



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



## Ohio Funding Six Projects in Dayton Area to Combat Infant Mortality

*Collaborative efforts aim to improve birth outcomes and reduce the racial and ethnic disparities in infant mortality*

The Ohio Department of Medicaid has announced new investments in six community initiatives in Montgomery County aimed at reducing infant mortality. The initiatives identify innovative projects that will connect women and infants to quality health care and care management.

Through the EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force, Ohio Department of Medicaid has awarded a \$3,177,387 grant to help reduce the number of babies who die before their first birthday.

These additional resources will help us in our fight to reduce the [infant mortality](#) rate in our community. This new funding will go a long way to help support the collaborative effort of the EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force.

In 2016, 45 babies died before their first birthday, and Montgomery County's infant mortality rate overall was 6.8. The leading causes of infant deaths are premature births, birth defects, and safe sleep practices. Also, there is a historical disparity in the number of deaths, with black babies dying at a rate of 2.5 more than white babies.

To see a meaningful reduction in infant deaths we will need a community-wide collaborative effort that touches on all aspects of the problem. Through our partnerships, we will see new and expanded services to [help both mother and child before, during and after the pregnancy.](#)

Through EveryOne Reach One, Ohio Medicaid awarded funding to support the following proposals:

- Home visiting will be increased for pregnant women in targeted communities through services provided by [Help Me Grow Brighter Futures](#).  
*Total Funding Amount: \$2,173,940.00*
- [Five Rivers Health Centers](#) and [Lifestages Centers for Women](#) will enhance patient-centered prenatal care with the expansion of their CenteringPregnancy programs.  
*Total Funding Amount: \$457,260.00 with Five Rivers receiving \$112,260 and Lifestages Centers for Women receiving \$345,000*
- [Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley](#) in partnership with The West Dayton Health Promotion Partnership will implement the Family Wellness Community Health Worker Program. The Family Wellness Community Health Worker program will increase the peer to peer support tailored to meet the unique needs of their communities.  
*Total Funding: \$176,637.00*
- [Miami Valley Organizing Collaborative](#) in partnership with faith-based organizations will create the Community Hope Project. The Community Hope Project will train ministry leaders in the Peer Health Leadership program to become Health Ambassadors. Another component of the project is the First Ladies Health Initiative of Montgomery County. The First Ladies Health Initiative is a national program sponsored by Walgreens. The project will launch a historic, city-wide health day to provide information and screenings.  
*Total Funding: \$156,250*
- [Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services Fatherhood initiative](#) will work with Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County, Five Rivers Health Centers, The West Dayton Health Promotion Partnership, and Urban Light Ministries to create Every Parent Matters program. Every Parent Matters is a partnership of fatherhood programs in Montgomery County to connect fathers with each other and to services available in the community.  
*Total Funding: \$213,300.00*

Total Medicaid investment for the EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force is \$3,177,387.



## The Changing Social Determinant Landscape

In the last Monthly Update, Public Health highlighted its response to the loss of food options after grocery store closures and fires. Since that meeting, changes announced in other sectors will also be affecting communities. The loss of a healthcare center and the probable closing of some Dayton Public Schools are additional challenges. Community feelings of consternation and uncertainty are rising. Public Health is continuing to participate in community meetings as it works with neighborhoods to fulfill its mission to protect the public's health. Public health is committed to helping communities find responses that serve to preserve and improve health status for the affected people. The John Snow Institute, our consultant for the [Social Determinants of Health](#) study, is aware of these changes and will be incorporating them into its final report.



## HB 523 Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Purposes

On June 8, 2016, Governor Kasich signed into law [HB 523](#), authorizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes. Twenty-nine states and Washington DC have now passed laws. Ohio's law became effective September 8, 2016 and will be fully implemented by September 2018. Regulatory oversight will be shared among three agencies under the [Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program](#): The Department of Commerce will oversee cultivators and testing labs; the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy will oversee the patient registry and dispensaries; and the State of Ohio Medical Board will oversee physicians.

To qualify, a patient must be diagnosed with a qualifying medical condition and receive a recommendation from a physician approved by the state. An in-person physical examination is required, and the physician must have an expectation of providing ongoing care for the patient. The physician will submit the required paperwork directly to the state on behalf of the patient seeking registration. Physicians may begin certification by spring of 2018. Individuals who are approved will have access to marijuana, including whole plant, extracts, and infused products such as food items. Under the law marijuana may not be smoked, but it may be vaporized. Marijuana will be given in uniform 90-day increments once every 90-days. This uniform amount for all patients is to be determined by the Board of Pharmacy. Health insurance most likely will not cover costs for insurers, so individuals will be required to pay cash for the examination and the purchase of marijuana.

There were 24 provisional cultivator licenses approved in June 2017. Two licenses were approved for Montgomery County – one in Dayton and one in Huber Heights. Cultivators can begin growing in May 2018. Once the marijuana is cultivated, it will be sent to a processor to manufacture. The products will then be sent to dispensaries for sale. There will be 40 processors that will be in operation by September 9, 2018 and up to 60 dispensaries will be in operation in Ohio by the end of September 2018. Testing lab applications

have also been submitted by Hocking College and Central State University as well as seven corporations within Ohio. These are awaiting approval.

Public Health, the [Montgomery County Prevention Coalition](#) and additional community partners will continue to define core public health functions as they pertain to legalized marijuana. In doing so, the primary goals will be to mitigate potential harmful consequences of legalized marijuana, collect the necessary data to measure possible negative and beneficial effects on the population, and protect vulnerable populations.

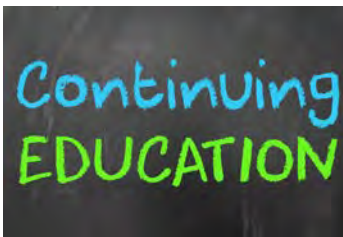


### **MLK Teen Day Celebration Against Violence**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual [MLK Teen Day Celebration Against Violence](#) sponsored by Public Health’s Violence Prevention Program was held on January 15 at the Neon Movies. The celebration was in commemoration of non-violence on the National Holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Despite the weather conditions, 145 people attended the event. The program featured the movie “Hidden Figures”, which is based on the incredible true story of a team of African American female mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program. After the film, there was a discussion with the audience about the historical and contemporary issues raised by the movie.

The program was designed to build upon the beliefs of Dr. King and his philosophy of using non-violent resistance which included protests, boycotts, grassroots organizing, and civil disobedience in the struggle to achieve equality for all races. The program was free and open to the public. Lunch was provided by McDonalds. There was a segment on *Living Dayton* to promote the MLK Teen Day Celebration.



### **Nursing Continuing Education Committee Activities**

Public Health’s Nursing Continuing Education (CE) Committee is approved by the [Ohio Nurses Association](#) (ONA) to plan, provide and evaluate educational activities for our nurses to grow both professionally and personally. The purpose of the committee is to work in conjunction with the agency’s primary goal of providing services to the community that [prevent, promote, and protect](#). The Nursing CE Committee contains representatives from different programs within the agency, allowing members from various backgrounds and expertise to make their voice heard regularly at monthly meetings. This diversity allows for the committee to offer a variety of topics to its target audience, encompassing many facets of public health.

In 2017, the Nursing CE Committee provided nine educational events, offered over 29 nursing CE credit hours, and had over 859 participants. Educational topics ranged from care of the LGBTQ community to infant mortality. In

addition, the Nursing CE Committee submitted the triennial application to renew status as an Approved Provider Unit and was granted approval on December 6 to continue providing educational activities for nurses through 2020.



## Ohio Department of Health Site Visit to Inspect New X-Ray Equipment

[The Tuberculosis \(TB\) Program](#) provides on-site evaluation for residents of Montgomery County who test positive for TB. In order to provide residents with comprehensive services, the TB Clinic's staff includes two radiographic technologists who are qualified to operate the TB Clinic's in-house x-ray machine. As part of the new third floor clinic remodeling project, the TB Program received a new x-ray unit. The installation of the new machine meant upgrades to both equipment and technology used to manage x-ray images. To maintain program services, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) was required to perform an inspection of Public Health's new x-ray equipment and radiation protection program, repeating these inspections every three years. Inspection includes assessment of personnel qualifications, general radiation protection, quality assurance, and equipment performance. The TB Program passed this inspection by ODH's Health Physics Inspector on January 25.



## Public Health Helps Residents in Unsafe Apartment Building

Public Health was notified by [Dayton Fire Department](#) of an apartment building located downtown with significant code violations. Dayton Fire had responded the night prior to Newcom Manor for a medical emergency and discovered elevated levels of carbon monoxide. The high levels of carbon monoxide were caused by a boiler that was not functioning correctly. The owner was ordered by the City to make repairs, including the boiler. The following week the City determined that the owner was not compliant with the order. The City issued an emergency vacate order to the building owner and residents. Public Health visited the building on two occasions and provided assessments to the approximate 50 residents to determine what their needs were for relocation. Public Health also participated in multiple phone calls with the City, County EMA and other agencies to coordinate services. A judge issued a 30-day temporary restraining order the day the building was to be vacated allowing residents to stay if the owner provided the residents with temporary heat. Other repairs still need to be made to the building. The judge will visit the property frequently to see what progress has been made.

## Not a Single Pound

This year Public Health had 191 employees and 21 spouses participate in the [Not a Single Pound Challenge](#). Of the 191 employees who participated, 180 completed the challenge (94% compared to 89% completed for the 2016-2017



challenge). This year, 70 employees maintained or lost weight during the challenge (an increase of 2% from last year).

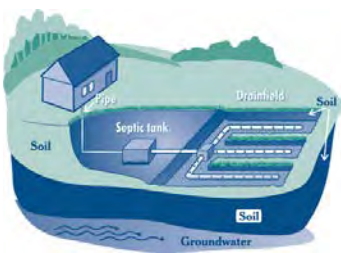
There were 31 external organizations who registered to participate. There were 27 external organizations who reported back their participation. In total, 2,856 employees participated in the challenge and 2,080 of them maintained or lost weight during the challenge (73%).



### **Oregon District Restaurant Fire**

In the early morning of December 29, 2017, Salar Restaurant and Lounge suffered a major [kitchen fire](#). The fire quickly spread throughout the building and eventually affected several surrounding businesses including Spice Paradise, a food establishment. General Services was made aware of the fire and a sanitarian was dispatched to the location to determine the extent of the damage. With the assistance of the Dayton Fire Department the inspector briefly looked in on the establishment but did not enter due to accumulated water and debris conditions.

It was determined that Salar had such damage from fire and water that it would not be operating until such time repairs could be made and approval to operate granted. A contractor was already on site and the owners had left the scene since there was nothing that could easily be done to reopen. The timing was also a major loss to the owners as this was New Year's Eve weekend. Next door, Spice Paradise had sustained minimal structural damage because of the fire and had a loss of power. Subsequently, they had to discard all out of temperature perishable foods and those packages that were smoke-damaged, but the store could remain in operation.



### **Septic System Repair Grants Announced**

The Office of Environmental Health received confirmation that Public Health has been selected to receive funding for [Ohio EPA's 2018 Household Sewage Treatment System repair grant program](#). In all, 81 local governmental agencies were approved for funding to offer assistance to low and moderate-income homeowners who have failing septic systems. Upgrades can include onsite system replacement or connection to public sewer where available. The next of multiple administrative steps is for the Board of Health to designate an authorized representative to execute necessary documents with the Ohio EPA. An Assistance Agreement must be signed by April 30, 2018, and then the work of promoting the program and processing applicants can begin. Public Health requested \$128,100 with the goal of upgrading ten (10) failing systems. The agreement allows the local agency 18 months to complete the projects and expend the funding.



### Media Opportunities:

DDN on **COAT / Local Drug Deaths** (1/1/18)  
DDN on **COAT / Overdose Deaths** (1/2/18)  
DDN on **Flu Hospitalizations** (1/3/18)  
DDN on **Food Operation Inspection Reports** (1/3/18)  
Living Dayton on **Giving Up Smoking in 2018** (1/3/18)  
Fox 45 on **COAT / Overdose Trends** (1/4/17)  
DDN, Fox 45 on **Flu Season** (1/5/18)  
Living Dayton on **MLK Teen Celebration** (1/10/18)  
News Release on **Ohio's 1<sup>st</sup> Pediatric Flu Death** (1/10/18)  
WHIO, DDN on **Public Health Clinic** (1/10/18)  
WDTN on **Flu Shot Effectiveness** (1/10/18)  
WDTN on **2017 Opiate Overdose Deaths / COAT** (1/10/18)  
WHIO, ABC6 - Columbus on **Pediatric Flu Death** (1/10/18)  
WDTN, DDN on **Pediatric Flu Death** (1/11/18)  
CBN News on **Pediatric Flu Deaths** (1/14/18)  
DDN on **Hospitalizations and Flu Season** (1/14/18)  
Journal News on **Hospitalizations and Flu Season** (1/18/18)  
WROU for **Raise the Age to 21 Radio Spot** (1/18/18)  
DDN on **Hospitalizations and Flu Season** (1/20/18)  
DDN on **Opioid Crisis Solutions / COAT** (1/21/18)  
DDN on **Testing for Lead in Water in Schools** (1/22/18)  
WDTN on **Flu Numbers** (1/26/18)  
DDN on **Hospitalizations and Flu Season** (1/27/18)  
Living Dayton on **Flu** (1/29/18)



### Outreach Opportunities:

**MLK Violence Prevention Teen Day Celebration** at Neon Movies (1/16/18)  
**FC Industries Employee Health Fair** at FC Industries (1/17/18)  
**Life Enrichment Center Mini Health Fair** at Life Enrichment Center (1/23/18)

## Stat of the Month...

# 21

*Public Health is recommending that cities and townships in Montgomery County adopt a policy that individuals must be 21 or over to purchase tobacco products, including E-cigarettes.*

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Submitted by:

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