Be a Flu Fighter – Now is the Time to Get Your Flu Shot

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness that can make you miserable. Serious outcomes of flu infection result in thousands of hospitalizations and flu-associated deaths each year. Last year, the CDC estimates that 80,000 people lost their lives due to influenza, making it the most severe flu season in the last four decades.

Some people, such as older individuals, young children, and people with certain health conditions are at a higher risk for serious flu complications. **The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated each year.** The CDC recommends that ALL individuals 6 months of age and older receive an influenza vaccine annually.

The current vaccine protects against 4 strains of the influenza virus. It is important to be vaccinated as early as possible to give yourself the greatest level of protection before the flu season starts to hit hard. Call the Public Health Immunization Clinic at (937) 225-4550 to schedule an appointment.

**Employee Influenza Vaccination Opportunities**

In an effort to protect our workforce, Public Health is again offering annual influenza vaccines to all employees at no out-of-pocket cost. The vaccination is completely covered by insurance, so take advantage of this great opportunity to protect yourself, your family, coworkers and the community we serve.

We know how busy you are and want to make this as convenient as possible. We are offering influenza vaccines at the following locations:

- Wednesday, October 3, Reibold Building, 1:30 – 3:30 pm, 3rd floor Health Services Conference Room
- Friday, October 5, Sunrise Center, 1:00 – 2:30 pm
Wednesday, October 10, Drew Health Center, 9:30 – 10:30 am, room 800

Thursday, October 11, Reibold Building, 8:30 – 10:30 am, 3rd floor Health Services Conference Room

Friday, October 12, Job Center – CMH Staff, 8:30 – 10:00 am

Wednesday, October 17, Administration Building during Health & Wellness Fair, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Please bring your Public Health ID and a copy of your insurance card. Public Health will bill your insurance. Employees who miss the scheduled influenza clinic dates may schedule an appointment in the Immunization Clinic (225-4550) during normal business hours to receive the vaccine.

Montgomery County Hepatitis A Response

Hepatitis A outbreaks have been occurring in multiple states across the U.S. including several bordering Ohio. The Ohio Department of Health declared a statewide community outbreak for Hepatitis A on June 22. As of September 24, Ohio had 461 confirmed cases. 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 case in April of this year. As of September 24, there were a total of 101 cases. Public Health’s Incident Management Team (IMT) continues to meet routinely to mitigate Hepatitis A within Montgomery County. IMT staff continue to provide educational materials, inform medical response partners, update the media, and hold Hepatitis A vaccination clinics for high risk populations.
Public Health has conducted a total of 64 external vaccination clinics for Hepatitis A with 1518 individuals being vaccinated. These clinics targeted the Montgomery County jail, homeless populations, men who have sex with men and individuals abusing drugs. In addition, 426 vaccinations have been provided at the Public Health Clinic. There is also continued outreach and sharing of educational information to multiple partners across the county. Call (937) 225-4550 to schedule an appointment to be vaccinated.

**Infant Mortality Conference**

On September 28, the *EveryOne Reach One Dayton & Montgomery County Infant Mortality Task Force* continued its efforts to reduce the number of babies dying before their first birthday by hosting the *EveryOne Reach One 2018 Infant Mortality Conference* at Sinclair College in Dayton. Nearly 350 participants from the general public and professional community registered for the conference.

The theme for the conference was “Kasserian Ingera” which comes from the Masai tribe in Africa and means, “How are the children?” The idea is that a community should place a high priority on the well-being of all children.

The purpose of the conference was to increase the community’s awareness and ability to address the factors that contribute to infant mortality and poor maternal health outcomes. Attendees learned about the significant disparity gap between the races and recommended prevention strategies.

**Strategies to reduce infant deaths include:**

- Decrease the percentage of preterm and low birthweight babies.
• Reduce unintended pregnancy by providing education and resources on long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) methods and access to prenatal care.
• Engage fathers to support mothers and their children.
• Reduce the number of mothers who smoke and increase screening for alcohol use.
• Foster increased educational opportunities for children.
• Address ways to assist pregnant women to access care early and often.

The keynote speaker for the event was author, producer and activist Tonya Lewis Lee. She serves as a spokesperson for the *A Healthy Baby Begins with You* infant mortality awareness campaign which is part of the Office of Minority Health, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Lewis Lee has reached thousands of people with her message of health, wellness, and advocacy since 2007. She also produced the film *Crisis in the Crib: Saving our Nation’s Babies* for the Office of Minority Health.

The EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force is made up of over 20 Montgomery County organizations that are working collectively to help reduce the infant mortality rate.

**Infant Mortality Block Party**
The 2nd day of the conference focused on community awareness and featured an Infant Mortality Block Party held at the Boys & Girls Club on West Stewart Street. The location was chosen because it is a zip code that has a higher infant mortality rate. Numerous community partners were on hand to provide information about health and educational services in Dayton.

**Statewide Public Health Quality Indicators Annual Report**
The 2018 Public Health Quality Indicators Annual Report has been released by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). Ohio Revised Code 3701.98 requires all Ohio local health departments (LHDs) to report on measures related to public health outcomes, capacity, and how they are addressing public health issues and implementing evidence-based programs in their communities. The Report is posted on the ODH website at [https://www.odh.ohio.gov/localhealthdistricts/Futures/Quality%20Indicators.aspx](https://www.odh.ohio.gov/localhealthdistricts/Futures/Quality%20Indicators.aspx)

LHDs are required to submit data on fourteen quality indicators: two outcome related measures, eight related to capacity and four related to practice.

This is the fourth year that we have submitted data and information to ODH. Public Health met 12 of the 14 measures in 2015 and 2016. In 2017, we improved our performance and met all 14 measures. In 2018, our goal was to continue to meet 100% of the measures and we were successful! As we move...
forward, our goal will be to maintain this high level of operational performance.

**Navigating the Opioid Crisis - Pathways to Success Event**

The [Community Overdose Action Team (COAT)](https://www.coah.org/) Prescription Opioid Branch will present two clinician opioid informational meetings focusing on area physicians, physician assistants, dentists, advanced practice nurses, pharmacists, and anyone else who can prescribe opioids. The event will take place October 17-18 from 5pm – 9pm at the Dayton Marriott and is by invitation only. The goal is to provide open dialogue and best practices on proper prescription guidelines, patient monitoring, and alternative pain management.

**Miami Valley Prevention Coalition Celebration**

The [Montgomery County Prevention Coalition](https://www.coah.org/), co-lead by Public Health and Montgomery County ADAMHS, celebrated its one-year anniversary on September 28. Over 50 members attended the celebration.

Commissioner Dan Foley presented opening remarks and Javier Sanchez, author, performer and filmmaker, who has worked in the area of youth prevention for 20 years gave an impactful keynote presentation on community engagement and empowerment of youth. The coalition has worked diligently to create healthy youth, families and communities over the past year. The meeting also showcased the coalition’s accomplishments and provided an overview of future coalition initiatives.

Additionally, an announcement was made that Montgomery County has received a Drug-Free Communities grant through the Executive Office of National Drug Control Policy. This award secures $250,000 per year to sustain the coalition’s efforts for the next 5 to 10 years.

**Addiction Services Celebrates National Recovery Month**

[National Recovery Month](https://www.nationalrecoverymonth.org/) is a national observance held every September to increase the awareness of behavioral health conditions. This observance promotes the knowledge that behavioral health is essential to overall health, prevention works, treatment is effective, and people with a mental and/or substance use disorder can live a healthy and rewarding life.

The 2018 Recovery Month theme, “Join the Voices for Recovery: Invest in Health, Home, Purpose, and Community,” explores how integrated care, a strong community, sense of purpose, and leadership contribute to effective treatments that sustain the recovery of persons with behavioral health conditions. This annual observance works to highlight inspiring stories which will help thousands of people from all walks of life find the path to hope, health, and wellness.
Throughout the month of September many Addiction Services staff members have been engaged in community celebration events, including speaking engagements, advocacy, and assisting local recovery clubs and organizations. As a culmination of Recovery Month, Addiction Services held a Celebration of Recovery event on September 25. Those in long-term recovery, alumni and current clients shared their stories and how their lives have changed because of recovery. The event included a panel discussion, food, fun and fellowship. Addiction Services continues to support healthy change in the lives of our citizens who have been affected by addiction and challenge society’s stigma of those seeking recovery.

**Westown Health Fair**
The 30th Annual Westown Health Fair was held on September 8 at the Westown Shopping Center. The event was sponsored by Public Health, CareSource, WDAO Radio, H&R Block, and Skilken Gold, the management company of the shopping center.

**Public Health** was joined by multiple social service organizations to provide screenings and educational information to those in attendance. Screenings were offered for blood pressure, blood sugar, glaucoma, and mammograms. Confidential HIV & Hepatitis C tests were also made available.

**RAPCA Inspects New Odor Control Equipment For the City of Dayton Wastewater Treatment Plant**
On September 18, **RAPCA** and Ohio EPA performed a joint inspection of the temporary odor control equipment the City of Dayton installed to reduce odors from the wastewater plant.

In 2010, Ohio EPA entered into Final Findings and Orders with the City of Dayton to control hydrogen sulfide odors coming from the plant and sewers. The odors are caused by industrial wastewater discharge from area facilities. The orders required lime to be added directly into the sanitary sewer to help control odors. However, after several years, the city found lime addition to be unsustainable long-term and began searching for other viable alternatives. In 2015, the city performed a series of trials to find an alternative, and in July 2018, they began another 6-month trial to explore other alternatives. In addition to traditional chemical additives, the city is increasing the oxygen content of the waste stream with an oxygenation unit and reducing the temperature of the discharge water with cooling water. RAPCA has been monitoring the odors around the wastewater treatment plant throughout the trials and providing feedback to the city. The city and RAPCA are optimistic that changing the chemical and physical properties of the industrial wastewater will result in fewer odors at the wastewater treatment plant.
Media Opportunities:
DDN on STD Rates (9/4/18 and 9/5/18)
WHIO on Donated Foods (9/13/18)
New York Times on COAT / Overdoses (9/20/18)
DDN on Flu (9/20/18)
Fox 45 on Flu (9/20/18)
WDTN on Flu (9/25/18)
WHIO on Flu (9/25/18)
WDTN – Living Dayton on Flu (9/26/18)
WHIO on Hep A (9/26/18)
WDTN on EveryOne Reach One Conference (9/28/18)
Fox 45 on Infant Mortality Block Party (9/29/18)
WDTN on Infant Mortality Block Party (9/29/18)

Outreach Opportunities:
Community Day @ Women's Center East at Women's Centers of Ohio (9/7/2018)
Westown Health Fair at Westown Plaza (9/8/2018)
Poker Walk 2K Dayton VA Medical Center at VFW Post #9927 (9/8/2018)
Fitz Center Open House at Kennedy Union Ballroom - UD Campus (9/12/2018)
United Way Kick-Off at Common Plaza Area (9/12/2018)
Dayton Phoenix Group Health Event at Dayton-Phoenix Group Inc. (9/14/2018)
DeSoto Bass After School Rally at DeSoto Bass (9/14/2018)
Life Enrichment Center at Life Enrichment Center (9/18/2018)
Dakota Center Fall Festival at Dakota Center (9/20/2018)
Montgomery County Jail "re-entry event" at Montgomery County Jail (9/21/2018)
Deaf Festival at Nutter Center (9/22/2018)
Miami Valley Hospital (MVH) Employee Health Fair 2018 at MVH (9/25/2018)
Infant Mortality Conference at Sinclair College (9/28/2018)
Stat of the Month…

80,000

According to CDC, an estimated 80,000 people in the U.S. lost their lives due to influenza and complications from the virus last winter.

Submitted by:
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