

TO THE CITIZENS OF KNOX COUNTY

With the threat of a pandemic flu outbreak such as the bird flu, emergency planning through surveillance and training and disaster exercising were significant activities at the Health Department during 2005. The agency held its first ever drive-thru flu clinic where over 700 flu shots were administered. This activity allowed the staff to test our capability of administering a high volume of shots within a short time should the need arise. The Health Department also provided community flu shot clinics for the vulnerable populations throughout Knox County - over 3000 shots.

Surveillance of communicable disease and trends also play a role in the continual emergency planning process being conducted by the Health Department. Working with Knox Community Hospital and other health care providers allows us to observe trends in illness and enables us to investigate the causes of illness and disease. Early detection prevents the spread of disease and allows for education to avoid contracting a communicable disease.

The Health Department continued to provide quality health programs in 2005. The dental clinic served almost 2600 patients, and the medical clinic served more than 2400 individuals. Early childhood program like Help Me Grow, BCMH and WIC provided medical and social and nutritional support so each child and family has the best start toward a healthier life. Programs such as the Knox Out Tobacco prevention and cessation program, abstinence education projects, providing quality care through home health care, and keeping us safe through essential environment health inspections mean a healthier and safer community in 2005.

On behalf of the Board of Health, I am pleased to present the 2005 annual report of the Knox County General Combined Health District, and commit to the community the Health Department's continued preparation for the outbreak of disease or natural disasters; continued care and support and consistent monitoring through environmental inspections to assure healthier lifestyles for the citizens of Knox County,

Dennis G. Murray
HEALTH COMMISSIONER



Dennis G. Murray
Health Commissioner

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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*** **Jeff Harmer**

** **Eric Siekkinen, R.Ph.**

*Appointed by Mount Vernon City Council

**Appointed by District Advisory Council

***Appointed by the Licensing 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.

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.

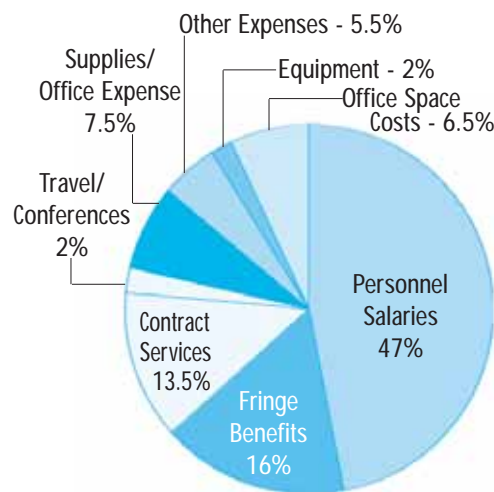
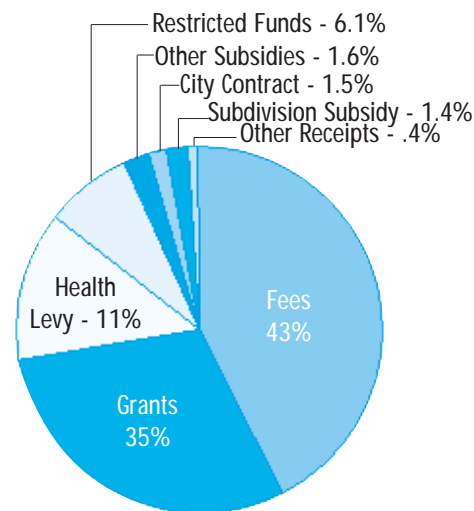
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

REVENUE SOURCES*

Fees	\$1,263,841
Grants	1,039,752
Health Levy	336,221
Restricted Funds	181,839
Other Subsidies	43,146
Mount Vernon City Contract	42,436
County Subdivision Subsidy	38,500
Other Receipts	11,932

Total Revenue \$2,957,667

* The 2005 budget included a carryover of \$1,253,365 from 2004.



EXPENSES BY ACCOUNT

Personnel Salaries	\$1,420,943
Fringe Benefits	482,760
Contract Services	405,915
Travel/Conferences	67,269
Supplies/Office Expenses	225,567
Other Expenses*	160,790
Equipment	59,051
Office Space Costs	198,807

Total Expenses \$3,021,102

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

PROGRAM GRANTS

Abstinence Education	\$40,800	Immunization Action Plan	22,468
Arthritis Public Forum	2,300	Injury Prevention	3,157
ASQ Training	480	Public Health Infrastructure	116,378
Child & Family Health Services	71,103	Radon Awareness	700
Dental Clinic	105,349	Safe Communities	22,305
Get R.E.A.L. Project	825	SPRANS	48,827
Help Me Grow Part C	53,819	Tobacco Use & Prevention	176,000
Help Me Grow GRF	44,543	WIC	166,064
Help Me Grow TANF	160,875	Total Grants	\$1,039,554
KCJ&FS - Asset Building	10,000		

60 TOTAL EMPLOYEES - BY DIVISION

Family & Community Health	32	Administration/Vital Statistics	3
CLINIC STAFF	8	Finance Office	4
HELP ME GROW/BCMh STAFF	7	Health Promotion Services	5
HOME HEALTH CARE STAFF	13	Environmental Health Services	5
WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN STAFF	4	Contract Personnel	11

2005 ANNUAL REPORT



11660 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mount Vernon, OH 43050
 Phone 740-392-2200 • www.knoxhealth.com

VITAL STATS

Birth & Death Records

Births Recorded	407
Teen Mother Births	48
Premature Births	5
Mothers Who Smoked	132
Unwed Mothers	157
Deaths Recorded	519
Fetal Deaths	5
Child Deaths	8
Trauma Deaths	3
Certified Copies Issued	4,440
Birth	2,261
Death	2,179

Top Baby Names

Girls	Boys
1. Allison	1. William
2. Sydney	2. John
3. Alayna	3. James
4. Riley	4. Gavin
5. Lilly	5. Nicholas

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Rabies Control Program

Animal Bites Reported	95
Dog	81
Cat	9
Other	5
Specimens to Lab	35
Positive Rabies Test	2

Food Protection Program

Licenses Issued	545
Inspections	770

Private Water Program

Permits to Install	214
Total Inspections	272
Consultations	261
Water Samples	
Collected by HD	387
Collected by Others	300
# Reported Unacceptable	153

Residential Sewage

Site Evaluations	239
Permit to Install	218
Number of Inspections	286
Consultations	821

Public Health Nuisances

Nuisances Reported	394
Number Valid	300
Investigations	786
Nuisances Abated	350

2005 HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS



Terri Hillier of the environmental health division places a radon test kit at a local school as part of continued monitoring in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Health.

◆ **At the annual District Advisory Council meeting in March 2005, Eric Siekkinen was elected to the Board of Health. Siekkinen is a pharmacist with Lonsinger Pharmacy in Danville.**

◆ **In 2005, Knox County had one positive case of West Nile Virus which was found in a crow. An American Dog Tick tested positive for Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and there was a human case of La Crosse Encephalitis.**

◆ **The MammoVan visited the Health Department in August and October as part of a concentration on women's health for the uninsured and under-insured. Forty-seven women received mammograms and pap tests.**



A 17-year veteran of the Health Department, JoAnn Kerr was awarded the Child Advocate of the Year Award from the Children Services Advisory Board in April for her work with area youth through classroom presentations, afterschool programming and personal outreach.

◆ **The Health Department collaborated with the Knox County Park District in a statewide effort to get a million people to walk one mile on May 19. Locally, more than 500 residents, including 15 health department employees, walked at least one mile for the day.**



Area youth participate in a wheelchair obstacle course using Fatal Vision Goggles to simulate impaired driving during Family Fun Day in September. The Health Department is one of several community sponsors for Family Fun Day which attracted more than 4,000 people in 2005.



This tire dump was one of several solid waste nuisance complaints handled by the Health Department as it worked with townships, villages and the city to clean up areas that are an environmental hazard.

◆ **The Board of Health endorsed the Smoke-Free Ohio initiative to ban smoking in public places. The initiative hopes to make Ohio a smoke-free state in 2006 by either legislative action or public vote.**



Jackie Fletcher, R.N., takes a blood pressure reading for an attendee at the HiSan Employee Health Fair. The Health Department participates in several health fairs throughout the year.

◆ **In response to an increase in Spanish-speaking residents, the WIC staff participated in a training entitled "Survival Spanish for Foodservice and Dietetic Professionals, to better serve this population.**

◆ **As part of Emergency Preparedness Planning: 60 percent of the staff completed the National Incident Management System exam; two staff members were trained to use the swiper identification system; staff actively participated in one regional and one county emergency exercise; and a generator was purchased to service the agency in the event of a power outage.**



Deb Creager of the Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program plays with children during the annual WIC Toddler Birthday Party for WIC families.

◆ **In August, we collaborated with Head Start to present three Early Childhood Health Fairs in Mount Vernon, Danville and Centerburg. More than 150 preschoolers participated in screenings for dental, lead, physical exams, vision, speech, immunizations, hearing and hematocrit readings.**



Deb Hammons, R.N. with the Home Health program, gives a flu shot during a community clinic at the Floral Valley Community Center at Apple Valley. The Health Department administered 3,804 flu shots from October through December.



Longtime board of health member Mary deVillers retired in July after 25 years of service to the Knox County General Health District. Honored as an "essential piece" in the Health Department's progress, she was presented with a plaque featuring the ribbon cutting for the Health Department building which she worked so hard to make a reality.

◆ **In December, there was an outbreak of Pertussis (Whooping Cough) in the Centerburg area with 12 cases reported among the 11-12- age group. The clinic began offering the vaccine Boostrix for 11-18 year olds to reduce the number of positive Pertussis cases.**

FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Clinic

Patients Served	1,740
New Patients	877
Adults	1,577
Children	194

Child Health Clinic

Patients Served	413
New Patients	199
Total Visits	417

Dental Clinic

Patients Served	2,557
New Patients	1,753
Total Visits	2,700

Immunization Program

Childhood Shots	5,752
Flu	3,804
Tetanus	536
Hepatitis B	647

Tuberculosis Control

PPD Skin Tests	1,135
Confirmed TB Cases	0

Help Me Grow Program

Referrals Received	502
# of Prenatal Home Visits	35
# of Newborn Referrals	310

Communicable Disease

Class A Diseases Reported	167
Class B Diseases Reported	12

WIC (WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN)

Certified Visits for the Year 2,827

BCMh Program

Consultations 808

Home Health Care

Referrals Received	455
Patients Admitted	216
Total Visits	11,221

HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

School Presentations	400
# Students Served	7,735
Public Presentations	545
Collaborative Projects	159

FRONT PAGE PHOTOS (Top to bottom, L. to R.)

1. In April 2005, the first Essential Partners in Public Health awards were presented. Recipients were (from L. to R.): Knox County Commissioners, Tom McLarnan, Bob Wise and Alan Stockberger; Jeanne Phillips of Knox Community Hospital; Cindy Brown of the Mount Vernon City Schools; Barb Mickley and Dennis Rawson from Sanctuary Community Action in Danville; and Randy Pore, Knox County Regional Planning.

2. Dr. James Ruben examines a patient at the Health Department dental clinic which had a 23 percent increase in children and adults served in 2005. The clinic operates five days a week.
3. Lorraine Bratton, gives a flu shot during the first-ever drive-thru clinic. More than 700 people participated in the mass vaccination clinic held at the Knox County fairgrounds.
4. In response to the county's first positive rabies cases in 25 years, 250 household pets were vaccinated during a free rabies clinic held at the Health Department in collaboration with the Knox County Humane Society. The Knox County Commissioners provided funding for the free vaccinations.

5. With grant funding from the Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Foundation, the Health Department used billboards to promote its stop smoking classes. Local residents were featured on the billboards. More than 130 people participated in weekly stop smoking classes with a quit rate of 38 percent.
6. In 2005, the city of Mount Vernon celebrated its bicentennial with several events including a parade in July. To acknowledge its part in Mount Vernon's history as an "essential piece" of the community's health, Health Department employees decorated a float for the parade.