

# We ARE Public Health!

740-392-2200

11660 Upper Gilchrist Rd., Mount Vernon, OH 43050

www.knoxhealth.com

## A message from the Health Commissioner

Everyday there are positive things happening in Knox County because of the work by your local health department, either through individual effort or working together with others. From inspections and consultations to education programs and direct care; from collaboration to specific programs and services, I am proud to say that public health is making a difference in the lives of Knox County residents.



Health Commissioner Julie E. Miller, MSN

In 2015, we collaborated with more than 20 other agencies to publish the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and began work on the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) tackling the problems of substance abuse, obesity and mental health.

Our outreach efforts included clinic services and tobacco cessations classes at The Winter Sanctuary and we took our monthly STD clinic to the campus of Kenyon College. We helped present Knox County Safety Day, and participated in Family Fun Day at Ariel Foundation Park.

We celebrated being the first local agency to offer home health services beginning in 1965 — one year ahead of inclusion with Medicare. We sponsored the Get Healthy Monday campaign, provided food service education with Person in Charge and Serv Safe classes and offered blood borne pathogen training for community groups.

Our entire staff began the process of national accreditation and the community health clinic staff tackled the learning curve of using electronic medical records.

One of our biggest accomplishments was the creation of the Knox County Community Health Center Board which is working towards applying for funding for a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) — something we look forward to telling you about in next year's annual report.



Two women use the health department's portable hand-washing station after visiting the petting zoo at the Earth Day Festival in April. The health department provided the hand-washing station at several events in 2015.



Kyler Schreiber tends to one of the garden sites developed at two Knox County Head Start centers as part of the Creating Healthy Communities Grant to encourage healthy eating and provide hands-on experience with gardening.



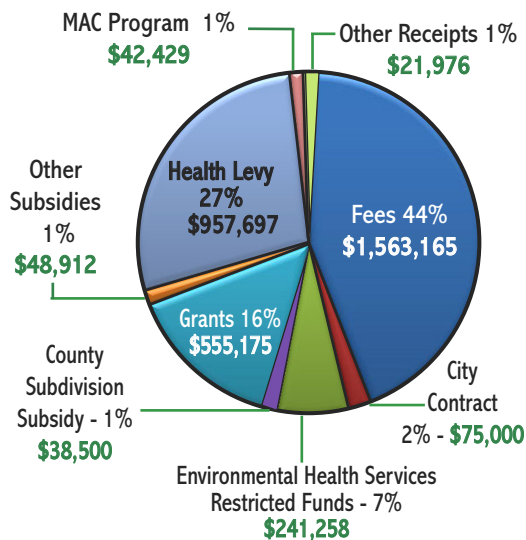
Several children talk with Sparky the Fire Dog at Knox County Safety Day. Coordinated by the Knox County Safe Communities Coalition, the event featured a variety of activities and displays for children and adults.



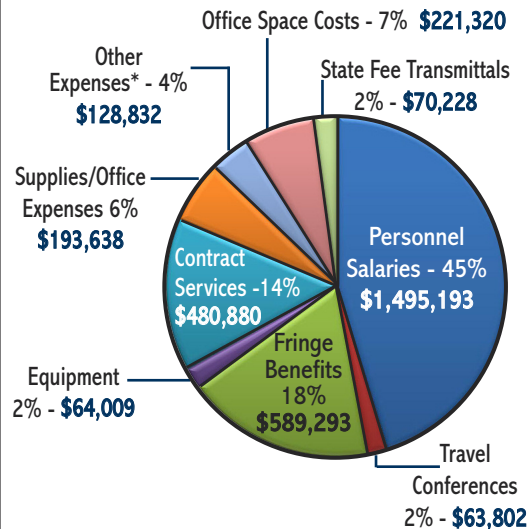
Partners in Public Health Awards went to : from left, front row: Amy Hudson, Winter Sanctuary; Marcia Durbin, Danville EMS; Heidi Burns, Winter Sanctuary; back row: Fannie and Tobias Yoder who helped with the measles outbreak; Pharmacist Scott Miglin and EMA director Mark Maxwell.

## Financial Overview

REVENUE\* - \$3,544,113



EXPENSES - \$3,307,194



\* The 2015 budget included a carryover of \$596,026 from 2014.

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

# 2015 BY THE NUMBERS

**Births Recorded** 448  
**Certified Copies Issued** 1,932  
**Teen Mother Births** 39  
**Unwed mothers** 186

**Deaths Recorded** 522  
**Certified Copies Issued** 1,731  
**Top Causes of Death**  
 Heart Disease 218  
 Cancer 111  
 Lung Disease 40  
 Strokes 16  
 Flu/Pneumonia 14  
 Suicides 7

**Animal Bites Reported** 155  
 Positive Rabies Test 0

**Food Service Licenses** 544  
**Food Service Inspections** 1,104

**Private Water Permits** 92  
**Private Water Inspections** 170  
**Water Samples** 399

**Sewage Permits** 103  
**Sewage Inspections** 177

**Nuisance Investigations** 283

**Patients Vaccinated** 2,367  
 Doses Administered 5,348  
 Seasonal Flu Vaccine 941

**TB Tests Given** 430  
**Communicable Disease** 325

**Dental Clinic Patients** 3,435

**WIC Caseload (Monthly avg.)** 1,245  
**WIC Certified Visits** 2,756

**BCMh Cases (Monthly avg.)** 215  
**BCMh Consultations** 1,900

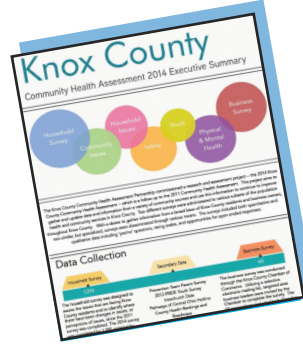
**Home Health Patients** 351  
**Home Health Visits** 8,611

**Educational Presentations** 269  
**Publicity Efforts** 1,021

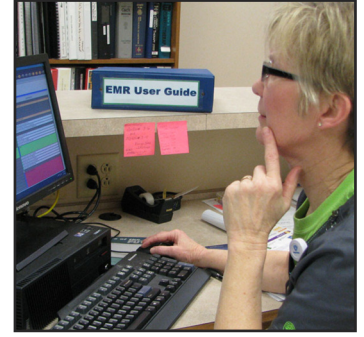
# Highlights from 2015



To promote breastfeeding, the WIC division placed life-like cutouts of breastfeeding moms at various businesses including this one at Kmart. Window clings were also sent to businesses to post to show their acceptance of breastfeeding at their location.



After collecting the data in 2014, it was analyzed and published as the Community Health Assessment in 2015 for use by local agencies. The top community health issues were alcohol and drug abuse, obesity, mental health, lack of health insurance and diabetes.



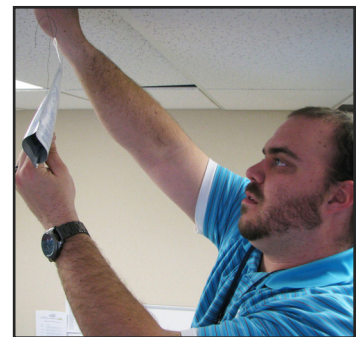
Lorraine Bratton, RN, uses the new electronic medical record (EMR) software to access patient information. In 2015, the Community Health Clinic switched to EMR as part of the Affordable Health Care Act.



The Ohio Public Health Association honored Marty Trese (left) of Knox Pages for coverage of the local drug problem and Jackie Fletcher, RN, former director of nursing as the distinguished public health nurse.



After a young boy spins the public health prize wheel during a First Friday event in downtown Mount Vernon, Health Educator JoAnn Kerr asks a health-related question.



Kyle Shackle demonstrates placement of a radon test kit. In 2015, Shackle became one of two certified radon testers at the agency. Knox County continues to rank second in the state for high levels of radon.



Tami Ruhl records a segment for a video on Creating Healthy Communities projects. The video also included segments with Nick Clark of the YMCA and Knox County Commissioner Teresa Bemiller.



In March, we collaborated with Mental Health Recovery and Knox Community Hospital to host a legislative luncheon for local and state officials to update them on local accomplishments and programming.



RN Judy Miller removes a wound dressing from home health patient Mary Faith of Danville. In 2015, the health department marked 50 years of providing home health services to Knox County residents.



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**Protect The Ones You Love**  
**VACCINATE**  
 Call for an appointment  
**740-399-8009**  
 Knox County Health Department

**Drive-Thru FLU SHOT CLINIC**  
**Oct. 3 - 8-11 am**  
 Knox County Fairgrounds  
 Community Clinics Begin  
**Oct. 5**  
 For more info **740-399-8014**

**We ARE Public Health**  
 Promoting Health • Preventing Disease • Protecting You  
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The agency used billboards (above) as well as radio, newspaper and web advertisements to promote services and programs.