Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

2020 ANNUAL REPORT
At the close of 2019 we learned about an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus, and none of us realized at the time that life as we know it would change dramatically. Looking back on the events of 2020, we have witnessed the untold hardship, illness and loss on a global scale attributed to the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted all facets of our personal and professional lives, Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County remained steadfast of purpose throughout 2020.

Throughout the course of the pandemic, two priorities have guided the collective actions of our Board of Health and our Executive Team: continue to serve our community and protect our employees at all costs. We purposefully made decisions to ensure the health and safety of our employees in an unparalleled, uncertain time. Operationally, we implemented our Continuity of Operations Plan to maintain our foundational 50+ programs and services. Our delivery models may have changed, but we never stopped serving our community. At the same time our COVID-19 Incident Management Team’s response actions protected our citizens and saved lives.

Although 2020 was the most challenging year in the history of Public Health, our accomplishments in response to the challenge are not surprising. It’s what we do. The term “service” is woven into the fabric of our organizational culture, and as public servants, we step up to always meet the needs of our community.

Although no one can accurately predict the course of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, without question, safe and effective vaccines offer the best hope of ending the pandemic. As such, Public Health will continue administering a COVID-19 mass vaccination program in the community until all our citizens have the opportunity to be vaccinated.

I am confident Public Health will meet this challenge as I have complete faith in our team. We are a workforce of trained individuals all working in unison to prevent the spread of disease, promote healthy behaviors, and protect the environment. This purpose will always guide our actions. Public Health’s commitment is to do everything possible to protect the health and lives of the citizens of Montgomery County.

Best of Health,

- Jeffrey A. Cooper, Montgomery County Health Commissioner

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2020-2022 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is a three-year plan that identifies priorities, goals, objectives, and strategies selected to improve the health of Montgomery County residents. After reviewing current data from the 2019 Montgomery Community Health Assessment (CHA), numerous community stakeholders came together to identify the priorities for the CHIP. Based on the findings of the CHA, the community chose to continue the work started on the priorities of the 2016-2019 CHIP - Birth Outcomes (changed to Maternal & Infant Vitality), Chronic Disease Prevention, and Behavioral Health.

Highlights:
The CHIP is a three-year community-driven plan that outlines goals and strategies that will be used by coalitions, task forces, organizations, and citizens to address health priorities in the community.

COMMUNITY OVERDOSE ACTION TEAM - LETTERS OF HOPE

During 2020’s global pandemic, Montgomery County saw a rise in overdose deaths. There were 321 in 2020 versus 285 in 2019.* The Community Overdose Action Team (CDAT) worked to support those in our community struggling with the disease of addiction. As one of many efforts, we called on our community partners to write letters to overdose survivors.

Highlights:
The letters were written to inspire hope and let the survivors know that they are not alone in their journey. In addition to the letters, we included a COVID-19 Addiction Resources flyer, outlining services still available during these trying times.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FOOD SUMMIT

The Montgomery County Food Equity Coalition hosted the 10th annual Montgomery County Virtual Food Summit on Friday, October 16 via Zoom.

The agenda included:
• An update on the Food Equity Plan
• A review of new SNAP policies
• An introduction to the Foodbank Compost System
• The status of retail grocers and changes in the farm supply

For additional information, call (937) 496-3308 or visit mcfoodequitycoalition.org

SAFE SLEEP AMBASSADOR TRAINING

In response to the need for additional focus on Safe Sleep, the EveryOne Reach One Maternal and Infant Vitality Task Force added a Safe Sleep branch. As the branch worked to identify key objectives through the task force’s strategic planning process, incorporating new audiences into the discussion of safe sleep practices rose to the top.

In addition, the branch initiated “Safe Sleep for College Students,” an opportunity to teach those who are older siblings, caregivers and even soon-to-be parents about the best ways to care for babies in their circle, and assist in spreading this knowledge to their peers.

The primary message for parents and others who care for infants is to remember the ABC’s
• Babies should sleep Alone
• On their Back
• In a Crib

For additional information, contact the Crib for Kids Program at (937) 496-6831

PUBLIC HEALTH DESIGNATED AS LGBT HEALTHCARE EQUALITY LEADER

Public Health was designated as an LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader in the Human Rights Campaign’s Healthcare Equality Index (HEI).

The HEI is the national LGBTQ bench-marking tool that evaluates healthcare facilities’ policies and practices related to the equity and inclusion of their LGBTQ patients, visitors and employees.

Highlights:
• Based on nationwide results in the 2020 Healthcare Equality Index of 765 organizations, Public Health is the only public health department in the state of Ohio with Equality Leader status, a perfect 100 score, and the only Dayton-based healthcare organization with this distinction.

ALIGNING FOR IMPACT CONFERENCE

Public Health, in partnership with Montgomery County, the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board (ADAMHS) of Montgomery County, and United Way participated in Aligning for Impact, a forum to learn about the importance of equity and how to address the social determinants of health by using a collective impact approach.

This event took place on January 30 at the Sinclair Conference Center in Dayton. The social determinants of health are the conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and play that affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes.

Highlights:
The goal is a more equitable community with social, economic, and physical environments that promote good health for all.

TOBACCO CESSATION PROGRAM

Public Health’s Tobacco Cessation Program follows the adaptation of the 8-week LIFT (Living Independent From Tobacco) Program.

Each week will focus on a different topic aimed to help the participant make behavior changes and be successful with their quit.

Highlights:
The program provides free help to individuals that want to quit tobacco. For additional information please contact (937) 496-3090.

DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Public Health’s Diabetes Self-Management Education Program provides online classes for persons 18 or older, who are living with Type 2 diabetes with the tools they need to control their diabetes.

This program is certified by the American Diabetes Association and facilitated by a registered dietitian. The classes will teach participants how to monitor and manage their disease.

For additional information, contact Public Health’s Diabetes Coordinator at (937) 225-4189.
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC PRESENTED A SERIOUS THREAT THAT COULD POTENTIALLY OVERWHELM EXISTING PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND HEALTHCARE SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

Managing the consequences of the pandemic required coordination and collaboration among local response partners, as well as state and federal assistance.

Since there was no natural immunity in the population, no vaccine, and rapid person-to-person transmission of the virus, Public Health’s response included multiple interventions to limit the spread of disease and protect the community. All these measures were designed to prevent illness and death, preserve continuity of essential government functions, and minimize social disruption and economic loss. The following pages highlight just a few of the many essential Public Health response efforts that were employed.
COMMUNICATIONS

The Public Health website engaged the public in real time. Facebook Live events to feature informational videos featured experts. Conferences featuring media interviews; and community presentations; a public information campaign launched a multifaceted communication experts and other stakeholders. Messages to the public coordinated, and accurate system for developing to provide a structure and materials to address common concerns.

CALL CENTER

Early in our pandemic response, Public Health recognized the importance of opening a COVID-19 Hotline/Call Center to reduce fear and confusion, as well as provide trusted information for the citizens of Montgomery County. Public Health announced the opening of its COVID-19 Hotline.

The initial public response was so overwhelming that we quickly expanded staffing and operations. Call Center staff answered general questions related to the pandemic and linked citizens to vital community resources for assistance with food, employment, rent, utilities, and a variety of other concerns.

From March through December 2020, the Call Center received 34,272 calls with a total number of 137 staff participating at various times.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

It became apparent early in the development of Public Health’s pandemic response that ensuring adequate levels of PPE and other supplies for the medical community was going to be critical to protect healthcare workers and first responders. Public Health coordinated with our hospital and emergency response partners, and Montgomery County activated the regional Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to assist with gathering, management, and distribution of these critical supplies in the community.

Messaging went out to the community, PPE donations from veterinarians, dentists, construction and manufacturing companies as well as asking for conservation and rationing of existing supplies. Public Health created a “How To Make a Cloth Facemask” video and citizens responded by creating and donating thousands of cloth masks.

By the end of 2020, over 2 million pieces of PPE were distributed including face shields, gowns, masks, N-95s, gloves and shoe covers.

CONTACT TRACING

Public Health began contact tracing activities for the COVID-19 pandemic early in March. Contact tracing is a key public health strategy to slow the spread of communicable disease by working with individuals that received a positive test result to identify their close contacts.

The health department attempts to contact those individuals to alert them that they may have been exposed to COVID-19, as well as providing them with instructions for self-quarantine and isolation, monitoring symptoms, and testing.

Public Health conducted over 39,000 COVID-19 case investigations and attempted to alert 12,000 close contacts.

PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY

Throughout the course of the pandemic in 2020, Public Health received complaints and questions from residents concerning essential and non-essential businesses, violations concerning employees and customers not wearing masks, employee health, lack of social distancing and proper sanitation.

Public Health responded to complaints by calling and visiting businesses, providing education about current health orders and answering questions concerning quarantine and isolation for employees, responsible protocols, and guidance for holding events to the manager or owner. Site investigators determined compliance and made return visits to ensure violations were corrected.

Upon request, we helped facilities identify areas for improvement to increase protection for both customers and employees. Public Health worked with local businesses, city and township officials, schools, venue operators and others to ensure alignment with the state’s orders.

COVID-19 MASS TESTING

COVID-19 testing is critical because it leads to quick identification of positive cases, which allows for treatment and immediate isolation to prevent the spread. Testing also helps to identify close contacts of infected people so they can be notified, tested and treated as needed.

Testing is important in the bigger public health picture for mitigation efforts and helping investigators characterize the prevalence and spread of the disease. Knowing who has been infected is also important because people with immunity from COVID-19 can safely work in essential settings such as healthcare, public safety and the service industry. Public Health conducted multiple pop-up testing events at different sites throughout the community. All testing was free and did not require a doctor’s note.

Public Health tested a total of 6,188 Montgomery County residents were tested in 2020.

VACCINATIONS

Late in December, Public Health received its first shipment of FDA-approved, emergency use authorization, Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and conducted its first clinic for local EMS and home healthcare workers at the Dayton Convention Center on Christmas Eve.

The Ohio Department of Health determined priority populations to be vaccinated in the Phase 1A vaccine allocation which included the following employee groups: EMS, home healthcare, corrections and Conner’s Office medical staff, federally qualified health centers, independent primary care providers, urgent care centers, school nurses, dialysis, dental providers, hospice staff, group homes and residential care facilities staff and residents.

Public Health will continue to hold COVID-19 vaccination clinics in 2021 as more vaccine becomes available and additional people become eligible to receive the vaccine. The goal is to offer the vaccine to all eligible Montgomery County residents who choose to be vaccinated.

MINORITY OUTREACH

Public Health formed a Community Health Equity Education and Outreach team, along with the Local Office of Minority Health and community partners, prioritized COVID-19 outreach toward the most vulnerable demographic groups. Activities included a Vaccine Attitude Survey, an Ask Your Local Experts Video Series, Vaccination Clinics at local churches, minority themed advertising, free face mask giveaways, and numerous online Community Forums.

In October 2020, Public Health challenged students of Montgomery County, ages 10-17 to create a COVID-19 face mask design for a chance to inspire and unite the community to fight the spread of COVID-19. Four different winners were chosen and awarded Chromebooks (1 for each age group 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, and 16-17). Jesse White, age 17, was awarded an additional $100 with his Knock-out COVID-19 design.

Public Health received its first shipment of COVID-19 vaccine and conducted its first clinic for local EMS and home healthcare workers at the Dayton Convention Center on Christmas Eve.
2020

JANUARY 9
World Health Organization (WHO) announces coronavirus-related pneumonia in Wuhan, China

JANUARY 21
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirms first U.S. coronavirus case

JANUARY 25
Public Health activates Incident Management Team

MARCH 9
Ohio declares a state of emergency

MARCH 11
First Public Health media briefing

MARCH 12
Public Health opens COVID-19 call center

MARCH 14
K-12 schools ordered closed

MARCH 22
Ohio Department of Health issues stay-at-home order

MAY 1
Environmental Health begins performing COVID-19 safety inspections in bars, restaurants, and businesses

MAY 2
Retail businesses can reopen

MAY 21
Restaurant dine-in can reopen

JULY 13
Community Health Equity Education & Outreach (CHEEO) established

JULY 16
Public Health hosts first COVID-19 mass testing event

JULY 23
State of Ohio mask mandate instituted

DECEMBER 11
FDA approves emergency use authorization for first COVID-19 vaccine

DECEMBER 24
Public Health holds first COVID-19 vaccination clinic in the Dayton Convention Center for PHASE 1A individuals
## 2020 Montgomery County

### COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by Month *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Hospitalizations</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>2,106</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>2,278</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>1,934</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>4,557</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>57</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>11,726</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>204</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>12,218</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>266</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>37,052</td>
<td>3,193</td>
<td>699</td>
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*Reported to Public Health, Preliminary Data Subject to Change

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## 2020 COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

- **37,052 Total Cases**
- **699 Deaths**
- **3,193 Hospitalizations**
- **6,188 Individuals Tested**
- **24,275 Call Center Calls**
- **3,207 Business Inspections**
- **241,181 Webpage Views**
- **25 Enforcement Orders**
- **34 Media Briefings**

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PPE</th>
<th>Distribution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gloves</td>
<td>1,182,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masks</td>
<td>566,599</td>
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<tr>
<td>N-95</td>
<td>268,685</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gowns</td>
<td>123,448</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoe Covers</td>
<td>5,330</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homemade Masks</td>
<td>2,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>Face Shields</td>
<td>66,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total PPE</td>
<td>2,230,287</td>
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</table>
## 2020* MONTGOMERY COUNTY TOP COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
(COVID-19 DEATH NUMBERS FOUND ON PAGE 11)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Communicable Disease</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Influenza-associated Hospitalization</td>
<td>506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hepatitis C - Chronic</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Streptococcal Disease - Group A</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Streptococcus Pneumoniae</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Legionnaires’ Disease</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pertussis</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Carbapenemase-producing Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CP-CRE)</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Salmonellosis</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Varicella</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All others</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,123</td>
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</tbody>
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*Data is preliminary and subject to change.
Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS)

## 2018-2019 MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Cause of Death</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Heart Disease</td>
<td>2,687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>2,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Accidents</td>
<td>1,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>CLRD*</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Alzheimer’s Disease</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kidney Disease</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Septicemia</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All others</td>
<td>3,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12,807</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease
Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS)

### PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING SOURCES

- **$17.02M (42%)** Human Services Levy
- **$11.79M (29%)** Grants
- **$4.27M (11%)** Charges for Services
- **$4.39M (11%)** Licenses, Permits, and Fees
- **$2.94M (7%)** Miscellaneous

### HUMAN SERVICES LEVY SPENDING

- **$2.69M (16%)** Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services
- **$1.25M (7%)** Emergency Preparedness and Epidemiology
- **$0.58M (3%)** Home Care Program
- **$0.48M (3%)** Coronavirus Response
- **$2.60M (15%)** Environmental Protection
- **$4.99M (30%)** Communicable Disease
- **$2.31M (14%)** Maternal and Child Health
- **$0.2M (1%)** Health Promotion
- **$1.92M (11%)** Clinic Subsidies
- **$2.60M (16%)** Health Promotion

### TOTAL SPENDING

- **Levy Supported**: $17.02 million
- **Non-Levy**: $23.39 million

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Human Services Levy Allocation
In July 2018, the Montgomery County Board of County Commissioners approved a 2-year funding allocation for Human Services Levy mandated agencies. Public Health received an additional $2.37 million over two years to fund current operations and to expand Community Health Improvement Plan priorities including the work of the Community Overdose Action Team (COAT), the EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force and the Food Equity Coalition. It will also provide incentives to encourage client participation in infant mortality initiatives. This funding was in addition to the previous allocation of $15.8 million annually.
Mission

Improve the quality of life in our community by achieving the goals of public health: prevention, promotion, & protection.

Vision

Montgomery County is a healthy, safe, and thriving community.