanitarians work to protect you from food-borne illness and to protect the soil and water we all share.

Public health is not a glamorous occupation. It's role in our nation's health is often overlooked.

Rest assured that we'll remain diligent in 2009.

Also, if you are interested in updated public health news and information, please visit our Web site at www.rosscountyhealth.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Angel

What is the role of Public Health?

Every county in Ohio has a health district - sometimes called a "General Health District," which is guided by a Board of Health. Cities can have either a "health department" (similar to a Transit or Building Department) that falls under the authority of city government, or they can purchase services from a county health district (or other city's health department). The other type is what we have in Ross County: The Ross County Health District is a combined health district, meaning we serve the people of, and have authority in, both the City of Chillicothe and Ross County.

Our duties and our authorities come from the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code. They outline what health districts are supposed to do and what powers we have to do it.

Health districts are governed by Boards of Health. Here we have four members who are appointed by the county's District Advisory Council; three who are appointed by the Mayor of Chillicothe; and one from the local Licensing Council.

Apart from laws that apply statewide, Boards of Health can also pass resolutions that apply only locally.

We're mandated to provide a number of services. These include maintaining birth and death records; environmental health services such as food service inspections and licensing, sewage and septic programs, nuisance inspections and abatements, and rabies investigations. Our public health nursing division is required to perform case management of tuberculosis cases, offer immunizations for children, track and investigate communicable disease outbreaks, and more.

We're required to employ a qualified health commissioner; a medical director if the health commissioner is not a medical doctor; a registrar; and a director of nursing and an environmental health director, as well as the staff they need to carry out the mandated programs. These programs and employees are paid for through general fund monies.

Many of our other programs are funded by grants. These programs are not required by law, but they are beneficial to our citizens and usually require very little local money.

Unlike a hospital, our role is not to cure or to treat the sick, but to do our best to protect our environment, fight communicable diseases, and promote healthy behaviors so that there is less sickness and fewer sick to treat.

To find out more visit us online at www.rosscountyhealth.com.

2008 Activities

COMMUNITY HEALTH - PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Director: Kathy Wakefield, CNP

Number of Employees: 28

Programs: Nurse-of-the-Day Clinic; WIC; TB Case Management; STD Clinics; Influenza Vaccination Clinics; Childhood Immunizations; BCMH Case Management; Health Assessments for Seniors; Southern Ohio Women's Cancer Project; Together We Can (Komen Breast Cancer Grant); Newborn Home Visits.

2008 Communicable Disease Report: Hepatitis A - 3; Hepatitis B - 11; Hepatitis C - 135; Campylobacter - 7; Meningitis - 8; Pertussis (whooping cough) - 7; Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever - 2; Salmonellosis - 12; Streptococcal Pneumonia (invasive) - 10; Chlamydia - 183; Gonorrhea - 31; HIV - 0; Syphilis - 7; Chicken Pox - 13; Influenza - 67; Mycobacteria - 5; Creutzfeldt-Jakob - 2; Cryptosporidiosis - 10; Giardiasis - 3; Lyme Disease - 1.

Clinics: Number held (number served): Pediatric/ADD - 5 (24); Immunization - 249 (1,275); Family Planning/STD - 32 (174); HASP 132 (967); Lice Checks - 462; Immunizations Given - 3,015; Flu Shots Given - 3,687; Pregnancy Tests - 242. Office visits - 3,248. WIC - 2,353 avg. month.

Year in Review: *Expanded childhood immunization program by entering into a contract with a Federally Qualified Health Center; providing work physicals for Head Start personnel and athletic physicals for area athletes; influenza peaked in February (prevalent strain not in vaccine); small outbreak of whooping cough in March at Southeastern School; nationwide salmonella outbreak during the summer (tomatoes possible source); measles cases increase nationwide; outreach flu clinics in all townships.*

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Director: Rami Yoakum, BA

Made up of the Public Health Infrastructure Grant and the Safe Communities Program (Public Safety Grant). Highlights for 2008 include an updated Web site; updated emergency plans, including a new Hazard Analysis; and nearly 80 stories or mentions in local (and other) media. Other responsibilities include role of Public Information Officer, IT, all internal and external communications.