



Health Commissioner / Medical Director Report Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

February 4, 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

Special items

Step Up To Success!

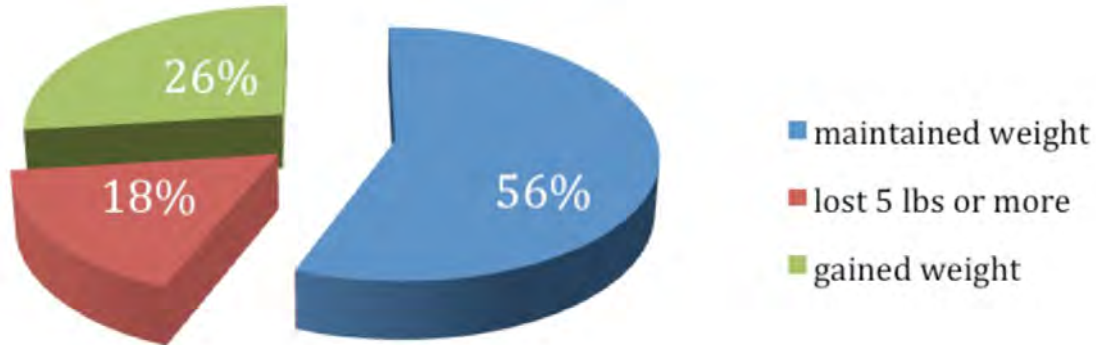
Public Health is moving forward with our commitment to our employees to become a more culturally diverse and inclusive organization. To date, our employees have completed an online perception survey and have participated in interviews and focus groups. We have scheduled employee sessions for our contractor, Dr. Linda Burrs of Step Up To Success! to present the results, answer questions and discuss our future activities and timeline. Dates and times for our employee sessions are listed below:

Date	Time	Location
Wed., February 11	1-2 p.m.	Reibold Multi-Purpose Room
Wed., February 11	3-4 p.m.	Reibold Multi-Purpose Room
Thurs., February 12	10-11 a.m.	Reibold Multi-Purpose Room
Thurs., February 12	2-3 p.m.	Drew Health Center Room 804
Tues., February 17	9-10 a.m.	Drew Health Center Community Room
Wed., February 18	3-4 p.m.	Reibold Multi-Purpose Room

Not a Single Pound (NASP) Challenge

The *Not a Single Pound* Employee Challenge wrapped up the week of January 19. The nine-week challenge to encourage all staff to maintain weight over the holiday season was a huge success! Of the initial 182 employees who weighed in, 171 were weighed out.

Public Health employee results are depicted in the following chart:



Of those who participated:

- 56% maintained their weight
- 18% lost 5 lbs or more
- 26% gained weight

During this challenge Public Health employees collectively lost a total of 350 lbs! Of those who completed the Challenge, 74% maintained or lost weight and earned extra time off.

The NASP Challenge was also promoted and offered to individuals and organizations outside of our agency. Those results are still being collected and will be reported next month. Congratulations and thank you to all who participated to make this year's Challenge a great success.

Prevent the spread of diseases

Local immunization providers to receive Ohio AFIX awards.

AFIX (Assessment, Feedback, Incentives, and eXchange) is a continuous quality improvement process used for improving immunization rates and practices at the immunization provider level. Public Health's Immunization program implements AFIX for all local medical providers. The process engages providers in a dialogue of best practices that help improve or maintain vaccine coverage rates. The ultimate goal of the AFIX program is to increase the immunization coverage of Ohio's pediatric and adolescent populations.

The following offices achieved results in 2014 that qualify them to be recognized by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) AFIX project. These awards will be presented at the Immunize Ohio Statewide Immunization Conference in 2015. For pediatric vaccines, offices are recognized for achieving up-to-date rates of 90% or greater for the immunization series by the age of 2 years. For adolescent vaccines, offices are recognized for achieving up-to-date rates of 80% or greater for two or more recommended vaccines.

Pediatric 90% Club Award Recipients

- Children's Health Clinic
- Huber Heights Samaritan Pediatrics
- Northwest Dayton Pediatrics
- Pediatric Associates of Dayton-South
- PriMed Pediatrics-Centerville
- PriMed Pediatrics-Huber Heights
- PriMed Pediatrics-Kettering
- PriMed Pediatrics-Wright Dunbar

Adolescent 80% Club Award Recipients

- CHCGD-Alex Central
- CHCGD-Charles Drew
- CHCGD-Corwin Nixon
- CHCGD-East Dayton
- CHCGD-Victor Cassano
- Child & Adolescent Specialty Care-Tipp City
- Child & Adolescent Specialty Care-Vandalia
- Children's Health Clinic
- Contemporary Pediatrics, Inc.
- Five Rivers Pediatrics
- Five Rivers Family Health Center
- Huber Heights Samaritan Pediatrics
- Kettering Pediatrics & Family Care
- Pediatric Associates of Dayton-North
- Pediatric Associates of Dayton-South
- PriMed Northwest Dayton Pediatrics
- PriMed Pediatrics-Centerville
- PriMed Pediatrics-Huber Heights
- PriMed Pediatrics-Kettering
- PriMed Pediatrics-Wright Dunbar
- Southview Health Center

Making changes and sustaining high immunization coverage levels is not easy. These offices are to be commended for their continuous quality improvement efforts.

Local Investigations

There have been multiple travelers from Western Africa who have required monitoring for Ebola. Two travelers from Virginia returned from Guinea in Mid-January; they subsequently traveled to the Dayton area to visit family and were monitored by Public Health for a total of 3 days. They were in tier 2 (low risk for developing Ebola). A soldier was returning from Liberia for emergency 10 day leave; he had no known contact with any Ebola patients. His monitoring was conducted via the base. Public Health was notified by the Ohio Department of Health of a patient who presented to Kettering Medical Center Emergency Department with respiratory symptoms after returning from Cameroon. He requested testing for Ebola but it was not performed as Cameroon is not currently on the list of suspect countries.

There were numerous cases of Salmonella reported during January. Ages ranged from 6 months to 78 years old. Potential sources were varied and included international travel (1), turtle (1), undercooked eggs (1) and 3 with no probable source identified. None worked in sensitive occupations. No common source is suspected.

Protect against health threats

General Services teams up with ODA for joint inspection

An inspector from the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) Pesticide Regulation Division requested that a General Services Sanitarian accompany him on a joint inspection of a local Asian restaurant. The ODA inspector had reason to believe that this restaurant in Dayton had received insecticide from an Atlanta distributor that was illegally repackaging the product for sale. The Atlanta distributor is currently in jail for these violations. The product in question had been packaged in containers similar to cough syrup bottles and labeled in Chinese. A Chinese interpreter from Purdue University translated the label use directions which said in part: *“Aim at the head of the insects. Target the big roaches. Keep away from small children. Do not get caught by the health department. Thank you.”*

Investigation of the restaurant revealed that they had received the product in question but had given it to an employee for personal use in his apartment for roaches and bed bugs. ODA was unable to find any of the products on-site. Public Health conducted both Standard and Critical Control Point inspections to correct inappropriate food handling and food storage problems noted while on location. A follow-up inspection conducted two weeks later showed marked improvement in these areas. ODA expressed appreciation for the professional courtesy extended to their agency by Public Health.

RAPCA Distributes Free Radon Test Kits

In January, RAPCA began distributing free radon test kits to Miami Valley residents. January is National Radon Action Month and it is a great time for homeowners to learn about the risk of radon in their homes and take action to reduce exposure. Radon is a colorless, odorless soil gas that can build up in homes and may pose an increased risk of lung cancer to occupants.

Many counties in the Miami Valley are designated as Zone 1 by U.S. EPA, meaning the highest potential for elevated radon levels exists. This makes it especially important for homeowners to test their homes and take corrective action if needed. The U.S. EPA, Ohio Department of Health, and the Surgeon General recommend that all homes be tested for the presence of radon gas.

To request a kit, homeowners should contact the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency at 937-225-4435 or email Kelli Steward at stewarkj@rapca.org with their name, address, and phone number. A coupon will be mailed to the homeowner, who can then order the kit directly from the manufacturer. No postage or shipping fees apply to the homeowner.

More radon information is available by visiting www.rapca.org, www.epa.gov/radon, or <http://radon.utoledo.edu>. Residents can also call the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency at 937-225-4435 with any questions.

Another Scrap Tire Pile Remediated

Solid Waste Program staff confirmed completion of a scrap tire clean-up at 5327 W. Third Street, the site of the old Sherwood Twin drive-in theater. The current owner is using the property for collection and transfer of tree debris. The tire piles had apparently resulted from illegal dumping on the property.

Our staff informed the owner of the Ohio EPA's consensual tire clean-up fund, available to owners whose property has been dumped on and who have received no benefit from the dumping. After the receipt of a signed agreement from the owner, the OEPA hires a registered tire transporter to remove and recycle the tires. A total of 13.8 tons of tires were removed from this site. This site is one of several identified by staff using aerial photographs on Google Maps. Scrap tire piles hidden from view on large properties are often visible from the air.

In the last year, four tire dump site investigations have been initiated by staff using this tool. Partnering with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and Ohio EPA has facilitated the investigations and subsequent remediations. Three of the four sites have been successfully cleaned up and the administrative processes are under way for the fourth.

Prepare for and respond to PH emergencies

Ebola Virus Disease

The Ebola outbreak in West Africa continues, but is on the decline. The World Health Organization reports that there have been a cumulative total of 22,057 cases (suspect and confirmed) of Ebola virus disease (EVD) with 8795 deaths, as of January 25, 2015. There had been 19,695 cases with 7,693 deaths, as of December 24, 2014. The countries with widespread transmission include:

Guinea – 2,917 cases

Sierra Leone – 10,518 cases

Liberia – 8,622 cases

The only other country with a recent case is: United Kingdom (1 case). Mali (8 cases), the United States (4 cases), Nigeria (20 cases), Senegal (1 case) and Spain (1 case) have been declared Ebola free.

Travelers from Ebola-affected countries

As of January 28, there are 27 travelers being monitored in Ohio from the following counties: Cuyahoga, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, Lucas, Tuscarawas, and Warren. There are no travelers in tier 1A or tier 1B at this time.

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 January, overall influenza remained elevated within the United States. Pneumonia and influenza mortality is above the epidemic threshold. For week 2 (ending January 17, 2015):

44 states (including Ohio) reported widespread influenza activity
5 states reported regional influenza activity
1 state reported local spread of influenza
0 states reported sporadic influenza activity or no influenza activity.

Regionally (Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Shelby, and Warren counties), there have been 3601 cases of influenza A and 83 cases of influenza B since the beginning of the flu season (through January 24, 2015) with a total of 1339 cases and 134 influenza-related hospitalizations since December 27, 2014.

Serve as a public health information resource

Stethoscopes as a Source of Cross Contamination

A recent study suggests that stethoscopes carried by health care workers may be just as responsible for spreading germs in hospitals as health care workers' hands. Researchers in Switzerland found that the diaphragms of stethoscopes were more contaminated with methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) than the palms of the hands. And research shows that stethoscopes are typically cleaned less than once a month, if at all. In the study, two sites on the stethoscopes, the diaphragm and the tube were assessed. As expected, the fingertips were the most contaminated with both general bacteria and MRSA. The stethoscope diaphragms were second most contaminated, followed by the fleshy part of the palm.

Mass Media Interactions

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

The following are a few examples:

- News Release on radon test kits
- News Release on extreme cold and safety precautions
- New Release on dangerous driving conditions
- New Release on Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- Interview on Chn 2 on *Five on 2* about HIV/AIDS awareness
- Interview with Chn 7 regarding radon test kits
- Interview with radio station Fly 92.9 on radon dangers
- Interview on Living Dayton on radon dangers and testing
- Interview on Fox in the Morning on tobacco prevention
- Interview with DDN on proposed taxes on tobacco
- Interview on WCSU on black health issues
- Interview with DDN on water issues at a Mobile Home Park
- Interview on Living Dayton about measles
- Interview on Living Dayton about Ohio's tobacco report card
- Interview with DDN on community-wide health assessment
- Interview with DDN and Chn 7 on Martin Luther King Day activities
- News Release on selection of new Health Commissioner
- Interview with DDN and new Health Commissioner
- Multiple interviews with DDN, Chn 2, Chn 7, Chn 22/45 and radio stations about flu related issues

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