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 well-being of residents.

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.
Greetings from our Medical Health Officer

On behalf of our staff and Board of Health members:

It’s been a good year. Many significant projects were started and gained important backing from the community and outside agencies. The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process received widespread support from many community service and health care agencies. Monthly meetings allowed for a clearer understanding of what we needed to do and how the data could be collected. In the end, the St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) will be able to publish some of the best health information available in decades that will, in turn, allow all of our community partners to build a better health improvement plan.

2015 also ushered in unique relationships with community programs and agencies. Examples include: Partnership with Community Mental Health (CMH) and its Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Health Integration Project/grant; and Prevention and treatment grant funding from Region 10 Pre-paid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for tobacco and prescription drug abuse initiatives, including implementation of a Naloxone training/distribution program. Our attention to the prescription drug abuse issue is very timely, as the problem is growing and is receiving greater state and national attention.

All of this as we continue to provide expert care and response to all of our mandated programs (with a mid-year reduction in funding), in addition to new and emerging threats like Ebola. State resources were received to support and enhance safe sleep, breastfeeding, lead exposure and reduction, and immunization waiver education. One exciting accomplishment was the launching of the St. Clair County Early Childhood HUB, which allowed local healthcare providers to find evidence-based home visiting programs for their clients and patients. Our Environmental Health division also received national accolades for developing the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved Belle River Watershed Plan. An approved plan is a necessity to obtain future funding for projects and actions that are needed to restore, enhance and protect the Belle River across Lapeer, Macomb and St. Clair Counties.

The year ended with the planned implosion of the old Marysville DTE Energy plant that stood at the intersection of Gratiot and Busha Highway. Although the oversight and jurisdiction of this formidable and potentially risky event was not ours, we were pleased that our Canadian neighbors did not find any asbestos or other hazardous materials in the fall out that blew across the St. Clair River. Our mission specifically states we “protect the community from health threats, and encourage stewardship of the environment.” That doesn’t really allow us to say “well, that’s not our problem.” Instead we want the community to know that we are here, watching, investigating and responding to our health issues.

Yours in health,

Annette Mercatante, MD, MPH
Medical Health Officer
2015 Agency Highlights

2015 was a very demanding, but productive year at the SCCHD. The Advisory Board of Health welcomed a new Board of Health member, Monica Standel from Capac. She is a trained paramedic who serves on the Capac School Board and is a Mussey Township Trustee.

The SCCHD welcomed some new faces in 2015. The Nursing division welcomed two new nurses: Samantha Meyers and Kassandra Alexander, and three new clerks: Theresa Schoben, Jill Marsack, and Krysta Ridley. Krysta will also spend time in our Environmental Health division. Agency Support welcomed Amy Hart to fill our accounting & finance position. Environmental Health welcomed two new Sanitarians, Ashley Castello and Linda Stanbridge to work in the food program. The Health Education division also welcomed Lisa Copp as a new clerk.

In 2015, the SCCHD received some well-deserved recognition from community stakeholders. The Environmental Health division was presented with an award of recognition as a St. Clair River Restoration Partner by the St. Clair River Binational Public Advisory Council. The Board of Health received the award on behalf of the Health Department for their work on protecting water quality through the beach monitoring program, watershed activities, and illicit discharge removals. This Binational Area of Concern committee acknowledged the SCCHD for their dedication and commitment to the health of the St. Clair River.

Sandy Mangan, Teen Health Center Nurse Practitioner was honored at the 2015 Child Abuse Neglect Council (CAN) Annual Awards Luncheon. The Teen Health Center was referred to “as an outstanding jewel of a resource in our community.” They also stated, “Her direct care and passion for the kids she serves will benefit our community for years to come.”

The SCCHD’s commitment to emergency preparedness and response was demonstrated by meeting our training and exercising goals. Staff completed required Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) based training courses, participated in drills, and exercises, and further tested skill sets and training in response to real life events as they occurred. Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response is a series of mandatory training requirements for all public health employees; requiring quick assessment, assignment and action in order to assure the best possible outcomes.

The skill, talent, and dedication of our staff was demonstrated in November when the SCCHD completed the week long MDHHS Local Public Health Accreditation review process for years 2013, 2014 and 2015. Michigan Public Health Accreditation Standards assure local health departments maximize their potential to protect and improve people’s health in their communities. We met 128 out of 129 essential and important indicators and received numerous mentions of special recognition and commendation.

Greg Brown, B.S., RS
Administrator
Established October 1942

Since the beginning, the present day St. Clair County Health Department has evolved with the mission reflected in Michigan’s Public Health Code to continually and diligently endeavor to prevent disease, prolong life, and promote the public health through organized programs, including:

- Prevention and control of environmental health hazards
- Prevention and control of diseases
- Prevention and control of health problems of particularly vulnerable population groups
- Development of health care facilities and health delivery systems
- Regulation of health care facilities and health services delivery systems to the extent provided by law.

To this end, St. Clair County Health Department will assure the accessibility of appropriate, and quality personal, public, and environmental health services to St. Clair County residents and their families.

Our Board of Health

Local authority and control is provided to the Health Department by the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners.

An appointed six member Board of Health meets monthly, serves in an advisory capacity, and acts as a review board for department activities and policies. Board of Health members include:

Monica Standel (Member since 02/15)
Term Expires: 12/31/16

John Jones, Secretary (Member since 6/10)
Term Expires: 12/31/15

Scott McPhilimy, D.O. Vice Chair (Member since 4/10)
Term Expires: 12/31/16

Marie J. Muller, Chair (Member since 2/98)
Term Expires: 12/31/15

Jon B. Parsons (Member since 1/11)
Term Expires: 12/31/16

Board of Commissioners Member
Howard Heidemann, Commissioner (Member since 1/13)

Pictured (L to R): Howard Heidemann, Marie J. Muller, Monica Standel, Jon B. Parsons, Annette Mercatante, John Jones and Scott McPhilimy.
St. Clair County Health Department
Organizational Chart
2015 Health Department Revenues

Total Revenues: $7,494,822

- County Appropriation
- Charges for Service
- Federal Vaccine (In-Kind)
- Licenses & Permits
- Federal/State Revenue
- Medicaid Full Cost Reimbursement
- Other Grants & Revenues

2015 Health Department Expenditures

Total Expenditures: $6,586,049

- Environmental Health
- Nursing
- Emergency Preparedness
- Women, Infants, & Children
- Dental
- Other Programs

34% of revenue is from Federal/State Revenue.
NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION
The Health Department was awarded one of its largest grants from Region 10 PIHP and MDHHS. The Health Education division assumed coalition leadership of the St. Clair County Prescription Drug Abuse Workgroup and St. Clair County Smoke Free Team. Other components included Safe Dates educational programming; Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (MCRUD) participation and Information Dissemination of substance use disorder focus areas for youth. In addition, Region 10 and MDHHS also funded us to implement the Second Chance Naloxone Program which fit appropriately under the Health Education prevention work.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR YOUTH
Health Education, in partnership with Teen Health Center continued to provide educational services to Day Treatment Night Watch (DTNW) participants through a cooperative agreement/contract between both agencies. Adolescents enrolled in the Traditional and Intensive court ordered programs were provided a variety of educational programming, such as Safe Dates, Healthy Lifestyles, STI/STD, Smoking Cessation, and Nutrition.

HEALTH INTEGRATION PROJECT
The Health Education division was included in a new contractual opportunity with CMH’s Health Integration Project grant. Our role included providing educational programming of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Million Hearts® initiative to CMH staff and clients.

PLAYGROUND & BEACH CLEAN-UP
Health Education received a $1,000 mini-grant through Tobacco-Free Michigan and Southeastern MI Indians, Inc. With support of the City of Port Huron Recreation Department, St. Clair County Smoke-Free Team and student/adult volunteers, a cigarette butt litter clean-up was hosted at Lakeside Beach and Park in Port Huron. Supplies and incentives for youth were purchased to support the event. A total of 88 participants (49 youth and 39 adults) collected 900 butts from the playground area and 3,260 from the beach. This area was selected due to a recent passage of a Tobacco-Free Beach and Playground Resolution in an effort to gain insight on the amount of litter at this popular tourist location.

STAFF EXPANSION
Due to increased responsibilities in 2015, the team welcomed Pattie Bayless, Outreach Clerk; Lisa Copp Health Education Clerk; Julie Walding, RN, Public Health Nurse for the Naloxone program; and Lindsay Maunz, BS, was hired as the new Health Educator (Start date: 1/4/16).
OUTREACH EFFORTS
The Outreach Program provides application assistance to help ensure that qualifying families receive state health insurance benefits. Michigan offers MIChild and Healthy Kids for qualifying children up to their 19th birthday at little or no cost. The Maternity Outpatient Medical Services (MOMS) program provides insurance to qualifying pregnant mothers and the Healthy Michigan Plan provides health care coverage to low-income, eligible Michigan residents ages 19-64.

Outreach continued to expand by utilizing health promotion opportunities to link individuals to state, county and local health services and resources. SCCHD has secured various funding to enhance service delivery to Medicaid populations. For example, SAMHSA awarded funds to co-locate a primary care medical clinic (Lake Huron Medical Center) at CMH, increasing access to comprehensive services for Medicaid clients. Much inter-agency planning and coordination has been dedicated to partnering with CMH on various components of the Health Integration Project.

Select Health Department and Outreach clerical staff continued to utilize the MIBridges web portal to help access Medicaid health insurance plans, including food and other assistance needs.

An electronic Community Outreach Bulletin Board was created for SCCHD staff to link clients to valuable and needed resources within the county.

PROGRAM STATISTICS

225 total presentations with over 6,800 participants
RANGING FROM HEALTH SCREENINGS, COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, PUBLIC HEALTH 101, NUTRITION, RELATIONSHIP SAFETY, NALOXONE, AND A PRESENCE AT VARIOUS HEALTH FAIRS

10,693 medicaid awareness ACTIVITIES

15,917 eligibility & verification SERVICES

59 community events PARTICIPATION

304 application assistance SERVICES

31 public awareness MESSAGES
Emergency Preparedness
& Response

The Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) division is directed to develop the health department’s capacity to effectively respond to the public health consequences of terrorist threats, infectious disease outbreak, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological emergencies. The CDC’s Public Health Emergency Preparedness Capabilities List provides the guidance to help build and improve upon existing and already stressed limited resources in order to address potential and realized threats to our communities.

The Emergency Preparedness Coordinator (EPC) is responsible for plan maintenance and development, liaison with partner agencies, provide training, drills and exercises, monitors emerging issues, tactical communications and assists in the coordination of the SCCHD's emergency coordination center (ECC).

Components of the SCCHD’s Emergency Operations Plans (EOP) are tested and reviewed to meet stringent requirements from CDC and MDHHS Department of Emergency Preparedness and Response (DEPR). SCCHD plans are constructed to meet the demands of a constant change in the nature and severity of suspect or realized public health threats in our communities.

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- All SCCHD employees were trained on the required FEMA courses: Incident Command and Management Systems and received annual refresher training appropriate to his/her function or role.
- Participated in an approximately 4 monthly drills and tests, 2 quarterly tests and 8-10 annual drills, exercises and training workshops.
- Provided and maintained 24/7 emergency access to the health department officials for partner agencies and as well as maintenance of secure tactical communication systems.
- Strived to assure early inclusion in any event type that has the potential to spread in scope, scale or severity.

Pictured: SCCHD Readiness Inventory
Pictured: SCCHD Readiness Inventory
Environmental Health Director, **Steve Demick**, was elected to serve a 3 year term on the Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators (MALEHA) Board of Directors. The mission of MALEHA is to advocate for the protection, promotion and enhancement of environmental health in Michigan.

**12 communities** (Port Huron, Marysville, St. Clair, Marine City, Clyde Twp., Fort Gratiot Twp., Kimball Twp., Port Huron Twp., East China Twp., Ira Twp., Clay Twp., and Algonac) and **6 educational institutions** (Port Huron, Marysville, East China, Algonac, RESA and SC4) recommitted to have Environmental Health provide storm water permit compliance services.

The division received DEQ approval of the self-evaluations conducted for the on-site wastewater treatment management and private/type III/type II water supply programs. The quality assurance guidelines in the evaluations included extensive record reviews of numerous components. All minimum program requirements were met. On-site wastewater program self-assessment results were verified during the department wide accreditation. Additionally, there was a successful completion of Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) accreditation review of the food service program. A total of 4 MDARD inspectors evaluated all aspects of the food program, including a field review of staff. All **16** minimum program requirements were met.

The Environmental Health division received license applications and inspected a total of **64** public swimming pools/spas/splash pads located at **48** facilities throughout the county. In addition to passing the inspection process, public bathing facilities are responsible for submitting water samples weekly for bacteriological analysis. The agreement with the City of Marysville Water Treatment Plant to provide drinking water and swimming pool water testing continued to operate efficiently.

Organization of these events reached over **20,000 people** with environmental educational messages.
Keri Shinn, Environmental Health Coordinator, successfully completed the MDARD’s standardized trainer requirements. A candidate is evaluated by the state and must receive 90% or higher during five risk based inspections to demonstrate their competency in these areas. This process provides uniformity in the application and understanding of applicable regulations, inspection methodology, communication, and report writing. Keri’s responsibilities include: training new employees, standardizing inspection personnel and evaluating the department’s food service program.

Staff responded to a mercury spill at a residence in Berville. The homeowner broke a jar containing approximately a pound of mercury in an attached garage. Testing determined mercury was tracked throughout the home. Education on proper removal methods was provided. Follow-up testing revealed that the hazard was abated.

The Environmental Health division, in partnership with the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), presented a regional Illicit Discharge Elimination training to 80 individuals from throughout Southeastern Michigan. Current techniques for illicit discharge identification, reporting and documentation related to the new Phase II Storm Water permit were shared.

Food Manager Certification training and testing was provided to 43 individuals representing food service facilities. In addition, staff provided in-service training at food service establishments, instructing proper sanitizing procedures and safe food handling.

Bacteriological monitoring of 8 Great Lakes beaches was completed. Over 400 samples were analyzed, resulting in a total of 21 single day closures. Participation in a grant study of real-time beach monitoring equipment occurred. This advanced technology produces water quality results within hours and can be used to identify specific sources of pollution using genetic markers. In this study, the real-time qPCR technology was consistent with the conventional 18 hour method over 90% of the time.
Environmental Health

**Program Statistics**

- **51** food complaint investigations
- **205** temporary food inspections
- **553** food license applications processed
- **1,261** restaurant inspections
- **35** plan review for new & remodeled food establishments
- **438** soil erosion/sediment control inspections
- **758** on-site wastewater inspections
- **1,847** drinking water analysis
- **1,440** bacterial surface water testing
- **84** public campground & swimming pool inspections
- **319** water well inspections
- **80** lead based paint inspections/abatement indoor air/asbestos inspections
- **650+** freedom of information requests
DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Find everything Individual & Family Health Services offers here

- Improved marketing and branding within the community was achieved through advertising, billboards, Birchwood Mall Smartlite kiosk, Facebook and Twitter.
- Effective January 1, 2015 the Administrative Rule required parents/guardians who want to claim a non-medical waiver to receive education on the benefits of vaccination and risks of disease at the local health department. There were 382 waiver appointments with 512 waivers signed. Waiver rates decreased from 7% in 2014 to 6% in 2015.
- Hired contractual staff from August–October to assist with increased volume of immunization waiver appointments.
- Staff completed multiple presentations at venues including state conferences, churches, schools, and other local events on topics such as lead, immunizations and other program focus areas.
- 1st annual Breastfeeding Stroll at Desmond Landing, increasing awareness and support for breastfeeding.
- Collaborated with Health Education on improved organization and signage at front reception making a more inviting environment for the public.
- Internal electronic messaging TV’s installed in 5 key areas to increase promotion.
- Expansion of Insight electronic medical record, to include the case management module for Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS).
- Continued contractual relationship with Professional Counseling Center to provide mental health services at Teen Health Center.
- Continued to be a clinical site for students from University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Baker College and St. Clair County Community College.
- Staff movement within the division with 9 staff members transitioning to new positions, and 7 new hires (5 clerks and 2 RN’s).

Program services were expanded through the acquisition of grants. This allowed current staff increased hours to focus on identified needs in the county through education, outreach, advocacy and promotional activities. The following grants and collaborations were received:

- Lead Outreach and Education
- Infant Safe Sleep
- Breastfeeding Peer Counseling
- Immunization Billing
- Alana’s Foundation–Influenza vaccine
Individual & Family Health Services

**Program Statistics**

- **IMMUNIZATIONS**: 9,170 child, adult, flu & travel
- **tuberculosis tests**: 274
- **HIV tests**: 560
- **STI TESTS & TREATMENT**: 938
- **lead tests**: 1,911
- **lead tests**: 5
- **TSPOTS**: 8
- **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE investigations**: 402
- **sexually transmitted INFECTIONS investigations**: 442
- **MIHP CLIENTS**: 870
- **Children’s Special Health Care Services**: 527
- **2,089 public health NURSE VISITS**
- **11,171 total VISION SCREENS**
- **17,827 total HEARING SCREENS**
Learn more about Teen Health Center here

The Teen Health Center provides friendly, adolescent-focused services for clients who are 10 through 21 years old. SCCHD’s Teen Health Center is located on the campus of Port Huron High School (Big Reds). Services include: medical care, preventive and sick visits, well-child physicals, immunizations, pregnancy testing, HIV testing, and STI diagnosis/treatment.

Services are provided by a full-time Nurse Practitioner, a Physician, and Registered Nurse. Teen Health Center can be your primary care provider (check with your insurance company). Mental health counseling services are also provided on-site by a licensed Social Worker. Teen Health Center participates with most insurance plans. Medicaid enrollment assistance is available.

PROGRAM STATISTICS

- 2,067 immunizations
- 911 general medical VISITS INCLUDING SICK
- 547 PHYSICAL exams
- 342 mental health VISITS
- 432 STI DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT
- substance abuse REFERRALS 2
- 13 family planning REFERRALS

1,823 TOTAL visits
1,211 UNDUPLICATED visits

LEADS
Linking Education and Awareness of Depression and Suicide

Teen Health Center was proud to introduce the LEADS program in 2015. LEADS is an evidenced-based curriculum for 9th-12th graders. A total of three, one hour sessions are co-facilitated by a medical professional (Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner) and a licensed Social Worker. The goal of the program is to increase awareness of depression and the connection to suicide. LEADS empowers today’s teens to make healthier choices by providing interactive, youth friendly activities that identify signs, symptoms, and warning signs of depression. Adolescents will know what actions to take if they recognize the signs in their friends or themselves. LEADS also facilitates linking adolescents with mental health services as needed.
Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Supplemental Food Program

Learn more about WIC here

WIC:

- Integrates with other programs to provide lead testing and immunizations, oral health assessment with fluoride application, insurance program enrollment, and additional services.
- Reduces fetal deaths and infant mortality.
- Reduces low birth weight rates by increasing pregnancy duration.
- Improves the growth of nutritionally at-risk infants and children.
- Decreases the incidence of iron deficiency anemia in children.
- Improves the dietary intake of pregnant and postpartum women and improves weight gain in pregnant women.
- Helps get children ready to start school: children who receive WIC benefits demonstrate improved intellectual development.
- Significantly improves children’s diets.
- Helps participating women receive prenatal care earlier.
- Gives children a more regular source of medical care and up to date immunizations.
- Has participation from more than half of the infants in the U.S.

A major goal of the WIC program is to improve the nutritional status of infants; therefore, WIC mothers are encouraged to breastfeed their infants, unless medically contraindicated.

In 2015, WIC, in collaboration with the State’s Coffective Initiative, began conversations with local birthing hospitals and OBGYN offices to encourage common language and education relative to breastfeeding and prenatal/postnatal care. WIC and Maternal Infant Health programs began the completion of 5 modules of Coffective breastfeeding training. These programs also entered their program profiles in the Coffective app, allowing participants to enter their zip code and access local breastfeeding programs and information. Trainings were completed for a WIC Registered Nurse to become a Certified Lactation Specialist and a Board Certified Lactation Consultant. Future WIC breastfeeding plans include collaboration with local birthing hospitals for Coffective baby friendly initiatives, enrollment into WIC, and the facilitation of a breastfeeding coalition at the SCCHD.

WIC participants who breastfeed are provided:

- A higher level of priority for program certification
- A greater quantity and variety of foods than mothers who do not breastfeed
- A longer certification period than non-breastfeeding mothers
- One-on-one support through peer counselors and breastfeeding experts
- Breast pumps and other aids to help support the initiation and continuation of breastfeeding

Pictured: Mom and son enjoying WIC visit
Women, Infants & Children
Supplemental Food Program

PROGRAM STATISTICS

930 fluoride application & ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS to WIC participants ages 6-36 months

breastfeeding duration rates OVER 1 YEAR ↑ 4.35%

110 PROJECT FRESH coupons distributed ➔ 70.27% were redeemed

average monthly enrollment: 3,843 clients
average participation rate: 87.89%

$2,427,843.54 WIC food dollars spent in St. Clair County
Learn more about My Community Dental Centers here

"Changing Lives One Smile at a Time"

My Community Dental Centers (MCDC) is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation, established in 2006, dedicated to providing dental services to Medicaid enrollees and low-income, uninsured residents throughout Michigan. The care we provide is customized to meet the appropriate individual needs of each patient and is offered in a patient-centered atmosphere with exceptional customer service. MCDC is committed to continuous, quality improvement with this “patient first” perspective. The Center is continuously accepting new patients and participates in outreach activities in an effort to increase the patient base. The Port Huron office is located at 3037 Electric Avenue.