Our Mission: To improve the quality of life in our community by achieving the goals of public health:
prevention, promotion and protection.

Montgomery County Hepatitis A Response

Hepatitis A outbreaks have been occurring in multiple states across the U.S., including several bordering Ohio. As of June 29, Ohio had 82 confirmed cases. The Ohio Department of Health declared a statewide community outbreak for hepatitis A on June 22. While anyone is at risk of getting hepatitis A, priority groups for prevention include:

- Men who have sex with men
- People who use street drugs whether they are injected or not
- People who are incarcerated
- People experiencing homelessness
- People who have traveled to other areas of the U.S. currently experiencing outbreaks
- People having contact with individuals in the priority groups

Montgomery County saw its first hepatitis A case in April of this year. As of June 29, there were a total of 22 cases. Public Health formed an incident management team (IMT) at the end of May to plan a response and stop the spread of hepatitis A within Montgomery County. IMT staff developed educational materials, informed medical response partners, updated the media, and held hepatitis A vaccination clinics for high risk populations.

Through June 29 Public Health has a total of 11 vaccination clinics providing vaccinations to 580 individuals. These clinics have targeted the Montgomery County jail, homeless populations, men who have sex with men and individuals abusing drugs. There are additional vaccination clinics scheduled in the upcoming weeks as we continue to mitigate the spread of hepatitis A. In addition, there is continued outreach and sharing of educational information to multiple partners across the county.

Call (937) 225-4550 to schedule an appointment to be vaccinated.
National HIV Testing Day

June 27 was National HIV Testing Day – a day to get the facts, get tested, and get involved! The 2018 theme is “Test Your Way. Do It Today.” Public Health held a free Parking Lot Testing Event from noon to 4pm at the Drew Health Center offering testing for HIV, Hep C, syphilis, pregnancy, glucose and blood pressure.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that about 1.1 million people in the United States are living with HIV, and 1 in 7 of them don’t know it. Currently there are approximately 1,912 people living with HIV in Ohio’s Region 7 which includes Butler, Darke, Miami, Montgomery, Preble and Warren Counties. The only way to know if you have HIV is to get tested. People between the ages of 13 and 64 should get tested for HIV yearly.

HIV is spread from one person to another by:

- Having vaginal, oral or anal sex without a condom, with a person who has HIV. HIV can be passed through blood, vaginal fluid, and semen.
- Sharing needles, syringes, or other injection equipment with a person who has HIV.
- Through pregnancy, birth, or breastfeeding from women who have HIV.

Testing is the first step to finding out if you have HIV. If you have HIV, getting medical care and taking medicines regularly helps you to have a healthier life and lowers the chances of passing HIV on to others.

Public Health LGBTQ Coalition

As part of our enhanced focus on the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) communities, Public Health recently held its first meeting with a new LGBTQ Health Initiatives Community Coalition. The coalition has 55 members representing a wide cross-section of the community, and it is led by our new LGBTQ Health Initiatives Project Manager Jerry Mallicoat, who joined us in our Health Services Office in April. Members of the coalition are both LGBTQ individuals, as well as allied people and organizations that represent or serve various segments of the community across Montgomery County.

The following are several examples of representatives: Greater Dayton LGBT Center; Parents, Friends and Families of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG); Rainbow Elder Care of Greater Dayton; Gatlyn-Dame Transgender Support Group; Premier Health and its physician network; Equitas Health; Five Rivers Health Centers; CareSource; Molina Healthcare; AIDS Healthcare Foundation; Dayton Children’s Hospital; Dayton Public Schools; all major area universities; Dayton Police Department, Wright-Patt Credit Union; Wright-Patterson Air Force Base; Dayton Veteran’s Hospital; Daybreak Youth Services; several LGBTQ
affirming faith communities, as well as a few other related and supportive organizations and allies.

The group is highly engaged and anxious to identify priorities and begin work. The goal of the coalition is to leverage community resources to build a network of health services for LGBTQ people who experience numerous health disparities – like higher rates of some cancers and heart disease, substance abuse, tobacco addiction, STDs, mental health issues, diabetes and violence/abuse. In addition, because sexual orientation and gender identity encompass all races, socioeconomic status and religions, there are also intersectional health issues that need to be addressed. The feedback from the coalition will be prioritized, and then action teams will form to help build a safety net of health services that are culturally competent in serving the LGBTQ community.

**Dayton LGBTQ PRIDE Celebration**

As part of our enhanced focus on addressing health disparities in marginalized communities, Public Health is intensifying its focus on the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community (LGBTQ). Our new focus began just as the LGBTQ community was preparing for its annual PRIDE celebration month in June, which is the largest single event in the LGBTQ community across the country and around the world. In Dayton, the PRIDE celebration is held the first weekend in June with several events throughout several days. We increased our presence during the festivities in measured and relevant ways with an eye toward doing more in future years. This year, Public Health staff volunteered with helping to set up the festival area and conducted various health screenings (HIV, STD, blood pressure, blood glucose) at both the Saturday festival on Courthouse Square and at a Sunday 5K run hosted by Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG).

During the two days, we conducted 80 HIV/STD tests, 50 blood pressure and 22 blood glucose screenings, 102 tobacco-use surveys, and 24 prediabetes surveys. We also enhanced our Public Health website and internal employee portal by promoting PRIDE activities and adding an LGBTQ health program page.

The annual PRIDE celebration acknowledges the progress made toward achieving full equality for LGBTQ people. It is held in June to commemorate the Stonewall Riots in 1969, which were pivotal events that spurred the modern LGBTQ civil rights movement.
COAT Receives 10,000 Medication Disposal Bag Kits
United Healthcare Community Plan of Ohio, in partnership with the Ohio Attorney General’s Office, donated 10,000 medication disposal bag kits to the Community Overdose Action Team. The kits allow people to properly dispose of unused prescription medications by placing the medication in the bag, adding water, sealing the bag and disposing of it in the trash. The disposal kit can deactivate up to 90 tablets by neutralizing the medication. The bags were delivered to Public Health and were deployed to multiple community partners to distribute to the public.

Addiction Services CARF Recertification Survey
On May 10 and May 11 Addiction Services had their recertification survey from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). The survey included rigorous review of the Intensive Outpatient Services, Outpatient Services, the Medication Assisted Treatment Program and Prevention Programs for Adults and Adolescents. In addition to established programming, Addiction Services also sought and was awarded accreditation to provide integrated mental health services which allows us to treat co-occurring mental health disorders along with substance use. The surveyors reviewed policies, personnel files, interviewed clients, and community partners.

Some of the strengths CARF mentioned were:

- Addiction Services is part of Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County services that provide additional resources to the organization in meeting the CARF standards.
- A clear strength of Addiction Services is its response to the opioid crisis within Montgomery County. Specifically, the organization responded by introducing a new crisis outreach service to help those most in need of help regarding their opioid addiction.
- Addiction Services is highly regarded by persons served, with persons served stating that they feel heard and that the organization is a system of support that has helped them regain a sense of determination to cease substance use.

We are happy to announce Addiction Services received notification on June 4, 2018 of their continued three-year accreditation.

Tackling Infant Mortality With an Incident Command Structure
On June 26 and 27, the EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force hosted an Incident Command System Training and an overview of the county’s Perinatal Periods of Risk (PPOR) Assessment for Task Force Branch co-leads and members. Health Commissioner Jeff Cooper gave the rationale of using an
Incident Command Structure (ICS) to tackle infant mortality in Montgomery County, the success this structure has had with regards to addressing the county’s opioid crisis, as well as roles and responsibilities of each branch.

The goals of the Task Force are: to reduce preterm births, to reduce substance misuse in pregnant women and mothers of infants, and to weave social determinants of health into all strategies to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in infant mortality.

Maternal and Child Health Epidemiologist, Ashley Seybold’s PPOR presentation gave branch co-leads and members a better understanding of the highest rate of excess or preventable deaths in the county and recommendations on where to focus our prevention strategies. Next steps for the branch co-leads include discussion of branch strategies and activities implementation, as well as solidifying evaluation measures.

**Public Housing Agencies Required to Adopt Smoke-free Policies**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is requiring that all public housing agencies in the United States adopt a smoke-free policy by July 30, 2018.

Public Health began working with Greater Dayton Premier Management (GDPM) in 2017 to begin the process of notifying over 16,000 individuals that they serve. As part of this process, a survey was created that was given to every resident. The results of the survey were used during educational sessions with residents, and smoking cessation classes were offered to all residents.

Public Health also provided a model smoke-free housing policy for GDPM to use. In addition, Public Health is providing: 100 building signs, 50 elevator signs and 100 window clings for GDPM to use at their properties.

Public Health also worked with Eastway Behavioral Healthcare to make all their property smoke-free. This is important because individuals with mental health needs have a higher rate of tobacco use in Ohio.
No Menthol Sunday
On May 27, six churches in Montgomery County participated in “No Menthol Sunday.” The theme for 2018 was, “Find Your Way to Freedom.” Church members were provided information on how the African American community is targeted with advertisements and pricing for menthol cigarettes. They were also given church fans with this message. Pastors were given a link to the National African American Tobacco Prevention Network Toolkit as well as a PowerPoint slide with “No Menthol Sunday” facts. There were 1,375 church members that received the No Menthol Sunday message.

Y on the Fly
The YMCA of Greater Dayton’s ‘Y ON THE FLY’ program is a mobile YMCA van delivering games, activities and healthy snacks to children in underserved neighborhoods during the summer months. With support of the CHIP School Children Workgroup, the van will be loaded with balls, parachutes, nets, hula hoops, jump ropes, games, sidewalk chalk and other fun activities. “Y on the Fly” will offer at least 60 minutes of activities at each stop, with the remaining 30 minutes spent preparing healthy snacks with children. The van will be making two stops a day from June 4 - August 6 on weekdays in various locations throughout the Miami Valley Region - libraries, parks, community gardens and more. In the month of June, “Y on the Fly” served 1,092 Montgomery County youth. “Y on the Fly” has been made possible by PNC Bank, DP&L, Dayton Children’s Hospital, and Public Health.

Potential National Recall of a Pizza Sauce Product Due to Sanitarian Discovery
During a recent routine inspection of a local pizza operation it was noted that the operator leaves pizza sauce out of refrigeration after opening the canned product. Pizza sauce is potentially hazardous after being opened and needs refrigeration. If the manufacturer, through laboratory analysis, demonstrates that the product has pH and water activity levels low enough to render it safe, then it can be out at room temperature. We asked for further information on the product.

The operator contacted the distributor of the canned sauce and received a response that the “manufacturers do not advise on opened product” and had no other information on studies to support recommendations once the product was opened. The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) was consulted by Public Health to discuss the significance of not testing the product and the appropriate course of action. Since the sauce is not manufactured in Ohio, ODA contacted the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). It was subsequently discovered that there are two manufacturers of this sauce, one is in Texas and one is in California. Preliminary findings by FDA
indicated that the distributor was mislabeling the sauces—there were different ingredients being used in the sauces including different allergens. There was discussion by FDA of having the products recalled due to mislabeling. The local pizza operator was contacted and told to refrigerate the pizza sauce until the laboratory analysis initiated by the manufacturer confirmed that it was safe to do otherwise. We have not heard the final disposition of the recall discussion by FDA at this time.

**RAPCA Issues First APA of the Season**

Between May 25 and June 18, RAPCA issued six Air Pollution Advisories (APA) for ozone. RAPCA issues daily air pollution forecasts using EPA’s Air Quality Index scale, which focus on health effects you may experience after breathing polluted air. During this time, RAPCA measured five days when the air pollution levels were “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups”, which include children, elderly, and people with asthma or lung disease.

Ozone is formed when pollution from cars, trucks, and factories mix in the sky on hot sunny days. RAPCA measures ozone in Clark, Greene, Miami, Montgomery and Preble counties. There are several ways to get up-to-date air quality conditions and air quality forecasts: visit the RAPCA website at [www.rapca.org](http://www.rapca.org), sign up for daily forecasts via email or text messaging at [www.enviroflash.info](http://www.enviroflash.info), or download the U.S. EPA AirNow app in the Apple App Store or Google Play store.

**RAPCA’s Ambient Air Monitoring Training Program**

In 2015, RAPCA developed a specific training program for all new hires in the ambient air monitoring program. RAPCA operates 11 monitoring sites and over 30 different types of monitors, plus various equipment used to collect, assure quality, and transfer the data. RAPCA’s program includes a systematic and progressive approach to developing the necessary skills needed to operate the equipment as well as self-instructional courses and training videos provided by U.S. EPA. Each new hire is “field verified” by senior RAPCA staff on the equipment prior to working independently. RAPCA’s training program has recently been lauded by U.S. EPA as a model program and Ohio EPA is looking to implement the model statewide.
2017 Annual Report
In June, Public Health released its 2017 Annual Report to the community. The report provides a snapshot into the work that is being done to keep Montgomery County a “Healthy, Safe and Thriving” community.

Some of the highlights include: a relocation of the Public Health Clinic to the 3rd floor of the Reibold building, the work of the Community Overdose Action Team to reduce the number of opioid overdose deaths, the formation of the EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force to reduce the number of babies dying before their first birthday, an update on our Community Health Improvement Plan and a progress report on our path to national public health accreditation. The full report may be downloaded on our website www.phdmc.org.

Community Health Assessment Update
By the year 2020, all local health departments and tax-exempt hospitals must align their Community Health Assessments (CHA) in a three-year cycle. In order to meet this requirement, Montgomery County is participating in a combined CHA process that involves 3 states, 26 counties, 35 hospitals, and 31 local health departments.

This combined health assessment planning process began in late 2017 and data collection from preexisting (secondary) data sources has been ongoing since January. In May, hospitals and local health departments in each county began convening community meetings to learn from the residents of their most significant health-related concerns, issues, and barriers. In early June, more than 50 stakeholders and community members attended the first community meeting held in Montgomery County. Throughout the month of July, Public Health will be conducting several additional population-specific focus groups within the African American, LGBTQ, Hispanic/Latino/Latina, Asian and Senior populations. These populations have unique health and social concerns that are often underrepresented in secondary data used in community health assessments.

Following the completion of the CHA in early 2019, Public Health, together with hospital partners and Montgomery County, will move forward to create a combined Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) that aligns with the priorities of the state health improvement plan and the county’s strategic plan.
Public Health Research Activities Summary

One of our guiding principles at Public Health is that our activities are “based on evidence.” Evidence-based public health practice depends upon the collection and interpretation of data. Public Health personnel manage information and data daily, and also research topics as necessary to contribute to new, improved, or successful programs and services. Research is among the “Ten Essential Public Health Services” that all communities should undertake. Conceptually, research sits at the center of the other nine services. From time to time, Public Health research activities are more formal, or involve outside individuals or organizations. When this occurs, public health requests that the Research Review Panel evaluate the research plan.

During the past year, the Research Review Panel reviewed multiple research activities, including:

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<td>Prediction of preeclampsia and fetal growth restriction</td>
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<td>29-Jul-16</td>
<td>Physical Activity Study</td>
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<td>2016.08.10. Characterizing Fentanyl outbreaks: Ethnographic and forensic perspectives</td>
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<td>Characterizing Fentanyl outbreaks: Ethnographic and forensic perspectives</td>
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<td>STD/HIV Risk Factors and Outcomes for the Montgomery County, Ohio Juvenile Detention Center</td>
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<td>Ohio Substance Abuse Monitoring (OSAM) Network</td>
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<td>Opioid Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion Project</td>
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<td>1-Aug-17</td>
<td>Results of Screening and Treatment for Latent Tuberculosis in Refugees</td>
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<td>Outcome of Newborns with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and matched newborns born during the same time period: a case control study</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-Mar-18</td>
<td>Male Vaccination Study</td>
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Media Opportunities:

Fox 45 on Hepatitis A (6/1/18)
News Release on Hepatitis A (6/1/18)
WHIO on E. coli (6/4/18)
DDN on RAPCA Grant (6/5/18)
Fox 45 on Drug Disposal Bags (6/7/18)
WDTN on Flu (6/8/18)
Stat of the Month...

1 in 7

The CDC states that about 1.1 million people in the United States are living with HIV, and 1 in 7 of them don’t know it.

Submitted by:
Jeff Cooper, Health Commissioner
Michael Dohn, MD MSc, Medical Director