St. Clair County Health Department
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Protecting the health of St. Clair County residents

2010 Annual Report

Black River, Grant Township
vision

St. Clair County will be a healthy community that is self reliant and prepared for the future, allowing it to achieve the highest potential and wellbeing of its residents.

Leadership 2010
St. Clair County Health Department

mission

St. Clair County Health Department will be the trusted local expert in population and preventive health practices; encouraging effective community partnerships, eliminating barriers to health resources, protecting the community from health threats, and encouraging stewardship of the environment.

2010 Board of Health members:

Marie J. Muller..............................Chairperson
John Jones.................................Vice-Chairperson
Barbara Britz...............................Secretary
Scott McPhilimy, D.O. ..............Member
Jon B. Parsons..............................Member
Terry London.............................B.O.C. Representative

Top row  L-R Janet Ruggles, BS, M(ASCP) Lab Director, Elaine Kempf, BA, Administrator, Susan Amato, MA, Dir. of Health Education, Diane Forys, BS, RS, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

Bottom row  L-R Greg Brown, BS, RS, Env. Health Director, Diane Jovanovich, BS, RD, WIC Coordinator, Annette Mercatante, MD. MPH, Medical Health Officer, Karen VanNess, MSN, RN, Nursing Director and Herb Wendt, Jr., CPA, Accountant/Financial Systems Manager.
To the community of the beautiful Blue Water Area of St. Clair County:

2010 brought sweeping changes to the leadership in Lansing. Newly elected governor, Rick Snyder, promised to give Michigan citizens a new paradigm for government spending. Along with new Michigan Department of Community Health Director, Olga Dazzo, public health in Michigan is focusing on key health indicators including obesity rates, infant mortality, children living in poverty and clean/safe water. Clean and safe water is a particularly fervent concern for St. Clair County and our citizenry because of our desire to protect our beautiful natural resources. Addressing these indicators is only a small part of our commitment to St. Clair County. We have many challenges and responsibilities and will continue to provide our citizens with the benefit of the best in quality public health protection and prevention services.

On behalf of the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners and the Advisory Board of Health, the St. Clair County Health Department is pleased to present you with the 2010 Annual Report. In this report you will see many ways that we provide services and protections for the citizens of St. Clair County. We encourage you to review this report and offer your comments and suggestions. We believe that the most compelling aspect of health is that it is so variable in definition, yet unequivocally the most precious asset we can have.

Accredited by the Michigan Public Health Accreditation Commission

Annette M. Mercatante, MD. MPH
Medical Health Officer
St. Clair County Health Department
2010 Health Department Revenues

- County Appropriation: 18%
- Federal/State Revenue: 25%
- Charges for Service: 8%
- Medicaid Full Cost Reimbursement: 8%
- Federal Vaccine (In-Kind): 1%
- Other Grants & Revenues: 3%
- Total Revenues: $8,308,674

2010 Health Department Expenditures

- Environmental Health: 61%
- Nursing: 21%
- Emergency Preparedness: 8%
- Women, Infants, & Children: 3%
- Laboratory: 1%
- Other Programs: 6%
- Total Expenditures: $7,918,737
2010 was a very productive year at St. Clair County Health Department. The Advisory Board of Health welcomed new members Scott McPhilimy, D.O. and Mr. John Jones replacing long time Board of Health members William Smiley (deceased 2009) and Donald Konyha, DVM (deceased Spring 2010). Both members served on the Board of Health for almost 28 years. Their dedication to the board and the St. Clair County Community will be remembered gratefully.

An 18-month search of available public health nursing software concluded with the signing of a contract in December 2010, for Netsmart’s Insight product. Work began almost immediately for projected implementation in summer 2011. Staff and clients will benefit from the ARRA mandated features in the new software that will put the health department in a position of readiness for meeting meaningful use requirements and transitioning to electronic medical records.

Business office staff also prepared for the transition from a canned financial management/reporting package to the County’s Bi-Tech system. Making the switch to the county’s software will streamline budget reconciliations and accounts payable processes.

Work began in earnest on the Multi-State Learning Collaborative (MLC-3) by a core group of staff whose goal was to increase the number of WIC infants and children who received immunizations during their WIC visit. Immunization assessments were performed for every infant and child in the program. Those identified not up-to-date on their immunizations were referred directly to the Preventive Health Division for recommended immunizations upon completion of their WIC visit. 176 clients were seen by WIC staff during the one month of data collection, and 77% of those deemed eligible for immunizations were successfully vaccinated. Sustaining that 77% successful referral rate continues to be an objective of the department’s WIC and Preventive Health Divisions.

Fall 2010 saw the beginning of Monday late evening hours. All health department programs have a staff presence every Monday until 6:30 p.m. Later hours will offer an alternative for those citizens who are unable to come to the department during the traditional 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. hours. Nursing programs are currently working 10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. while others, including Environmental Health and Administration, are able to maintain staffing 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

A bittersweet opportunity presented itself in 2010 with the filming of the "If Not for You...for Them" DVD. This DVD presented the stories of two local women and their experience with vaccine preventable illness. Justine, a local mom of twins, one of whom contracted a fatal case of Pertussis (Whooping Cough), wanted to share her tragic story to prevent other families from experiencing the same horrible loss. Sue Kinney, infected with H1N1, shared the resulting impact that H1N1 had on her and her family. This DVD has been released for use by MDCH and the medical community to encourage immunization and has been distributed nationally.

To view the DVD click http://www.stclaircounty.org/Offices/health/videos/IfNotForYou.htm or view on our website at: www.stclaircounty.org/offices/health.
Michigan Community Dental Clinic offers dental services at a reduced fee for people without dental insurance. If eligible, membership includes an initial visit with a participating dentist, x-rays, exam and a treatment plan. In 2010 the clinic saw 5,456 clients, including a few residents of surrounding counties. Currently there are 5 dentists and 2 dental hygienists providing services at the clinic.

The clinic is located at 3037 Electric Avenue in Port Huron, MI. Call (810) 984-5197 for more information.
The Emergency Preparedness Division is directed to develop the health department’s capacity and capability to effectively recognize and respond to (potential) threats to public health. Events of public health concern may be naturally occurring, criminal or terrorism, disease outbreaks, and/or biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological emergencies.

The health department’s “Emergency Operation Plan” (EOP) is annually reviewed, exercised and revised as needed to meet stringent requirements from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and the Michigan Department of Community Health’s Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP).

The health department’s plans are constructed to meet the demands of constant change in the nature and severity of public health threats to this community, and to be able to coordinate effective and efficient response across political and jurisdictional boundaries.

**Some of this year’s activities include....**

- Monthly meetings with local and regional health and medical partners
- Participation in a regional Mass Fatality Exercise
- H1N1 Mass Vaccination Campaign with “Closed Pods” and “Home Visits”
- Participation in the CDC’s Bio-Surveillance Pilot Project
- CBRNE Training for Staff
- Strategic National Stockpile Full Scale Mass Dispensing Exercise
- Series of drills to test ability of staff to confirm notification and report to the health department on short notice
- Provide training to local response partners
- Regional ChemPack/MEDDRUN Exercise
- Statewide Volunteer Registry Exercise
- Statewide Strategic National Stockpile Exercise
- Local and Regional Public Health and Emergency Preparedness Operational Meetings
environmental health

The Environmental Health Division continues to protect health and promote quality of life through many traditional Environmental Health programs including food service inspections, public and private on-site water supply, lead abatement, public and private on-site sewage disposal, public swimming pools, campgrounds and public bathing beaches. The Environmental Health Division in St. Clair County is also responsible for two non-traditional programs including enforcement of Michigan Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Rules, and implementation of the St. Clair County Phase II Storm Permit.

Division Highlights

- Received a grant that will increase *E. coli* monitoring and sanitary surveys at public beaches, increase *E. coli* monitoring in the Pine River, Black River and St. Clair River Watersheds, implement rapid testing methods for *E. coli* at public beaches, and implement goose deterrent practices at Chrysler Beach in 2011.
- Began implementing a grant that increased *E. coli* monitoring in the tributaries of the Anchor Bay watershed in 2010 and helped prioritize three tributaries that will receive in depth surveys for bacteria sources in 2011.
- Provided 27 watershed presentations to local governing boards and civic groups, and 55 presentations to 1,217 middle school students.
- Coordinated Earth Fair at Goodells Park, which had a record number of over 5,000 people in attendance.
- Coordinated River Day, a rain barrel sale and volunteer stream monitoring events.
- Assisted 3 school districts, SC4, the Road Commission and PARC to develop plans for improving storm water pollution prevention practices at all of their maintenance yards.
- Continued conducting illicit discharge investigations and corrected 23 failing septic systems that were identified.
- Successful completion of the MDEQ evaluation of Private and Public Type III Water Supply Program.
- Successful implementation of the Body Art facility licensing and inspection program.
- Responsible for enforcement of Dr. Ron Davis MI Smoke Free Law and investigation of complaints regarding bars and restaurants.

Program Statistics

- Temporary food inspections 291
- Restaurant inspections 1,537
- Food complaint investigations 110
- Bacterial surface water testing samples 1,487
- On-site wastewater services 916
- Drinking water analysis 1,896
- Water well services 295
- Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Inspections 440
- Freedom of Information Requests processed 390
- Public campground and swimming pool inspections 116
- Lead based paint inspections / Abatement clearance inspections / Asbestos inspections 91
health education & planning highlights

The Health Education Division promotes healthy lifestyle behaviors among St. Clair County residents through programs, presentations, community assessment activities and the provision of resources. Nearly 200 presentations were provided to 4,462 participants during 2010 on health promotion and communicable disease prevention topics.

**Health Education Division 2010 Highlights:**

- Health Education played an instrumental role in preparing St. Clair County for implementation of the Dr. Ron Davis MI Smoke Free Air Law which became effective May 1st, 2010. Community education and continued advocacy took place for many months prior to implementation. The division currently is responsible for enforcing the law in county worksites.

- A Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS) was conducted in late 2009 and early 2010 to assess health behaviors of county adult residents. 709 interviews were completed among county residents 18 years of age or older. A Community Health Profile was published in 2010 that reported data from the survey and compared it to state and national averages for the various health indicators that were measured. Data from previous surveys conducted in the county in 2000 and 2005 were also used to measure trends in health behaviors among county residents. Examples of data that were collected in the survey included tobacco use, access to health care, cholesterol awareness, weight and participation in routine recommended health screenings.

- Health Education continued its collaboration with Partners at Heart by providing its Healthy You program at Birchwood Mall and the Great Lakes Maritime Center-Vantage Point. Free, monthly BP/BMI screenings are provided in addition to education on physical activity and nutrition. Additional sites in 2010 included various Body Recall classes around the county. Approximately 784 participants were screened during 2010. Ten individuals were determined to have dangerously high blood pressures and were referred for immediate care as a result of their numbers.

- Continued leadership of and/or participation in numerous coalitions with our community partners such as the St. Clair County Smoke-free Team, the Healthy Lifestyles Coalition, Parenting Workgroup, Port Huron Hospital’s Helmet Safety Committee and the St. Clair County Suicide Prevention Committee.

Health Education was instrumental in promoting and marketing the Health Department’s campaign to increase immunization awareness and back to school readiness.
The laboratory serves as support for the various clinics of the Health Department, including the Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Clinic, Family Planning Program, Preventive Health Services, Environmental Health and Teen Health Center.

Having an on-site laboratory is a valuable service to the community, as it enables the clinics to have immediate diagnoses for treating their patients. Water sample testing ensures safe water throughout the county.

**Laboratory tests performed in 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STI testing</td>
<td>14,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water samples (wells, pools, spas, beaches and other surface waters)</td>
<td>3,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate testing for wells (began in June 2010)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other laboratory services include:**

- Selected chemistries for intra-department support service
- Pregnancy testing (serum)
- Throat – Strep A
- Urinalysis
- ALT/AST
- Tick identification (Department of Agriculture)
- Hepatitis, HIV and other specialized testing
  (Michigan Department of Community Health in Lansing)

Janet Ruggles, conducting Nitrate testing in the lab
nursing division highlights

The Nursing Division provides community prevention services like immunizations, vision and hearing screening, lead testing, family planning services, TB screening, home visits for pregnant women and their newborns, insurance enrollment assistance for uninsured children eligible for Medicaid and MICHild insurances, communicable disease prevention and disease monitoring, primary care services for the adolescent population and HIV case management for individuals diagnosed with HIV and living with AIDS. Outreach services are provided through participation in health fairs and community events.

Nursing Division 2010 Highlights

To assist parents and schools in meeting new State of Michigan immunization requirements, a ‘Back to School’ Vaccination Clinic was held in late August 2010. All children entering kindergarten and all 6th grade students are now required to have two doses of varicella vaccine. All children 11-18 years changing school districts or enrolling in 6th grade are now required to show proof of one dose of Meningococcal vaccine and one dose of tetanus/diphtheria/acellular (Tdap) vaccines in addition to other immunization requirements. 571 doses of vaccine were administered at the special Saturday clinic.

To facilitate community health access, Nursing Division service hours were expanded on Mondays to 10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

2010 Nursing Division Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adolescent Health clients</td>
<td>1,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Special Health Care Clients</td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicable Disease Investigations</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Planning clients served</td>
<td>1,563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Case Managements Clients</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Tests</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing &amp; Vision Screenings</td>
<td>22,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunizations (Child, Adult, Flu &amp; Travel vaccines)</td>
<td>14,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Tests</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Services</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health Nurse Visits</td>
<td>4,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STI Tests &amp; Treatment</td>
<td>2,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TB Skin Tests</td>
<td>507</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2010, 1,086 pregnant women and infants were seen by Maternal Infant Nursing Staff
TEEN HEALTH CENTER

For the past 25 years, Teen Health Center (THC) has provided friendly, adolescent-focused services for client’s ages 10-21. THC services include acute and chronic medical care, well-child physicals, STI diagnosis and treatment, HIV testing, counseling and referral, mental health counseling and referral, pregnancy testing and related care and immunizations. Services are provided by a full time Nurse Practitioner, a Physician who is a primary care provider for Health Plan of Michigan and registered nurses.

THC offers enrollment in state health insurance programs; Healthy Kids and MIChild.

3,052 visits were provided to 1,782 adolescents. The following number of services were provided:

- Immunizations 996
- General Medical (including sick visits) 1,846
- Mental Health referrals 29
- Physical Exams 608
- STI Diagnosis 573
- Family Planning Referrals 164
- Substance Abuse Referrals 7

Lifestyles Program

THC enrolls eligible teens in an 8 week behavior modification program entitled Lifestyles, which provides knowledge on good nutrition and exercise. Lifestyles, designed by Dr. Annette Mercatante, MD., MPH, St. Clair County Health Department Medical Health Officer and Dr. Sushma Reddy, MD., Endocrinologist, provides an individualized care plan that includes a comprehensive physical assessment, a consultation with a registered dietitian, and a nurse facilitated curriculum, stressing nutritional information and exercise education methods taught by YMCA certified instructors and guest speakers.
The WIC Program offers nutrition counseling, education and food benefits to income eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, and infants and children under age 5 who have a medical or nutritional need.

- In 2010, the WIC program provided for the purchase of over $2,575,061.22 worth of nutritious food and dairy products by St. Clair County WIC program enrollees.
- From January through December of 2010, there was an average monthly enrollment of 4,355 clients.
- Coordination of WIC and Maternal Infant Health Program services resulted in 342 pregnant women being enrolled in both programs during one appointment and 254 home visits that included WIC services.
- In 2010, the WIC program enrolled 645 pregnant and breastfeeding women, 1,940 infants and 2,722 children 1-5 years of age (unduplicated participants).
- Collaborative efforts with MSU Extension, the Breastfeeding Initiative Program and MSUE peer counselor provided nutrition education at the WIC office and enrolled pregnant and breastfeeding women for home services.
- Increased efforts in breastfeeding promotion and support resulted in 85% of women who participated in WIC during their pregnancy initiating breastfeeding after delivery.
- WIC staff reviewed 7,615 records to assess immunization status of infant and child participants.