



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Dayton & Montgomery County



Monthly Update

May 2019

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



Dayton & Montgomery County
Infant Mortality Task Force

Increase in Infant Sleep Related Deaths

The EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force is alerting the public about a recent increase in infant deaths in Montgomery County resulting from unsafe sleep practices. So far in 2019, there have been two confirmed deaths and five more pending that are related to unsafe sleep practices. In 2017-2018 there were a total of ten deaths related to unsafe sleep practices.

“It is critical to remember every safe sleep-related infant death is preventable,” said Debbie Lieberman, Montgomery County Commissioner.



EveryOne Reach One would like to remind parents, family members and friends about proper safe sleep procedures. Infants should always sleep [Alone, on their Back and in a Crib](#). There should be nothing loose placed in the crib, such as blankets or toys which may cause the baby to suffocate. Parents should not sleep with their child, either in bed or on the couch.

It is also important for friends and family members to help remind parents and caregivers about the ABC’s of safe sleep, should they see any conditions that cause concern. “Don’t let this happen to you or your family. It only takes one time for tragedy to strike, said Jewell Good, Assistant Director, Montgomery County Children Services. “We can all do our part to prevent these senseless deaths.”

To help reduce sleep-related deaths the EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force is launching a *Safe Sleep Ambassador Program* designed to educate the public regarding safe sleep practices. The program will be managed by Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County and will encompass a “train the trainer” model to expand safe sleep education throughout Montgomery County. Training will be

offered to public and private organizations, including but not limited to faith-based organizations.



Montgomery County residents can also take advantage of Public Health's [Crib for Kids Program](#) that provides free cribs for eligible parents. Call 937- 224-3696 for more information.



Measles Cases Now in 22 States: None in Montgomery County

According to the CDC, 704 measles cases have been confirmed through April 26 in the U.S. this year. This is the second-highest total since measles was declared "eliminated" in the year 2000. The number of cases this year already exceeds the 667 cases reported in the Disneyland measles outbreak of 2014.

So far in 2019, 22 states have reported confirmed cases of measles: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington, according to [this CDC report](#).

As of April 29, there were no reported cases of the measles in Montgomery County. **The last measles case in Montgomery County was in 2005.**

Measles cases are occurring as unvaccinated travelers get measles abroad and bring it into the U.S. Further spread of the disease occurs in communities with pockets of unvaccinated people. Measles is still common in many parts of the world including some countries in Europe, Asia, the Pacific, and Africa.

This measles outbreak underscores how inadequate vaccination rates can reawaken a public health threat that was effectively eliminated nearly 20 years ago.

Measles is a highly contagious disease caused by a virus and can be very serious for young children. It spreads through coughing and sneezing. It is so contagious that one person may infect up to 90% of the people around him or her. Symptoms include high fever, cough, runny nose, red, watery eyes and a rash of tiny red spots. It can lead to pneumonia, encephalitis and death.

Children should be fully immunized against measles. They need two doses of measles vaccine: one dose at age 12-15 months, and one dose at age 4-6 years. More information is available at www.phdmc.org.



Public Health's WIC Program Exceeding Expectations

Every two years, the Ohio Department of Health's State WIC office conducts a Program Management Evaluation of Public Health's WIC program. The evaluation includes a rigorous review of general and system administration, financial management, certification, nutrition education, food issuance and breastfeeding. The program received an excellent review with the evaluator stating, "Montgomery County's WIC staff provides exceptional participant-friendly and effective service, comprehensive employee training, detailed quarterly activity reporting, and participant-centered nutrition counseling. The program exceeds expectations by hosting interns and volunteering to participate on the State Funding Committee and the Nutrition and Breastfeeding Advisory Committee. All staff are to be commended for a job well done."

Congratulations to Public Health's Jessica Carder, a registered dietitian and WIC Nutritionist, who was named "Most Supportive Health Professional" by the Ohio Lactation Consultant Association at their annual conference. Jessica does an amazing job promoting breastfeeding to all prenatal moms and supporting breastfeeding families.



Public Health Attends OEHA Conference

The 73rd Ohio Environmental Health Association's Annual Education Conference was held in Columbus in April this year. Various topics were presented ranging from health equity to integrated pest management to emerging contaminants to rabies. Several Environmental Health staff attended the two-day conference. Representatives from Public Health presented three different breakout sessions. Jennifer Wentzel co-presented with Preble County Public Health on the "Hepatitis A Statewide Outbreak." This session addressed "lessons learned" and how Public Health addressed the outbreak. Larry Cleek spoke on "Preparing for Disasters." The session was focused on personal preparedness essentials and gave attendees ideas on how to prepare themselves for a disaster. Julie Goode and Matt Tyler Spoke on "Creating a Culture of Quality in Public Health." Lessons learned were shared about how Public Health continues to advance quality improvement.

Matt Tyler was elected to Vice President-Elect and will chair the 75th annual conference in 2021. Jennifer Wentzel received the distinguished Ivan Baker Memorial Membership Award for her contributions to the association. Jennifer received the district award this past October making her eligible for the state award.



Gov. DeWine Seeks to Raise the Minimum Age to Purchase Tobacco Products to 21

Gov. Mike DeWine and his top administrators on Wednesday called for Ohio to increase the minimum age to purchase tobacco and vape products to 21 (Source: [“Gov. DeWine issues warning on vaping, wants to raise smoking age,”](#) Dayton Daily News, April 17, 2019).

In his proposed two-year operating budget, DeWine included a provision to raise the tobacco purchase age, including vape materials, to 21. The current purchase age is 18, although more than 30 Ohio cities have passed local ordinances setting the age at 21.

Ohio ranks in the bottom quartile for adult smoking and children living in a household with a smoker, according to the Health Policy Institute of Ohio’s recently released [2019 Health Value Dashboard](#). Analysis of the rankings found that tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure contribute to many of Ohio’s greatest health challenges, including infant mortality, cardiovascular disease, cancer and asthma.



Healthy and Safe Swimming Week

Swimming is a fun, healthy way to stay physically active and spend quality time with family and friends. During the summer, Public Health sanitarians inspect approximately 337 pools in Montgomery County to ensure they are safe. *Healthy and Safe Swimming Week*, May 20-26 highlights the roles that swimmers, parents of young swimmers, aquatics and beach staff, residential pool owners, and public health officials play in preventing disease outbreaks, drowning, and pool chemical injuries.

Chemicals like [chlorine](#) are added to pool water to kill germs and stop them from spreading, helping to keep swimmers healthy. However, mishandling pool chemicals can cause injuries. Operators of public pools, hot tubs/spas, or water playgrounds and owners of residential pools or hot tubs/spas can take steps to [prevent pool chemical injuries](#), such as reading and following directions on product labels of pool chemicals before using them.

Swimmers and parents of young swimmers can also promote healthy and safe swimming through pool chemistry. When swimmers don’t shower before getting in pools, hot tubs/spas, or water playgrounds or pee in the water, free chlorine (the form of chlorine that kills germs) combines with pee, poop, sweat, dirt, and personal care products. This means there is less free chlorine to kill germs and unwanted chemical compounds are produced. One example is a group of irritants called [chloramines](#), which makes eyes red and sting, causes skin irritation and rashes, and respiratory problems. These chloramines are different from the type of chloramine that is sometimes used to treat our drinking water.

Tips for Healthy Swimming

- [Check out the latest inspection results.](#) You can typically find inspection scores online or onsite.

- **Do your own [mini-inspection](#).** Use test strips to check disinfectant (chlorine or bromine) level and pH before getting in the water. Most superstores, hardware stores, and pool-supply stores sell test strips.
- **Shower before you get in the water.** Rinsing off in the shower for just one minute helps get rid of most stuff that might be on swimmer's body.
- **Check yourself!** Keep the pee, poop, sweat, blood, and dirt out of the water.
- **Don't swim or let children swim when sick with diarrhea**
- **Don't swallow the water.** Just one mouthful of water with diarrhea germs can make you sick for up to 3 weeks.



COAT Hosts Steering Committee Meeting

The Community Overdose Action Team (COAT) hosted a Steering Committee Meeting during which time it updated community leaders on the ongoing progress of the COAT, provided them with a copy of the [2018 Annual Report](#) and heard a presentation regarding the status of the Verily OneFifteen project.

In 2018, amazing progress was made in attaining the COATS's goals through the collaborative work of its partners. Montgomery County has seen a 49% decrease in overdose deaths from 2017. Although the decline shows great progress, there is still much work to be done.

The COAT must continue to align its efforts in addressing the underlying problem of addiction. It must also continue to instill hope for those who continue to fight the disease, celebrate those who maintain recovery and prevent future generations from misusing or abusing alcohol or other drugs.

It is only through collaborative efforts that the number of overdose deaths can be reduced.

Marti Taylor, President and Chief Executive Officer of OneFifteen briefed members about the ongoing progress of the new nonprofit and its mission of developing a tech-enabled system of care. OneFifteen will offer a treatment center, rehabilitation housing, and wrap-around services, all on one state-of-the-art campus.



Upcoming Events

[Unnatural Causes: Documentary Film Series](#)

Saturday, May 18, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Corinthian Baptist Church

700 S. James H. McGee Blvd.

For more info call (937) 225-5700

UNNATURAL CAUSES: Is Inequality Making Us Sick? is a documentary series produced by California Newsreel, and sheds light on mounting evidence of how inequities in our professions, incomes, and neighborhoods can get under our skin and disrupt our biology as surely as germs and viruses.

[Walk! Downtown Dayton](#)

Wednesday, May 22, 11:30 am - Walk at Noon

RiverScape - Downtown Dayton

For more info call (937) 225-5700

Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County is again hosting the annual WALK! Downtown Dayton event. Join us for a free, noncompetitive event to kick off the start of the summer season! Starting at 11:30am, there will be vendor booths for blood pressure screenings, health and fitness information, and giveaways.



Media Opportunities:

WDTN for **the Flu** (4/1/19)

WDAO for **Minority Health Month** (4/2/19)

92.9 Radio for **Minority Health Month** (4/4/19)

Dayton Daily News for **COAT - Overdose Deaths** (4/12/19)

Dayton Daily News for **COAT - Overdose Deaths** (4/15/19)

WDTN for **Immunizations** (4/15/19)

WYSO for **Measles** (4/16/19)

Cleveland Plain Dealer for **Infant Sleep Deaths** (4/17/19)

Dayton Daily News for **Measles** (4/18/19)

Fox 45, Dayton Daily News, WHIO for **Tattoo Licenses** (4/22/19)

Dayton Daily News for **Shingles Vaccine** (4/24/19)

Fox 45, WDTN, WHIO, Dayton Daily News for **Infant Sleep Deaths** (4/25/19)



Outreach Opportunities:

Community Baby Shower at Dakota Center (4/6/19)

Spring into Health 5k at Kettering College (4/7/19)

Minority Health Month Kickoff at Neon Movies (4/6/19)

Ascension Community Event at Germain Ford (4/7/19)

Unnatural Causes Movie at Corinthian Baptist Church (4/13/19)

Heritage of Health Forum at Dakota Center (4/20/19)

Health & Safety Fair at Springboro High School (4/18/19)

Family Health & Wellness Support at Richard Allen School (4/10/19)

Dayton Young Black Professional at Dakota Center (4/20/19)

Stat of the Month...

4,807

*Number of Pool inspections in Montgomery County
during 2018*

Submitted by:

Jeff Cooper, *Health Commissioner*

Michael Dohn, MD MSc, *Medical Director*