



Health Commissioner / Medical Director Report

Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

April 1, 2015

This report provides a monthly update for the Board of Health, staff and the community. Our key activities are listed for the seven pillars that support our vision for improving the health of our community.

- Prevent the spread of disease
 - Protect against health threats
 - Promote healthy behaviors
 - Reach out to vulnerable populations
 - Mobilize community action through partnerships
 - Prepare for and respond to public health emergencies
 - Serve as a public health information resource
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Special items

Employee Recognition Celebration

Our Employee Recognition Celebration was held on March 19 at Sinclair's Charity Earley Auditorium. One hundred thirty-three employees attended. Our employees enjoyed a dinner and had the opportunity to socialize with coworkers. Retirees were honored along with employees receiving awards for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of service.

The theme for this year's event was accreditation. We chose that theme because all individuals at Public Health are contributing to our progress. The great work that our employees do every day is basically our documentation that we will submit to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) to show that we meet their standards and measures.

We enjoyed a light-hearted look at all the work we have accomplished as a team, and our decorations included comical posters on the twelve accreditation domains. The posters were intended to bring a smile to our faces and to fill the room with laughter. We took a big step forward together in our journey and we collectively submitted (electronically) our Statement of Intent notifying PHAB of our intention to submit our application. We also shared two videos: one provided several perspectives on accreditation and the other one captured many of our employees being HAPPY at work. The HAPPY video showcased the talent and creativity of our employees. So for employees who were not able to attend the event, we will say it again: "Thank You" for everything you do to improve the health of our community. What a GREAT TEAM!

April is Minority Health Month

Minority Health Month (MHM) is a 30-day inclusive, high-visibility wellness campaign designed to provide free preventive health screenings, education and activities that promote good health and increase access to available health services and community resources.

Public Health-sponsored activities are as follows:

April 1 Kick-off celebration & community health fair
Drew Health Center from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The health fair features health presentations, free health screenings (blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, and confidential HIV testing) and information from community partners about available health services and community resources.

April 11 Community forum on building capacity to solve health issues
Dakota Center from noon to 4 p.m.

April 17 Community forum with ethnic coalitions on population health improvement
Reibold Multi-purpose Conference Room from 9 to 11 a.m.

April 25 Workshop on the impact of stress on physical and mental health
Wesley Community Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

District Advisory Council Annual Meeting

The District Advisory Council (DAC) annual meeting was held on March 25. The DAC meets annually in March for the purposes of electing its officers, appointing Board of Health members, and receiving updates and special reports from the Board of Health. The DAC consists of a representative from each jurisdiction (city and township) in Montgomery County.

John Applegate (Union) and Jesse Lightle (Washington Township) were elected to serve as officers of the DAC for the 2015 – 2016 term. Mr. Emmett Orr, Dr. David Page and Mr. Mike Sims were reappointed as Montgomery County Board of Health members.

Public Health updates included our leadership changes, financial accomplishments and 2014 Community Health Assessment.

National County Health Rankings

On March 25, the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation released the 2015 County Health Ranking Report. The report, which began in 2010, lists overall health rankings for nearly every county in all fifty states. Thirty-five measures were used to rank health outcomes and health factors. Health outcomes represent the current health of a county, compared to health factors which influence the health of the county. Health outcome rankings are based on length and quality of life, while health factors rankings are based on health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment.

Out of 88 total Ohio counties, Montgomery County currently ranks 70th for health outcomes and 51st for health factors. Montgomery County's overall rankings from 2012 to 2015 are provided in the following table.

Focus Areas	Rank			
	2012	2013	2014	2015
Overall Health Outcomes Rank	70	74	72	70
Length of Life	71	75	75	74
Quality of Life	57	62	59	59
Overall Health Factors Rank	46	50	50	51
Health Behaviors	33	33	45	45
Clinical Care	12	15	19	27
Social and Economic Factors	65	66	66	73
Physical Environment	29	52	35	33

*A lower score indicates a more favorable county ranking.

While the focus areas have remained the same over the past four years, some of the measures used to determine the rankings have changed each year. Montgomery County’s rankings are comparable to other large metropolitan areas in Ohio. In general, Montgomery County ranks higher in clinical care, but lower in many health behaviors and social and economic factors. The full report is available at www.countyhealthrankings.org.

Prevent the spread of diseases

Local Investigations

There were three reports of invasive *Haemophilus influenzae* reported during late February/early March. The first was a 17 month old girl admitted to Children’s Hospital with seizures and found to have *H. influenzae* in the blood. She was treated and discharged to home. The second was a 59 year old woman who was also diagnosed with *H. influenzae* in the blood. She was also treated and discharged; she works part time in a daycare. The third was a 65 year old man who was diagnosed with *H. influenzae* in the cerebrospinal fluid. He is still completing therapy. There were no epidemiologic links between the cases; none were documented to be *H. influenzae* type b which is the serotype the vaccine covers.

There was an outbreak at an assisted living facility with 6 individuals developing gastrointestinal like illness (2 reported diarrhea and 4 reported vomiting). Symptoms lasted approximately 24 hours. Of the 6 individuals, 2 were staff members. Stool samples were collected from 2 persons who were ill and sent to the ODH lab. Norovirus is suspected. Education and environmental guidance were given to the facility. No further cases have been reported from the facility.

National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day / “Rocking Our Red Pumps”

Women brought attention to HIV/AIDS by wearing red shoes to the 3rd annual “*Rocking Our Red Pumps*” event on March 9, in recognition of National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NWGHAAD), celebrated on March 10, is a time to “Share Knowledge and Take Action”. This nationwide observance sheds light on the disease’s often overlooked impact on women and girls and empowers people to make a difference. Every year on this important day, thousands of people, advocacy organizations, and local and state public health officials share the facts about HIV/AIDS and how it affects women and girls. They

also take action by: telling women and girls how to prevent and reduce their risk of becoming infected; enabling more of them to get tested; providing services to those living with HIV; and providing other resources needed to lower the rates of HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS is a serious public health issue for women and girls. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in 2010, they made up about 25% of the 1.1 million people living with HIV in the United States. CDC further noted that approximately 75% were from sex with men and the remaining from injection drug use.

In recognition of NWGHAAD, the HIV/AIDS Prevention Committee of Region 7 in collaboration with Premier Health's Mahogany's Child Program, hosted, "*Rocking Our Red Pumps*" at the Opportunity Center. Women & girls were encouraged to wear red shoes, as they symbolize empowerment and show support for those females infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Participants had a choice to get tested, have a photo shoot and/or visit learning booths, which included the following topics: HIV/AIDS, STD's, How to Recognize Abuse in Relationships, Feminine Health, HIV & Substance Use, PrEP HIV drug intervention, Hepatitis C., Healthy Eating, Stop Smoking and Condom Demonstrations. The attendees styled and profiled their red pumps in hopes to win the "Cutest Shoe" Award.

Protect against health threats

RAPCA Submits Written Comments on U.S. EPA Ozone Rule Proposal

In late 2014, the federal EPA proposed to tighten the ground level ozone emission standard rule. The proposed change is to improve public health and the environment by reducing the ozone concentration. Ozone is a colorless gas found in the air we breathe, it is the main ingredient of smog and it presents a serious air quality problem in many parts of the country. Even at low levels, ozone can cause health effects, especially to vulnerable populations, such as individuals with a lung disease or asthma, children and older adults. The current federal ozone emission standard is 75 parts per billion (ppb), as an 8-hour average. The federal EPA is proposing to lower the emission standard to somewhere between 65-70 ppb, as an 8-hour average.

RAPCA submitted comments to the federal EPA in support of their proposal to lower the ozone emission standard; the agency recommended EPA set the standard between 68-70 ppb. In addition, RAPCA recommended EPA base area designations with the new emission standard on the monitoring data collected over the three year period of 2015-2017. This is to allow for all areas to take full advantage of other federal measures currently in place to reduce ozone pollution (e.g. mobile source standards and the Cross State Regional Transport Rule). The principal causes of ozone pollution in the Dayton area are from ozone pollution coming into the area (upwind and downwind from Dayton) and from mobile sources (cars, buses, trucks, etc.).

Additionally, RAPCA submitted comments in support of EPA's proposal to extend the ozone ambient air monitoring season. Currently, the monitoring season runs from April 1 to October 31; EPA proposed to extend it by one month, March 1 to October 31 each year. As part of RAPCA's air monitoring network, the agency operates equipment to measure the ozone concentrations in Clark, Greene, Miami, Montgomery and Preble counties.

The federal ozone rule proposal is expected to be finalized in October 2015.

Sanitarians Attend Training

Environmental Health staff attended the Ohio Department of Health's Annual Midwest Workshop on March 16-19. Part of the credentialing requirements for sanitarians is that they have to maintain 18 CEU's each year. The fourteen sanitarians that attended were able to obtain up to 24 hours of the CEU's that were offered. The topics of the sessions that sanitarians attended included sessions about Private vs. Public Information, Ebola, The Ohio Restaurant Association, Toledo Water Crisis, Tobacco Cessation, Smoke-free Housing Policy, OSU Spray Irrigation Study, Radon, Lead, Arsenic in Private Wells, Pool Chemicals, and Recreation Program Updates.

A topic of interest was presented by the Ohio Department of Agriculture on Cottage Foods and Home Bakeries. They covered the locations that these foods are allowed to be sold and when they are exempted from licensing (at a registered farm market, at a registered farmers' market or at an event that is organized by a political subdivision of the State of Ohio). This information is pertinent since we are entering the season of festivals and farmer's markets.

Pilot Remediation Planned for Groundwater Contamination Site

Our Source Water Protection Program staff has been meeting with partners from Harrison Township and city of Dayton to review a consultant's proposal for the American Carco site. This former electro-plating facility contaminated with an industrial solvent and heavy metals has been a cause of concern since its closure in 1989. Abandoned by a bankrupt owner, it has fallen to public agencies to secure it and pursue remediation.

Following the Board of Health condemnation of the deteriorating building in 2009, Harrison Township used a Well Field Fund Board grant to have the building demolished. This not only abated a nuisance attractive to neighborhood kids, but cleared the site for expanded assessment of the groundwater contamination by Harrison Township's environmental consultant.

That assessment has now been completed and staff have been reviewing a variety of remediation approaches, including source removal, pump-and-treat, chemical oxidation, and biodegradation. This site is especially challenging due to the multiple contaminants present, and the close proximity (800 feet) to Dayton's nearest well field. A year's worth of staff feedback and fine-tuning by the consultant has resulted in a pilot project incorporating several approaches, including injection of a patented material to enhance bioremediation.

EH program staff met in late March with a neighboring property owner to discuss necessary access for a proposed recovery well. It is hoped that all details can be finalized so a funding proposal can be presented to the Well Field Fund Board in May.

Promote healthy behaviors

Montgomery County WIC Had Another Successful Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) in 2014

During the summer of 2014, the WIC Program distributed Farmers' Market coupon books worth \$15 each to 787 WIC families at 4 participating Farmers' Markets:

- 2nd Street Public Market
- Miamisburg Farmers' Market
- Shiloh Church Farmers' Market
- West Carrollton Farmers' Market

The FMNP provides participants with coupons to purchase locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs at farmers' markets and farm stands during the summer and fall months. In 2014, Montgomery County's coupon redemption rate increased to 89% and was the 2nd highest redemption rate of all the WIC programs in Ohio. The overall redemption rate for the state was 65%. The FMNP not only provides an opportunity for WIC participants to improve their health by eating more fresh fruit and vegetables, but also supports local agriculture and benefits the entire community.

Tobacco-Free Workplaces

On March 17, our Tobacco and Prevention Program staff met with the Healthy Ohio Business Council's Executive Committee to discuss tobacco prevention and cessation. Our staff shared information on Ohio's tobacco use trends, workplace cessation, workplace nicotine / tobacco policies and electronic cigarettes. We were invited to the meeting because Public Health is a recognized leader in the state for our work in tobacco prevention and cessation.

Members of the Healthy Ohio Business Council Executive Committee are selected based on a proven commitment to providing health and wellness programs for employees. Council members work with Ohio companies to encourage the creation of healthy workplace programs. The Healthy Ohio Business Council and its seven statewide regional councils are a group of Ohio Companies sharing best practices for a healthy workforce and a healthy economy.

Mobilize community action through partnerships

GetUp Healthy Childcare Center Award of Excellence

On March 25, Public Health announced the winners of the 2015-2016 GetUp Healthy Child Care Award of Excellence at the Readiness Summit sponsored by ReadySetSoar. The summit was attended by over 500 key community leaders.

GetUp Montgomery County, in partnership with: ReadySetSoar, 4C for Children; Dayton Children's Hospital; and the Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services created this award to recognize early child care providers that promote healthy lifestyles for child care staff and the families they serve. The award is based on the GetUp 5-2-1-Almost None daily lifestyle prescription:

- Eat **5** servings of fruits and vegetables
- Spend less than **2** hours of leisure screen time (TV, internet, video games)
- Get at least **1** hour of physical activity
- Drink **Almost None** of those sugary beverages

Of the 233 Montgomery County early child care providers licensed by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, sixty-six providers submitted a complete assessment of their operations. Sixteen of those met the qualifications to receive the award, meaning they are meeting or exceeding the recommended best practice standards for young children in the areas of healthy

eating, active living, and limited screen time. All 66 providers that completed assessments will receive technical assistance and resources to assist them in either maintaining or improving their status.

This is the second year for this award. In all, 118 providers have completed assessments and 32 child care centers have received the award. To see a complete list of winners, go to: www.getupmc.org.

Prepare for and respond to PH emergencies

Ebola Virus Disease

The Ebola outbreak in West Africa continues to decline. The World Health Organization reports that there have been a cumulative total of 23,816 cases (suspect and confirmed) of Ebola virus disease with 9652 deaths, as of March 24, 2015. There had been 23,816 cases with 8795 deaths, as of February 24, 2015. The countries with widespread transmission include:

Guinea – 3459 cases

Sierra Leone – 11866 cases

Liberia - 9602 cases

In Liberia, there were no new reported cases for 3 consecutive weeks, but a confirmed case was reported March 20. There are no other countries with a recent case. Mali (8 cases), the United States (4 cases), Nigeria (20 cases), Senegal (1 case), United Kingdom (1 case), and Spain (1 case) have been declared Ebola free.

The Sierra Leone College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences, the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are working together to launch a candidate Ebola vaccine trial in Sierra Leone that is anticipated to start in late March or early April 2015. This study, called the Sierra Leone Trial to Introduce a Vaccine against Ebola (STRIVE), plans to assess the safety and efficacy of a candidate Ebola vaccine among health and other frontline workers.

Influenza Activity

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Influenza Division collects and analyzes surveillance data year-round and produces a weekly report on U.S. influenza activity from October through May. During March, overall influenza decreased but remained elevated within the United States. Pneumonia and influenza mortality remains above the epidemic threshold. For week 10 (ending March 14, 2015), 7 states reported widespread influenza activity, 29 states (including Ohio) reported regional influenza activity, 13 states reported local spread of influenza, and no states reported sporadic influenza activity or no influenza activity. Regionally (Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Shelby, and Warren counties), there have been 3842 cases of influenza A and 245 cases of influenza B since the beginning of the flu season (through March 21, 2015) with a total of 148 cases and 27 influenza-related hospitalizations since February 21, 2015; influenza B cases outnumbered influenza A 97 to 51.

Serve as a public health information resource

Indiana Governor Declares a Health Emergency in Southeastern Indiana

On March 26, Governor Mike Pence declared a health emergency in southeastern Indiana due to a dramatic increase in new HIV cases, and announced the state would sanction a short-term needle-exchange program. The needle-exchange program will last for 30 days and then would be re-evaluated. State health officials have recorded 79 HIV cases linked to IV drug use in Scott County [near the Ohio River, north of Louisville]. Historically, there have been about five annual cases in the county. The state will set up an incident command center to coordinate HIV treatment and substance abuse treatment. The Indiana State Department of Health will supervise a short-term needle exchange program “for the sole purpose of containing the epidemic.” Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear recently signed a bill that included a provision for needle exchange programs. Governor Pence has little interest now in supporting needle exchange programs for the entire state.

Mass Media Interactions

During the past few weeks, we have had numerous contacts with TV, radio, and print.

The following are a few examples:

- DDN on carbon monoxide poisoning prevention
- Channel 22/45 on restaurant complaints
- Channel 7 on restaurant complaint protocol
- Channel 7 on vapor intrusion
- DDN on restaurant inspections
- WCSU Radio on minority health issues
- DDN on landscaping / surface water complaint
- WHIO Reports on food safety in restaurants
- WDAO on Minority Health Month
- DATV on Minority Health Month
- Channel 22/ 45 on Kick Butts Day
- Channel 2, Living Dayton on Kick Butts Day
- News Release on 2015-2016 Healthy Child Care Award winners
- News Release on 2015 Minority Health Month Calendar
- Channel 2 on landscaping solid waste violation
- DDN on hotel inspection data
- News Release on 2015 County Health Rankings
- Channel 7 on 2015 County Health Rankings
- DDN on food deserts

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