

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

****Ed Bowlus, D.V.M.**
PRESIDENT

***Mary deVillers**
PRESIDENT PRO-TEM

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****Keith Plocki, M.D.**

****Gary Mizer**
***Lee Rhoades**
****Joan Tyson*****

****Laura Haberman, R.N.**
****Dorothy Thompson**

Dennis G. Murray, R.S., M.P.H.
HEALTH COMMISSIONER

*Appointed by Mount Vernon City Council **Appointed by District Advisory Council ***Resigned in October 2001

2001 DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Knox County District Advisory Council holds the responsibility of appointing six of the nine members to the Board of Health and bringing recommendations and health issue concerns to the Board's attention.

The advisory council is composed of the chairman of each township's board of trustees or a designee, the mayor of each village and the president of the Knox County Board of Commissioners.

Members of the 2001 Knox County Advisory Council and their represented areas include:

Berlin Twp.	Robert Dudgeon	Jefferson Twp.	Ray Williams	Union Twp.	Tom Ridgway
BrownTwp.	Daniel Horn	Liberty Twp.	Lyman Gates	Wayne Twp.	Steve Frazier
Butler Twp.	Douglas Beckley	Middleburg Twp.	Jeffrey Benson	Village of Brinkhaven	Stephen Hammons
Clay Twp.	Dan Broceus	Milford Twp.	Roger L. Crego	Village of Centerburg	Dennis Sykes
Clinton Twp.	Hank Edminster	Miller Twp.	Gary Rowe	Village of Danville	Allen Frye
CollegeTwp.	Barry Bowden	Monroe Twp.	Arthur Davis	Village of Fredericktown	Gary Gallogly
Harrison Twp.	Roger Fawcett	Morgan Twp.	Chuck Rowley	Village of Gambier	Mike Schlemmer
Hilliard Twp.	Donald McCracken	Morris Twp.	Bob Wise	Village of Martinsburg	Dave Mc Cullough
Howard Twp.	Larry Sapp	Pike Twp.	Curt Bechtel	County Commissioners	Robert D. Durbin
Jackson Twp.	Chuck Betts	Pleasant wp.	Clifton Durbin		

LICENSING COUNCIL FORMED

In accordance with Amended S.B. 136, the District Advisory Council appointed a Licensing Council in December of 2001. The Licensing Council is comprised of one representative from the businesses whose activities are licensed by the Board of Health. These licensed activities include: food service operations, retail food establishments, manufactured home parks, public swimming pools and campgrounds. The initial terms are staggered between two and four years, after which, each council member will serve a

five-year term. The council elects one of its members to serve on the Board of Health. Initial appointments to the Licensing Council are:

Joy Harris BIG BROTHERS/SISTERS OF KNOX COUNTY	Mark Gilmore KOKOSING VALLEY CAMP AND CANOE
Jeff Harmer APPLE VALLEY PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOC.	Roger McCoy R&M SOUTHSIDE DINER
Jack Taylor TAYLOR'S SUPER VALUE/SUBWAY	Dave Dustheimer DAVE'S PLACE/HILLCREST MOBILE HM. PARK

Council member Mark Gilmore was elected to serve on the Board of Health. Jeff Harmer was elected to serve as the alternate.

KNOX COUNTY Health Department
11660 Upper Gilchrist Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-392-2200

2001 Statistics

BIRTH & DEATH RECORDS

Births Recorded	456
Teen Mother Births	92
Teen Births Ages 13-17	22
Teen Births Ages 18-19	70
Premature Births	13
Mothers Who Smoked	170

Deaths Recorded	463
Fetal Deaths	8
Trauma Deaths	25

Certified Copies Issued	4,569
Birth	1,903
Death	2,203

Non-Certified Copies Issued	930
Birth	629
Death	335

TOP NAMES FOR BOYS

Austin	Dylan
Mason	Christian
Daniel	Jacob

TOP NAMES FOR GIRLS

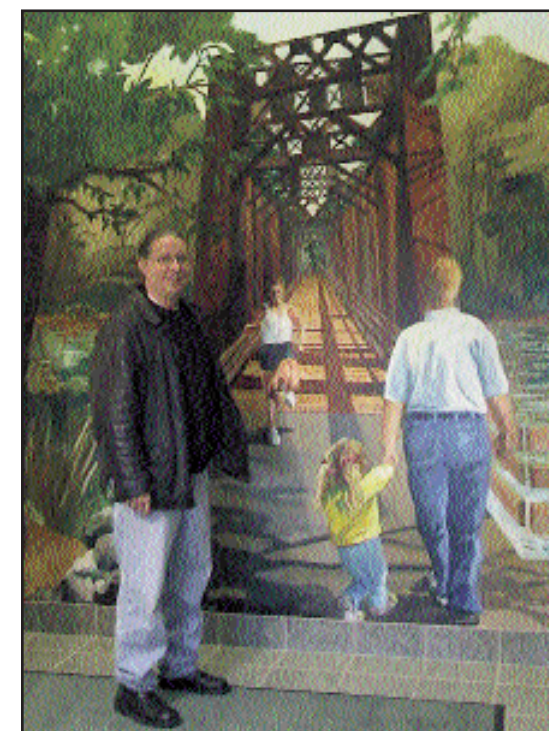
Sarah	Autumn
Meghan	Taylor
Victoria	Ashley

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

REGISTRAR	Joan Stringfellow
DEPUTY REGISTRAR/RECEPTIONIST	Cindy Wells
FISCAL OFFICER	Linette Vance
ASSISTANT FISCAL OFFICER	Jane Burke



Cindy Wells, left, serves as receptionist and deputy registrar for the Health Department, while Joan Stringfellow is registrar, overseeing all birth and death records.



2001 Annual Report

A year of progress, prevention and people.



KNOX COUNTY Health Department
working for a healthier and safer community



The Knox County Health Department's new facility officially opened to the public on May 19.



The lobby offers an accessible customer service area for obtaining birth and death certificates, plus water well and food operation permits.



The waiting room serves clients of the medical clinic and WIC program. The medical clinic features four exam rooms and a room for immunizations. There's a joint lab area for WIC and clinic.



The conference room is available for community meetings, classes and presentations.

TO THE CITIZENS OF KNOX COUNTY

2001 was a year of transition for the Knox County Health Department. The agency moved into its new facility while continuing to provide and expand upon public health services and resources throughout our community.

The new Health Department facility is located at the corner of Upper Gilchrist and Coshocton Roads on the east side of Mount Vernon. The new facility provides a better opportunity to serve the public including an increase in medical services, improved accessibility and program expansion.

With the tragedy of 9/11 came more expectations of the local public health agency as possible terrorist attacks, which included biological and chemical weapons became part of our daily life. Once again, the Health Department staff was there to respond and work alongside local law enforcement, fire department personnel, Knox Community Hospital staff and other health care providers to investigate health concerns. At the Health Department, this response became a collaborative effort between the Environmental Health sanitarian and Communicable Disease nurse as disease surveillance and investigation of suspicious mail for anthrax contamination became a routine activity for these professionals.

On behalf of the Board of Health, I am pleased to present the 2001 annual report of the Knox County Combined General Health District. Partnerships with other social service agencies, health care providers, the Ohio Department of Health and individual citizens allow our agency to provide needed and quality public health services to Knox County residents. It is through their support and, many times, effort, that we can continue the public health activities and services which make Knox County a healthier and safer community in which to live, work and play.

Dennis G. Murray
Dennis G. Murray, R.S., M.P.H.
Health Commissioner



Health Commissioner Dennis Murray addresses a sociology class at Kenyon College, his alma mater, during Public Health Week 2001.

2001 KNOX COUNTY PROFILE

Total Population: 54,500*
Male 26,514 - 48.6%
Female 27,986 - 51.4%

Median Age: 36.5*

Total Households: 19,975*
Family Households - 14,364
Housing Units - 21,793
Owner Occupied - 15,116 - 69.4%

Poverty Rate: 10.1%*

Per Capita Income: \$20,850*

Median Family Income: \$34,027*

New Housing Starts: 378**

In-County Births: 456
212 Males 244 Females

Out-of-County Births: 290***
162 Males 128 Females

In-County Deaths: 463
212 Males 251 Females

Out-of-County Deaths: 107****
63 Males 44 Females

Causes of Death****

Heart Related	225
Cancer	78
Lung Disease	37
Strokes/CVA	27
Flu/pneumonia	26
Accidents	13
Suicides	1
Homicides	1
Other causes	49

* Ohio Department of Development, based on 2000 Census.

** Total includes number of new residential housing units with the city limits of Mount Vernon and Apple Valley and number of residential sewer & water permits issued by Knox County Health Department.

*** Due to a delay in compiling figures at the state level, these figures represent 2000 totals.

**** In-county deaths only.

2001 GRANT SOURCES

Safe Communities*	\$37,059
Youth Access*	1,500
Women's Health Month*	2,450
Effective Parenting*	550
WIC*	129,886
Child and Family Health Services*	74,691
Wellness Block	74,292
Immunization Action Plan*	20,000
Injury Prevention*	19,625
Abstinence Education*	44,520
Welcome Home**	14,500
Early Start**	87,375
Early Intervention**	50,684
Help Me Grow***	90,915

TOTAL \$648,147

* Reflects grant dollars received between Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2001.

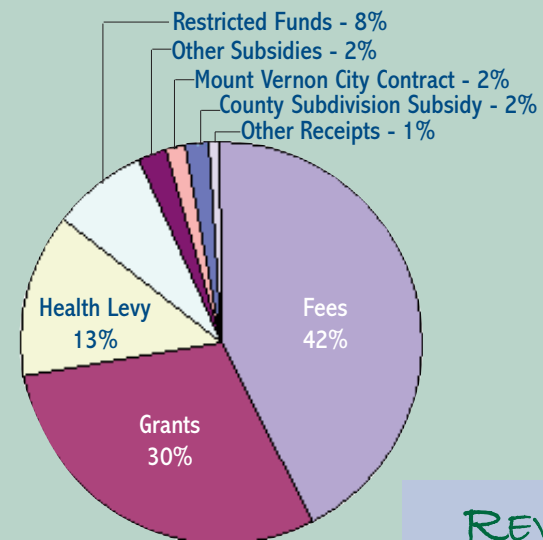
** Reflects grant dollars received between Jan. 1 and June 31, 2001.

*** Reflects grant dollars received between July 1 and Dec. 31, 2001.

EMPLOYEES BY DIVISION

Home Health Care	17
Family & Community Health Services	23
Administration/Vital Statistics	5
Environmental Health	5
Health Promotions	5
Total Employees	55

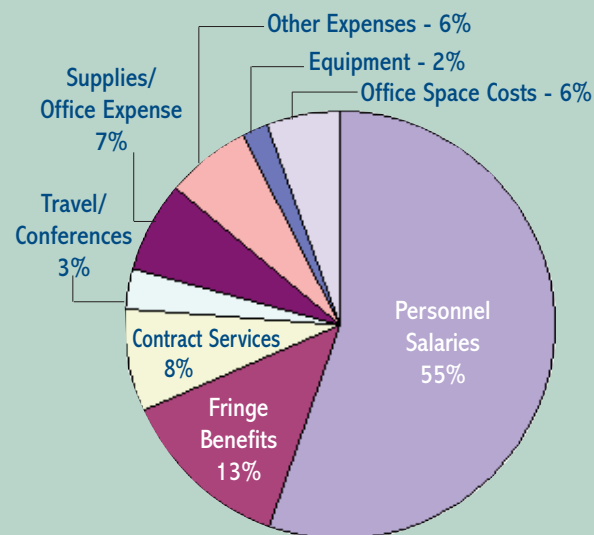
An Equal Opportunity Employer/Provider



FINANCES

REVENUE SOURCES

Fees	\$928,033
Grants	648,147
Health Levy	293,230
Restricted Funds	169,410
Other Subsidies	48,618
Mount Vernon City Contract	38,500
County Subdivision Subsidy	38,500
Other Receipts	19,957
Total Revenue	\$2,184,396



EXPENSES BY ACCOUNT

Personnel Salaries	\$1,143,738
Fringe Benefits	270,660
Contract Services	155,632
Travel/Conferences	63,843
Supplies/Office Expenses	145,314
Other Expenses	132,064
Equipment	37,035
Office Space Costs	117,614

Total Expenses \$2,065,900



Linette Vance, left, is the fiscal officer for the Knox County Health Department, where she has worked for more than 19 years. In 2001, Jane Burke joined the administrative staff, working part-time in the fiscal office.

COVER PHOTOS: COUNTER CLOCKWISE:

- 1.) Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors join Board of Health members for the dedication of the new Health Department building on August 1, 2001.
- 2.) Clinic Supervisor Darlene Davis, R.N. gives a flu shot during a community clinic at The Living Center.
- 3.) Daniel Mark King of Gambier plays in the waiting room during a visit to the medical clinic.
- 4.) Mount Vernon Nazarene College Art Professor John Donnelly stands in front of one of five murals he has painted at the new Health Department.
- 5.) Alexis Lang and Hunter Starr smile proudly following the graduation ceremony for Safety Town.
- 6.) Todd Pearce of the Environmental Health Division, tests the chemical levels of water in the pool at Shalimar Apartments during a routine inspection.



From left, Health Educators Lisa Jones and Caree McAfee display some of the puppets used to help kids learn safety messages during Safety Town, a week-long session for children entering kindergarten.



Health Educator JoAnn Kerr, center, meets with members of the Knox County Teen Abstinence Panel which takes part in a week-long series on sexuality education presented in the local schools.



Health Educator Judy Divelbiss works on one of the many displays used at the department's open house to to explain the many different services and programs offered by the Health Department.



Several events throughout the year provided educational opportunities. Here, a father and son check-out an interactive model of an air-quality house at the Earth Day celebration at Kenyon College.

Health Promotion Services

Health-related programming and promotion activities keep the Health Promotions staff busy throughout the year. The division manages four grants, coordinates three coalitions, oversees the health department's participation at local events such as the county fair and health fairs; and coordinates all promotion and news coverage for health department services

Highlights in 2001 included:

- ◆ **Hosting the John Jacobs Power Team** which held 13 assemblies at area schools educating 4,600 students about the power of choice and making good choices.

- ◆ **Presentation of bully-resistance training** in 13 different schools reaching 1,290 students, kindergarten through 6th grade.
- ◆ **Formation of the Knox Diabetes Connection** in collaboration with Knox Community Hospital and the Central Ohio Diabetes Association.
- ◆ **Participation in health fairs** sponsored by Mount Vernon Nazarene College, Kenyon College, YMCA, HiSan, Knox County Head Start, Wal-Mart and Country Club Retirement Center.
- ◆ **Week-long sessions of Safety Town** in Centerburg, Danville and Mount Vernon involving nearly 200 students entering kindergarten.



The Health Promotions Division produces several newsletters, brochures and posters to promote Health Department programs that it coordinates, including, from left: *Family Matters* newsletter; Knox Diabetes Connection brochure; Harvest of Health, a Women's Health Month event; Teen Connections booklet; and The Parent Trip, a series of parenting classes.

2001 Statistics

HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICES

School Presentations	309
# of Students Served	12,870
Community Presentations	228
# of Participants	5,690
Collaborative Participation with Other Agencies	134
News Releases	111

GRANTS MANAGEMENT

Wellness Block Grant to Prevent Teen Pregnancy	
Abstinence-Only Education Grant	
Safe Communities Grant	
Injury Prevention Grant to Prevent Youth Suicide	

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Asset Builders Coalition
Askable Parent Program
Bully-Resistance Training
Dental Health Education
Diabetes Education
Elder Health
Family Matters Newsletter
Hygiene Education
Men's Health Issues
Parenting Classes
The Parenting Coalition
Peer Mediation Training
Sexuality Education
STD/HIV Education
Tobacco Education
Traffic Safety
Safe Communities Coalition
Seatbelt/Child Car Seat Safety
Safety Town
Women's Health Month

HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICES

Staff

DIVISION DIRECTOR	Pam Palm
HEALTH EDUCATORS	Judy Divelbiss JoAnn Kerr Lisa Jones Caree McAfee

2001 Statistics

GENERAL MEDICAL CLINIC

Patients Served	404
Adult	383
Pediatric	21
New Patients	267

CHILD HEALTH CLINIC

Patients Served	521
New Patients	323

DENTAL CLINIC

Patients Served	257
Total Visits	267

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Childhood	6,947
Flu	2,536
Tetanus	413
Hepatitis B	1,051

TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL

PPD Skin Tests	778
Diagnosis Confirmed	0

HELP ME GROW PROGRAM

Total # of Referrals	190
Total # of Prenatal Home Visits	28
Total # of Welcome Home Visits	95

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Class A Diseases Reported	131
HIV Positive Reported	0

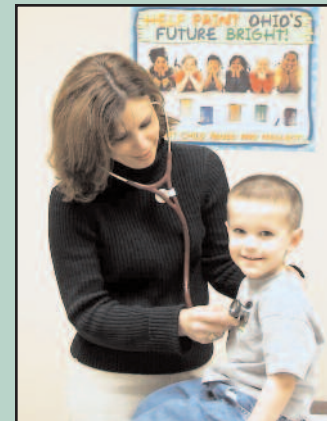
WIC (Women, Infants & Children)

Avg. Active Caseload	1,174
Certified Visits	2,547

FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Staff

DIVISION DIRECTOR	Penny Ekegren, B.S.N., R.N.
MEDICAL DIRECTOR	Brent Nimeth, M.D.
CLINIC SUPERVISOR	Darlene Davis, R.N.
WIC SUPERVISOR	Tami Lybarger, RD, LD
MEDICAL STAFF	Emerson Laird, M.D. Gloria Mortera, M.D.
CLERKS	Jane Addair Stacey Robinson
IMMUNIZATIONS	Pat Yoakam, R.N.
BCMHS PROGRAM	Vicki Whited, R.N.
HELP ME GROW PROGRAM	Becky Bocock Kay Cubie, R.N. Beth Pae Karolyn Smith
WIC	Deb Creager, In-take Lillian Collins, D.T.R. Dina Herald, R.D., L.D., I.B.C.L.C.



Nurse Practitioner Simona Moore examines Gavin Richert during a clinic visit.



The medical clinic offered free mammograms as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October. At left is Technician Kathryn Shawyer of Wendt- Bristol; at right is Judy Hoffman, R.N., clinic nurse and breast cancer survivor.



WIC Supervisor Tami Lybarger, R.D., L.D., weighs Ashton Fisher during a WIC visit while his mother, Kelly, looks on



Kay Cubie, R.N., right, talks with Bobbi Durbin and her daughter, Dayna of Fredericktown, on the importance of play, during a parenting class.



Frank Snyder of Mount Vernon is examined by Dr. Emerson Laird during a visit to the medical clinic.

Family & Community Health Services

2001 brought re-organization in terms of staffing and programming to the Family & Community Health Services Division.

Highlights of the year include:

- ◆ In March, **Penny Ekegren, R.N., B.S.N., was named division director** following the retirement of Karen Ballengee, R.N., who had been with the Health Department for 24 years. In July, **Darlene Davis, R.N., was named clinic supervisor**, a new position overseeing operation of the medical clinic.
- ◆ In 2001, the **WIC program**, which provides nutrition education to promote good health for pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women and their children, became part of the Family & Community Health Services Division. **Tami Lybarger, R.D., L.D. was named supervisor.**
- ◆ The Health Department continued to offer **free childhood immunizations**. A vaccine shortage and distribution restrictions delayed the administering of the flu vaccine; the Tetanus vaccine was also in short supply during 2001, with administration limited to only trauma situations and to those traveling abroad.

- ◆ The **medical staff was expanded** to include four physicians and a nurse practitioner. Medical clinics were offered Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The medical staff is comprised of Family Practitioner Dr. Brent Nimeth, Internists Dr. Nyan Win and Dr. Emerson Laird; Pediatrician Dr. Gloria Mortera and Nurse Practitioner Simona Moore.
- ◆ The **Help Me Grow program** made its debut, combining the services of Welcome Home, Early Intervention and Early Start. The new program is for expectant parents, newborns, infants and toddlers. It provides health and developmental services so that children start school healthy and ready to learn. Help Me Grow is administered through a partnership with the Family & Children First Council, Job & Family Services, Head Start and New Hope Early Childhood Education Center.
- ◆ The **dental clinic** remained inactive for half of the year while the department searched for a part-time dentist to replace Dr. Becky Kuperstein who re-located out west to further her education.



From left, Health Commissioner Dennis Murray, Mount Vernon City Police Capt. Jeff Cochran and Clinic Supervisor Darlene Davis, R.N., look over several pieces of mail suspected of anthrax contamination. Knox County residents turned in 38 suspected letters or packages with 14 being sent to the Ohio Department of Health for further testing.



Registered Sanitarian Terri Hillier checks for the correct food temperature in a refrigeration unit at the Inn at Hillen Vale, a residential care facility.



Registered Sanitarian Jim Fridrich talks with David and Maureen Hall of Mount Vernon regarding installation of a septic system on their property. Jim oversees the Health Department's Residential Sewage System Program.



Peggy Stewart is secretary for the Environmental Health Division. She has worked for the Health Department for 24 years.

Environmental Health Services

The Environmental Health (EH) Division works toward preventing disease through the enforcement of rules and regulations, and the education of individuals and licensed facilities. Some of the highlights for 2001 include:

- ◆ **Revision to the statewide food safety law and regulations governing food protection** brought about an increased workload as many facilities such as convenience stores and bulk food stores now require a license and inspection from the local health department. The new law revised the categories of food operations, indicated the minimum number of required inspections based upon a facility's risk category, and revised the way in which an inspection is conducted and documented.
- ◆ **Testing for the presence of the mosquito-borne disease West Nile Virus** was conducted throughout Ohio, including Knox County. The presence of this disease can be indicated by the

unexplained death of crows or blue jays. In 2001, 8 birds were sent from Knox County to the Ohio Department of Agriculture lab for testing, and one was positive for the West Nile Virus. There were no reported human cases of West Nile Virus in Ohio during last year.

- ◆ **The re-emergence of the mosquito control program** during the spring and summer included some larvaciding activities along with spraying for adult mosquitoes in the incorporated villages, the Apple Valley area, and the City of Mount Vernon. In 2001, 16 locations throughout the county had larvacide applied to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes and 33 adult mosquito spraying events occurred in the evenings.
- ◆ **An information and education meeting for registered sewage system installers** was conducted by the Environmental Health staff in November at the Health Department. Thirty-six registered installers attended the meeting.

2001 Statistics

RABIES CONTROL PROGRAM

Animal Bites Reported	91
Dog	67
Cat	19
Other	5
Specimens to Lab	20
Positive Rabies Test	0

FOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM

Licenses Issued	
Commercial	238
Non-Commercial	65
Mobile	27
Temporary	150
Vending	55
Inspections	
Food Service	360
Food Establishments	137
Temporary FS/FE	139
Mobile FS/FE	169
Vending	26
Consultations	560
Foodborne Disease Reported	8
# of persons affected	15

PRIVATE WATER PROGRAM

Permits to Install	249
Permits to Alter	3
Total Inspections	415
Consultations	427
Water Samples	
Collected by KCHD	502
Collected by Others	363

RESIDENTIAL SEWAGE PROGRAM

Site Evaluations	319
Permits to Install	293
Number of Inspections	297
Consultations	940

RECREATION PROGRAM

Campground Inspections	19
Swimming Pool/Spa Inspections	120

PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCES

Nuisances Reported	318
Number Valid	247
Investigations	455
Nuisances Abated	241

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Staff

DIVISION DIRECTOR
John Harbeck, R.S.

SECRETARY
Peggy Stewart

REGISTERED SANITARIANS
Jim Fridrich, R.S.
Terri Hillier, R.S.
Todd Pearce, S.I.T.

2001 Statistics

HOME HEALTH CARE

Referrals received	485
Patients admitted	261
Patients discharged	231
Caseload @ EOM - Skilled	858
Caseload @EOM - Custodial	262

TOTAL VISITS

Evaluation/Supervisory	623
Skilled Nursing	3,708
Home Health Aide	5,194
Physical Therapy	1,504
Occupational Therapy	146
Homemaker	635

REIMBURSEMENT

Medicare	5,597
Medicaid	1,423
Insurance	375
Private Pay	1,854
Passport	1,668
Community Care Program	207
Veteran's Administration	49
Workman's Compensation	14

HOME HEALTH CARE

Staff

DIVISION DIRECTOR
Marianne Bunch, B.S.N.,R.N.

SECRETARY

Cathy Miller

REGISTERED NURSES

Glenn Barteau, R.N.
Jackie Fletcher, R.N.
Debbie Hammons, R.N.
Marcia Tidyman, R.N.

THERAPISTS

Shawntel Crawford, P.T.
Sally Daniels, P.T.
Kelly Barnett, P.T.
Cheryl Church, P.T.A.

HOME HEALTH AIDES

Tammy Bowers
Carolyn Conkle
Jean McCallister
Sherry Moore
Scarlett Parrish
Barb Sheneman
Ginger Williams



Home Health Aides include, seated, from left: Carolyn Conkle, Scarlett Parrish; standing, Barb Sheneman; (back row) Ginger Williams, Tammy Bowers, Sherry Moore. (Absent when photo was taken: Jean McCallister.)



Physical Therapist Shawntel Crawford helps the late Bob Doup learn to walk as part of his rehabilitation plan with the Home Health Care program.



Glenn Barteau, R.N., checks the heart beat of Delbert Curtis during a Home Health visit.



Cathy Miller is secretary for the Home Health Division. She has worked for the Knox County Health Department for 17 years.



Home Health Director Marianne Bunch, R.N., checks the blood pressure of Glorene Bixler, during a visit to The Living Center.

Home Health Care Services

Due to shorter hospital stays and longer life spans, the demand for home health care continues to grow. With the closing of an established local home health agency in 2001, the Health Department has taken steps to meet the increased demand by expanding services and staff. We are committed to maintaining high standards of care to meet the home health needs of Knox County.

Any Knox County resident may be eligible for in-home healthcare. Services can be **short-term**, such as during recovery from an injury, illness or surgery. **Ongoing services** would include care of a disabled or elderly person. **Home Health Care services** can be provided to a person of any age when a need for skilled care exists. **Custodial care** is available to those who need help with personal care or homemaking.

Visiting nurses can change wound dressings, take samples for lab tests, conduct treatments for cancer, stroke, heart disease, respiratory conditions and provide IV management so patients can receive prescribed medications through intravenous lines or injections while at home.

Therapists can help patients with mobility and strength, re-gain day-to-day skills such as dressing and feeding oneself, and improve communication capabilities.

Home Health Aides can get clients up and dressed, give baths, write correspondence, do light housekeeping, grocery shopping and laundry.

In 1966, the Health Department became the first certified home health care provider in Knox County. More than 35 years later, our professional staff continues the tradition of quality, in-home health care to the county's residents.



In 2001, Home Health published a new brochure to describe its services.