

# TO THE CITIZENS OF KNOX COUNTY

Every year, more people learn the meaning and importance of public health and your local Health Department has been at the forefront of that awareness. From promoting emergency preparedness to ordering the clean up of property; from dealing with the increasing presence of MRSA and providing new vaccines to prevent HPV and shingles; to presenting educational sessions and providing direct care, public health is making a difference in the lives of Knox County residents.

In 2007, the Health Department provided a major role in promoting proper hand washing, providing childhood shots, offering dental and medical care for the uninsured and under-insured, and conducting communicable disease surveillance.

We are grateful for passage of the Health Levy by nearly a 2-1 margin. Your overwhelming support is a vote of confidence for the staff and will guarantee continuation of essential services for local residents.

As with any organization, one of our greatest assets is our staff and we are fortunate to have employees who are committed to bringing you the best possible service. From those who give medical attention, provide information and promote healthy behaviors, to those who travel the county offering direct care and conducting inspections, we are proud to work for you.

On behalf of the Board of Health, I am pleased to present the 2007 Annual Report. We look forward to meeting the challenges and providing services to make Knox County a healthier and safer community.

*Dennis M. Murray*  
Health Commissioner



Home Health Aide Carolyn Conkle (center) was one of the honorees at this year's Excellence in Caregiving recognition sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging. She is shown with Health Commissioner Dennis Murray and Home Health Supervisor Marcia Tidyman, RN.



Dr. Edward Bowlus, DVM, (right) retired from the Board of Health in March after 25 years of service, including 17 years as president. Described as an "essential piece" in the Health Department's progress during his tenure, current Board President Lee Rhoades (left) presented Bowlus with a plaque featuring the ribbon cutting for the Health Department building which became a reality while Bowlus was president.

## BOARD OF HEALTH

- PRESIDENT**  
\* **Lee Rhoades**
- PRESIDENT PRO-TEM**  
\*\* **Laura Haberman, R.N.**
- MEMBERS**  
\*\* **Ed Bowlus, D.V.M.**  
\*\* **Gary Mizer**  
\*\*\* **Jeff Harmer**  
\* **Ronda Hathaway, R.N.**  
\*\* **Keith Plocki, M.D.**  
\*\* **Eric Siekkinen, R.Ph.**  
\* **Shirley Timpe, R.N.**

\*Appointed by Mount Vernon City Council  
\*\*Appointed by District Advisory Council  
\*\*\*Appointed by the Licensing Council

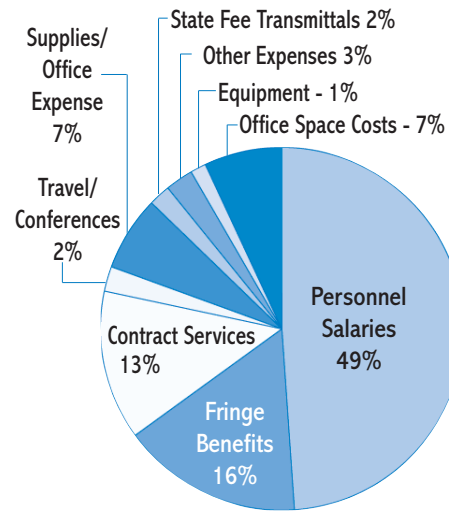
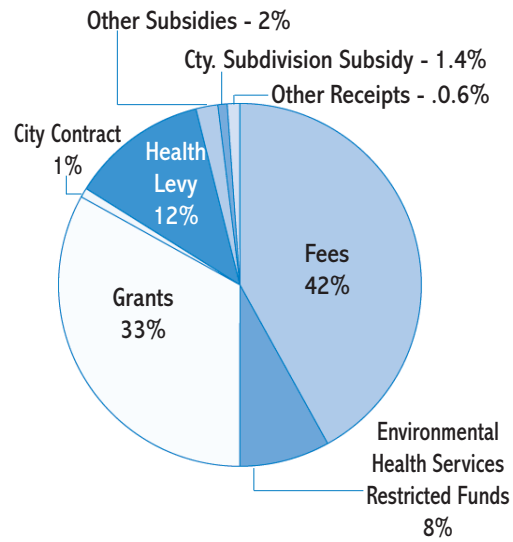
## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

### REVENUE SOURCES\*

Fees	\$1,233,937
Grants	970,528
EH Restricted Funds	223,046
Health Levy	338,503
Other Subsidies	47,313
Mount Vernon City Contract	43,285
County Subdivision Subsidy	38,500
Other Receipts	16,574

**Total Revenue \$2,911,686**

\* The 2007 budget included a carryover of \$990,016 from 2006.



The Knox County Health Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Provider

### EXPENSES BY ACCOUNT

Personnel Salaries	\$1,548,183
Fringe Benefits	505,944
Contract Services	422,361
Travel/Conferences	73,225
Supplies/Office Expenses	206,805
State Fee Transmittals	64,313
Other Expenses*	79,391
Equipment	45,845
Office Space Costs	215,392

**Total Expenses \$3,161,458**

\* (Other Expenses Includes: Lab Fees, State Audit, Marketing/Promotion, Liability & Property Insurance, Staff Development/Recruitment.)

## PROGRAM GRANTS

Abstinence Education	\$50,000	Radon Awareness	693
Community Based Abst. Ed.	9,539	Safe Communities	22,704
Child & Family Health Services	55,779	Senior Wellness Grant	8,466
Help Me Grow Part C	53,163	Suicide Prevention Grant	2,500
Help Me Grow GRF	41,079	Tobacco Use & Prevention	137,618
Help Me Grow TANF	185,658	WIC	205,836
KCJ&FS - Circle of Friends	12,750	Women's Health Month Grant	1,500
Immunization Action Plan	66,310	<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>\$970,528</b>
Public Health Infrastructure	116,933		

## 61 TOTAL EMPLOYEES - LISTED BY DIVISION

<b>Family &amp; Community Health</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>Administration/Vital Statistics</b>	<b>4</b>
MEDICAL & DENTAL STAFF	6	Finance Office	4
HELP ME GROW/BCMH STAFF	8	Health Promotion Services	4
HOME HEALTH CARE STAFF	13	Environmental Health Services	6
WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN STAFF	5	Contract Personnel	11

# 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## KNOX COUNTY Health Department



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

## VITAL STATS

### Birth & Death Records

Births Recorded	462
Teen Mother Births	52
Premature Births	29
Mothers Who Smoke	111
Unwed Mothers	203
Deaths Recorded	509
Heart Related	201
Cancer	108
Lung Disease	26
Flu/Pneumonia	22
Strokes/CVA	12
Accidents	14
Fetal Deaths	7
Child Deaths	7
Trauma Deaths	7
Suicides	1
Certified Copies Issued	4,230
Birth	2,305
Death	1,925

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Rabies Control Program

Animal Bites Reported	123
Dog	96
Cat	22
Other	5
Specimens to Lab	19
Positive Rabies Test	0

### Food Protection Program

Licenses Issued	587
Inspections	752

### Private Water Program

Permits to Install	152
Total Inspections	232
Consultations	225
Water Samples	
Collected by HD	336
Collected by Others	285
# Unacceptable	142

### Residential Sewage

Site Evaluations	58
Permit to Install	111
Number of Inspections	176
Consultations	741

### Public Health Nuisances

Nuisances Reported	296
Number Valid	213
Investigations	510
Nuisances Abated	261

# 2007 HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS



In 2007 the Health Department continued to spread the message that "Washing your hands is the single most effective way to prevent the spread of disease," with the distribution of anti-bacterial hand-wipes and accessibility to hand sanitizer at fairs, festivals and other public events.

◆ **The Environmental Health Division began enforcement of the Smoke-Free Workplace Act in May. The division received 146 complaints which lead to 87 investigations. There were 16 businesses that received a warning letter; seven were fined at least once; four were fined at least twice; and one business was fined three times.**



Dental Hygienist Carole Jordan cleans the teeth of Dakota Blakely of Danville, during a visit to the dental clinic. The position of dental hygienist was added to the dental clinic in 2007 and helped account for an increase in the number of patients seen. The clinic also benefited from the addition of a panoramic X-ray machine donated by Dr. David Pressler, a local dentist.

◆ **Monthly Senior Wellness Clinics continued in 2007 with 214 seniors participating in free screenings.**

◆ **The Health Department continued to be the main provider of childhood immunizations in the county. In 2007 the Health Department began offering Gardasil, a new vaccine for girls which prevents four strains of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV); and Zostavax to senior citizens which prevents shingles. Also in 2007, Menactra, a Meningitis vaccine, was offered free through the Ohio Department of Health and is now available at no charge to children of all income levels. All childhood vaccines continue to be free, with a \$10 administration charge per visit.**



The Partners In Public Health Awards were presented in April as part of National Public Health Week. The 2007 recipients were (L. to R.) seated: Nancy Holtrey, Community Health Access Project; Robin Strayer, Centerburg Community Services; Cheryl Splain, *Mount Vernon News*; standing: Lt. Chad McGinty, Ohio Highway Patrol; Marty Trese, 13WMVO; and Rob Broeren, Knox County Prosecutor's Office.



Environmental Health Director Brian Benick speaks at a public meeting that the Health Department hosted in July for the Ohio Department of Agriculture and local farm market vendors. The meeting dealt with clarification of what type of foods can be sold at farm markets.



A Knox County man registers to win an Emergency Supply Kit during the Dan Emmet Music & Arts Festival. As part of its emergency preparedness efforts, the Health Department gave away supply kits at each of the community festivals, health fairs, every day at the Knox County Fair and during special events such as the Chamber's Business After-Hours open house.

◆ **There was heightened awareness of MRSA in 2007 with several reported cases of "community acquired" or CA-MRSA. Nursing Director Jackie Fletcher, RN, coordinated a public forum with other local health officials to address concerns about this communicable disease and made presentations to local school staffs and other groups.**



Participants in the Mount Vernon Circle of Friends made applesauce in the fall using apples donated by Glen Hill Orchards. Circle of Friends is a mentor program coordinated by the Health Department for girls ages 11-14. There are two programs, one in Mount Vernon and one in Fredericktown. The programs are funded by Knox County Job & Family Services and the CBAE Grant.

◆ **2007 saw the development of the Public Health Partnership of Knox County, a 501(c)(3) foundation whose primary activity will be to obtain grants particularly to fund high-priority projects and services for the Knox County General Health District.**

◆ **The Board of Health issued orders for the clean-up of three solid waste nuisances; declared two properties unfit for human habitation; revoked the registration for one sewage installer and issued a six-month suspension for another.**



Health Educators Mike Whitaker and Caree Varughese pose with puppets from the Kingdom of Good Health. The puppets were purchased with funding from the Kiwanis Club of Mount Vernon to use in presentations for young children about the dangers of tobacco use, the importance of washing your hands and other health issues.

◆ **Presentations or events provided by the Health Department included: child CPR classes; tax clinics; smoking cessation classes; Women's Health Month program; person-in-charge training for food service operations; communicable disease classes for child care centers; the MammoVan; blood borne pathogen classes; Safety Town; distribution of child car seats; teacher in-service on abstinence curriculum; PLANET and MOBI trainings.**



In November, Knox County voters overwhelmingly approved a replacement tax levy for the health district by a margin of 66 to 34 percent. The five-year, 0.4 mill levy will generate funds through 2013.

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

### General Medical Clinic

Patients Served	1,483
New Patients	732
Adults	1,330
Children	180

### Child Health Clinic

Patients Served	431
New Patients	249
Total Visits	432

### Dental Clinic

Patients Served	3,009
New Patients	1,076
Total Visits	3,271

### Immunization Program

Childhood Shots	7,972
Flu	2,764
Tetanus	369
Hepatitis B	638

### Tuberculosis Control

PPD Skin Tests	1,112
Confirmed TB Cases	0

### Help Me Grow Program

Referrals Received	437
# of Prenatal Home Visits	5
# of Newborn Referrals	333
Total Visits	978

### Communicable Disease

Class A Diseases Reported	143
Class B Diseases Reported	22

### WIC (WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN)

Certified Visits for Year	3,369
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### BCMh Program

Consultations	840
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### Home Health Care

Referrals Received	327
Patients Admitted	244
Total Visits	11,703

## HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

School Presentations	303
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# Students Served	7,480
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Public Presentations	415
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Fairs, Festivals and Events	38
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Collaborative Projects	258
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Child Car Seats Distributed	36
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Adult Smoking Cessation Class Participants	134
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### FRONT PAGE PHOTOS (Top to bottom, L. to R.)

1. Public Health Nurse Karen Lee, RN, takes a blood pressure reading of an attendee at the Country Club Retirement Campus Health Fair; 2. Health Department staff complete registration forms for a few of the more than 600 participants who took part in the annual drive-thru flu clinic at the Knox County Fairgrounds. The clinic helps test the Health Department's readiness in responding to a disease outbreak. The exercise involved 41 staff members, 11 Citizen Corps

members and two representatives from law enforcement 3. Members of the Knox County stand Team pose on the front lawn of the Health Department where they erected 1,200 white crosses to illustrate the number of Americans who die each day from tobacco use. The stand Team is coordinated by the Health Department as part of a state grant from the Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation. 4. Lt. Chad McGinty of the Ohio Highway Patrol addresses members of the Amish community at Waterford during an Amish Health & Safety Day held in July. The first-time event was attended by 220 Amish and was a collaborative effort with the Morrow County Health Department.

The Knox County Health Department also hosted a similar event for the Danville Amish community in August. 5. Help Me Grow Supervisor Kay Benick, RN, works with some children who stopped by the Health Department space at the Earth Day Health Expo in April. More than 500 people attended the first-time event held at the Kenyon Athletic Facility. 6. Home Health Aide Carolyn Conkle and Public Health Nurse Deb Hammons, RN, visit with Harry and Sarah Ketzler. The group picture was used on a new promotional flyer for the Health Department's Home Health services.