



Lorain City Health Department 2008 ANNUAL REPORT



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Commentary from the Health Commissioner...

Dear Lorain Residents:

On behalf of the Lorain City Health Department's staff, I respectfully submit the 2008 Annual Report. 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 inform the public of the health department's functions, 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 2008 were as follows:

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPLETED: The Lorain District Municipal Board of Health adopted a set of strategic priorities and initiatives to guide the health department into the future. The plan provides the Health District with a focused, common agenda in a particularly uncertain environment of shrinking resources and increased responsibilities for public health providers. Implementation of the plan was unveiled at a public presentation on June 18, 2008 with Dr. Alvin Jackson, Director of the Ohio Department of Health present to celebrate the health district's accomplishment. Not only did the plan develop a formal mission, vision and set of values; the plan identified a



- Form partnerships to address needs and maximize efficiency of resources
- Strengthen the department's ability to educate the public
- Strengthen the capacity of the district's workforce
- Create new and improved communication strategies

Also stressed within the plan is the integration of state and federal policy directions and performance standards into the planning process to ensure alignment of priorities across all levels of government. A complete copy of the Strategic Plan is available on the department's web site: www.lorainhealth.com.

STAFFING CHANGES: After 28 1/2 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Lorain; Jack Kurowski retired as the Director of Environmental Health. Also retiring after 30 1/2 years of dedicated public service was Lynn Berry, Clerk Typist. In August of 2008, Steven J. Tostrick, MPH, RS, was appointed by the Board of Health as the new Director of Environmental Health. Steven

recently completed his Master in Public Health and will supervise the Environmental Division. Sheryl Corbin was appointed Clerk Typist after performing the duties of Data Clerk for the previous year. Additionally, Nancy Toth, BS was appointed as the department's new Health Educator and Yvonne Sproule, RN has assumed the duties of Public Health Nurse.

In conclusion, as 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 and maintain its 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

Steven J. Tostrick, MPH, RS
Director of Environmental Health

Kathy Loughrie, BSN, MS, RN
Director of Nursing

Ann Boehnlein
Administrative Assistant

Michelle Crossan
Registrar/Record Controller

BOARD OF HEALTH

Mayor Anthony Krasienko, *President*

Donald A. Killinger, RS

Dominic R. Buccilli

Donald Love

Ben S. Fligner *

Robert G. Cool, Jr.

* Licensed Council Member

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.

ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

Steven J. Tostrick, M.P.H., R.S. — Director of Environmental Health

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATS

2008

Field Sanitarian Inspections

PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCES

Garbage	806
Refuse	71
Sewage	7
Housing (1- 2 Units)	7
Animals	31
Insect/Vector	3
All Other	30

RABIES CONTROL

Animal Bites Reported	116
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INSTITUTIONS, HOUSING, ETC.

Housing- Multi	218
Demolition	40
Marinas	16
Manufactured Home Parks	16
Schools	56
Public Pools/Spas	95
Institutions	3
Public Beaches	2

FOOD PROTECTION

Food Service/Retail Food	611
Vending Machine Locations	13
Mobile Operations	24
Temporary Food Operations	96

OTHER SERVICES AND REGULATIONS

Mosquito Control	21
Lead Program	13
Solid & Infectious Waste	9
Tattoo/Body Piercing	7
Home Daycare	1
Smoke Free Ohio	62
Disaster Prep Mass Clinics	6
Flu/Immunization Clinics	2

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

Food Safety

The Food Safety Program provides assistance in all aspects of food safety within the Lorain City Health Department's jurisdiction to the food industry and the public. This specific program is overseen by both the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Sanitarians and Sanitarians-In-Training are available to provide current information on food safety as it applies to licensable food service operations (e.g., restaurants, vending machine locations, mobile and temporary food service operations) and retail food establishments (e.g., grocery stores, retail food sales, mobile and temporary retail food establishments). The local food safety program provides professional assistance and guidance to licensed food operations and the public when at all possible. Inspections of licensed facilities are conducted by utilizing the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code Chapter 3717 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The Food Safety Program also provides assistance with plan reviews involving new operations or any operations that conduct major renovations. The following links can provide the updates to the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code that are effective March 1, 2009.

- <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/rules/final/f3717-1.aspx>
- <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/FoodSafety/foodsafety.aspx?div=food-lawsrules.htm>

Smoke Free Workplace Program

Issue 5, passed on November 7, 2006, which made Ohio the 12th state to protect all workers and the public from exposure to secondhand smoke in workplaces and public places. The law took effect December 7, 2006 and the enforcement of the law began May 3, 2007. This law is meant to protect and improve the health of all Ohioans by prohibiting smoking in workplaces and public places. To adhere to the law, affected businesses and public places must do three things:

- **Prohibit smoking** in any "public place" or "place of employment"
- **Post no-smoking signs** with the toll-free enforcement number, 1-866-559-OHIO (6446), at all entrances or areas of transition between non-regulated and regulated areas.

- **Remove ashtrays** and other tobacco receptacles.

The Lorain City Health Department is the designated local enforcement agent for Ohio's Smoke Free Workplace Program in the cities of Lorain and Avon Lake. The Environmental Division staff conducts investigations regarding complaints filed through the State's designated toll-free enforcement number for violations of Chapter 3794 of the Ohio Revised Code.

School Environmental Health and Safety



The Department of Health developed a comprehensive inspection manual for use by Sanitarians while conducting inspections of school buildings and environment. The Lorain City Health Department will continue the mandatory inspection process in 2009.



NURSING DIVISION

Kathy Loughrie BSN, MS, RN — 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

In 2008, the agency welcomed Yvonne Sproule RN to the nursing division. The challenge for the division in 2008 was to provide high quality public health services in an economically challenged community with diminishing resources for services. It is with pride and a sense of accomplishment that we respectfully submit a summary of our program highlights and acknowledge the importance of partnerships with community agencies that has lent to our successfully maintaining our current level of service provision.

Program Highlights

Well Child Care Clinics and Services: During 2008, well-child care for infants, children and adolescents up to age 21 years continued to be offered by appointment at our office Monday through Friday by appointment and at the Administration Building in Avon Lake on the first and third Friday of each month. Certified pediatric nurse practitioners provided 433 children with physical examinations, blood and urine tests, immunizations, developmental testing, and hearing and vision screening. Families received guidance and counseling on growth and development, parenting, nutrition, and management of childhood diseases. Children were referred to; speech and hearing therapy through Easter Seals, Help Me Grow, Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps and to nutritional support programs through WIC. Referrals were also made to community based 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. An integral component of this initiative is our focus on preventing childhood obesity through nutritional education and encouraging physical activity. Eat Well Play Hard (EWPH) is an educational program that the Pediatric Nurse Practitioners provided to day-cares, preschools and school age children that is designed to increase awareness of healthy food choices and encourage increased physical activity. The public health nursing division works with other child care providers in our county to examine the community health needs of families with children to ensure that services are appropriate and access to care is seamless.

LEAD PREVENTION CASE MANAGEMENT:

Public health nurses provided

case management to families with children who had laboratory confirmed elevated lead levels in 2008. This service included in-home visits, education and referral to supportive services in the community.

SIDS: The death of a child is always a traumatic and painful experience. Families who experience the loss of a child due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome are contacted by the public health nursing division and offered supportive home visits with referrals to community supports/ services to address emotional and financial needs associated with their loss. During calendar year 2008, two (2) families were offered supportive services.

HIV Education and Prevention: The health department receives HIV grant funding to provide educational outreach programs utilizing evidence based interventions identified by the Centers for Disease Control and free anonymous or confidential HIV testing. Testing is done in collaboration with other community organizations. Testing is available Monday and Wednesday from 1-4 PM at Lorain County Health and Dentistry, 1800 Livingston Avenue, Lorain and 9-12 Noon Wednesday at Family Planning Services of Lorain County. 602 Leona Street, Elyria. No appointment is necessary. A total of 425 individuals received free testing in calendar year 2008 with referral to community based resources as necessary.

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, Ashtabula, Geauga and Lake County. A listing of the total cases that received services is included in this report.

Immunizations for Children: Lorain City Health Department continues to work to prevent childhood diseases and the negative outcomes associated with vaccine preventable disease. Immunizations for children are available on the First and Third Thursday of each month from 1-4 PM at our main office. Immunizations are available for children at a charge of \$14.00 per vaccination; however, no child is refused due to an inability of the parent to pay. In 2008, 2569 vaccinations were administered to children accessing services through our agency.

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (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 provide their families access to health care services that supports optimal growth and development.



NURSING DIVISION—continued

Kathy Loughrie, BSN, MS, RN—Director of Nursing

the nurses updated on this complex bureaucratic system. Their main purpose is to guide families into and through the system to ensure that their health care needs are met.

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. The program links families to existing early childhood programs and services and supports Ohio’s school readiness goal. Professional nurses provide in home visits, supportive counseling, parenting education and care coordination. Parents are linked to existing services in the community based on their needs.

Looking Ahead: Challenges and Opportunities for 2009

In 2009, the nursing division will continue to work in conjunction with the Board of Health and Community Stakeholders to ensure that the focus of services is consistent with the agency’s Strategic Plan. Priorities identified through the Strategic Planning process will shape the direction and composition of the nursing division in 2009. The ever changing and challenging economic climate in Ohio and Lorain County in particular continues to place the health and safety needs of our citizens at the forefront for providers. During calendar year 2009, we will continue to work at improving partnerships, identify gaps in care/services, and expanding care capabilities for vulnerable populations in our community.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES

Help Me Grow Visits (0-3 years of age)	3886
Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (0-21 years)	415
Child Health Clinics (0-21 years)	433
Lead Visits	9
HIV Testing	425
Outreach Educational Program	23
Adult Immunizations	1180
Children Immunizations	2569
Office Visits Guidance	67
SIDS Field Visits	2
Homeless Shelter Health Assessments	30

Lorain City Health Department

Campylobacteriosis	4	Mycobacterial Disease	2
Chickenpox	5	Pertussis	2
Chlamydia	174	Salmonellosis	8
Cryptosporidiosis	1	Shigellosis	2
E. Coli 0157:h7	1	Staphylococcal Skin	1
Giardiasis	1	Streptococcal B Infant	2
Gonococcal	44	Streptococcal Disease	3
Hepatitis A	2	Streptococcal Pneumoniae	5
Hepatitis B, C, and Non A	105	Syphilis	3
Measles	1	Tuberculosis	3
Meningococcal Disease	1	Total	370



HEALTH EDUCATION

Nancy Toth, B.S.—Health Educator

The Lorain City Health Department's Health Educator promotes, maintains and improves individual and community health by assisting its residents to adopt healthy behaviors. The practice of Health Education collects and analyzes data to identify community needs, and implement, monitor and evaluate programs designed to encourage healthy lifestyles, policies and environments. 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.

Coordinated School Health: During 2008, Lorain City Health Department has an active partnership with the Lorain City

Program Highlights

to systematically improve the health and well-being of both the school children and all employees of the schools. For additional information regarding the Coordinated School Health program, please visit www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/CSHP/.

Community Outreach: This past year, Lorain City Health Department was actively involved in the focus group for the pilot program "Save Our Sons" African-American Health Project hosted by the Lorain County Urban League and sponsored by Pfizer Pharmaceuticals and Morehouse School of Medicine. The program was so successful that Pfizer is prepared to invest up to \$3 million in the program nationally.

Lorain City Health Department also participates in Lorain County H.E.A.R.T. (Heart Education Awareness and Resource Team). This is a unique health initiative with a mission to increase heart health among Lorain County residents and increase public awareness. The coalition presents programs and seminars to professionals and the public. Programs in which the Lorain City Health Department actively participate include: Safe Communities (which helps local communities plan interventions, increase public awareness, collect local data and conduct surveys), Homeless for the Homeless (which seeks to eliminate homelessness in Lorain) and Lorain County Health Fair (a free association and informational network using the school community to promote healthy living and violence prevention).

besides participation in various coalitions, Lorain City Health Department schedules or participates in many health fairs and requested programs throughout the year. The most highly requested programs this past year involved topics covering disaster preparedness, women's health issues, sun safety and cardiovascular health.

TOBACCO PREVENTION INITIATIVE:

In May 2008, the Ohio state legislature voted to abolish Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation. As a result of the vote, the foundation ceased to exist effective June 30, 2008. Affected programs include www.debunkify.com, www.standonline.org, www.otpf.org, ohioquits.org, and standohio.org.



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. A strong, integrated, and flexible public health infrastructure is the best defense against any disease outbreak, natural and/or human-made disasters. The Lorain City Health Department works to ensure that all emergency response plans addressing natural and human-made disasters including terrorist events are developed, structured and completed. The capacity continues to be developed to rapidly identify diseases and initiate prevention and control activities for response to bio-terrorism, terrorism, unintentional, or naturally occurring events that result in public health threats or emergencies. The development and coordination to release accurate and timely information to the public including alerts, warnings, and emergency response and recovery processes remains a goal. In addition to educating the community on prevention, protection and recovery from all threats and hazards; staff preparedness training is recognized and continuing education is available to maintain and improve knowledge and



VITAL STATISTICS

Michelle Crossan, BA—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 Lorain. Records are on file in this office for births and deaths which occurred between December 1908 and the present. For further information on obtaining birth or death records for Ohio or out of state; visit the department's website at www.lorainhealth.com.



Local vital statistic registrars use Statewide Seals for certification as well as Security Paper for birth/death records. This state-wide standardized paper has many security features to help both state and federal agencies identify vital records as legal documents and establish a uniform way of certifying vital records throughout the State of Ohio. The health department uses a computerized data management system for issuing birth certificates which minimizes searching and processing times & allows a record to be flagged that may need special attention.

Certificates can be requested online via our website; in person; by mail; or by fax. In 2008, 785 birth/death records were requested through the department's website; providing an expedient service that is accessible and convenient. Records requested are shipped certified mail or overnight delivery.

2008 VITAL STATISTICS

TOTAL BIRTHS	1105	TOTAL DEATHS	875
Total Resident Births	641	Total Resident Deaths	520
Male	326	Male	267
Female	315	Female	253
Non-Resident Births	464	Non-Resident Deaths	355
Resident Premature Births	43	Resident Infant Death Under Age 1	4
Teen Pregnancy	133	TOTAL FETAL DEATHS	8
		Residents	3
		Non-Residents	5

CAUSES OF DEATH OF RESIDENTS

Diseases of Heart & Blood Vessels	128	Cancer	105
Pneumonia / Influenza	39	Cerebral Vascular Accidents	31
Disease of Kidney	14	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	29
Disease of Liver	9	Homicide	1
Suicide	7	Alzheimer/Dementia	22
All Other Causes	133	Automobile Accidents	2

DEATHS AS TO AGE OF RESIDENTS

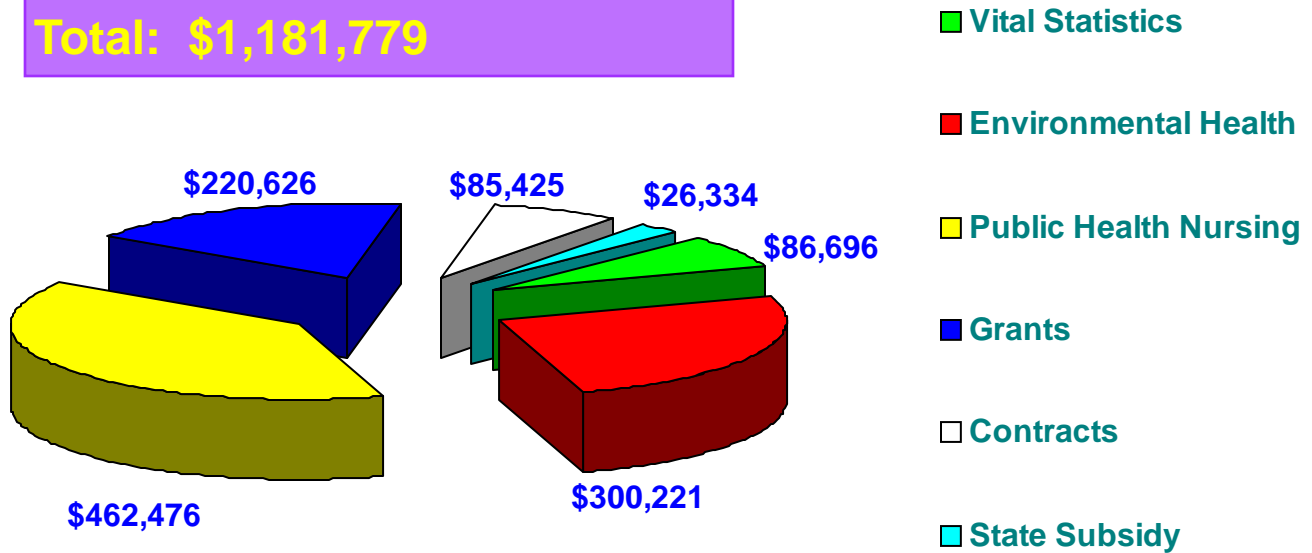
Birth to One month	0	10 years to 19 years	3	60 years to 69 years	68
One month to 1 year	4	20 years to 39 years	17	70 years to 79 years	106
1 year to 4 years	0	40 years to 49 years	27	80 years to 89 years	174
5 years to 9 years	0	50 years to 59 years	63	90 years and over	58



REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT

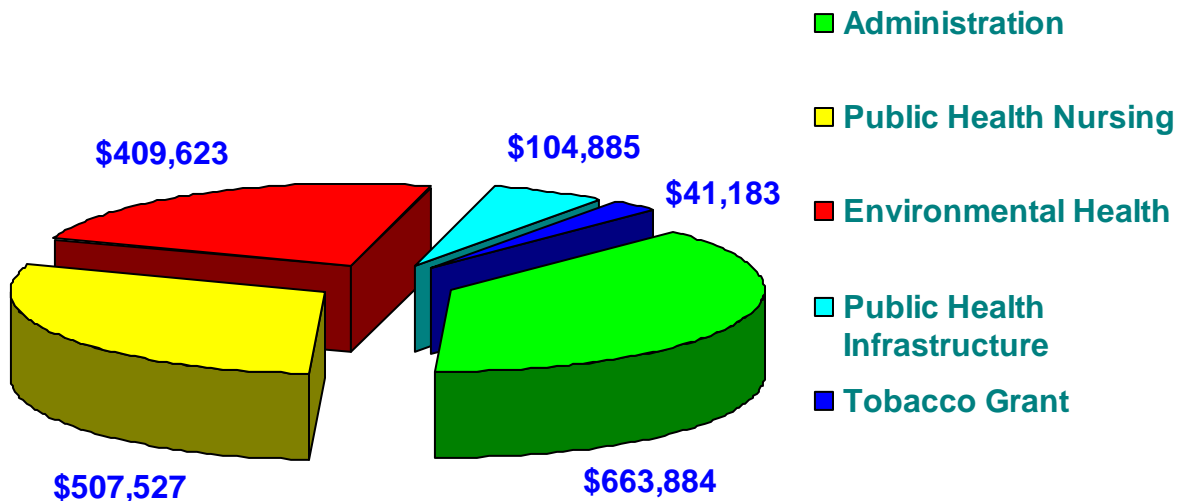
2008 Revenues

Total: \$1,181,779



2008 Expenditures

Total: \$1,727,102





Lorain City Health Department

1144 West Erie Avenue
Lorain, Ohio 44052
Phone: 440.204.2300
Fax: 440.246.6894

To reach our departments,
dial 204-2300 and the corresponding extension below.

Administration	Ext. 2316
Nursing Services / Child Clinic & Child Immunizations	Ext. 2303
Public Health Preparedness	Ext. 2326
Environmental Health	Ext. 2319
Health Education	Ext. 2317
Birth & Death Records	Ext. 2301/2302/2327

FAX NUMBER 246-6894

To our friends at:



Our Mission Statement
The Lorain City Health District prevents disease, promotes healthy living, and protects the environment through community partnerships.

**“Public Health
Protecting Your
Community”**

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