

Annual Report

2002



UNION COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Smallpox: A Renewed Threat?

Smallpox outbreaks have occurred from time to time for thousands of years, but the disease is now eradicated after a successful worldwide vaccination program. The last case of smallpox in the United States was in 1949. The last naturally occurring case in the world was in Somalia in 1977. After the disease was eliminated from the world, routine vaccination against smallpox among the general public was stopped because it was no longer necessary for prevention.

On Dec. 13, 2002, the President announced a plan to better protect the American people against the threat of smallpox attack by hostile groups or governments.

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During 2002, more than \$1 billion flowed from the federal government to the states in order to strengthen public health systems against the growing threat of bioterrorism.

The Union County Health Department, in partnership with the Hardin County Health Department, received a \$186,299 Public Health Infrastructure Grant from the Ohio Department of Health to improve planning, coordination and disease surveillance for bioterrorism and disaster response. An Emergency Preparedness

Coordinator was hired in November to provide direction and leadership related to disaster and bioterrorism preparedness in Union County.

Under President Bush's plan, local health departments and hospitals have formed Smallpox Response Teams to provide critical services to the community in the event of a smallpox attack.

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"Recent years have demonstrated the remarkable potential for nature to generate new threats particularly when major changes are taking place in the human habitat and in behaviour."

—Liam Donaldson, JRSPH 2001; 121:146-151.

West Nile Virus Enters Union

West Nile Virus made its first known appearance within Union County's borders in the summer of 2002. The virus, spread by mosquitos, was found in two sentinel species monitored by the Ohio Department of Health and tracked by the local Environmental Health Division. Dead Blue Jays and Crows were tracked throughout the county. To date, the virus has not had a pronounced impact on the health of the community, but Health Officials will continue to monitor once the mosquito season returns.

The Health Department wants to remind residents that the best defense for the virus is the removal of mosquito breeding grounds in and around residential areas.

Leading Causes of Death

1. Cancer	51
2. Heart Disease	42
3. Pneumonia	27
3. Respiratory	27
4. Stroke	22

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The smallpox vaccine is a highly effective protection against the disease when given before or shortly after exposure to the virus. Pre-attack vaccination of Smallpox Response Teams will allow them, in the event of a smallpox attack, to immediately administer the vaccine to others and care for victims.

The federal government is not recommending that members of the general public be vaccinated at this point. Without an imminent threat of attack, the side affects and risks associated with the vaccine make it undesirable for mass vaccination. *More information is available on our web site, www.uchd.net/smallpox.htm.*

2002 Vital Statistics

UCHD is charged with the monitoring of communicable disease and causes of mortality. In recent decades, the highest causes of death have changed from communicable disease, such as cholera, to behaviorally influenced causes such as heart disease, caused by poor nutrition and lack of exercise, and tobacco-linked cancers.

	Deaths	Births
Females	140 (+.21)	291 (-.01)
Males	115 (+.02)	311 (-.07)

Parantheses indicate percent change from 2001.

Vital statistics reflect those incidents of birth or death registered in the county; births or deaths that occur outside of Union, even involving a Union County resident, are not included in the numbers.

For a childhood vaccination schedule, call UCHD or go to
http://www2.cdc.gov/nip/scheduler_le/default.asp



Leukemia Study Update

In 1997, UCHD became aware of several cases of childhood leukemia and notified the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). A report released in the spring of 2002 by ODH noted that though the number of incidents was relatively small, the 8 reported cases results in a higher than expected rate for a county of this size. An additional study is currently underway to compare Union county with several other Ohio counties.

Though the study has not produced a common thread between the cases, the Health Department continues its surveillance and contact with the affected families.



Tires collected at the 2002 HHW in Marysville.

2002 Household Hazardous Waste Day

June marked one of the largest Household Hazardous Waste and Tire Collection Days (HHW) in the county with over 520 vehicles arriving. Close to 97,000 lbs. of hazardous waste was diverted from the landfills. Among the waste was 2,200 gallons of oil, 1,346 tires, 800 gallons of antifreeze, and 72 propane tanks (small and large). The 2003 Household Hazardous Waste and Tire Collection Day is scheduled for June 7th.



Environmental Health

Food service operations (such as restaurants) and retail food establishments (grocery stores, drive-thrus, etc...) are inspected several times each year in order to insure the safety of the food and the conditions in which it is prepared or stored. Union County has approximately 240 food service operations and retail food establishments that are inspected each year.

Food Inspections . . . 940

Food Consultations . . . 634

Sanitarians are available to inspect new building lots for private sewage systems (if public sewer not available) and to draw water samples for safety testing.

Sewage Inspections. . . 1106
Water Safety Tests. . . 403

Appointments for on-site inspections of new, private sewage and private water systems can be arranged with the Environmental Health Office.



Kids at the September HMG Family Picnic with a resident of the Columbus Zoo.



Volunteers of the HMG coordinated furniture drive to serve needy families.

Help Me Grow

The Division of Help Me Grow (HMG) encompasses a variety of programs meant to match Union County residents with health services. For families of children at risk for developmental delay or a documented delay, HMG provides screenings to track the child's development and referrals to specialists as needed. Currently, HMG is servicing 123 families.

Another component of HMG is the Medicaid

Outreach Program. The program enrolls income eligible individuals and families in the Healthy Start/ Healthy Families Medical Plan. Approximately 84% of the 756 applications to the program since 1998 have been eligible to participate. As of December 2002, the one-thousandth client was enrolled into the plan.

To discover more, please contact the Division of Help Me Grow at the Union County Health Department.



Keeping Kids Safe

FROM 1998 TO 2001, the number of children under eight killed in motor vehicle crashes in Ohio dropped from 53 to 25. The number injured decreased by 60%. Child safety seats and booster seats reduce the risk of fatal injury by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers. Union County Safe Communities/ Safe Kids played a significant role in improving child passenger safety.

In 2002, 73 child seats were inspected for proper use and installation at car seat checks and by appointment. Another 53 seats were distributed by the Health Department to low-income families. Child seats and booster seats continue to remain available. For more information contact the Safe Communities Coordinator.

"The three legs of the public health stool have always been the biological, the environmental and the social."

--Liam Donaldson, ibid.

2002 Fiscal Summary

Statement of Expenditures

The summary statement of expenditures for calendar year (CY) 2002 for the Union County Health Department (UCHD) is presented below. The statement is unaudited and shows expenditures for the general health fund and the total of the special revenue funds. (Special revenue funds account for certain fee programs and grants.)

As of July 1, 2002, the UCHD had 23 full-time staff members, 3 part-time staff members, and 2 full-time vacancies. Salaries and wages for these staff members accounted for 60% of total expenditures. Mandated benefits, health insurance, and unemployment compensation accounted for a further 18%. All other items (supplies, equipment, contracted services, etc.) accounted for 22% of expenditures.

	Health Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total of All Funds	
Total Personnel Costs	78.8%	74.3%	\$1,340,475	77.9%
Total Non-Personnel Expenditures	21.2	25.7	\$379,258	22.1%
Total Expenditures	\$1,405,389	\$314,345	\$1,719,734	100.0%

Statement of Revenues

The summary statement of revenues for CY2002 for the UCHD is presented below. As noted before, the statement is unaudited. For CY2002, the Health Department received no funds directly from townships. All funds were received from two tax levies (0.50 and 0.75 mills); contracts; grants; permits, licenses, and fees; medicaid reimbursement; and reimbursements, refunds, and other miscellaneous receipts.

The 0.50-mill levy was replaced in November 2002 and went into effect beginning January 2003. Levy receipts accounted for 54% of all revenues in CY2002.

	Health Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total of All Funds	
Levy Receipts	65.1%	0.0%	\$1,067,090	54.0%
Contract receipts	12.1	0.0	\$198,691	10.0%
Permits, Licenses, and fees	11.1	44.2	\$330,783	16.7%
Grants receipts	9.5	47.5	\$315,783	15.9%
Medicaid reimbursement	1.0	8.1	\$44,573	2.3%
State subsidy	0.8	0.0	\$13,262	0.7%
Reimbursements, refunds, and other receipts	0.4	0.2	\$7,272	0.4%
Total Revenues	\$1,639,048	\$337,663	\$1,976,711	(100.0%)

A Word from the Health Commissioner

On behalf of the Union County General Health District Board and staff, I want to express our gratitude to the voters of Union County for the successful passage of the 0.5 replacement levy in November of 2002. With its passage, the Health District is prepared to go forward with the continuation of its quality services to improve and protect the health and safety of Union County residents. With stable finances, the health department is prepared to relocate to the new London Avenue facility--bringing all five divisions together for the first time. The improved environment will allow us to better serve the needs of the county's residents.

We hope that you enjoy this summary of our work for 2002 and extend an invitation to discover more about our activities through our web site and by contacting our staff when you have questions.

Anne J. Davy, MS, RN

Board of Health

Mr. Gary McDowell	2001-2006	President
Mr. Mike Brake	1998-2003	
Mr. Eric Milholland	1998-2003	(midterm appt.)
Dr. Anita Wantz, MD	1999-2004	(midterm appt.)
Ms. Marge Myers	2000-2005	
Mr. James "Al" Channel	2000-2005	(midterm appt.)
Dr. Carol Karrer, PhD, RN	2002-2007	

The Board of Health consists of two members appointed by the Mayor of Marysville and five members elected by township representatives during the annual District Advisory Council. Members serve for five year terms with no limit on the number of terms of service available.

Goodbye, Janet

Janet Dysart, WIC Clerk, retired this winter. After 14 years in the WIC office, Janet has helped hundreds of families with small children in Union County and has been a familiar face for many appreciative clients. A new clerk will be joining WIC in late January.



Dave Burke Public Health Partner 2002

Pharmacist and Businessman Dave Burke, of Dave's Pharmacy, has been named 2002 Public Health Partner of the Year. A pharmacist of 13 years, Dave is being recognized for many reasons, including his donation of fever reducing medication for families coming to Health Department immunization clinics and his support of the prenatal clinic. Dave recently responded to his nomination by stating, "I'm grateful to be able to do what I've always wanted to do and I'm glad to have a direct impact in my community."

Employee of the Year

Joe Morris was named the 2002 employee of the year. Mr. Morris has been with the Health Department since 1989, when he was hired as a temporary Sanitarian's Aide. Since then he has grown into an accomplished Environmental Health Secretary and Treasurer of the Friends of the Union County Health Department Levy Committee, helping to pass the recent Health Levies.



UCHD Service Directory

www.uchd.net

1-888-333-9461 (non-local calls)

Adopt-An-Area/Roadway	645-3024	Healthy Start	642-6911
AIDS/HIV Education & Prevention	642-0801, ext.21	Help Me Grow	642-6911
Animal Bite Investigation	642-2053	HIV Testing	642-0801, ext.21
Building Site Evaluations	642-2053	Home Nursing Visits	642-0801, ext.26
Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps	642-7638	Immunization Services	642-0801, ext.10
Campground/Mobile Home Park Inspections	642-2053	Injury Prevention	645-3023
Cancer Prevention & Detection Clinic	642-0801, ext.26	Nuisance Complaints	642-2053
Cardiovascular Health Promotion	642-0801, ext.25	Public Information	645-3022
Child Passenger Safety (Car Seats)	645-3023	Nursing Program	642-0801, ext.18
Communicable Disease Control	642-0801, ext.21	Radon Information & Testing	642-2053
Conflict Resolution Program	645-3028	Rainbow Prenatal Clinic	642-0801, ext.22
Developmental Screening & Education	642-6911	Real Estate Transfer Inspections	642-2053
Dietary Counseling	642-0801, ext.17	Recycling and Litter Prevention	645-3024
Environmental Health	642-2053	School Liaison	645-3042
Family Planning	642-0801, ext.23	Sewage System Permits	642-2053
Family Support (with children age 0-3 yrs.)	642-6911	Special Needs Council	642-6911
Food Service Program	642-2053	Speaker Services	645-3042
Health Commissioner	642-0801, ext.10	Solid & Infectious Waste	642-2053
Health Education	645-3022	Swimming Pool Inspections	642-2053
		Vital Statistics (Birth/Death Records)	642-0801, ext.12
		Water Well Testing	642-2053
		Women's Health Specialist	642-0801, ext.23
		WIC Program	642-0801, ext.16

All numbers are in the 937 area code.

Equal Opportunity Employer & Provider

Residential Customer

Administration & Nursing
621 South Plum Street
Marysville, OH 43040

-New Location-

Environmental Health &
Health Education
233 West Sixth Street, Level B

Marysville, OH 43040

Help Me Grow

232 N. Main Street, Suite C
Marysville, OH 43040

UNION COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
2002 Annual Report to the Public



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