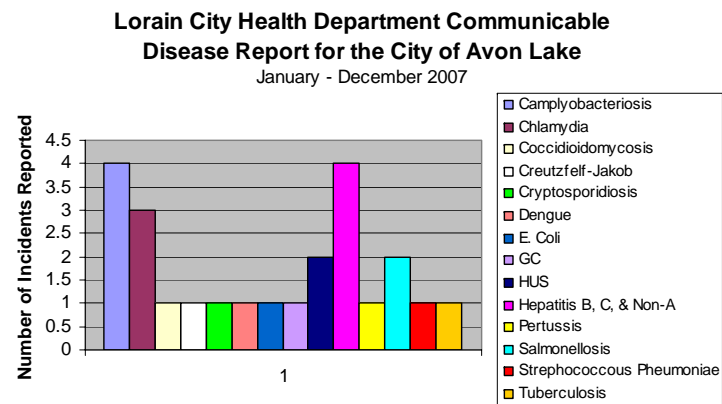


NURSING DIVISION—continued
 Kathy Loughrie, RN, BSN—Director of Nursing

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES

HELP ME GROW	274
BCMh visits	20
Child Health Clinics visits (0-21 years)	28
Adult Immunizations	241
Child Immunizations	47



HEALTH EDUCATION

The City of Lorain's Health Educators promote, maintain and improve individual and community health by assisting its residents to adopt healthy behaviors. Health Educators collect and analyze data to identify community needs, and implement, monitor and evaluate programs designed to encourage healthy lifestyles, policies and environments. They influence changes in policy and the environment to address health problems and give individuals, groups and their community the opportunity to acquire the information and skills needed to make quality health decisions. Call (440-204-2317) for more information or to schedule a health prevention/promotion program for your organization

TOBACCO PREVENTION INITIATIVE:

The Lorain City Health Department serves as the lead agency administering the Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation Community Grant for Lorain County. The program goals of the grant are to prevent tobacco use among youth, to encourage adults to quit tobacco use through the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line and to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke by supporting the Ohio Smoke-free Workplace Act. These projects have been evaluated by Public Services Institute at Lorain County Community College.

The 2007 grant awarded two community-based sub-grants. The tobacco prevention project at the Elyria City Schools offered junior high school students the Life-Skills Training program with a tobacco component. Additionally, in 2007, participation in Lorain County's first youth **stand** team was offered to the county's junior high and high school students. **Stand**, is a counter-marketing youth movement that supports 100% tobacco free schools and communities, encourages all youth to remain tobacco free, and works to change societal norms related to tobacco use and acceptance. Community Health Partners Regional Medical Center received a sub-grant to support their 100% smoke-free workplace initiative. Lorain County Tobacco Prevention Partnership heavily promoted adult cessation through the distribution of more than 150 Quit Kits to county medical personnel, health care workers, veterinarians, and social service agencies.

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 tobacco prevention and control initiatives in Lorain County. In 2007, the partnership contracted with Public Services Institute at Lorain County Community College to assist in the creation of a strategic plan. This plan was to serve as a guide for the partnership in order to best meet the tobacco-related needs of Lorain County citizens and to better leverage funding opportunities. The plan resulted in four specific goals: youth prevention, building partnerships with community stakeholders, promoting tobacco cessation programs and advancing LCTPP as the area expert in tobacco prevention and cessation needs. 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

Lynn Rebman, B. S.— Coordinator

The Lorain City Health Department continues to strengthen its efforts in improving preparedness for all types of public health emergencies. The Ohio Department of Health has continued to provide funding to support the Public Health Infrastructure Program. The goal of the program is to develop and maintain a strong public health infrastructure capable of addressing and responding to a bio-terrorism, terrorism, unintentional or naturally occurring events that result in a public health threat or emergency. The Lorain City Health Department realizes the importance of community preparedness, information and warnings, and continues to improve the capacity to gather, prepare and release crucial health information to the community. Operational plans address prevention, preparation, response and recovery for emergencies and continue to be updated. In addition, interoperable communications operational effectiveness and response continues to be assessed. Funding has enabled the purchase of new equipment and supplies to be used in preparedness. Staff preparedness training is recognized, and continuing education to maintain and improve knowledge and enrich skills is offered. In addition, several staff members are also part of local and regional response planning committees.



**Lorain City Health Department's
 2007 Annual Report for the
 City Of Avon Lake**



Commentary from the Health Commissioner...

I respectfully submit the 2007 Annual Report of the Lorain City Health Department for the City of Avon Lake. This report is prepared by the staff of the Lorain City Health Department, in an effort to make the public become more aware of the services provided by the health department.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact me at your convenience; (440) 204-2315.

Terrence J. Tomaszewski



CHILDHOOD CANCER ASSESSMENT

The Lorain City Health Department in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Health presented a summary of a two year initiative to address community concerns of a perceived high rate of cancer among residents of Avon Lake; particularly residents 24 years of age and younger.

On November 28th, 2007; a community Town Hall meeting was held to present the results of completed assessments. Information presented referenced the Avon Lake Community Cancer Assessment, 1996-2002; and the Northeast Ohio Childhood Leukemia Mapping Assessment. Both assessments along with the final consultation letter are available on the department's web site: www.lorainhealth.com. In addition to the two assessments; a case review was conducted involving participating residents identified through the Ohio Cancer Incident Surveillance System (OCISS).

The summary concluded that 1) the childhood leukemia mapping assessment does not indicate statistically significant clustering of childhood leukemia in Northeast Ohio, and 2) the case review did not reveal any explicit factors in the behaviors or home environment that may have played a role in the development of those cancers. Recommendations addressed: 1) develop a cancer prevention and early detection initiative with the American Cancer Society, healthcare providers, and community leaders; and 2) continue to monitor the incidence of cancer among residents of Avon Lake through (OCISS).

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 Boehnlein
 Administrative Assistant

Essential Public Health

Services:

- Monitor health status
- Diagnose and investigate
- Mobilize community partners
- Develop policies and plans
- Enforce laws & regulations
- Link people to needed services
- Assure competent workforce
- Evaluate services
- Research insights & solutions to problems.

**Lorain City
 Health Department**

1144 West Erie Avenue
 Lorain, Oh 44052
 440.204.2300
 Fax 440.246.6894
www.lorainhealth.com

ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

J. Jack Kurowski, RS—Director of Environmental Health

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATS

Field Sanitarian Inspections

PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCES

Garbage	5
Refuse	5
Sewage	0
Food	0
Animals	0
Insect/Vector	1
Housing	1
All Other	1

RABIES CONTROL

Animal Bites Reported	23
Animals Quarantined	22
Strays	1

INSTITUTIONS, POOLS, ETC.

Schools	14
Public Pools	214
Institutions	3

FOOD PROTECTION

Food Service	286
Vending Machines	12
Food Borne Illness	2
Temporary Operations	6

OTHER SERVICES AND REGULATIONS

Smoke Free Ohio	3
Rodent Control	0
Mosquito Control	50
Solid & Infectious Waste	9
Private / Public Sewage	0
Hazmat	0
Other	1

The Environmental Division, in working towards protecting the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of Avon Lake, 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

ODH Food Program Survey

The Ohio Department of Health conducted a survey of the Food Service Operation Program as mandated by Ohio Revised and Administrative Codes. The purpose of the survey is to determine whether the Lorain City Health Department, Environmental Division is completing mandated program requirements within the Food Service Inspection Program. Based on the review of this program, the Ohio Department of Health concluded that the Lorain City Health Department has met all acceptable standards. The Lorain City Health Department will remain the licensor for the cities of Lorain and Avon Lake. Recently, large improvements were noted within the Food Service Inspection Program, due to positive action by the Lorain District Municipal Board of Health and Health Commissioner. The appointment of additional Sanitarians has improved our service and response to the administration, citizens and food operators within the health jurisdiction.

Smoke Free Ohio

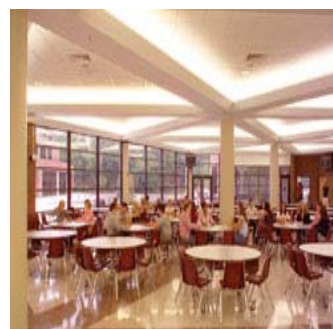
In 2007, the Lorain City Health Department was designated the local enforcement agent for Ohio's Smoke Free law and rules. Environmental Division staff members conducted investigations regarding complaints filed for violations of Chapter 3794 of the Ohio Revised Code. During 2007, five (5) investigations were

conducted involving businesses in alleged violation of the law within the City of Lorain. Businesses and workplaces were advised to remove ashtrays, post no-smoking signs (complaint hotline number included) and prohibit smoking. On Friday, May 18, 2007, Judge Cain of the Court of Common Pleas for Franklin County filed his decision on the Private Clubs Exemption. Judge Cain chose to grant the Ohio Licensed Beverage Association's petition for a permanent injunction against and only against the one additional sentence in Ohio Administrative Code 3701-52-04(G) which states "For purposes of this exemption, the term employees does not include members of the private club who provide services to the private club." What this means is that smoking cannot occur in private clubs. Local health departments should enforce the law in private clubs. Private clubs are required to post signs, remove ashtrays and prohibit smoking in all areas of the building. A grant in the amount of \$ 2990.00 was awarded to the Lorain City Health Department to assist with enforcement activities.

Jarod's Law

In 2007, The Ohio Depart-

ment of Health developed and finalized regulations requiring annual facility assessments of all Ohio schools. The annual assessments are required under Ohio General Assembly House Bill 203 and is commonly known as "Jarod's Law". The law is being called Jarod's Law after six-year-old Jarod Bennett who was killed when a 290-pound cafeteria table fell on him. He died in his mother's arms at an elementary school in Ohio. In an effort to help support school districts and local health departments in their implementation of Jarod's Law, the Ohio Department of Health developed a comprehensive inspection manual for use by Sanitarians while conducting inspections of school buildings and school environment. The Lorain City Health Department will begin the mandatory inspection process in the spring of 2008.



NURSING DIVISION

Kathy Loughrie RN, BSN—Director of Nursing

The nursing division of the Lorain City Health Department works towards fulfilling the three core functions of public health: assessment, assurance and policy development. Our mission is to improve the health status of the community at all levels in a manner that maintains their dignity, promotes their self-reliance and cultural integrity in order to enable individuals, families and communities to be healthy and productive. 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. 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 six –(6) 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 The Administration Building in Avon Lake on the first and third Friday of each month. 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 surveillance and response planning to coordinate response to naturally occurring or artificially introduced threats in our community and the 5-county region of Lorain, Cuyahoga, Ash-tabula, 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.

2008 CHANGING CHALLENGES INTO OPPORTUNITIES:

In 2008, the nursing division will be prominently involved in providing services that help prevent and control communicable diseases. Through current nursing programs, staff will target the most vulnerable population of special needs infants, toddlers, children, elderly, and other populations that have difficulty accessing the health care system due to the ever changing societal challenges. Immunization clinics, home visiting programs for families with children at risk or with medical issues and the immediate response to epidemics or other catastrophic disasters or traumatic emergency events in the community are essential services that the nursing division can be depended upon to provide.



Nursing Division continued on next page