



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



Monthly Update

September 2020

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



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update

Public Health along with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are closely monitoring and responding to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) global pandemic.

As of September 1, 2020, The United States reported **6 million** cases with **183,000** deaths. Ohio reported **124,610** cases with **4,165** deaths. Montgomery County reported **6,092** cases with **133** deaths.

For the latest U.S. case count, [visit the CDC's website](#).

For the latest Ohio and Montgomery County case counts, [visit the ODH Coronavirus website](#).

On August 27, the following announcements were made during the Governor's press conference:

- Governor DeWine released this week's new [Ohio Public Health Advisory System](#) map.
 - **Upgraded to Level 3 (Red):** Montgomery
 - **Remaining at Level 3 (Red):** Erie, Lorain, Lucas, Mercer, and Preble
 - **Downgraded to Level 2 (Orange):** Clark, Clermont, Franklin, and Trumbull
 - **Downgraded to Level 1 (Yellow):** Marion, Muskingum, Perry, and Sandusky
 - **There are no counties on Ohio's Watch List**
- Governor DeWine announced that the Ohio Department of Health will be issuing an order that requires K-12 schools to establish a mechanism for parents and guardians to report confirmed cases of COVID-19 among their children. Schools should notify

parents/guardians in writing about each case and include as much information as possible without disclosing protected health information. Schools should also make non-identifying information about positive COVID-19 cases publicly available.

- The forthcoming order will also direct all K-12 schools to report confirmed cases to their local health department, which will then report new cases and cumulative case data for students and teachers to the Ohio Department of Health. **This aggregate data will be published at coronavirus.ohio.gov each Wednesday.**
- Lt. Governor Husted announced that the current sports order has been modified to clarify that participants shall not compete in more than one contest or game in any calendar day, as compared to the 24-hour period outlined in the original order. The goal of this adjustment in language is to assist organizers and teams when scheduling games or contests.
- Travel advisory issued: Individuals traveling to Ohio from 4 states urged to self-quarantine for 14 days. These include Idaho, Nevada, Mississippi, and Florida. The link for the travel advisory is:
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/families-and-individuals/COVID-19-Travel-Advisory/COVID-19-Travel-Advisory>
- Public Health continues to facilitate conference calls with congregated locations within the county.
- The Public Health COVID-19 informational phone line remains open Monday through Friday to answer general questions. The info line is 937-225-6217.
- ODH information line remains open, the number is 1-833-4-ASK-ODH and is open seven days a week.
- Public Health will continue to share situation reports with other local health departments, Montgomery County Emergency Management, Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association and Dayton Metropolitan Medical Response System partners.

The hours for the Public Health Clinic have changed due to the COVID-19. Call 937-225-4550 to schedule an appointment. The Clinic provides specialty services for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD), Tuberculosis (TB), and Refugee Health and is located in the Reibold Building at 117 S. Main St. in Dayton. This change will be in effect until further notice.

As a reminder, Public Health's specialty clinics are limited to those services and **cannot provide COVID-19 diagnosis, testing, or treatment. If you have been tested for COVID-19, contact your physician to obtain the results.**

Epidemiology Syndromic Surveillance Summary:

Below are links to both the CDC and WHO regarding the latest information.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>



Public Health Designated as LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader

Public Health has recently been designated as an LGBTQ healthcare Equality Leader in the [Human Rights Campaign's](#) Healthcare Equality Index (HEI). The HEI is the national LGBTQ benchmarking tool of the Human Rights Campaign that evaluates healthcare facilities' policies and practices related to the equity and inclusion of their LGBTQ patients, visitors and employees.

Each year, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) recognizes healthcare facilities that participate in the Equality Index to validate their dedication and commitment in their service and care for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) patients. LGBTQ people experience a number of extreme health disparities, particularly those who live as part of multiple marginalized communities based on race, ethnicity, ability and socioeconomic status in addition to their sexual orientation and transgender identity.

This is a major achievement for our agency and further highlights our commitment to diversity and inclusion at Public Health and in Montgomery County as a whole.

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 we are the only Dayton-based healthcare organization with this distinction. We are among some of the leading healthcare organizations in our state and nation, including The James Cancer Center; OSU Wexner Medical Center, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Mayo Clinic, and Kaiser Permanente, to name just a few. You can [review the full report here](#).

The designation as an LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader is similar to the designation held by the City of Dayton as part of HRC's Municipal Equality Index, but with a focus on meeting best-practice criteria for healthcare. The process of achieving this designation required more than 18 months of work on the part of five cross-functional teams to review and address our policies and practices with regard to employee benefits, non-discrimination policies and staff training, patient services and support, and community involvement/engagement.

The process was part of our LGBTQ Health Initiative we began in April 2018 to address dramatic LGBTQ health disparities such as access to culturally

competent care, substance abuse, mental health and suicidality, among others. Along the way we initiated several changes to align with best practices including adapting our patient electronic health record to capture appropriate information, adopting an LGBTQ Patient Bill of Rights, changing our leave policy to make it more inclusive for all employees, and starting an LGBTQ Employee Resource Group. Another important aspect of this effort involves our LGBTQ Community Health Alliance that includes 65 LGBTQ and ally people and organizations from across the county who have been working to address health disparities through a collective impact approach.

With our intensified focus on health equity and racism, this designation sends a powerful message to our community that we are focused on improving the health of all people especially those who identify in multiple ways in communities that have historically been stigmatized and marginalized.



The Women’s Rights Movement and the 19th Amendment

[Public Health’s Diversity and Inclusion Committee](#) works to educate staff about diversity, so they can understand each other better and provide relevant services to the community.

In August we celebrated Women’s Equality Day, which recognizes the achievements of women’s rights activists and reminds us of the unique daily struggles that women face every day.

The right to vote, the cornerstone of democracy, belongs to all citizens — but this wasn’t always the case. Until recently, most countries denied voting rights to half of their population: women.

To claim their voice, women began fighting for the right to vote in the early 19th century. In the U.S., decisions about who could vote were left up to the states. The 19th Amendment, ratified in 1920, ensures voting rights for everyone regardless of gender.

Although this was a momentous day in women’s history, it is important to recognize that not all women were actually guaranteed the right to vote after the 19th Amendment was passed. For decades after, Black people, Asian American women, Native women, LGBTQ+ women, women with disabilities, low-income women, and more faced obstacles to exercising their right to vote – and to this day, many still face huge obstacles to make sure that their voice is heard at the polls.

Although marginalized women have continued to face barriers to voting and representation, we are inspired by all the women today who have fought for equality and those women who continue to pave the way for generations to come.

Please see the resources below. Take some to learn more about the women's rights movement and become inspired by the courageous women who changed the world.

The Women's Rights Movement <https://history.house.gov/Exhibitions-and-Publications/WIC/Historical-Essays/No-Lady/Womens-Rights/>



Back to School Immunization Clinic

Public Health, in collaboration with CareSource and Dayton Children's Hospital, held a special vaccination clinic for 7th and 12th grade students returning to school. The event was held on August 26 at the Kroc Center in Dayton.

The State of Ohio requires all 7th grade students to be vaccinated for pertussis/whooping cough (Tdap) and meningitis (Menactra) before returning to school. Returning 12th graders are required to receive a second dose of meningitis vaccine. Students attending school virtually are still required to receive these [mandatory vaccinations](#). The HPV vaccine (human papillomavirus) was also offered at the clinic. HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection. Fifty students received a total of 104 vaccinations including 30 pertussis, 46 meningitis, and 28 HPV.

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, many parents have avoided getting required vaccinations for their children in an effort to avoid being around others. As a result, immunization rates in children are down significantly from this time a year ago.

During the clinic, social distancing and face masks were required. CareSource and Dayton Children's Hospital provided masks to those in attendance. CareSource provided students with school supplies and healthy snacks. There was also information and resources for adults regarding job assistance, life coaching, transportation needs, healthcare management, and Public Health programs and services.

Special thanks to RTA for offering free transportation to and from the Kroc Center for the event.



Public Health Accreditation Board Cites “Excellent Work”

To maintain accreditation, Public Health is required to annually submit a written report to the [Public Health Accreditation Board \(PHAB\)](#). The feedback received from the PHAB Board represents the combined efforts of all our employees and validates that Public Health is a high performing health department, even under adverse conditions.

The Board noted Public Health’s great work focusing on customer satisfaction, including a new customer satisfaction survey. They also noted the ongoing implementation of a new performance management system that will help provide standardized program reporting for all departments and an “at a glance” dashboard to measure progress.

Report highlights included:

- The health department had many accomplishments this year, despite providing a response to multiple emergencies throughout the year.
- The work described using the Collective Impact (CI) Model is excellent and demonstrates the strong leadership the health department is showing in the community.
- [Public Health’s Annual Report](#) articulated the evolution of performance management and quality improvement at the health department and the steady progress is commendable.

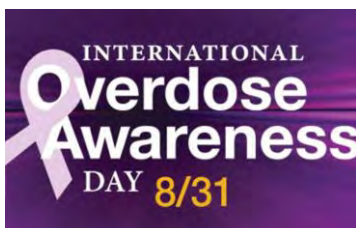


COVID Conversations: The Indigenous Experience

On August 31, Public Health’s [Local Office of Minority Health](#) hosted a virtual panel conversation discussing the effects and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Indigenous community.

Indigenous or Native peoples are the original or earliest known inhabitants of an area, in contrast to groups that have settled, occupied or colonized the area more recently.

This free event was designed to bring attention to the struggles and experience of Indigenous Peoples during this coronavirus crisis. Panelists included local leaders, societal change-makers, and social justice activists working within different Indigenous populations. The event was made available to anyone in the community.



International Overdose Awareness Day

Each year we lose thousands of people from drug overdose globally. In Montgomery County alone in 2019, there were 285 unintentional drug overdose deaths. Some survive but suffer a permanent injury, with devastating impact to their families and friends.

The Community Overdose Action Team (COAT) recognized ***International Overdose Awareness Day on Monday, August 31.*** [International Overdose Awareness Day](#) provides an opportunity to raise awareness and strive to reduce the stigma associated with overdoses and addiction in our community. COAT encouraged Dayton and Montgomery County residents to pause for a moment of silence at 12:00 pm on August 31 to remember those who lost their lives to drug overdose and addiction. Additionally, Montgomery County and the City of Dayton both issued proclamations, and the Montgomery County Administration Building and the City of Dayton's I-75, Monument, Fifth St, Stewart St. and Webster St. bridges were illuminated in purple.

As a community, we must continue to provide comprehensive services for those continuing to fight the disease of addiction, and inspire others to know that recovery is possible, and we are here to help them along their journey.



Media Opportunities:

- 8/3/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 Overdoses
- 8/5/2020 - ABC 22 - Ticks
- 8/5/2020 - ABC 22 – COVID-19 Masks
- 8/6/2020 – WDTN - COVID-19 Mask Distribution
- 8/6/2020 – WHIO - COVID-19 Mask Distribution
- 8/6/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 Mask Distribution
- 8/7/2020 – WHIO - COVID-19 Contact Tracing
- 8/7/2020 - ABC 22 - COVID-19 Mask Donations
- 8/7/2020 – WDTN - COVID-19 Racial Disparity
- 8/9/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 Number of Cases
- 8/10/2020 - Spectrum News - COVID-19 Number of Cases
- 8/11/2020 - Fox 45 - COVID-19 Testing
- 8/11/2020 – WDTN - COVID-19 Outbreak
- 8/11/2020 – WHIO - COVID-19 Outbreak
- 8/11/2020 – WROU - COVID-19
- 8/12/2020 - Fox 45 - COVID-19 St. Leonard
- 8/12/2020 - DDN - COVID-19 St. Leonard
- 8/12/2020 - Centerville Dispatch - COVID-19 St. Leonard
- 8/13/2020 - Spectrum News - COVID-19 St. Leonard
- 8/14/2020 – WDTN - COVID-19 Level 3
- 8/17/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 Sports
- 8/18/2020 - WHIO - Legionnaires
- 8/18/2020 - WHIO - COVID-19 Testing
- 8/18/2020 – WDTN - COVID-19 Testing
- 8/18/2020 - Fox 45 - COVID-19 Testing
- 8/18/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 Testing

8/18/2020 – DDN - Legionnaires
 8/19/2020 – DDN - Vaccinations
 8/20/2020 - Fox 45 - Legionnaires
 8/20/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 Alert Level 2
 8/20/2020 - Fox 45 - COVID-19 Alert Level 2
 8/20/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 University of Dayton
 8/20/2020 – WHIO - COVID-19 University of Dayton
 8/24/2020 - Fox 45 - COVID-19 University of Dayton
 8/25/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 University of Dayton
 8/26/2020 – WHIO - Vaccination Clinic
 8/26/2020 – WDTN - Vaccination Clinic
 8/27/2020 – WDTN - COVID-19 Risk Level 3
 8/28/2020 – WHIO - COVID-19 University of Dayton
 8/28/2020 – DDN - Racism as a Public Health Crisis
 8/28/2020 – DDN - COVID-19 Montgomery County Jail
 8/31/2020 – DDN - Overdose Awareness Day
 8/31/2020 - WDTN - Legionnaires
 8/31/2020 – Spectrum News - Legionnaires



For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call Public Health at 1-937-225-6217 or the Ohio Department of Health at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Submitted by:

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