



## Massillon City Health Department 2019 Annual Report



Staff members: (left to right) Front Row: Vicki Theis, Registrar, Vital Statistics; Hannah Grace, RN, Public Health Nurse; Terri Argent, RS, REHS, Health Commissioner/Administrator; Back Row: Audrey Sylvester, RN, Director of Nursing; Vicki Porter, WIC Clinical Assistant, WIC Division; Crystal Gardner, Deputy Registrar, Vital Statistics; Erin Wise, RD, LD, WIC Supervisor, WIC Division; Bethany Perkowski, RS, Environmental Health Director

### From the Health Commissioner...

I am proud to announce the Massillon City Health Department received the Mayor's Community Service Award. We were recognized for our backpack program, led by Audrey Sylvester, RN, to provide school supplies to students; and for our Christmas break food drive, led by Bethany Perkowski, RS, that provided food for students in need over the holidays. In March, the Health Department applied for National Public Health Accreditation. Working together, through this process, the staff is strengthening community partnerships, addressing gaps in health care needs, and improving our policies and programs to be more convenient, equitable, sensitive, and transparent in providing necessary services to our community.

*Terri Argent RS, REHS, Health Commissioner*

### Community Health Assessment & Community Health Improvement Plan

The Stark County Community Health Assessment identified three areas of need in Stark County and the Community Health Improvement Plan is the community-wide strategic planning tool used by partners to improve health outcomes. The three areas of need were: increased access to health care for all citizens, more resources for mental health care, and decreasing infant deaths. MCHD staff are contributing toward advancing health outcomes across each of the three priority areas, as follows:

- To increase citizens' access to health care the Health Department nurse, Audrey Sylvester, RN, designed a "Know Your Numbers" program. She goes to the Massillon Senior Center, the Massillon Rec. Center, St. Joseph soup kitchen, and SMHA Lincoln Way Apartments where she checks blood pressures, BMI, height and weight, and she gives healthy living education and referrals. These services are provided at no cost.
- To support mental health in our community the Health Department was active in our Mayor's Kindness Committee. Adults and children who are observed doing acts of kindness are rewarded with kindness bucks, which they can turn in for prizes and parties.
- To address infant mortality issues we provide breastfeeding support through our WIC division. Trained lactation peers provide counselling and education for mothers. We also provide infant car seat adjustment and education.

MCHD and its CHA/CHIP partners continue to track progress towards implementing the Community Health Improvement Plan, which is accessible to the public at: <https://massillonohio.gov/public-safety/health-department/>.

### Massillon City Health Department Strategic Plan

In addition to contributing toward the community-wide strategic plan, known as the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), MCHD examined our strategic plan, which outlines our health department's contributions and goals for achieving a healthier community, including:

#### **Our Mission (our purpose):**

The mission of the Massillon City Health Department is to help promote and protect the health and well-being of the citizens in the Massillon community.

#### **Our Vision (what we hope to achieve):**

A community where all residents have access to services to achieve a healthy lifestyle (both mentally and physically).

#### **Our values:**

M – Mission and vision driven

C – Community focused

H – Health equity for all

D – Disease prevention and education

## Vital Statistics

To be compliant with new requirements for Ohio driver's licenses, you can obtain a birth certificate at the Massillon City Health Department. The new driver's licenses are also required for national travel security and to enter federal facilities. Anyone born in Ohio can get a birth certificate at the Massillon City Health Department. To assist in this process, you can get an application for the birth certificate from our website at [www.massillonohio.gov/vital](http://www.massillonohio.gov/vital) and mail or bring the application in with a check or money order for \$25.00. For long distance requests you can obtain a birth certificate from [www.vitalchek.com](http://www.vitalchek.com).

Death certificates are also available for \$25.00 if the death occurred in Massillon.

### Leading Causes of Death In 2019

Cardiac/Heart Disease .....	93
Alzheimer's/Dementia .....	75
Cancer .....	54
Pulmonary/COPD/Emphysema.....	29
Undetermined .....	15
CVA/Stroke .....	8
Parkinson's disease .....	8
All other causes .....	55

**Total .....** 337

### 2019 Massillon Vital Statistics

**Home Births filed .....** 3

**2,084 birth certificates were issued**

**Deaths filed .....** 337

**Fetal Deaths filed .....** 0

**1,253 death certificates were issued**

## WIC

The Supplemental Nutrition Program for women, infants, and children (WIC) helps income eligible pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to five years of age who are at health risk due to inadequate nutrition. The program improves pregnancy outcomes by providing or referring to support services necessary for full-term pregnancies, reduces infant mortality by reducing the incidence of low birth weight and provides infants and children with a healthy start in life by improving poor or inadequate diets.

Brief alcohol risk screenings are being completed with every pregnant participant to reduce the risk of fetal alcohol syndrome. In an effort to reduce infant mortality, all infants are screened for a safe sleep environment, and a referral is made to help participants achieve a safe place for their baby to sleep. Appropriate referrals are made for any participant that may be in need of programs such as Help Me Grow, CMH, THRIVE, or other beneficial services that are offered throughout Stark County. Applicants to the program must live within the city limits, possess a medical or nutritional risk, and be within income guidelines.

The Massillon WIC office is small, friendly, and client centered. We strive to offer the best comfort and care of participants in a fast and efficient manner. Benefits are issued electronically for ease and convenience in the stores and a shorter time in our office. State WIC offers a food list that is constantly changing to add more variety and offerings to our participants.

Our WIC office provides nutrition education in the form of classes and individual "one-on-one" support by a registered dietitian. Our nutrition education offerings have been developed with participants' input, and are changed regularly throughout the year to stimulate learning and implementation. Our breastfeeding team has an after-hours warm line that allows participants to seek help with breastfeeding after normal working hours. Our staff cares for our participants and strives to establish client centered goals for each participant that will empower them to make changes in their everyday lifestyle for the betterment of their and their children's overall health.

As a special offering, throughout the summer months participants are offered twenty dollars as a fruit and vegetable voucher for each eligible participant to be spent at the local farmer's markets. The Massillon WIC office offers both the vouchers as well as a mini farmer's market on site for the ease of use by our participants.

Outreach is performed regularly at area doctor offices, food pantries, soup kitchens, daycares, and community partners in an effort to reach all eligible participants. WIC continues to change lives in the community by working as a partnership with parents to build strong and healthy children. We are here to support mothers and caretakers of small children to enable them to help their child achieve the best start in life.

# Community Outreach

## Buddy Bench Program

In the fall of 2019, the Massillon City Health Department partnered with The Rotary Club of Massillon and Massillon's All In for Kindness Campaign to place buddy benches in all the elementary schools in Massillon. The buddy bench is a simple idea to help eliminate loneliness and foster friendship on the playground. These benches teach the message of inclusion and kindness while playing with their peers at school.

Our Public Health Nurse, Audrey Sylvester, did a presentation at all the elementary schools, St. Mary's school, St. Barbara's school, and the Massillon Intermediate School to help teach the kids all about the benches and kindness. Children who feel alone or need a friend are encouraged to sit on the Buddy Bench. When another child notices someone sitting on the Buddy Bench, they are to go over and ask the child on the bench to come join them in their recess activity! This allows children to invite other children to play with them that they may have never interacted with before.



Audrey Sylvester, RN, Public Health Nurse

## School Supply Drive

We organized our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual school supply drive in August. All the supplies collected were donated to Franklin Elementary School in Massillon. The Massillon Senior Center graciously chose this to be one of their projects for the year. Not only did they collect supplies for the drive, but they also donated over 30 new backpacks for the students at Franklin. It was estimated we collected enough supplies for the entire year for over 25 children.

## Car Seat Program

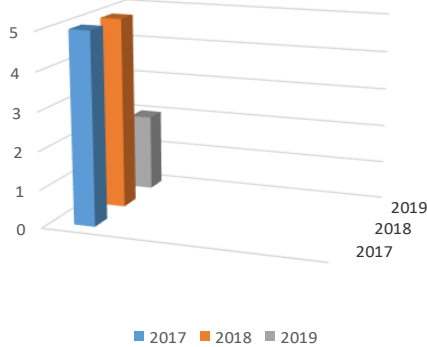
In 2019, our Health Department was staffed with 3 certified car seat technicians. We participated in 6 community events and 2 outreach events. The Massillon City Health Department is a car seat inspection station for the community. This year we performed inspections and installations of car seats as well as provided education to 15 parents on child passenger safety. We have also partnered as an educator with the THRIVE car seat program.

## Annual Food Drive

2019 is the second year that the Massillon City Health Department teamed up with Massillon City Schools to help feed students in need over the winter break. Our first year helped feed approximately 248 students, and 2019 donations were large enough to help over 600 students in more than 270 families. Food was generously donated by city residents, the Massillon Recreation Center, Shiloh Baptist Church, Massillon City School employees and families, City of Massillon employees, and several anonymous donors. Health Department employees helped with collecting, sorting, bagging, and distributing the bags of food to the families. Each bag contained items that were kid-friendly and easy to prepare. There were foods for breakfasts (such as cereal and oatmeal), pasta and sauce, individual lunches, peanut butter, granola bars, fruits and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, and other items. A generous donation was also received which allowed for each student to receive a loaf of bread and box of mini muffins as well. The need in our city is great, but there is no shortage of people willing to help.

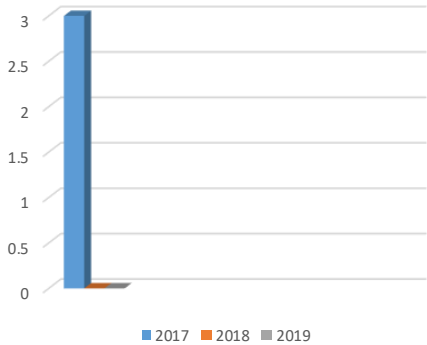
## Enforcement and Complaints Analysis

### Smoking Investigations



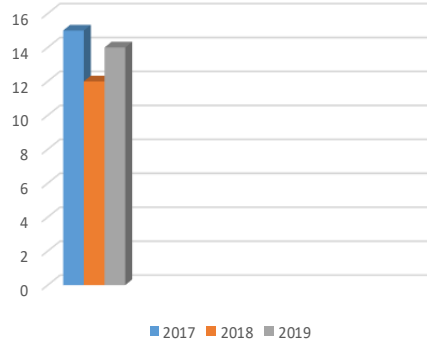
The Massillon City Health Department investigated five smoking complaints in 2017 and five in 2018. The number of smoking investigations decreased in 2019 to only two investigations. In 2017, no smoking violations were noted during the investigations, three violations were noted in 2018, and one violation was noted in 2019. As 2017 and 2018 both had five investigations, and 2019 only had two investigations, it is not telling of where the smoking investigations are trending for 2020.

### Licensed Swimming Pool Complaints



The Massillon City Health Department received three swimming pool complaints in 2017, and no complaints were received in 2018 or 2019. All complaints were investigated, and while no violations were noted at time of inspection, the Health Department will continue to investigate every complaint that is received. It does not appear that the health department is trending towards an increase in swimming pool complaints in 2020 based off of these findings.

### Licensed Food Establishment Complaints



With fifteen food establishment complaints in 2017, twelve in 2018, and fourteen complaints in 2019, the trend shows that the Massillon City Health Department can expect a similar number of complaints in 2020. Education is consistently provided to every operator at every inspection, and this could be the explanation for similar numbers of complaints each year rather than large increases. Many complaints received are either not made in good faith or are not confirmed at time of inspection. All complaints will continue to be followed-up on in 2020.

Based on these findings, the Massillon City Health Department has formed an Enforcement Committee. Frequent and valid complaints received on any one particular location will be forwarded to the Enforcement Committee. We will continue to provide education and maintain open contact with all of our food service and swimming pool operators. The Massillon City Health Department is also committed to watching for complaint patterns in the future.

# Environmental Health

## Environmental Health Director:

**Bethany Perkowski, RS**

Bethany Perkowski, RS is the Environmental Health Director for the Massillon City Health Department. The Environmental Health Division is responsible for licensing food service establishments in the City and monitoring them for compliance with the State of Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code (operating under the authorities of ORC 3717), conducting nuisance complaint investigations and enforcement (ORC 3767), inspecting public pools and spas (ORC 3749), handling the reporting of animal bites and potential rabies exposure (ORC 3701), regulating tattoo and body piercing businesses (ORC 3730), conducting school environment inspections (ORC 3707.26), and providing mosquito control and education to City residents (ORC 3707.29).

The Massillon City Health Department continues to offer Ohio Department of Health approved Person in Charge and Manager Courses both at scheduled times and upon request. Between our PIC and Manager Courses, over 120 people took advantage of our course offerings in 2019.

## Massillon City Health Department

### Environmental Health Statistics for 2019

#### Licensed Programs – Licenses Sold

Food Service/ Retail Food Establishment Operations.....	202
Mobile Unit Food Service.....	20
Temporary Food Service.....	13
Vending Locations .....	38
Swimming Pools .....	8

#### Food Protection Inspections Made

Food Service Operations/Retail Food Establishments .....	335
Mobile/Temporary .....	56
Vending Machine Inspections.....	27
Food Complaints Received.....	14
Consultations .....	30
Plan Reviews (new or remodeled).....	25

#### Nuisance Control

Residential Complaints .....	209
Commercial Complaints .....	13
Inspections Made .....	351
Orders Issued .....	194
Orders in Compliance.....	151

#### Other Environmental Inspections

Swimming Pools .....	12
School Environment Inspections.....	10
Smoking in Public Places Investigation .....	2

#### 2019 Animal Bite/Exposure Reports

Dogs .....	96
Cats .....	22
Bat Exposures .....	2
Other Animals .....	1
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>121</b>

There were no positive tests for rabies.

#### 2019 Revenue

Carry Over.....	\$19,242
General Fund Monies....	\$365,377
Nursing/WIC .....	\$140,702
Vital Statistics Fees.....	\$64,505
State Subsidy .....	\$10,483
Environmental Health .....	\$74,827
Grants .....	\$3,380

**Total Revenue .....\$678,516**

The Health Department receives revenue from the City's general fund, which funds salaries, nursing costs, and nuisance costs. Funds for the environmental division are generated by food service and food operation licenses and permits, body art licenses, pool licenses, and smoking investigations. Nursing is funded through private-pay vaccine fees and CMH. Vital Statistics receives a percentage of fees from birth and death certificates and burial permits sold.

#### 2019 Expenditures

Nursing/WIC Lab Fees...	\$295,227
Environmental Health ...	\$207,871
Vital Statistics .....	\$163,742
State Fee Remittances .....	\$7,304

**Total Expenditures ....\$674,144**

Expenditures are for rent, utilities, cable, medical supplies, software contracts, gas, office supplies, state remittances, travel, training, educational materials, professional organization memberships, professional licenses, seminars, training, storage, IT and computer equipment, and building cleaning and maintenance. The Board of Health approves all expenditures and assures responsible spending of all health department monies.

# Public Health Nursing

The Nursing Division of the Massillon City Health Department offers various programs to support public health.

**Immunizations:** The Nursing Division participates in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. The program offers free vaccines for children birth through 18 years of age. We do request a \$20.00 fee for each vaccine administered. However, no eligible child is turned away for inability to pay. To be eligible, the child must be one of the following: underinsured, a Medicaid or Medicaid HMO recipient, Alaskan Native, American Indian or noninsured. Private pay immunizations are available as well with certain insurances.

**Communicable Disease:** All reportable communicable diseases in Ohio are required to be reported to their respective jurisdictional Health Department under Ohio Revised Code (ORC 3701-3.) The nurses enter communicable diseases in a database, perform investigations and surveillance on certain diseases, and are a resource for many different places in the city who have questions about reportable disease.

**Know Your Numbers:** Know your Numbers is a free health screening program offered at the Health Department and at various outreach locations in the community. The screening includes blood pressure checks, cholesterol, glucose, and A1C screening, height and weight measurements, and healthy living education.

**Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH):** CMH is a health care program through the Ohio Department of Health. It links families of children with special health care needs to a network of providers and helps families obtain payment for the services their child needs. The nurses at the Health Department are the family's local point of contact to assist with resources.

**TB Skin Test:** TB skin tests are offered at the Health Department for a \$20.00 administration fee.

**Lice Checks:** Lice checks are performed at request. A thorough check of the entire scalp is performed by the nursing staff.

**THRIVE (Toward Health Resiliency for Infant Vitality & Equity):** The goal of the Stark County THRIVE Project is to determine those factors that lead to infant mortality in our community and reduce the overall infant mortality rate as well as the disparity in birth outcomes relative to white and black infants. Our Cribs 4 Kids program and car seat distribution class are a way the Health Department actively participates in the THRIVE project.

The Nursing division is also a resource for various health issues, public health initiatives, and ongoing public health programs in the community.

Safe Sleep Classes ..... 7

## Immunizations Administered

77 Act HiB	47 MMR
118 Bexsero	46 MMRV
128 DTap	52 Pediarix
170 Hepatitis A	59 Polio
50 Hepatitis B	76 Prevnar 13
185 HPV9	22 Rotovirus
184 Influenza	23 Td
17 Kinrix	98 Tdap
190 Menveo	65 Varicella

**1,607 Vaccines Administered**

## Tuberculosis Clinics

TB Tests Administered .....	47
Positive Reactors .....	0

## CMH (Children with Medical Handicaps)

Home Visits .....	32
Active Caseloads .....	77



## Disease Statistics

(These diseases are reportable by Ohio Revised Code)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Amebiasis	1	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	2	8	7
Chlamydia	192	163	187
CP-CRE	-	3	4
Cryptosporidiosis	3	1	1
E coli, Shiga Toxin Producing	2	1	3
Giardiasis	1	3	2
Gonorrhea	40	47	50
Hepatitis A	1	0	4
Hepatitis B, Acute	2	0	2
Hepatitis B, Chronic	5	6	9
Hepatitis C, Acute	0	1	1
Hepatitis C, Chronic	38	39	44
Influenza associated hospitalization	39	45	36
Legionellosis	0	2	4
Lyme Disease	1	4	2
Malaria	0	0	0
Meningitis, Aseptic	2	3	3
Meningitis, bacterial	1	1	0
Mumps	1	0	0
Pertussis	5	6	5
Salmonellosis	5	7	7
Shigellosis	0	5	0
Streptococcal, Group A, invasive	2	2	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive antibiotic, resistance unknown or non-resistant	4	1	0
Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive antibiotic, resistant/intermediate	4	1	2
Varicella	3	0	2

Know Your Numbers screenings  
..... 151

## 2019 Board of Health

Board terms are staggered and expire on December 31.

Kathy Catazaro-Perry, President; Cathy Heitger, 2022;

Jeffrey Thornberry, President Pro-tem, 2023;

Jim Johnson, 2019; Dr. Sonia Glick-Ullum, 2020;

Pastor Reginald Hye, 2021; Dr. Louis Schaner, DO, Medical Director

Board meetings are held at 3:30 pm in the Health Department Conference Room on the third Tuesday of each month.

Meetings are open to the public.

2019 City Council Health & Welfare Committee

Linda Litman, Chairperson

Ed Lewis

Jill Creamer

