



# Health Commissioner Report

**R. Joseph Ebel R.S., M.S., M.B.A**



In 2011 we focused on Quality Improvement. Teams worked on projects by planning, implementing, evaluating, and modifying our procedures and priorities.

During 2011, we were able to complete QI projects related to: Extending our office and clinic hours on Tuesday evenings, Developing a new employee orientation system, Implementing an electronic time sheet system for employees, and Improving service in our Plumbing Inspection program.

In 2012, we will be implementing QI projects regarding reducing waste and increasing energy efficiency, Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP) process improvement, better management of our vehicle fleet, and improving reimbursement in our BCMH program, and other projects as identified.

Community Health Improvement Committee (CHIC) [www.healthylc.org](http://www.healthylc.org), comprised of representatives from a variety of organizations that are part of the public health system in Licking County, completed a Local Public Health System Assessment and a Forces of Change Assessment. These assessments, along with Community Health Assessment and Community Themes and Strengths Assessment, were used to create the Community Health Improvement Plan for Licking County. CHIC sub-committees were formed to implement the plan.

## *2011 Highlights/Challenges*

- CHIC committees formed including: Access to Care, Comprehensive Cancer Control, Diabetes Alliance, Healthy Homes Coalition, Health Data Partnership, School Wellness Coalition, Tobacco-Free Coalition, Wellness Coalition.
- Worked with the Soil and Water Conservation District and others to bring back the Licking River Roundup stream cleanup event.
- Expanded on our annual Bike Ride event and our 5K Trail Run.
- Improve Communication
  - Website enhancements, leading to over 33,000 visits to our websites in 2011.
  - Expanded our email health information and alert service, which now has 1,743 subscribers.
  - Built our social networking presence on Facebook and Twitter.
- Initiated the process for the Department to become Nationally Credentialed.

# Administration

## Board of Health

- Rod Ellis
- Mona Myers
- Pat Smith
- Dr. Patrick Scarpitti
- Phil Mitchell
- Gary Wood
- Tom Mullady
- Neisha Grubaugh
- Jim Glover
- Carole Wachtel
- Ray Wagner

## Management Team

R. Joseph Ebel R.S., M.S., M.B.A.

Dr. Charles Marty

Barbara Lanthorn

Nancy Hanger R.N.

Robert Sealock R.S.

Mary Beth Hagstad R.N., M.S.N., C.N.S.

Todd Kirkpatrick M.S., R.D., L.D.

Chad Brown R.S., M.P.H.

Health Commissioner

Medical Director

Business Manager/Registrar

Nursing Director

Environmental Health Director

Child and Family Health Services Director

WIC and Health Promotion Director

Community Health Development Director



2011 River Roundup



Public Health Guardian



Trail Run

# Public Health Planning, Preparedness, and Quality Improvement

Public health preparedness for bioterrorism, epidemics and other public health threats and emergencies involves all areas of the Department. Emergency management and response functions are integrated into each program and into each employee's job duties. Our staff conducts disease surveillance and the epidemiology team investigates disease outbreaks.

LCHD endeavors to embed a culture of quality in our organization. Quality improvement in public health is the use of a deliberate and defined improvement process such as Plan-Do-Check-Act, which is focused on activities that are responsive to community needs and improving population health. It refers to a continuous and ongoing effort to achieve measurable improvements in the efficiency, effectiveness, performance, accountability, outcomes, and other indicators of quality in services or processes which achieve equity and improve the health of the community.

- Received a Promising Practice Award from NACCHO (National Association of County and City Health Officials) for our Influenza Reporting Improvement System.
- Developed and implemented an updated departmental Strategic Plan.
- Developed and implemented departmental Quality Improvement Plan.
- Completed 4 Quality Improvement projects in order to better provide quality public health services.
- Collected customer satisfaction data in a wide variety of programs.
- Completed a Community Health Assessment and the Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey to monitor public health issues in the county.
- 1 of 47 local health departments nationwide to submit an application to the Public Health Accreditation Board.



- Expanded the Medical Reserve Corps and coordinated with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Developed countywide Community Health Improvement Plan in conjunction with the Licking County Community Health Improvement Committee.
- Implemented procedures allowing for the use of electronic inspections in the Food Safety and School Environmental Health Programs.
- Achieved the highest rating of any health department in central Ohio related to the Cities Readiness Initiative.
- Enhanced disease surveillance capabilities with the addition of an Epidemiologist.
- Conducted a vaccine compliance survey regarding Kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in conjunction with Denison University.

# Public Health Nursing / Child and Family Health Services

Nursing/CFHS Programs	2011
<b>Clients Attending Clinics</b>	5,489
Immunization (# of Children)	1,810
International Travel Vaccine Clients	483
Adult Vaccines (various)	524
Adult Flu Vaccines	1984
STD/Sexual Health Clinic visits	688
<b>Total Doses of Vaccine Administered</b>	
Children	6139
Adult	1754
Adult Flu	1984
STD Clinic	305
TB Tests	820
HIV Tests	532
Dental Sealants Applied	1516
Help Me Grow home visits	581
At-Risk Pregnancy Consultations	2164
Home Health Visits	78
Lead Poisoning Prevention Home Visits	13
Early Head Start Home Visits	1367
Breast and Cervical Cancer Program Participants	1690



## Highlights:

- Expanded Flu clinics to schools and businesses in the county.
- Provided a nurse to work 53 days at the Community Health Clinic.

**At-Risk Pregnancy Program:** Provides education and counseling to pregnant women and new moms. The goal of this program is for the clients to experience a healthy pregnancy and delivery, and equip them to care for their newborn child.

**Reproductive Health Clinic:** Diagnosis, treatment, and counseling for sexually transmitted diseases. Free HIV testing and counseling.



**Help Me Grow** is a program for Licking County's expectant parents, newborns, and toddlers. It provides health and developmental services so that children start school ready and able to learn. This program offers guidance to parents on typical growth and development of babies and toddlers and assists parents in learning positive parenting techniques. It guides parents in coordinating services for the unique developmental needs of their children

### **Breast and Cervical Cancer**

**Project:** Provides education, screening, re-screening, diagnostics and case



management related to breast and cervical cancer in an eight county central Ohio region.

Women are eligible for the BCCP if they meet the following:

- Live in households with incomes less than 200 percent of the poverty level, and
- Are uninsured, and
- Are 40 years of age or older to receive Pap tests and clinical breast exams, or
- Are 50 years of age or older to receive mammograms.

**Dental Sealants:** Provides free dental screenings, oral health education, and dental sealants to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in income qualifying districts. Sealants seal the tops of molars, reducing the risk of cavities. Newark City Schools, Mt. Gilead (Park Avenue Elementary), Mt. Vernon City (Twin Oak Elementary), Par Excellence Academy Elementary, Ridgewood (West Lafayette Elementary), River View School District (Union Elementary & Warsaw Elementary).

**Early Head Start Program:** This program works with low income families with children under three years old to provide parenting training and to work with the children to make sure that they are developing properly.

**STD/Sexual Health Clinic:** Free STD and HIV testing and education is provided on Tuesday afternoons and evenings at our Price Rd. location.

**Women's Health – Breast and Cervical Cancer Exams:** LCHD has become a BCCP service provider, offering breast exams and pap tests when referred through the BCCP project.

**Traveler's Health:** Consultations and Vaccinations for International Travelers are available through our clinic.

**BCMh – Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps:** Assists Licking County families with children who have special needs.

# Health Promotion

**We're Active Licking County** wellness program promotes physical activity and proper nutrition. Activities include: Wellness Coalition meetings, Pink Strides Trail Run and Wellness Walk, Change Gears Bike Ride (81 participants), [www.lcwalc.org](http://www.lcwalc.org) and [www.trail2health.org](http://www.trail2health.org) websites.



**Child Safety Seats:** In 2011 our technicians did 66 car seat checks, taught 11 car seat classes, and provided low income residents with 53 free car seats.

**We Thrive!** Wellness program encouraging tobacco-free campus policies for publicly owned property and child care centers. Assists child care centers in adopting a physical activity policy.

**Grow it Try it Like it:** 70 children in 2 childcare centers participated in six lessons. The six lessons included spinach, squash, sweet potato, cantaloupe, and strawberry and peaches. Children tasted, grew, and learned about each food.

**Partners in Wellness:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Health and Wellness program. Provides lessons every two



weeks on a variety of topics including nutrition, exercise, handwashing, and bullying prevention to 1,350 students in Granville, Johnstown, Licking Valley, Heath, Lakewood, Licking Heights, Northridge, Par Excellence, and Granville Christian Academy.

**Safe Communities:** Traffic Safety program provides motorcycle safety, drunk and drugged driving prevention, seat belt "Click it or Ticket" campaign, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, and other initiatives.

**Tobacco Prevention:** Kickin' Ash Splash tobacco free pool party was attended by over 1,700 people. Promoted tobacco-free schools, and assisted 4 schools in passing tobacco-free school campus policies, bringing the total tobacco-free schools in Licking County to 7.

**SASS – Screening and Social Support for Breast Cancer Program:**



- Enrolled 26 new women (196 women total in program).
- Provided **152** screening mammograms and 17 diagnostic mammograms.
- Medical reimbursements to 56 women diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Spring into Pink and Summer Update programs attended by over 110 cancer survivors and supporters.
- Rally for the Cure: Moundbuilder's Country Club event raised over \$28,000.
- Pink Strides Trail Run/Walk raised over \$5,000 and had 182 participants.

**Health Fairs and Events:** Health Educators attended 24 health fairs and events at employers, schools, and other locations. LCHD participated in the Utica Ice Cream Festival Parade, Granville 4th of July parade, Johnstown Firefighters parade, and Newark Jaycees parade. 702 cable TV tobacco prevention commercials aired and 6 billboards posted.

# Environmental Health

Environmental Health Statistics	Permits	Inspections	Consultations
Food Service Operations	549	1712	488
Food Establishments	204	518	312
Mobile	91	239	37
Vending	116	111	6
Temporary Food Event	124	134	31
Manufactured Home Park	32	142	71
Campground	15	30	27
Resident and Day Camps	9	12	4
Pools and Spas	75	542	36
Bathing Beaches	1	4	1
Waste Facility	2	225	43
Schools	79	90	35
Tattoo/Body Piercing	8	12	14
New Sewage Installations	57	131	341
Sewage Alterations	47	28	44
Existing Sewage Systems		88	85
Semi-Public Sewage	320	332	9
Private Water Systems	252	113	140
Plumbing Residential	437	752	328
Plumbing Commercial	140	135	527
Backflow Prevention	1010		
Water Samples Collected	409		
Nuisance Complaints	Complaints	Inspect/Consult	
Solid Waste	622	638	
Sewage	62	78	
Food	100	101	
Smoking	47	95	
Other	18	48	
Total	849	960	
Rabies / Animal Bites	361		
Dog	268		
Cat	81		
Raccoon	4		
Other	8		
Mosquito Control	467 traps; 29,468 mosquitoes collected		
West Nile Virus	31	positive pools	
Miles of Spraying	800		



## Radon Program

Licking County has the highest average indoor radon levels in Ohio. Over 70% of homes in Licking County have radon levels higher than the USEPA action level. LCHD distributed 797 free radon test kits to homeowners in Licking County last year.

## Water Quality Protection

Our new Illicit Discharge Elimination Program identified numerous storm and collector tiles which require monitoring to ensure that no water quality problems are created by failing sewage systems, improper plumbing connections, or other pollution sources. We have found some problem areas, and our sanitarians are following up on those discharges to eliminate the source of the pollution.

## Mosquito Control

In 2011 we identified --- pools, or groups, of



mosquitoes infected with West Nile Virus.

Trapping, larvicide applications, and

spraying were conducted to combat this health risk.

## Environmental Health Permits/Complaints by Political Subdivision

Political Subdivision	Sewage Permits	Well*	Plumbing Residential	Plumbing Commercial	Nuisance Complaints	Animal Bites	Food**	Visits All EH Programs
Alexandria	0	0	0	1	0	1	6	46
Bennington	2	3	4	0	1	2	14	71
Bowling Green	1	2	2	0	1	1	1	73
Buckeye Lake	0	1	3	3	25	4	32	288
Burlington	6	4	4	1	4	1	3	81
Croton	0	1	1	0	1	1	16	40
Eden	1	3	2	0	1	1	4	71
Etna	4	3	12	5	37	13	38	414
Fallsbury	1	4	3	0	2	1	3	55
Franklin	6	6	5	0	4	1	1	84
Granville Twp.	9	8	13	3	7	14	23	353
Granville Village	2	0	6	7	9	2	51	324
Gratiot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hanover Twp.	3	12	2	3	12	7	3	172
Hanover Village	0	4	3	1	0	1	6	73
Harrison	3	3	19	1	6	0	6	183
Hartford	2	4	1	0	0	2	3	121
Heath	0	0	6	21	41	25	135	752
Hebron	0	0	4	3	16	14	27	202
Hopewell	5	6	2	0	1	1	1	60
Jersey	2	6	3	0	1	1	5	94
Johnstown	1	0	3	8	10	7	55	303
Kirkersville	0	0	1	0	4	1	5	66
Liberty	6	8	5	0	3	2	8	108
Licking	2	11	17	0	18	4	25	297
Madison	6	8	7	1	7	5	11	155
Mary Ann	3	3	0	1	9	1	3	144
McKean	3	4	4	0	3	1	6	113
Monroe	1	7	11	1	8	7	3	147
Newark Twp.	1	1	5	0	2	2	4	88
Newark City	5	2	106	65	638	149	371	3900
Newton	4	6	5	0	3	3	5	121
Pataskala	4	5	63	12	45	20	91	721
Perry	8	11	4	0	1	4	3	76
St. Albans	3	10	6	0	1	2	3	65
St. Louisville	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	20
Union	10	12	8	2	11	7	42	284
Utica	0	0	0	2	3	3	47	142
Washington	4	3	1	0	1	5	9	72
<b>Totals</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>1074</b>	<b>10380</b>

\*Well permits include new, alteration, and abandonment permits.

\*\*Food includes Food Service, Retail Food Establishments, Mobile, Vending, and Temporary.

# WIC – Women, Infants, and Children

Licking County's Women, Infant, and Children's Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC)



provides nutrition education

and screening, supplemental foods, and referrals to women (pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding), infants, and children less than 5 years old.

Caseload	Monthly Average
Total	3470
LCHD	2589
Buckeye Lake	187
Pataskala	499
Johnstown	189
GRADS	6

- \$2,071,682.90 was spent in 2011 on groceries purchased with Licking County WIC coupons.
- Promotion of on-line nutrition education at [www.wichealth.org](http://www.wichealth.org) (anyone can access/utilize)
- Distribution of \$4,875.00 (325 booklets, each containing five - \$3.00 coupons) in our 8th year of the Farmers Market Nutrition Program

## Vital Statistics – Birth and Death Records

Birth and Deaths occurring in Licking County are recorded by the Registrar, and certified copies of both are available for purchase.

Licking County Health Department has Statewide Access for electronic birth certificates. Through this program we can issue a birth certificate as long as the person was born in Ohio.

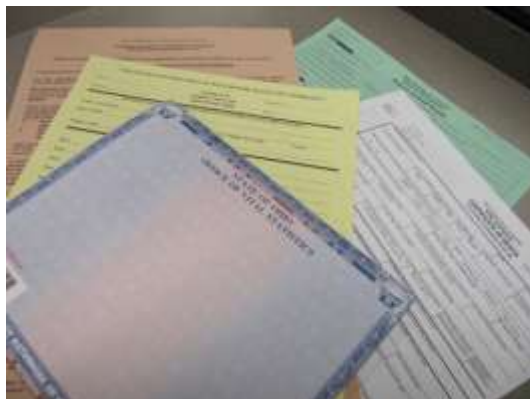
2011 Births: 987                      Deaths: 1165

30 Children, or 3 %, were born to mothers under 18 years old.

60 Children, or 6 %, were born to mothers less than 20 years old.

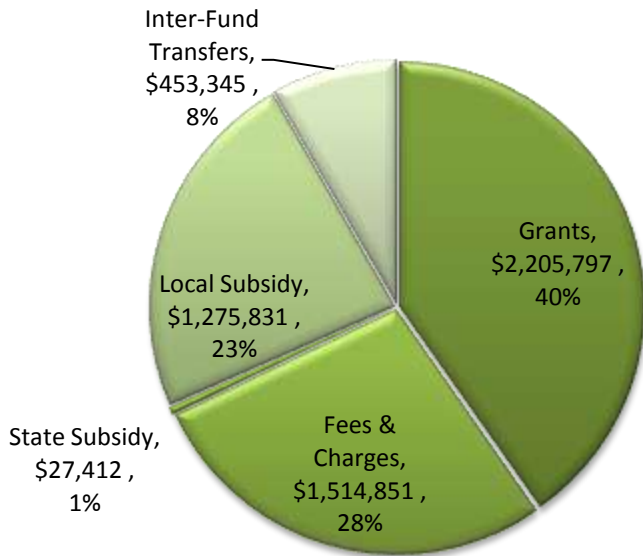
### Most popular names for children born in Licking County during 2011:

Boys	#	Girls	#
Mason	9	Abigail	9
Hunter	8	Emma	9
Brayden	7	Ava	7
Andrew	6	Layla	5
Carter	6	Madison	5
Cooper	6	Sarah	5
Ethan	6	Hannah	4
Jackson	6	Olivia	4
William	6	Sophia	4



# 2011 Financial Report

## Income Sources



Funding Source	2011
Grants	\$ 2,205,797
Fees & Charges	\$ 1,514,851
State Subsidy	\$ 27,412
Local Subsidy	\$ 1,275,831
Inter-Fund Transfers	\$ 453,345
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,477,234</b>

Grant Funds Revenue	2011
Child & Family Health Services	\$ 69,641
Help Me Grow	\$ 166,050
Injury Prevention	\$ -
Health Promotion	\$ 15,860
Early Head Start	\$ 284,500
Tobacco Compliance	\$ 8,175
Tobacco Prevention	\$ 84,808
Mini Grants	\$ 63,262
Radon	\$ 39,250
Safe Communities	\$ 26,381
Immunization Grant	\$ 198,761
Kid's Car Seats	\$ -
Physical Activity	\$ -
Emergency Preparedness	\$ 263,585
Breast & Cervical Cancer Project	\$ 227,449
Medical Reserve Corps	\$ 5,000
Oral Health Grant	\$ 65,608
Breast Cancer Grant	\$ 75,130
WIC	\$ 520,957
Solid Waste District	\$ 91,380
<b>Grant Funding Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,205,797</b>

Fund	Expenses
General	\$ 4,197,476.76
GRF Contingency	\$ -
WIC	\$ 591,315.20
WIC Contingency	\$ -
Solid Waste	\$ 100,533.47
C&DD Disposal	\$ 139,703.77
C&DD Groundwater	\$ 9,314.28
Sewage Disposal	\$ 81,344.41
Home Health SVS	\$ 1,943.00
<b>Total all Funds</b>	<b>\$ 5,121,630.89</b>



As a public agency we are committed to being efficient in our use of resources and providing transparency in all aspects of the operation of the department. Transparency promotes accountability and provides information for citizens about how the department is managed.

The 10 Essential Public Health Services are the core functions of public health.



**Monitor health**



**Diagnose and investigate**



**Inform, educate and empower**



**Mobilize community partnerships**



**Develop policies**



**Enforce laws**



**Link to and provide care**



**Assure a competent workforce**



**Evaluate**



**Research**

Licking County Health Dept.  
675 Price Rd.  
Newark, OH 43055