



Health Commissioner Julie Miller

740-392-2200

11660 Upper Gilchrist Rd., Mount Vernon, OH 43050

knoxhealth.com

2014 ...by the numbers

Births Recorded	390
Certified Copies Issued	1,971
Teen Mother Births	34
Unwed Mothers	189
Deaths Recorded	463
Certified Copies Issued	1,576
Animal Bites Reported	165
Positive Rabies Test	0
Food Service Licenses	572
Food Service Inspections	914
Private Water Permits	94
Private Water Inspections	156
Water Samples	383
Sewage Permits	119
Sewage Inspections	124
Sewage Consultations	580
Nuisance Investigations	182
Patients Vaccinated	5,173
Doses Administered	7,256
Seasonal Flu Vaccine	1,236
TB Tests Given	455
Communicable Disease	496
Dental Clinic Patients	3,750
Dental Clinic Visits	3,761
WIC Caseload (Monthly avg.)	1,267
WIC Certified Visits	2,679
BCMh Cases	219
BCMh Consultations	1,715
Home Health Patients	297
Home Health Visits	7,915
Presentations	169
Publicity Efforts	965

Responding to Public Health Needs

While the Ohio measles outbreak attracted lots of media attention and kept our staff busy in 2014, it was one of many public health efforts where the Knox County Health Department responded to the needs of the community.

Our staff was active working with the Knox Substance Abuse Action Team, the Knox County Hunger Task Force and the Knox Health Planning Partnership. Our agency served as a site for two prescription take-back days, helped connect 190 people with services through the Ohio Benefit Bank and our nursing staff started making regular visits to the Winter Sanctuary Homeless Shelter.

We worked with the Ohio Association of Foodbanks to help residents get enrolled with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and along with Knox Community Hospital, hosted a visit from Kathleen



(From left) Health Commissioner Julie Miller, Epidemiologist Adam Masters and Immunization Nurse Karen Lee made a presentation on the Ohio measles outbreak during the spring conference of the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners.

Falk, Region 5 director with the U.S. Department of Human Services, to promote ACA enrollment.

We began offering a free STD testing clinic twice a month, started a cessation program for pregnant women called *Baby & Me, Tobacco Free*, hosted the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, collaborated with the humane society and animal control to host two rabies clinics and presented a program with state officials on ticks and lyme disease.

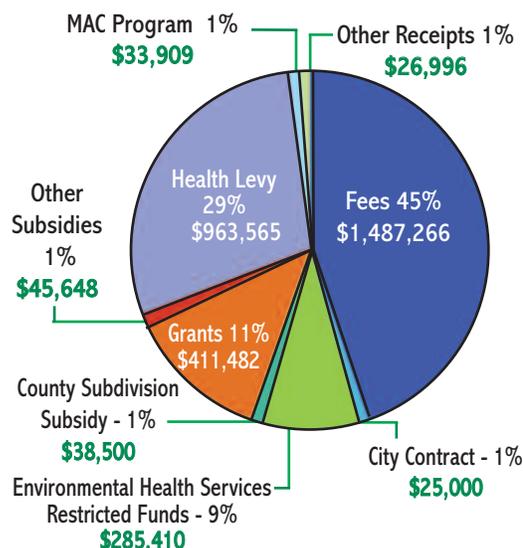
We promoted our services and encouraged healthy lifestyles at First Friday events in downtown Mount Vernon, Senior Resource Day and the Knox County Fair.

Looking ahead to 2015, we are excited about promoting new wellness programs and expanding access to services. We remain committed to the needs of local residents and spending our funds wisely.

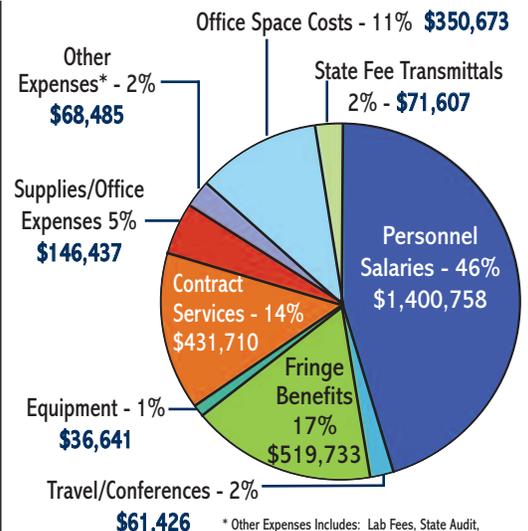
We ARE Public Health!

Financial Overview

REVENUE* - \$3,317,776



EXPENSES - \$3,087,469



* Other Expenses Includes: Lab Fees, State Audit, Marketing/Promotion, Liability & Property Insurance, Staff Development/Recruitment, Vehicle Fuel/Maintenance.

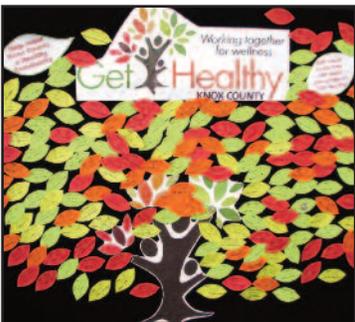
A Few Highlights from 2014



Hillary Hess and Brock Evans, (above) P.E. teachers with Mount Vernon City Schools who helped implement Crunch Out Obesity, were honored as Partners in Public Health during the annual Public Health Week breakfast. Others honored included Ver-Mac Industries for its on-site cessation program; Thomas Glibert, DDS, for volunteering in the dental clinic; and Chef Paul Higgins who presented food demos during farmer's markets held at the health department.



The Health Department collaborated with 20 other agencies and organizations to conduct a community health assessment during the summer. Nearly 1,100 local residents completed the assessment which was administered during community events (above) and at partner agencies. A complete report is expected in the spring of 2015.



As an initiative of the Community Health Improvement Plan, the Health Department collaborated with local agencies to launch Get Healthy Knox County, a countywide campaign to promote healthy behaviors. Over 200 people added their healthy commitments to the Get Healthy tree during the annual Earth Day Festival in April.

A measles outbreak that started in Knox County in the spring and spread to nine Ohio counties grabbed national attention as the largest outbreak in the U.S. in 20 years. In the end, 377 people contracted measles including 195 in Knox County. There were several hospitalizations, but no deaths. In Knox County, the response effort included 13 MMR clinics, numerous home visits and the administration of nearly 1,100 doses of vaccine. Health advisors from the CDC helped with contact tracing and six of the affected counties formed a unified command to determine strategies and share resources. For their efforts, the unified command counties were honored with a Champion of Public Health Award from the OSU School of Public Health. The outbreak also attracted national media attention including USA Today, CBS, NBC, ABC and National Public Radio.



(Above) Director of Nursing Jackie Fletcher, R.N. gives an MMR shot to an Amish child during a clinic in Danville.



The distracted driving simulator from the Ohio Department of Transportation was a big hit at First Friday and the Dan Emmett Festival (above). The Safe Communities Coalition which is coordinated by the Health Department, provided the computerized simulator to demonstrate the dangers of distracted driving. The experience included passenger interaction, cell phone calls, roadway distractions such as pedestrians, animals crossing the road and roadside accidents.



The summer farmer's market held in the Health Department parking lot, expanded to twice a month in 2014 which marked the third year for the market. Initially designed for WIC clients, the market was open to the public. Nearly \$2,000 in WIC coupons were redeemed for farmer's market produce, a 20 percent increase from the year before. In addition to purchasing locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables, attendees also had the opportunity to attend food preparation demonstrations. Program topics included grilling garden produce, nutritious snacks, canning, and different dishes from corn and apples. Everyone who attended the food demonstrations had the opportunity to register for a small freezer provided by United Way of Knox County in partnership with Herald's Appliances.



(Above) Members of the Home Health staff. Front row: Katie Wolford, Maggie Sprang, Cheryl Thompson, Brenda Stutz; Second row: Glenn Barteau, Judy Miller, Nikki Ewers, Kelly Barnett, Lisa Highman, Jean Wells, Lane Belangia.

The Health Department's Home Health Division was one of 14 agencies nationwide to receive an 'elite' designation by the 2014 HHCAHPS Honors. The award recognizes home health agencies that continuously provide quality care as measured from the patient's point of view. The staff of registered nurses, therapists and aides serves nearly 300 patients each year. Services include skilled nursing, physical therapy, speech and occupational therapy, disease management, and homemaker services.

Weeks before a person with Ebola visited Ohio, the Health Department began meeting with local emergency response partners to make plans if there was a local incident. Discussion topics included the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) for first responders and medical personnel; transportation, testing and isolation procedures for suspect patients and precautions for related contacts. The group named itself the Knox Ebola Group (KEG) and held a table top exercise in November with 25 local emergency partners in attendance.



(Above) Knox County Health Commissioner Julie Miller, left, and Elaine Flowers, infection preventionist with Knox Community Hospital are shown with hospital staff in the proper personal protective equipment to handle an Ebola patient.



Kyle Shackle (above) of the Environmental Health staff, affixes a Health Department logo on the agency's new truck. The vehicle replaces a 17-yr. old truck with more than 240,000 miles that had become unsafe for agency staff to drive. The new truck was purchased with new funding provided by the 2012 health levy which we began receiving in 2014.

