

KNOX COUNTY Health Department

working for a healthier and safer community

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

AN ESSENTIAL PARTNER AND SERVICE PROVIDER



TO THE CITIZENS OF KNOX COUNTY:

Just as there is an essential piece that completes every puzzle, your Health Department is an essential part of the community. Collaborating with other agencies and service providers, the Health Department works to protect the community from disease, provide needed health care and promote healthier lifestyles.

In March, the Health Department reopened its dental clinic with a grant from the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation. Dental care for those with limited or no insurance has been recognized as a tremendous local need.

The Health Department played an essential role in protecting the community when an indigent individual was diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB). This situation required an isolation order to detain and treat the patient and illustrated the cooperative working relationship our agency has with the County Commissioners and Knox Community Hospital. Surveillance of communicable diseases such as TB continues to be an essential role of the Health Department to prevent the spread of disease and to educate the public about how to avoid contracting a communicable disease.

The nationwide flu vaccine shortage hit home in 2004 with many providers unable to

administer flu shots. Fortunately, the Health Department was able to obtain vaccine and to conduct its community flu shot clinics. Providing community based services such as flu clinics is essential in preventing disease and protecting the health of our residents.

The national concern about obesity and overweight issues, particularly in our children, was addressed by the Health Promotions staff in 2004 through another grant from the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation. This initiative involved the schools, the YMCA and the local hospital staff as partners. Also, funding for public health infrastructure allowed more emergency response training for staff as we continue to work with the local emergency responders.

On behalf of the Board of Health, I am pleased to present the 2004 annual report of the Knox County General Combined Health District. Promoting healthier lifestyles, working toward being prepared in times of disaster, providing care and conducting essential environmental health inspections are services that continued this past year. These programs and activities as noted in this report are essential in providing a healthier and safer Knox County.

Dennis G. Murray
HEALTH COMMISSIONER



Knox County PROFILE

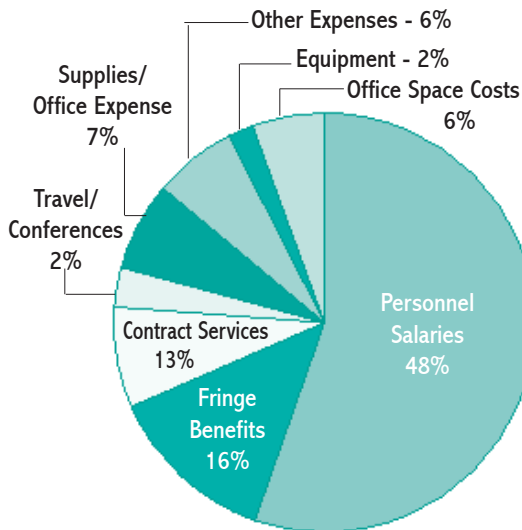
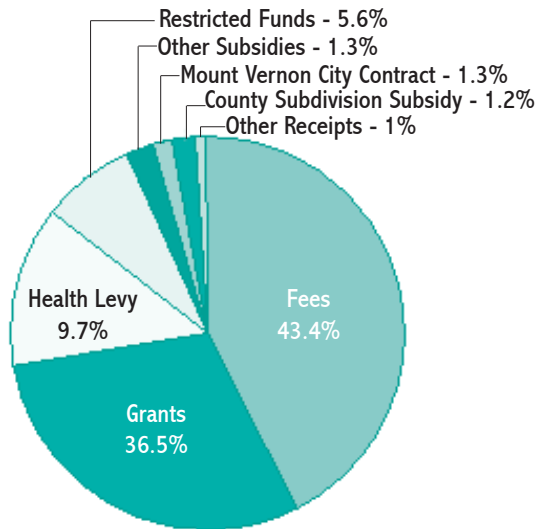
Total Population	56,930*
Total Households	19,975*
Median Age	36*
Poverty rate	9.8*
Median Household Income	\$39,327*
New Housing Units	328**
In-County Births	354
186 Males 168 Females	
Out-of-County Births	322***
169 Males 153 Females	
In-County Deaths	503
227 Males 276 Females	
Out-of-County Deaths	99****
53 Males 46 Females	
Causes of Death	****
Heart Related	244
Cancer	96
Strokes/CVA	25
Lung Disease	20
Flu/Pneumonia	19
Accidents	9
Suicides	4
Fetal Deaths	4
Other Causes	91

Financial Overview

REVENUE SOURCES

Fees	\$1,390,201
Grants	1,171,554
Health Levy	310,084
Restricted Funds	178,716
Other Subsidies	42,696
Mount Vernon City Contract	41,200
County Subdivision Subsidy	38,500
Other Receipts*	32,551
Total Revenue	\$3,205,502

* Includes \$30,000 HVAC payment.



EXPENSES BY ACCOUNT

Personnel Salaries	\$1,383,883
Fringe Benefits	464,570
Contract Services	376,249
Travel/Conferences	65,535
Supplies/Office Expenses	191,384
Other Expenses*	173,493
Equipment	68,938
Office Space Costs	189,176
Total Expenses	\$2,913,228

*Other expenses include: State fee transmittals, lab fees, marketing/promotion, state audit fees, liability & property insurances, software/network maintenance.

PROGRAM GRANTS

Abstinence Education	\$40,800
American Cancer Society	3,000
Bike Helmet	200
Child and Family Health Services	64,808
Childhood Obesity	100,000
Dental Clinic	140,995
Help Me Grow Part C	47,542
Help Me Grow GRF	31,837
Help Me Grow TANF	133,203
KCI&FS - Asset Building	9,738
KCI&FS - Car Seat	390
Immunization Action Plan	26,658
Injury Prevention	25,413
Public Health Infrastructure	118,057
Radon Awareness	1,661
Safe Communities	27,992
SPRANS	48,827
Suicide Prevention	15,000
Tobacco Use & Prevention	176,000
WIC	158,233
Women's Health Month	1,200

Total Grants \$1,171,554

64 TOTAL EMPLOYEES - BY DIVISION

Family & Community Health	33	Contract Personnel	14	Health Promotion Services	5
CLINIC STAFF	9	Administration/Vital Statistics	3	Environmental Health Services	5
HELP ME GROW/BCMh STAFF	6	Finance Office	4		
HOME HEALTH CARE STAFF	13				
WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN STAFF	5				

6 U.S. Census Bureau
** Includes new residential housing units within Mount Vernon city limits and Apple Valley and number of residential sewer & water permits issued by Knox County Health Department.
*** 2002 Figures; Ohio Department of Health
**** In-county deaths only. Based on death certificate information.

2004 BY THE NUMBERS VITAL STATS

Birth & Death Records

Births Recorded	355
Teen Mother Births	48
Premature Births	7
Mothers Who Smoked	121
Unwed Mothers	133
Deaths Recorded	518
Fetal Deaths	4
Infant Deaths	1
Trauma Deaths	6
Certified Copies Issued	4,340
Birth	2,186
Death	2,154

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Rabies Control Program

Animal Bites Reported	108
Dog	87
Cat	14
Other (Bats, raccoon, skunk)	7
Specimens to Lab	23
Positive Rabies Test	0

Food Protection Program

Licenses Issued	532
Inspections	883

Private Water Program

Permits to Install	234
Total Inspections	222
Consultations	409
Water Samples	
Collected by KCHD	306
Collected by Others	380
# Reported Unacceptable	147

Residential Sewage

Site Evaluations	265
Permit to Install	263
Number of Inspections	269
Consultations	812

Public Health Nuisances

Nuisances Reported	307
Number Valid	183
Investigations	583
Nuisances Abated	208

FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Clinic

Patients Served	1,502
New Patients	799
Adults	1,335
Children	168

Child Health Clinic

Patients Served	404
New Patients	179
Total Visits	404

Dental Clinic

Patients Served	1,961
New Patients	1,559
Total Visits	2,057

Immunization Program

Childhood Shots	5,311
Flu	3,089
Tetanus	522
Hepatitis B	767

Tuberculosis Control

PPD Skin Tests	967
Confirmed TB Cases	2

Help Me Grow Program

Referrals Received	352
# of Prenatal Home Visits	20
# of Newborn Referrals	224

Communicable Disease

Class A Diseases Reported	123
Class B Diseases Reported	20

WIC (WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN)

Certified Visits for the Year	2,756
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BCMh Program

Consultations	665
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Home Health Care

Referrals Received	507
Patients Admitted	260
Total Visits	10,631

HEALTH PROMOTION

School Presentations	464
# Students Served	15,293
Public Presentations	413
Collaborative Projects	227

People, Projects, Promotion and Progress



Environmental Health Director Brian Benick, left, takes a water sample from the swimming pool at the Holiday Inn. Looking on is Maintenance Supervisor George Huppe. The Environmental Health Division inspects all public swimming pools and spas on a regular basis.

In collaboration with the Knox County Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Health Department received an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) to be used onsite. Several staff members were trained to use the machine in case someone has a heart attack and needs to be resuscitated.

A series of bi-monthly prenatal classes began for WIC and Help Me Grow clients. Class topics included nutrition, infant-feeding choices and the risks associated with tobacco use during pregnancy.

The Health Department continued to offer free childhood immunizations on a walk-in basis for children through age 18. Monthly immunization clinics were held in Danville, Fredericktown and Centerburg.



Wearing their "No Smoking Section" T-shirts, the Knox County stand team gathered at a local restaurant to silently protest cigarette smoking in public places. The stand team, comprised of local middle and high school students, is a youth-to-youth initiative to prevent tobacco use among youth and promote awareness of the dangers of secondhand smoke.

Nearly 700 community assessment questionnaires were completed and returned from 2,000 randomly-sent surveys. The four-part survey consisted of more than 200 questions, plus specific sections for men, women and children. A data analysis is expected in mid 2005.

As part of Knox Out Tobacco, free smoking cessation classes were offered to the general public and at several businesses including Replex Mirror, HiSan and Knox Community Hospital. Class participants receive free nicotine replacement patches for the first month.

On October 27, 2004, the Knox County Board of Health adopted a new mission statement:

We are dedicated to promoting and protecting the health and well-being of our residents and communities by providing quality services and educational programs to prevent the incidence of disease and unhealthy conditions.



The Health Department launched knoxhealth.com in July. The website features pages on each of the four divisions, a What's New section for news releases and calendar of events, plus additional health-related links related to the department's programming.

As part of the Initiative to Reduce the Prevalence of Overweight Children, more than 4,000 pedometers were distributed to local students to encourage increased physical activity. Programming also included SHAPEDOWN, a family-based weight loss program for parents and children.

As with much of Ohio, the West Nile Virus was present in Knox County. There were three positive cases reported in birds, but no human cases. With the virus being transmitted by mosquitoes, the department continued its spraying operation until late September.



Home Health Aide Judy Woodruff talks with Tom Gardner of Danville during a home visit. Home Health aides made nearly 5,000 visits to local residents in 2004, providing personal care assistance.



A technician positions a patient for a mammogram, aboard the Mammovan, a mobile mammography unit with Medical Imaging Network of Boardman, Ohio. The Mammovan made two visits to the Health Department in 2004 as part of a focus on women's health featuring mammograms and pelvic exams especially for women without insurance or those unable to pay for such services.

Continuing with statewide efforts to decrease identity fraud, the department began using security paper for all birth and death records. Each record now receives a designated number and is printed on a special paper that prohibits duplication.

As part of the Injury Prevention Grant, we offered two sessions of the 2-day workshop for Applied Suicide Intervention Training (ASIST). There were 26 participants from local agencies, churches and other social service groups for the free training.

The Environment Health Division worked with the school systems in Mount Vernon, Fredericktown and Centerburg to conduct follow-up radon testing in certain buildings and classrooms. The additional testing was due to elevated levels found during previous testing.



Knox County Health Commissioner Dennis Murray was featured in *The Faces of Public Health* which profiled 25 people from across the United States who are making tangible efforts to improve the health and safety of their communities. The book was unveiled at the 2004 American Public Health Association annual meeting held in Washington, D.C.

In December, as part of a Community Development Block Grant through the Knox County Commissioners, an automatic door opener was installed on the department's front doors allowing for easier access for handicapped clients.

Based on birth certificates filed in 2004, the top five names for girls were: Taylor, Emma, Mackenzie, Madison and Hannah. The top five names for boys born in 2004 were: John, Tyler, Dakota, Andrew and Jordan.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

***Lee Rhoades**
PRESIDENT

****Laura Haberman, R.N.**
PRESIDENT PRO-TEM

***Ronda Hathaway, R.N.**
****Keith Plocki, M.D.**

****Gary Mizer**
***Mary deVillers**
*****Jeff Harmer**

****Dorothy Thompson**
****Ed Bowlus, D.V.M.**

*Appointed by Mount Vernon City Council

**Appointed by District Advisory Council

The Knox County District Advisory Council holds the responsibility of appointing five 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.

***Appointed by the Licensing Council

The Licensing Council is comprised of one representative from the businesses whose activities are licensed by the Board of Health, which include: food service operations, retail food establishments, manufactured home parks, public swimming pools and campgrounds. Initial terms are staggered between two and four years, after which, each council member serves a five-year term.

Front Photos (L-R, top to bottom)

1. People wait in line to get a flu shot at The Station Break, one of eight community flu shot clinics. (Photo courtesy of Mount Vernon News)
2. Dr. Doug Massick, an ear, nose and throat specialist with the Ohio Department of Health examines the ears of Curtis Erlandson during a specialty clinic at the Health Department.
3. Dr. James Rubin and Dental Assistant Sandy Roseberry examine a patient at the dental clinic, now offering services five days a week.
4. Pump-It-Up Panther visits students at Pleasant Street Elementary to promote physical activity as part of the Initiative to Reduce the Prevalence of Overweight Children.