# We Are Public Health

2018 Accomplishments in Licking County

Strategic Plan Updates: Collected feedback from LCHD staff and the Board of Health to identify priorities for the strategic plan update and updated the Community Health Improvement Plan.

Reducing tobacco use: Launched the Community Cessation Initiative (CCI), providing free cessation counseling and referrals to treatment partners in Licking County.

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Maintaining our facilities: Built a new garage for facility and grounds maintenance supplies and equipment storage. Replaced the remaining original 1931 windows with new energy efficient windows.

Fighting breast cancer: The Pink Strides Trail Run was relocated to the LCHD campus. Participants walked 1-mile (2 laps) on our paved walking path. Attendance exceeded any of our prior Pink Strides events!

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Fighting the addiction and overdose epidemic: Expanded the Project Dawn program with the help of Mental Health and Recovery for Licking and Knox Counties and United Way of Licking County funding. We were the first program in Ohio to facilitate naloxone distribution by providing online training and kit mailing. We added a second health educator to our Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention program.

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Life expectancy map: Licking County’s average life expectancy map was used to begin discussions about health disparities and advancing health equity in our communities.

Looking forward to 2019: LCHD will be developing a profile of our community’s environmental health status using the PACE-EH (Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health) - funded by Licking County Foundation Unrestricted Funds. LCHD will identify strategies to reduce health disparities and address the social determinants of health. In addition, LCHD is launching a new Child Injury Prevention program.

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Grant funded programs

New grants awarded in 2018

LCHD staff in grant programs

2018 Licking County Births:
1,852
Mothers Under 18: 25
Mothers 18-20: 143
Home Births: 9

2018 Licking County Deaths:
1,498
By Suicide: 24
By Overdose: 42
By Accident: 101
By Homicide: 8

Births and deaths are recorded by our Registrar. Birth certificates can be issued for any person born in Ohio. Death certificates are available only for persons who died in Licking County.

Births represent total births to Licking County residents. Deaths represent total deaths that occurred in Licking County.

2018 Most Popular Baby Names:
Cora
Harper
Charlotte
Isla
Ava

2018 Top 5 Communicable Diseases: (excluding STD's and Flu)
Hepatitis C
Hepatitis B
Campylobacteriosis
Lyme Disease
Pertussis

2018 Wear Blue for Child Abuse Prevention Day

2018 Income By Category

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Community Cessation Initiative (CCI): The Licking County Health Department is working to increase capacity for tobacco cessation within each county. CCI is a program designed to connect individuals who wish to quit smoking or using tobacco products with local cessation services. In 2018, CCI served 182 individuals in Licking County.

Screening and Survivor Support (SASS) for Breast Cancer: Free mammograms were provided to 22 women through this program in 2018. Of those 22 women, 2 received diagnostic follow-up testing. SASS also provided 16 Licking County breast cancer patients with $8,000.00 in financial aid.

Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention (PDOP): PDOP has an overall objective to reduce prescription drug overdose fatalities in Licking County by 10 percent by August 2019. It provides community awareness on the importance of prescription medication safety. In 2018, PDOP expanded to include the Linkages Program, which works to connect community members to naloxone and treatment resources.

Tobacco Prevention: This program promotes smoke-free environments, tobacco cessation, and youth tobacco prevention. 45 youth participated in the stand tobacco prevention initiative. Youth completed 60 store audits and assisted in 15 compliance checks. The program facilitated bimonthly Tobacco Use Reduction Network meetings for the county.

Licking County Wellness Coalition: The Wellness Coalition promotes physical activity, healthy eating, and worksite wellness. Coalition members meet regularly and distribute a quarterly newsletter. There are three workgroups within the coalition: Worksites Wellness, Active Living, and Healthy Eating.
WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)

2018: WIC served 1,877 individuals at the LCHD WIC clinic, 304 individuals at the Pataskala satellite clinic, 81 individuals at the Johnstown satellite clinic, and 91 individuals at the Buckeye Lake satellite clinic.

$1,897,280 worth of groceries were purchased by WIC families at Licking County grocery stores.

WIC Garden: In the second year of our WIC garden, we saw a significant increase in the variety of items grown and the amount of produce given to our families.

Public Health Nursing Programs

Public Health Nursing: The LCHD Community and Personal Health division vaccinates children and adults against disease, investigates the sources of disease, helps families with handicapped children through the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMH), tests for sexually transmitted diseases, educates teen and first-time moms, acts as school nurses, provides home health visits to new moms, and navigates breast and cervical cancer screenings.

Children with Medical Handicaps Served: 1,909

337 TB Tests Given

310 Sexual Health Clients

212 Newborn Home Visits

446 At-Risk Pregnancy Consultations

Dental Sealants Placed: 4,793

Total Clients Immunized: 3,463

Our 5th annual Women’s Health and Breastfeeding Fair was May 10 at the YMCA.

WIC serves low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, infants, and children up to age five by providing them nutrition education, supplemental foods, breastfeeding support, and health care referrals.

Breastfeeding Welcome Here

Fresh fruit at the WIC Garden
Food Safety Program: LCHD Sanitarian conducted over 1,600 inspections of restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, and other facilities that serve food in Licking County. Our staff works to improve the level of food safety in the county in order to prevent occurrences and outbreaks of foodborne illness. Staff not only identifies violations in facilities, but also provides education to operators during inspections to prevent violations from occurring in the future.

Private Water System Program: LCHD issues permits for each water well drilled in the county and is also responsible for ensuring the water from these wells is safe to drink by obtaining water samples. In 2018, we expanded our services, and began to offer water sample collections 4 days a week. Doing so allowed us to offer better service to our customers and reduce the amount of time it takes for a customer to receive their sample results.

Environmental Health Programs

Temporary Events Program: Our staff inspects temporary food vendors at festivals, concerts, and other events – including temporary camping facilities. In 2018, we inspected nearly 300 of these vendors and facilities, mostly occurring on weekends. Protecting public health is a seven-day-a-week job!

Sewage Treatment System Program: LCHD issues permits for each sewage treatment system installed in Licking County. Our staff issued nearly 225 permits in 2018. Through the use of performance management and quality improvement tools, we were able to issue a permit on average within one day of receiving a permit application.

Solid Waste Program: In 2018, LCHD received a total of 540 complaints regarding an accumulation of solid waste in the county. Our staff investigated each complaint and our average response time was one day. Identifying and abating these issues is a core public health function that we will continue ensuring these issues are rectified as quickly as possible.

Ohio Environmental Health Association awarded LCHD’s Greg Chumney as their 2018 Sanitarian of the year.