Members of the community,

We are pleased to offer this annual report as your Richland County, Ohio public health system.

The year produced certain challenges; year over year operating expenses were exceeding revenues. Members of the Board of Health and administrative team reviewed various programmatic efficiencies and made some difficult decisions. The primary care clinic was re-purposed to immunizations, travel vaccinations, sexually transmitted disease and infectious illness reporting and follow-up. Certain state-funded grant programs were re-evaluated based on state requirements versus financial performance. In short, I am very happy to report that these changes are anticipated to provide RPH a path of sustainability through the year 2023. This means that RPH has reduced its current overhead to meet its operating expenses with NO additional taxes or levies to the community for the next 6 years.

The issues facing public health last year were just as challenging. RPH worked many hours with various community partners to complete an Ebola response plan. We have learned much from this very serious disease and RPH is more prepared to respond in such a crisis. In addition, the mosquito-borne Zika virus entered certain areas of the southern U.S. and poses significant risk to pregnant mothers and their babies. RPH was awarded O-EPA limited funding to conduct mosquito trapping, surveillance and spraying within contracted communities.

In addition, RPH has been critical of the Infant Mortality rate for our community. RPH has gathered numerous community groups to assist us in improving the life expectancy of infants born in Richland County. I am pleased to report that specific “safe-sleep” messages have been promoted throughout the community in 2016.

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As you can see, the climate of public health is dynamic. We appreciate all of your support on a daily basis and we are encouraged when a resident’s critique of our process leads to an improvement to our operations.

All of my best for your continued health in 2017.

Martin J. Tremmel, RS, MPA, JD
Health Commissioner, Richland Public Health

For additional copies or inquiries, contact Reed Richmond, Health Education and Communications Specialist, 419-774-4726; rrichmond@richlandhealth.org

Richland County: Thelda Dillon; Michael Keith, Steven Phillips, DVM; Janice Reed, RN, Ph.D; Jean Swartz; Violet Wetzel.
Ontario: Barbara Cinadr, RN; Della Phelps, RN; Robert Exten, MD, Chair; John F. Leech, DDS; Matthew Matyer, R.Ph; Ary van Harlingen; Dave Remy.
Welcome to Richland Public Health
At Richland Public Health, we have always been and always will be putting the health and safety of Richland County citizens first and foremost in everything we do. This report highlights some of our 2016 success. Let us know how we’re doing by filling out a survey at richlandhealth.org.

It’s an Emergency!

For workers in Environmental Health it sometimes is.

If you list the duties of a Sanitarian in Environmental Health, you may not think there’s much to get excited about. Inspections of restaurants, campgrounds, swimming pools, sewage treatment systems and solid waste. Pretty routine. But when you are tasked with Public Safety against harmful elements in the environment, you never know when an emergency may strike.

So sometimes the routine can become a touch more exciting, and 2016 had its share of adventure. It started in the spring when the mosquito spraying season took on additional concern with Zika virus, a new and potentially life-threating mosquito-borne illness.

An increase in dog bites in the county caught the media’s attention. In 2016, public awareness grew with every animal bite notice due to increased social media exposure.

In the fall, a residence in Mansfield was found to be contaminated with mercury. Again, the risk of exposure to the family and the environment caused the Health Department to spring into action, working with the Mansfield Fire Department and Ohio and U.S. EPA in clean-up.

All in a day’s work. And some very early mornings and late nights, too.

It’s an Emergency!

Need a birth certificate and want it fast? If you were born in Ohio, go to richlandhealth.org, click the orange “Purchase Birth Certificates” button, fill in your information, and click the pay button.

To cover those people born in Ohio who moved out of state, Richland Public Health is advertising this service with Google™ Ads in Florida, Arizona, Kentucky, and Indiana, with more states to be added in 2017.

Coming soon: More forms fillable online and with mobile devices.

VITAL STATISTICS 2016 Highlights

The Vital Statistics division maintains record of all births and deaths in Richland County since 1908. For information on obtaining a birth or death certificate, see richlandhealth.org or call 419-778-4060.

Total Births (excludes Shelby) ..................3,720
Total Deaths (excludes Shelby) ..............1,007
Births to Teens (Ages 13-19) ...................85
Birth Certificates Issued .......................5,249

District Advisory Council

Meets annually in March to bring health concerns and recommendations to the Board of Health and to appoint new members from the county. Members include the chair of each township’s board of trustees, village mayors, mayors of Mansfield and Ontario, and the chair of the Richland County Commissioners.


Richland Public Health Administration

Martin J. Tremuel, MPA, JD, Commissioner; Daniel Burwell, D.O., Medical Director; Selby Dorgan, LSW, Health Promotion/Education Director; Richard Gregs, Esq., Director of Human Resources and IT; Joe Harrod, RS, Director of Environmental Health; Tina Picman, MS, RDLD, WIC Director; Amy Schmidt, BSN, RN, Director of Nursing; Kevin VanMeter, Director of Fiscal Operations.

Financial Information - 2016

Program Expenses
PH Nursing $1,715,495
PH Clinic $1,610,376
Env. Health $1,395,626
Health Prom/Ed. $980,254
WIC $900,254
Vital Statistics $259,756
TOTAL $6,861,698

Expenditures
Payroll/Fringes * $4,990,109
Operational Costs $1,589,908
Equipment/Building $408,975
Administrative $185,244
TOTAL (projected) $7,744,230

Revenue
L Levy $2,299,478
Fees/Permits $1,661,615
State/Fed. Grants $1,615,370
Contracts $902,889
State Rollback/Util. $327,605
State Subsidy $21,771
All Other Sources $71,447
TOTAL (projected) $6,900,375

Expenditures for payroll-related expenses is normal for a Health Department our size. We employ health care professionals with a variety of specialized skills. The majority of these employees live and work in Richland County.

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At the forefront of community health, Richland Public Health promotes flu shots for everyone ages six months old and above. That includes seniors and juniors of all ages.

At health fairs throughout the year and at our own Neighborhood Immunizations and Community Health Screenings, Richland County residents have the opportunity to check their health at places close to where they live.

Healthy children are successful learners. Our Public Health Nurses in schools support the physical, mental, emotional, and social health of students and their success in the learning process.

In 2016, Richland Public Health challenged Richland County residents to get active with a number of innovative measures through Health Promotion and Education’s “Communities Preventing Chronic Diseases” and “Creating Healthy Communities” grants. In addition, local businesses are being asked to help create healthier employees through Richland Public Health’s “Corporate Wellness” program.
Through the “Ohio Buckles Buckeyes” program, Richland Public Health can provide FREE car seats.

Did you know that Richland Public Health is a child passenger car seat safety check site?

Richland Public Health provides about four car seats a month through the “Ohio Buckles Buckeyes” program. Income-eligible parents attend a class to learn how to install the seats. The program provides child passenger seats for children 6-months-old through booster seat age and weight.

“4 out of 5 child passenger seats are installed incorrectly,” says Health Educator and CPS Technician Reed Richmond. “Just call ahead and get an appointment to have your installation checked. Don’t feel troubled about it. These installations are sometimes complicated. We’re here to help.”

A major project in 2016 in Public Health Nursing involved educating the public about the right way to put babies to sleep to reduce infant mortality. The ABC’s of Safe Sleep are **Alone**, on their **Back**, in a **Crib**.

In addition to social media and billboards with the same message, Public Health Nurses promoted the message in public speaking engagements and in newborn home visits where they distributed “Pack-n-Play” cribs like the one pictured below.

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Do you know the A B C's of Safe Sleep?
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Nurse Jennifer Crotty demonstrates for a video Richland Public Health directed to promote Safe Sleep.
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PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING 2016 Highlights

- Nurses in Schools (8/1 - 12/31): 4,269
- Influenza Vaccine (9/1 - 12/31): 1,144
- Senior Health Assessments: 1,065
- Newborn Home Visits: 389
- Pack-n-Play Cribs distributed: 96
- BCMH Client Visits: 374
- Community Health Screenings: 335
- Communicable Disease Investigations: 722
- Infectious Diseases: 504
- Influenza Cases Diagnosed: 369
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PUBLIC HEALTH CLINIC 2016 Highlights

- Immunizations (includes TB): 4,369
- Wellness (Corporate/Municipal): 1,225
- General Health Visits: 1,139
- Nurse Appointment Services: 377
- International Travel Vaccine: 410
- Reproductive Health: 261
- Total Visits in 2016 (not all listed): 8,099

Clinic appointments for child, adult, and travel immunizations, shingles vaccine and flu shots. Call 419-774-4700.
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WIC (Women, Infants, Children) is the nation’s premier public health nutrition program.
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With nutritious foods, counseling, and referral to health care, WIC helps mothers have healthier babies and pre-school children. WIC also promotes breastfeeding with education, breast pumps and our own certified Lactation Consultants.

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WIC 2016 Highlights

- New Participants: 2,258
- Recertifications: 5,456
- Other Contacts: 6,154
- Total (includes Richland and Ashland WIC clients): 13,868
- WIC Food Benefits (EBT cards) redeemed: $1,924,325.92
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That’s nearly $2 million returned to the economy in Richland County! WIC Supervisor and Dietician Dr. Kelly Herzig talks with a client about the services available in a screenshot from a video promotion done in 2016. The caption from the video captures the mission on WIC services.

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WIC - Nutrition Information for Pregnant Women, Breastfeeding Mothers, Infants & Children, Up to Five Years.
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