

1144 West Erie Avenue  
Lorain, Ohio 44052  
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To reach our departments, dial 204-2300 and the corresponding extension below.

Administration	Ext. 2316
Nursing Services / Child Clinic & Child immunizations	Ext. 2303
Environmental Health	Ext. 2319
Health Education	Ext. 2318
Birth & Death Certificates	Ext. 2302
<b>FAX NUMBER</b>	<b>246-6894</b>

To our friends at:



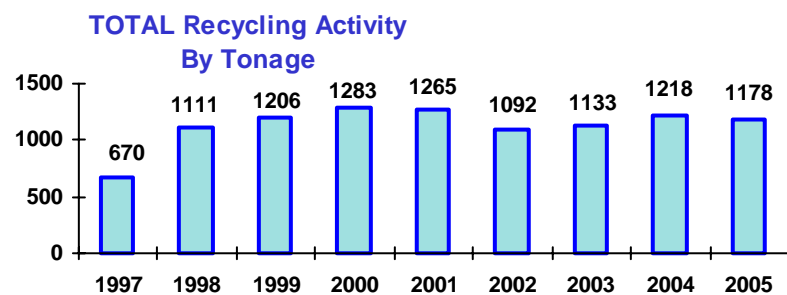
### The Mission Statement

The Lorain City Health Department is comprised of a staff of professionals technically trained working towards protecting the environment and promoting the health and welfare of the citizens of Lorain.

"Public Health is what we, as a society, do collectively to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy"

Institute of Medicine, 1988

### CITY OF LORAIN'S RECYCLING ACTIVITY



Lorain City Health Department  
8:30 AM — 4:30 PM  
Monday—Friday

# Lorain City Health Department 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

## Commentary from the Health Commissioner...

Dear Lorain Residents:

I respectfully submit the 2005 Annual Report of the Lorain City Health Department. This report is prepared by the staff of the Lorain City Health Department, and accepted by the Lorain District Municipal Board of Health, in an effort to make the public become more aware of the Board, and its staff who work continuously to provide public health services to the citizens of Lorain. In addition to the annual review of program highlights and statistics, some events of significance in 2005 were as follows:

**HEALTH LEVY INITIATIVE:** An initiative to adequately fund public health activities; the Lorain District Municipal Board of Health requested the assistance of Lorain City Council to place a one mill real estate levy on the November General Election Ballot. The anticipated revenue that would have been generated from the proposed levy is needed to carry on the existing mandated operation of the health district and further assess public health needs of the community.

Over the past several years there has been a steady decline in the general fund commitment to the financial operations of the



Board of Health. Additionally state and federal funds have experienced continuous reductions. Collectively, this provides for unstable budgeting and the inability to properly assess and strategically plan for pertinent public health needs.

Unfortunately, the levy initiative failed by 101 votes. While the department struggles to maintain minimum services, efforts for another levy initiative in 2006 are being considered.

**PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING:** There have been three pandemics in the 20th century which have caused between 34,000 and 500,000 U.S. deaths. Many experts believe that another influenza pandemic will come, however no one knows when it will emerge or what strain will be involved. The H5N1 avian influenza virus circulating in the East, has prompted global and national preparedness. A pandemic would cause many deaths, overwhelm hospital capacities,

increase absentee rates in local businesses, and would last much longer than most public health emergencies. The Lorain City Health Department staff have been meeting with local and regional partners to discuss pandemic influenza concerns. A preparedness plan is in the process of being developed with recommendations from the state and federal governments.

In conclusion, as your Health Commissioner, I am committed to the continued improvement of the quality of services that this Department is providing to the citizens of Lorain. The staff is striving to meet the community's public health needs in order to obtain your continued respect and confidence.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,  
*Terrence J. Tomaszewski*  
Health Commissioner

## ADMINISTRATION

- Terrence J. Tomaszewski  
Health Commissioner
- Dr. Craig Chapple, MD  
Medical Director
- J. Jack Kurowski  
Director of Environmental Health
- Kathy Loughrie  
Director of Nursing
- Ann Boehlein  
Administrative Assistant
- Michelle Crossan  
Registrar/Record Controller

## BOARD OF HEALTH

- Mayor Craig Foltin  
President
- Jeffrey Shimo\*\*  
President Pro-Tem
- Donald A. Killinger, RS
- Dominic Buccilli
- Donald Love
- Ben S. Fligner \*
- Robert G. Cool, Jr.

\* License Council Member  
\*\* Resigned 10/1/06

## Special points of interest:

- Web Site:** check us out at [www.lorainhealth.com](http://www.lorainhealth.com)
- Environmental Health: page 2
- Public Health Nursing: page 3
- Health Education: page 5
- Vital Statistics: page 6

## ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

J. Jack Kurowski, RS—Director of Environmental Health

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATS

#### Field Sanitarians Only

#### PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCES

##### Inspections

Garbage	544
Refuse	206
Sewage	4
Housing (1- 2 Units)	14
Animals	62
Insect/Vector	4
All Other	71

#### RABIES CONTROL

Animal Bites Reported	169
Animals Quarantined	141
Strays	28
Animals sent to lab	5

#### INSTITUTIONS, HOUSING, ETC.

Housing- Multi	19
Demolition	4
Marinas	17
Mobile Homes	18
Schools	69
Public Pools	191
Institutions	2
Public Beaches	5

#### FOOD PROTECTION

Food Service	938
Vending Machines	40
Food Borne Illness	1
Mobile	14
Temporary	63

#### OTHER SERVICES AND REGULATIONS

Rodent Control	0
Mosquito Control	121
Lead Program	15
Solid & Infectious Waste	12
Private / Public Sewage	2
Haz Mat (Bio-Terrorism)	6
Tattoo	5
Daycare Facilities	3
Citations all Programs	12

The Environmental Division, in working towards protecting the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of Lorain, administers a broad range of regulatory, inspection, consultation and direct service programs. These programs are designed to protect the public's food supply, manage municipal wastes, eliminate public health nuisances, assure safe housing, assure safe recreational water use and control and eliminate vector-borne illnesses. The Environmental Division is staffed with Registered Sanitarians who through education, inspection and consultation, ensure all environmental programs meet minimum standards as established by law.

#### Program Highlights

##### PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCE PROGRAM:

Annually, over 900 nuisance complaint inspections are conducted by the Environmental Division of the Lorain City Health Department. In 2005, over 1200 man-hours were dedicated to the Public Health Nuisance Program by staff sanitarians. A majority of the complaints received pertain to improper disposal of garbage, trash and refuse which create an unhealthy and unsafe environment.

In the City of Lorain, the collection and disposal of residential garbage, trash and refuse from a residential unit is mandatory. Each and every complaint submitted to the Environmental Division is thoroughly investigated. One of the most common complaints submitted to the Lorain City Health Department is non-payment of a garbage collection bill (Allied/BFI) resulting in a discontinuation of collection services to a residential dwelling.

In 2005, the Environmental Division initiated two new procedures involving the investigation of nuisance complaints:

- Citation Notification: An orange doorknob placard is left at the residence of the responsible party. This notice of violation serves as an official abatement order including re-inspection date. This placard provides a more convenient and less time consuming method of issuing abatement orders.
- Revision in Ordinance 941: In conjunction with the Lorain Litter Council, the Environmental Division drafted an amendment to Lorain City Ordinance 941 pertaining to Garbage and Refuse Disposal. This amendment makes it mandatory for each property owner to obtain the services of a trash disposal contractor. This eliminates the time consuming process of obtaining tenant information. This amendment was passed by Lorain City Council, April 18, 2005.

If voluntary compliance is not achieved by the owner of the property, legal action will be initiated. In 2005, ten (10) littering/property maintenance code violators were referred to the Lorain City Prosecutors Office.

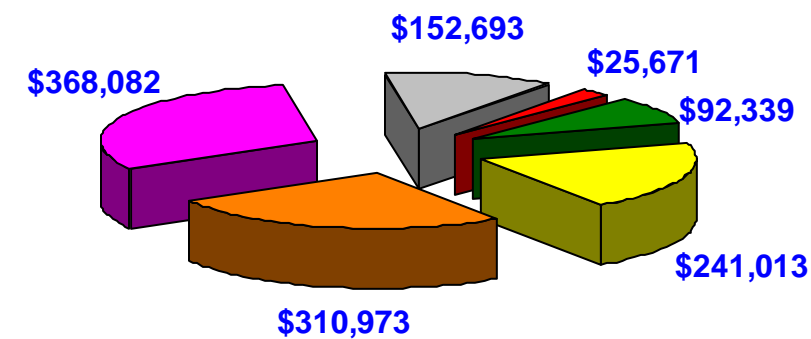
##### CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS PROGRAM:

On January 14, 2005, Governor Taft signed into law House Bill 432. This bill was created mainly to provide a funding source for local boards of health and the Ohio EPA to operate Construction and Demolition Debris Programs within their jurisdiction. Substitute House Bill 432 provides funding through a fee of \$ 0.30 per cubic yard or \$ 0.60 per ton on the disposal of construction and demolition debris. Fee payments must be submitted to the local health district on a monthly basis. The revised disposal fee replaces the \$ 1,500.00 annual fee retained by the Lorain City Health Department. Presently, the Lorain City Health Department licenses one (1) Construction & Demolition Debris site in the City of Lorain. In 2005, this law change generated an additional \$ 14,000.00 in revenue to this program from April 2005 thru December 2005.



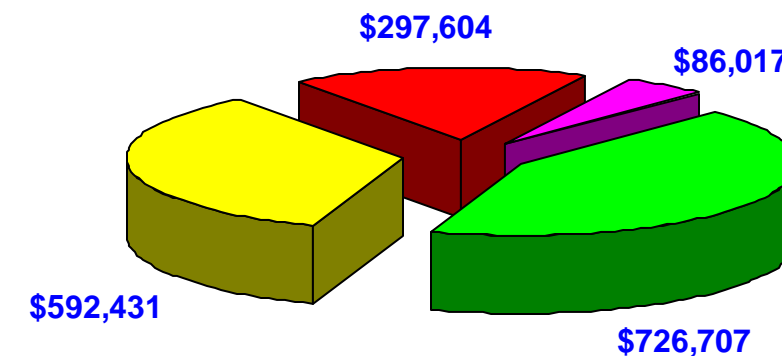
## REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT

2005 Revenues  
Total: \$1,190,771



- Vital Statistics
- Environmental Health
- Public Health Nursing
- Grants
- Contracts
- State Subsidy

2005 Expenditures  
Total: \$1,702,758



- Administration
- Public Health Nursing
- Environmental Health
- Public Health Infrastructure

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Michelle Crossan—Registrar

Vital Statistics consists of the compiling of birth, death, stillbirths and other vital records occurring in the City of Lorain. The Registrar has the responsibility of establishing the registration of births and deaths that occur in the City of Lorain. Records are on file in this office for births and deaths which occurred between December 1908 and the present. If you need further information on obtaining birth or death records for Ohio or out of state, you can check the department's website [www.lorainhealth.com](http://www.lorainhealth.com) for more information.



All vital statistic registrars use Statewide Seals for certification as well as Security Paper on which to print birth/death records. This standardized paper has many security features to help both state and federal agencies identify vital records as valid documents and establish a uniform way of certifying vital records throughout the State of Ohio.

A computerized data management system is used for issuing birth certificates which cuts down on searching and processing times. This system allows for a record to be flagged that may need special attention. In the event of a missing child/person, the data management system is able to track and flag a birth certificate indicating if a recent request was made for the certificate, which would provide valuable information to authorities in a timely manner.

In 2005, there were 661 online requests made for birth/death records through the department's web site; providing an expedient service that is accessible and convenient. All certificates can also be requested either in person, through the mail, or via fax. Statewide there was a fee increase October 1, 2005 for all Vital Records due to the support of Family Violence Shelters.

Throughout 2005 we have prepared for many upcoming statewide changes to be effective in 2006. Slowly throughout 2005 but mandatory January 1, 2006 all Coroner's case death certificate information must be submitted to the Coroner's office from the funeral homes via a web based system. The Coroner's information is entered, the death certificate can be printed, then the certificate is filed with vital statistics. To be effective January 1, 2006 all Ohio births will be registered through a new web based data collection system called IPHIS (Integrated Perinatal Health Information System). Training on these new systems has taken place to aid in a smooth transition into 2006.

## 2005 VITAL STATISTICS

TOTAL BIRTHS	1134	TOTAL DEATHS	890
Total Resident Births	676	Total Resident Deaths	532
Male	359	Male	266
Female	317	Female	266
Non-Resident Births	458	Non-Resident Deaths	358
Resident Premature Births	58	Resident Infant Death Under Age 1	7
Teen Pregnancy	123	<b>TOTAL FETAL DEATHS</b>	<b>3</b>
Non Married	447	Residents	3
		Non-Residents	0

## CAUSES OF DEATH OF RESIDENTS

Diseases of Heart & Blood Vessels	123	Cancer	131
Pneumonia / Influenza	35	Cerebral Vascular Accidents	39
Disease of Kidney	21	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	32
Disease of Liver	8	Homicide	5
Suicide	4	Alzheimer/Dementia	32
All Other Causes	99	Automobile Accidents	2

## DEATHS AS TO AGE OF RESIDENTS

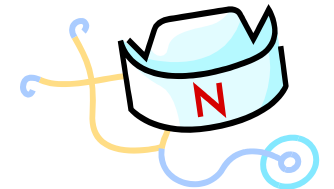
Birth to One month	3	10 years to 20 years	4	60 years to 70 years	75
One month to 1 year	4	20 years to 40 years	20	70 years to 80 years	129
1 year to 5 years	0	40 years to 50 years	21	80 years to 90 years	167
5 years to 10 years	0	50 years to 60 years	55	90 years and over	54

## NURSING DIVISION

Kathy Loughrie BSN, MS, RN — Director of Nursing

The goal of the nursing division is to provide, through evidence-based practice, program development and policy guidance to improve the health status of the community at all levels. Public health nursing services are available to all citizens of Lorain but in particular very young children, medically under-served families and the elderly. It is our intent to offer services in a manner that maintains the dignity of individuals while promoting their self-reliance and cultural integrity. The mission of the nursing division is to enable individuals, families and our community as a whole to be healthy and productive. Service priorities are based on community needs, available resources, and staff capacity. The division provides a wide variety of health assessment, health promotion, and disease prevention services and program management in the broad categories of:

- ♥ Infectious Disease
- ♥ Health Data Assessment
- ♥ Home Visiting for Families with Children 0-3 years of age
- ♥ Home Visiting for Families with Children who have Medical Disabilities
- ♥ Quality Assurance
- ♥ Policy Development



The broad based public health knowledge and experience of public health nursing helps reduce health care costs through early detection and prevention of health problems. Lorain City Health Department's eight (8) public health nurses have intimate knowledge of local community resources, community leadership, and family structures essential to public health functions such as communicable disease control. Their skills and knowledge combined with the trust of individuals and professionals in their communities are valuable in working with health and environmental issues. The PHN presence at the local level assures timely intervention. Brief overviews of some of our services we provide are listed below.

### Program Highlights

**CHILD HEALTH CLINICS:** Well-child care for infants, children and adolescents up to age 21 years is offered by appointment at Lorain City Health Department Monday thru Friday. As per established protocols and under the guidance of a physician, certified pediatric nurse practitioners provide physical examinations, blood and urine tests, immunizations, developmental testing, and hearing and vision screening. Families receive guidance and counseling on growth and development, parenting, nutrition, and management of childhood diseases. Children may be referred to; speech and hearing therapy through Easter Seals, and to nutritional support programs through WIC. Referrals are made to social service agencies for families in need of those services. This clinic is funded in part by the Ohio Department of Health. Child Health Clinic fees for services are on a sliding fee scale based on the ability to pay, however, no one is refused care.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE INVESTIGATIONS:** Local health departments have strong mandates and broad authority to control communicable diseases. This responsibility is carried out by collecting and analyzing disease reports, investigating cases and outbreaks of disease, and applying established control measures. These activities require understanding of disease processes, administrative processes, and contemporary measures for prevention and control. The Lorain City Health Department is an active member of the Lorain County Tri/Health Department Communicable Disease Task Force. The Lorain City Health Department participates in regional bio-terrorism and communicable disease surveil-

lance and response planning to coordinate response to naturally occurring or artificially introduced treats in our community and the 5-county region of Lorain, Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga and Lake County. **BCMH:** This is a state program in the Ohio Department of Health that receives federal, state and county funds. The mission of BCMH is to assist children with special health care needs and their families. Public Health Nurses are in-serviced monthly by an Ohio Department of Health liaison who keeps the nurses updated on this complex bureaucratic system. Their main purpose is to guide families into and through the system.

**HELP ME GROW:** Help Me Grow is a home-visiting program funded in part by Ohio Department of Health grant funds. Its purpose is to help families whose children are birth to 3 years of age. Early Start links families to existing early childhood programs and services and supports Ohio's school readiness goal. Professional nurses provide in home visits, supportive counseling and parenting education. Parents are linked to existing services in the community based on their needs.

**2006 CHANGING CHALLENGES INTO OPPORTUNITIES:** One does not have to look very far to realize that public health nursing is challenged by an ever changing health care system. Challenges faced by public health in 2005 that will continue in the future include: maintaining staff ratios to meet varied program demands, mandates for epidemiology surveillance and disease control, dwindling funding streams for programs, and increasing needs of the unin-

sured and underinsured in our community due to economic challenges. Throughout 2005 in cooperation with local and state public health leaders, the nursing division continued planning for bio-terrorism/disaster preparedness response. Staffs have pursued on-going training opportunities to maintain their skill and knowledge base for such events. A reduction in funding from the Child and Family Health Services grant and the changing focus of that funding stream from direct to enabling health care services has consequently impacted the complexion of services available to citizens of Lorain. Pediatric nurse practitioners working in these clinics have increasingly focused their efforts on education and outreach related to lead poisoning, childhood obesity and preventive health care. Additionally, staffs have been cross-trained to work in other funded programs such as Help Me Grow.

In 2006, the nursing division will continue to be prominently involved in the provision of services in the prevention and control of communicable diseases, immunization activities, and the immediate response to epidemics and other catastrophic disasters and traumatic emergency events in the community. Through current nursing programs, staff will target care coordination services to the most vulnerable population of special needs infants, toddlers, children, elderly, and other populations having difficulty accessing the health care system due to the ever changing societal challenges. The public health nursing branch program has extensive experiences in collaboration, coordination, transition, and family involvement in meeting the needs of vulnerable populations. As in years past, the Nursing Division will work in tandem with various customer and stakeholder groups including clients, community-based organizations, contract providers and employees to prioritize the needs of the community and turn these challenges into opportunities to improve the health and well-being of all citizens of Lorain.

**NURSING DIVISION—continued**

Kathy Loughrie, RN, BSN—Director of Nursing

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES**

Help Me Grow Visits (0-3 years of age)	2,459
<b>Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (0-21 years)</b>	<b>155</b>
Child Health Clinics (0-21 years)	581
<b>Lead Visits</b>	<b>24</b>
HIV Testing	591
<b>Outreach Educational Program</b>	<b>179</b>
Adult Immunizations	2660
<b>Children Immunizations</b>	<b>2616</b>
Office Visits Guidance	131
<b>SIDS Field Visits</b>	<b>4</b>
Homeless Shelter Health Assessments	257

**Lorain City Health Department Communicable Disease Report—2005**

Campylobacteriosis	7
Chlamydia Infection	170
Cryptosporidiosis	0
E. Coli-enterohemorrhagic (O157:H7)	0
Enterococcus - Vancomycin Resistant (VRE)	0
Giardiasis	0
Gonococcal Infection	80
Hepatitis A	1
Hepatitis B - acute/chronic status not determined	3
Hepatitis C - chronic	23
Invasive Strep Pneumonia (ISP)	10
Legionellosis - Legionnaires' Disease	1
Listeriosis	0
Meningitis - bacterial (not N. Meningitidis)	4
Meningococcal Disease - Neisseria Meningitidis	0
Mycobacterial Disease - other than tuberculosis	1
Pertussis	5
Salmonellosis	6
Shigella	0
Streptococcal Group A - invasive	2
Syphilis - stage unknown	11
Toxic Shock	0
Tuberculosis	1

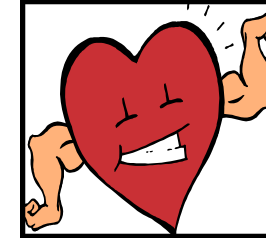
**Proper Hand Washing**



**Prevents Disease!**

**HEALTH EDUCATION**

Lynn Rebman, BS—Health Educator  
Danielle Duda, BS—Health Educator



**LORAIN COUNTY H.E.A.R.T. COALITION:**

Lorain County H.E.A.R.T. (Heart Education, Awareness, and Resource Team) is a cardiovascular health initiative throughout Lorain County. This project is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant administered by the Ohio Department of Health. The mission of Lorain County H.E.A.R.T. is: *To Increase Heart Health among Lorain County Residents through Education, Advocacy and Awareness.* Lorain County H.E.A.R.T. is a coalition that includes local agencies, businesses, health care, schools, community members, and service, religious and volunteer organizations. Lorain County H.E.A.R.T. is comprised of the following sub-committees: Nutrition, Clinical Risk Factors (Diabetes, Cholesterol, and High Blood Pressure), Physical Activity, and Tobacco. The coalition and sub-committees meet throughout the year to coordinate services to improve heart-health in Lorain County.

**TOBACCO PREVENTION INITIATIVE:**

The Lorain City Health Department serves as the lead agency to initiate an Ohio Tobacco Use Prevention And Control Foundation High-Risk Populations grant. The program goals are to reduce tobacco use among youth and adults and also among pregnant women and recovering addicts. Reducing exposure to secondhand smoke is promoted along with cessation availability to all age groups.

The grant has awarded four community-based mini-grants to Lorain County agencies. Three of the mini-grants are for cessation services. Catholic Charities Services of Lorain County is offering tobacco education along with cessation programs at the Lorain Family Center in downtown Lorain in partnership with the Lorain Free Clinic and the Lorain Public Library. Elyria City Health District is offering cessation programs to Lorain County pregnant women and their families. Lorain County Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services (LCADA) has cessation programs for recovering addicts along with their staff. The tobacco prevention project at the Elyria City Schools offers three tobacco prevention programs at the sixth grade level.

Two additional programs focus on youth cessation. The Alternative to Suspension (AtS) is offered to youth tobacco offenders through participating county schools, police departments and the Lorain County Juvenile Court. Junior and high school youth are able to attend the monthly program which addresses student tobacco use, the effects of using tobacco, addiction and healthy alternatives to smoking. Also now available is a smoking cessation program, Not On Tobacco (N-O-T), strictly for high school students who want to quit smoking.

New families in Lorain County receive secondhand smoke information and have the opportunity to take the Smoke-Free Home Pledge. The pledge states that smoking will not be allowed in the home or cars. Service coordinators through the Help Me Grow program deliver the pledge at home visits.

All of the above projects are being evaluated by Public Services Institute at Lorain County Community College.

The Lorain County Tobacco Prevention Partnership is a community-based coalition representative of more than thirty local agencies, school districts and businesses along with individuals. These groups come together to coordinate and collaborate tobacco prevention and control initiatives in Lorain County. New members interested in tobacco prevention projects are welcome to join! Monthly meetings are held at the Lorain City Health Department on the second Friday of the month. Call LCHD (440-204-2318) for additional information.



**PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS**

Kathryn M. Lanza, MPH—Coordinator

The Lorain City Health Department continues to strengthen its efforts in improving preparedness for all types of public health emergencies, thanks to continued funding from the Ohio Department of Health. In 2005, events such as Hurricane Katrina and Pandemic Influenza have reinforced awareness for public health preparedness on both national and local levels. The Health Department realizes the importance of this issue and has developed informational material for community education on disaster preparedness. Staff preparedness and response continues to be supplemented through many different approaches. The mass influenza clinics held in the fall gave an exceptional indication of how the public would be vaccinated during a biological incident. The Ohio Department of Health funding allowed the purchase of new equipment that was used during these clinics. As a result, wait times were significantly shortened and a drive-thru option was added to most of the clinics to accommodate the immobile population. In addition, several staff members are also part of local and regional Pandemic Influenza response planning committees. All staff members continue to be persistent in their education courses, and existing disaster plans continue to be updated.