



Our mission is to lead and innovate by working with our community to achieve the goals of public health: prevention, promotion, and protection.



Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County Achieves National Accreditation

On February 27, the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) announced that it has awarded national accreditation status to Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County. By achieving this designation, Public Health has demonstrated the highest standards for delivering quality programs and services to Montgomery County residents and visitors.

To receive national accreditation, Public Health experienced a rigorous, peer-reviewed assessment against a set of 100 quality standards and measures which covered a broad range of services including:

- Conducting and disseminating assessments focused on population health status and public health issues facing the community
 - Investigating health problems and environmental public health hazards to protect the community
 - Informing and educating about public health issues and functions
 - Engaging with the community to identify and address health problems
 - Developing public health policy and plans
 - Enforcing public health laws
 - Promoting strategies to improve access to health care
 - Maintaining a competent workforce
 - Evaluating and continuously improving processes, programs and interventions
 - Contributing and applying the evidence-base of public health
 - Maintaining administrative and management capacity
 - Maintaining the capacity to engage the public health governing entity
- PHAB's dashboard for Public Health indicated the following report score for the 100 measures:

- Fully Demonstrated 68
- Largely Demonstrated 23
- Slightly Demonstrated 9
- Not Demonstrated 0

Becoming one of only 188 accredited, local health departments in the U.S. is an honor made possible by the hard work, commitment and professionalism of Public Health employees and the steadfast support from our Board of Health and community partners.

Employees were notified of the decision by an email from the Health Commissioner and Public Health’s Executive Team visited with staff in the Reibold Building and satellite offices. All employees have been invited to celebrate this major accomplishment at the annual Recognition Dinner on March 8.

To maintain our accreditation status, PHDMC will need to submit an annual report that describes how the health department has addressed nine opportunities for improvement noted in the Site Visit Report. Public Health will need to seek reaccreditation in 2023.



2018 Human Services Levy Review

The [Human Services Levy](#) Council has initiated the 2018 Human Services Levy Review process. The Review process will determine funding allocations for 2019-2022 for the mandated levy agencies (Public Health, ADAMHS, Children Services, DDS, Frail Elderly) and other programs. The Request for Information includes the following:

- agency self-evaluation
- program information
- financial information
- specific 2015 Review process updates
- identification of agency changes
- one-time funding requests
- 2018 budget, 2019-2022 projections
- current and future challenges/issues, and collaboration projects

Our information is due to the Montgomery County Human Services Planning & Development Department by April 6. Public Health will then meet with our Community Review Team in April and May to present our information. Our Community Review Team will then prepare a report with funding recommendations to be approved by the full Levy Council and the [Board of County Commissioners](#) in June/July.



Public Health Taking Part in Pilot Program to Fight Opioid Crisis

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) and the National Association of County & City Health Officials ([NACCHO](#)) asked Public Health and three other local health departments (in Kentucky, West Virginia, and New Hampshire) to participate in a pilot project focused on the opioid epidemic. The project offers these health departments support and technical assistance for planning and implementing innovative and collaborative approaches to combat the opioid crisis. Some project goals focus on building local capacity through stakeholder collaboration and cooperative strategies as the Montgomery County Community Overdose Action Team ([COAT](#)) has accomplished.

This CDC/NACCHO project offers Public Health funding that can be used to implement a new initiative with partners, as well as an opportunity to bring academic detailing skills to this community through training by the National Resource Center for Academic Detailing ([NaRCAD](#)). Academic detailing uses the pharmaceutical marketing techniques of face-to-face physician contact to convey evidence-based messages and practical information to change prescribing patterns. Public Health will provide four academic detailers and the Center for Pharmacy Innovation at Cedarville University will provide the other two. The timeline for the project is short. Training for academic detailers will occur the beginning of April, visits to physicians follow, and evaluations are due before July. The COAT Prescription Opioid Branch has considered the academic detailing activities of the project, identified community activities with which to coordinate, and offered insights on the project design. Public Health is checking with other community partners to identify possible new initiatives suitable for this pilot project. As a new initiative is identified, other appropriate COAT Branches will be involved. Public Health is working with NACCHO staff to advance this pilot project and bring additional resources to Montgomery County's efforts to address the opioid crisis.



Ohio Taking Charge of Prescription Pain Medication

Health Commissioner Jeff Cooper encouraged the public to learn more about the State of Ohio's [Take Charge](#) campaign which is designed to educate the public and prescribers about the risks of using prescription pain medication during an Ohio Department of Health news conference held on February 12. Before you take any type of prescription pain medication, it is important to be aware of the risks involved as well as safe medication practices, including tips on how to properly consume, store, and dispose of medication.

As part of the Take Charge campaign the [State of Ohio has developed a quiz](#) to help you determine if you may be at a higher risk of addiction if you take prescription opioids.

- ***If you decide to take pain pills, it is important to do the following:***
Only use prescription medications as directed by a health professional.

- Most pain medications are prescribed as needed for pain and can be safely stopped if the pain has subsided, even if there are some pills left. If you have questions or concerns about stopping your pain medication, please do not hesitate to contact your physician to discuss.
- Never share or use someone else's prescription medication. Remember that sharing or taking medications that are not prescribed by a doctor may be a felony.
- Always store and dispose of your medication safely to prevent others from taking medications.
- Be a good example to those around you by modeling safe medication habits and discussing medication safety with your family, friends, etc.



CDC Links Salmonella Outbreak to Kratom

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, public health and regulatory officials in several states, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are investigating a [multistate outbreak of Salmonella infections](#). As of February 16, 2018, 28 people infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* have been reported from 20 states including two in Ohio. There have been no reported cases so far in Montgomery County. At this time, CDC recommends that people not consume kratom in any form because it could be contaminated with *Salmonella* and could make people sick.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is [warning consumers not to use kratom](#), a plant which grows naturally in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea. FDA is concerned that kratom, which affects the same opioid brain receptors as morphine, appears to have properties that expose users to the risks of addiction, abuse, and dependence.

There are no FDA-approved uses for kratom, and the agency has received concerning reports about the safety of kratom. FDA is actively evaluating all available scientific information on this issue and continues to warn consumers not to use any products labeled as containing the botanical substance kratom. FDA encourages more research to better understand kratom's safety profile, including the use of kratom combined with other drugs.

RAPCA Maintenance Fee Program

On February 8, Public Health and the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency ([RAPCA](#)) hosted a meeting with the Health Commissioners for RAPCA's five outer counties – Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami and Preble. The purpose of the meeting was to present the proposed Maintenance Fee Schedule and to discuss it being implemented in these five counties in addition to Montgomery County. The Health Commissioners were amenable to the idea and support having a consistent fee schedule in the six-county region. They will be



discussing the proposal with their staff, administrations and collaborative partners to determine the next steps to having it adopted in their counties.



Pollen and Mold Monitoring Resumes in 2018

After a winter break, RAPCA resumed pollen and mold sampling on February 15 at our downtown Dayton (Sinclair Community College) monitoring station. This was just in time to measure a few days of high tree pollen levels that were triggered by the recent days of warmer weather. This should serve as a notice to allergy sufferers that the spring tree pollen season is almost here.

RAPCA, in cooperation with Public Health's STD lab, samples the outdoor air for pollen and mold and provides daily pollen and mold counts to the public and area news media from mid-February through mid-November each year. For more information, please visit RAPCA's website at <http://www.rapca.org>.



Ozone Monitoring Begins

March 1 begins the first day of the 2018 ozone monitoring season. RAPCA measures ozone at six locations in the Miami Valley. 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.

In late 2015, [U.S. EPA](http://www.epa.gov) tightened the ozone air quality standard to 70 parts per billion (ppb), as an 8-hour average. They also required a longer ozone monitoring season, beginning March 1, as opposed to April 1. Ozone air pollution levels, along with air pollution forecasts, can be found on RAPCA's website at <http://www.rapca.org>.



Media Opportunities:

WHIO, DDN on **COAT Monthly Briefing - Functional Family Therapy** (2/1/18)

DDN and WHIO on **Infant Mortality Grant** (2/2/18)

WHIO on **Flu** (2/2/18)

WYSO on **Overdose Deaths** (2/12/18)

DDN on **Riverside Infant Death** (2/12/18)

COVER2 Resources Podcast on **COAT** (2/13/18)

DDN on **Flu** (2/19/18)

WHIO on **Kratom** (2/21/18)

DDN on **Dog Bites** (2/23/18)

Fox 45 on **Nursing Home inspections** (2/26/18)

WDTN on **Overdose Deaths** (2/27/18)

News Release on **National Accreditation** (2/28/18)

WDTN and DDN on **National Accreditation** (2/28/18)



Outreach Opportunities:

Dakota Center Open House at Dakota Center (2/5/18)

Springboro High School Health and Safety Fair at Springboro HS (2/16/18)

Care for the Patient with Addiction at WSU White Hall (2/18/18)

Stat of the Month...

188

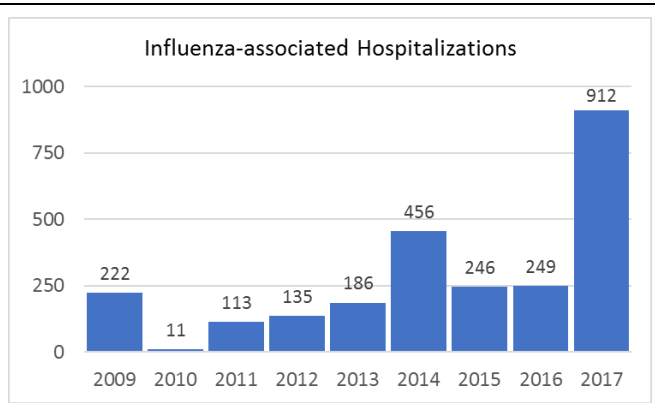
We are one of 188 accredited local health departments in the U.S.

Submitted by:

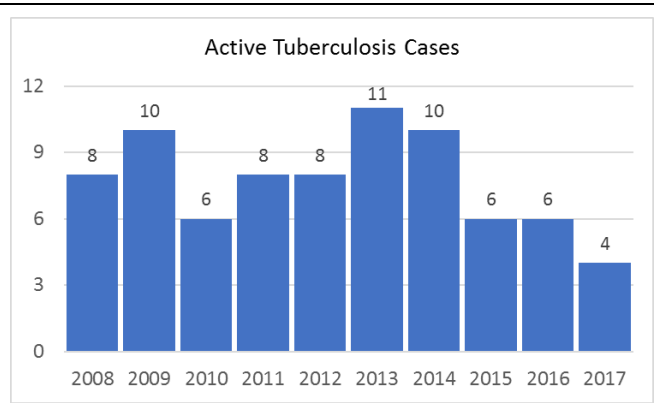
Jeff Cooper, Health Commissioner

Michael Dohn, M.D. MSc, Medical Director

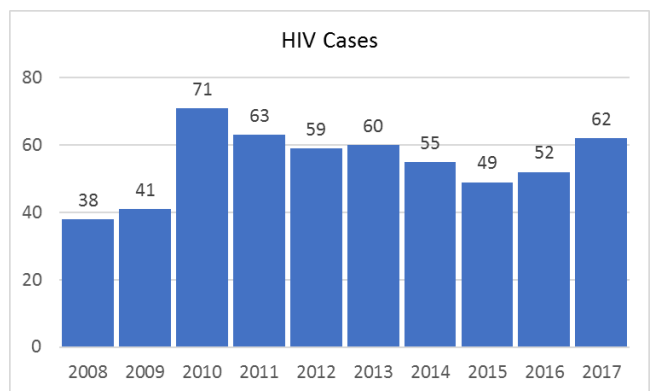
Items of Interest from the Ten-year Communicable Disease Summary*



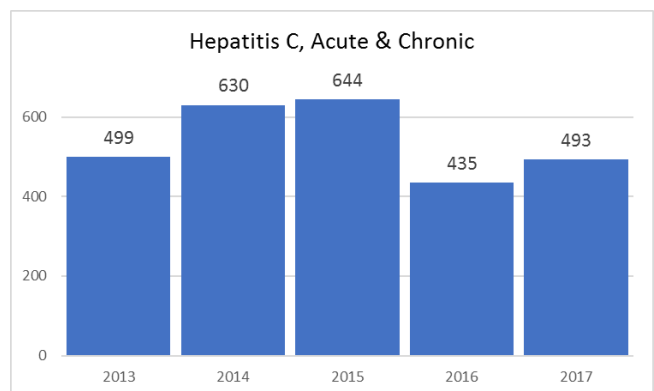
The calendar year totals include the end of one influenza season and the beginning of the next influenza season. The high 2017 total is attributable to the beginning of the 2017-18 influenza season.



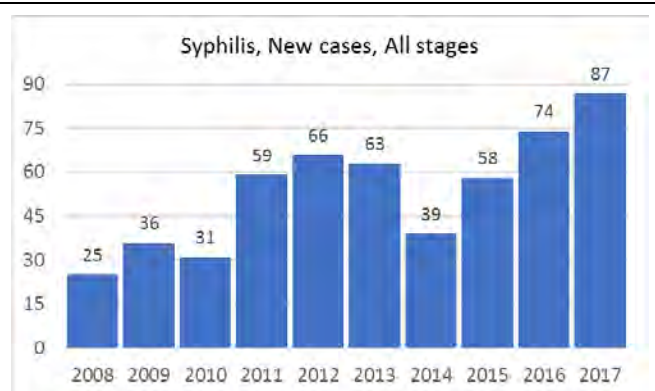
New incident tuberculosis cases are generally related to immigration and not the spread of tuberculosis within Montgomery County.



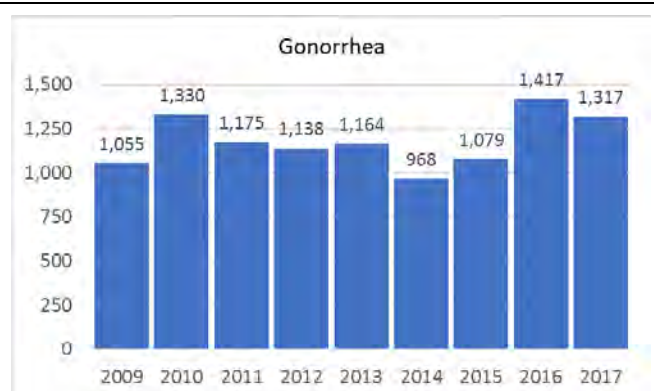
New HIV cases in Montgomery County have remained stable. However, HIV rates related to injection drug use have risen in Hamilton County and Northern Kentucky.



Hepatitis C cases have remained stable, though the year-to-year variation can be substantial and the mode of hepatitis C acquisition for cases is often uncertain.



The 2017 syphilis cases† include two congenital cases. The region is seeing an increase in syphilis, and Public Health is working with the Ohio Dept. of Health to address the situation regionally.



Even with rising syphilis rates, the gonorrhea cases‡ have remained stable, though 2016 and 2017 were higher than the 10-year average.

