



Public Health
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WASHINGTON COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

Annual Report

2010



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A Letter from the Washington County Health Commissioner

The annual report this year will have a slightly different format and will hopefully provide you with the basic information of the services the Washington County Health Department has provided in 2010.

One staff change occurred in 2010 with the retirement of Linda Wrege, receptionist and registrar for the health department. Her last day of employment was July 2. At the same time a new receptionist/registrar was hired, Pam Thompson. We wish Linda well in her retirement and we welcome Pam to the staff.

The Dental Clinic was closed in November 2010 due to lack of funding. Although the Board recognized the need for the clinic, it felt that this clinic must be self-supporting and not rely on the general fund of the health department for support. It was further acknowledged that productivity and number of patients seen in the clinic was too low to recover the loss in funds. A detailed report of the clinic can be found in another area of this report. The clinic was re-opened with major changes in February 2011 and we look for it to be more productive and self-sustaining.

H1N1 influenza immunizations were started in 2009 and carried through the first several months of 2010. Federal funding for this project was received through the Ohio Department of Health and during the course of the program over 10,000 immunizations were given. The new vaccine administered beginning in September 2010 does contain the H1N1 vaccine.

There is no doubt that the economy has had an effect on the services of the Health Department. We have seen some down-turn in number of septic permits issued and in commercial plumbing permits. On the other hand, we have seen a demand for more of our nursing services and requests for help in receiving medical care. Although the Free Clinic is not a part of the Health Department nor does it receive any funding from the Health Department, as a member of that governing committee, I have seen the demand for these services increase.

Although we hope for a move toward economic recovery, we know that demands for Health Department services will increase and that we can look for less help from state and other governmental entities to carry out our mission. We are again evaluating the need for specific services and how we can best meet the needs of the county. We will be looking toward consolidation and sharing of programs both locally and regionally as we move forward into 2011. This was already started in 2010 with the contracting of commercial plumbing inspections by Monroe County.

Kathleen L. Meckstroth, DrPH
Health Commissioner



CVH Annual Report – 2010

The Washington County Creating Healthy Communities Program initiated several strategies in 2010 for preventing and reducing the burden of chronic disease among local residents. These strategies focused on policy and system changes, as well as physical changes in Washington County’s communities, homes, work-sites and schools.

The community gardening initiative once again increased in capacity, providing fresh produce to sixty-five households through garden plot ownership and countless others through produce donations to eight local food pantries. Community gardens were developed in Belpre, Marietta and New Matamoras. This initiative is a community collaborative that is spearheaded by Washington County Harvest of Hope.

The Healthy Communities Program once again partnered with the River Valley Mountain Bike Association in the further development of the Marietta Trail System. A new one-mile hiking and mountain biking trail now links Jackson Park to Marietta High School, and an additional one-mile trail was developed at Marietta High School.



Bike racks were purchased to support physical activity among local residents. Ten racks were placed along Marietta’s paved River Trail with additional racks placed at the O’Neill Center and the Rowing and Cycling Club’s headquarters at the Marietta Lockhouse. Bikes were then purchased and donated to the O’Neill Center to facilitate a “Back to Biking” program, where senior citizens can borrow bikes to ride along the River Trail.

The Healthy Communities Program supported the Fountain Foundation in its effort to revitalize the Washington Playground in Marietta. Through this collaborative, a large gazebo was constructed and a water fountain, two soccer goals, five trees and four benches were added to the park. The existing playground equipment and fencing was also painted.



Dozens of skaters were on-hand to experience the official grand opening



of the Indian Acres Skatepark. The skatepark is the Mid Ohio Valley’s first official skateboarding venue. Due to high utilization, plans are already underway to expand the skatepark by adding a street-course to its entrance.

In response to community requests, an Outdoor Adventure Club for Kids was also developed. This club will provide a safe venue for children and parents to spend time together enjoying Washington County’s abundant natural resources. The Club will kick-off in Spring 2011.

The Chronic Disease Self Management Program continued



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to grow in 2010 with two Lay Leader trainings. Washington County now has two Master Trainers and over a dozen lay leaders certified to lead this evidence-based chronic disease management program.

The Healthy Communities Program assisted the Get Fit Marietta Taskforce in piloting “Exercise Is Medicine”. This initiative recruits physicians to write exercise prescriptions for appropriate patients. Three physicians piloted the program in 2010 and the program plans to expand with our partner, the Marietta Family YMCA, serving as the lead agency and providing the personal trainers which will receive the patient referrals.

The Washington County Commissioners supported the opening of the Fitness Room at the Courthouse, which was created through the Healthy Communities Program, by setting operational hours for the facility. County employees are able to use the facility at no cost on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Washington County’s Probate Court, Juvenile Court and Juvenile Center took a step further in encouraging healthy employees by instituting a policy that allows employees to earn paid “well” time off by participating in healthy activities.

Fort Frye Local School District continues its efforts to implement its district wellness policy. The district will be implementing the “Fuel Up To Play” program, which teaches students important nutrition information and encourages physical activity. This program will impact the 1,200 student in the district. The Fort Frye Local School District has also adopted policy to begin annual BMI screenings for students in first, third, fifth, and ninth grades. The Healthy Communities Program purchased a variety of materials that will assist the district in implementing both of these initiatives.

The Healthy Communities Program contracted Selby General Hospital’s Tobacco Prevention Program to implement Washington County’s tobacco strategies for 2010. Selby’s certified tobacco educators assisted all six county school districts in adopting 100% tobacco-free policies. Three of those districts now have signage to support the policy and notify the public of the policy.

Various media outlets were utilized to market state and local tobacco cessation resources to Washington County’s most at-risk residents. Onsite tobacco cessation classes were held at Selby General Hospital, Marietta Memorial Hospital, Merchant 5 Star, Kraton Polymers, International Converter, Washington State Community College, Belpre Public Library and Barlow Public Library. Five health care providers were also recruited to make patient referrals to tobacco cessation classes.

The last several years has seen a burgeoning effort in the promotion of wellness to prevent disease. The Healthy Communities Program is excited to witness this growth locally and to join our community partners in helping Washington County’s residents live longer, healthier lives.





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Public Health Nursing

Individual patient visits	5,475
Immunizations total	5,163
Influenza	2,543
International	396
Childhood	1,498
Adult	726
TB tests	410
Well Child Clinics	6 clinics held with 84 children seen
Specialty Clinics	
Hearing	23 children in 3 clinics
Vision	88 children in 4 clinics
BCMh children and family contacts	279
Satellite clinics	40 clinics and 373 clients seen
HIV testing	107
Hepatitis C testing	100



Infectious disease investigations	Total	210
Chlamydia	65	
Hepatitis C	62	
Campylobacter	17	
Hepatitis B	13	
Pertussis	10	
E. coli	7	
Syphilis	5	
Varicella	5	
Hepatitis A	5	
Bacterial meningitis	3	
Lyme Disease	3	
HIV	2	
Strep pneumonia	2	
Giardiasis	2	
Gonorrhea	2	
Rocky Mt Spotted Fever	2	
Salmonella	2	
Rubella	1	
Staphylococcus	1	
Strep A	1	

Infectious Diseases

209 infectious disease reports were investigated

80 Hepatitis C

41 Chlamydia

13 H1N1 (individual cases not reported after September)

12 Pertussis

12 Salmonella

10 Campylobacter

7 Lyme Disease

6 HIV

5 Hepatitis B

4 Hepatitis A

3 Varicella

3 Streptococcal infections

3 Gonorrhea

2 Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever

2 E. coli

2 Giardia

2 Syphilis

1 Staphylococcal infection

1 Clostridium difficile

109 Hepatitis C tests with 22 positive tests

104 HIV tests with 7 positive tests





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Vital Statistics

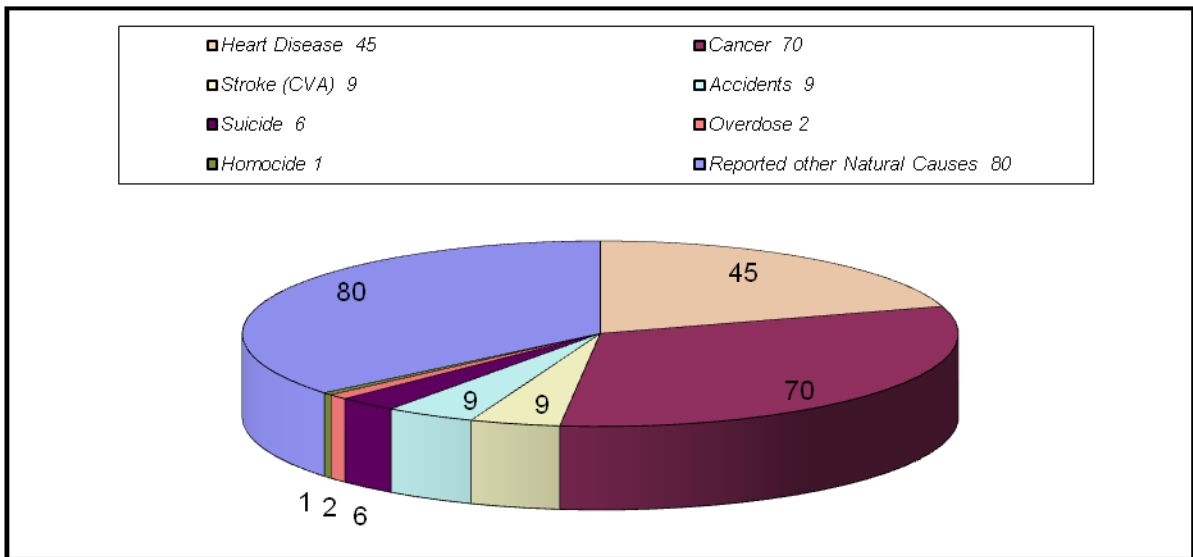
Vital Statistics

Birth Certificates Filed in 2010 – 1
Death Certificates Filed in 2010 – 222

Birth Certificates Sold in 2010 – 128
Death Certificates Sold in 2010 – 808

Washington County Health Department as of December 20, 2010 has the capability to issue statewide certified birth abstracts. What this means to individuals needing a copy of their birth certificate is that now they can go to their local health department regardless of where they were born in Ohio and purchase a certified birth abstract. Most local health departments are participating in the statewide issuance of birth abstracts. We are really excited for the customer, as this process makes it easier and reduces the amount of time involved in obtaining a birth certificate.

Summary of Causes of Death for Washington County 2010





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Environmental Health

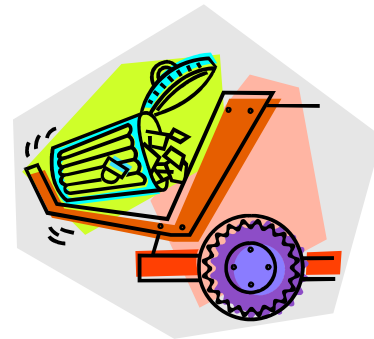
Licenses and Permits Issued:

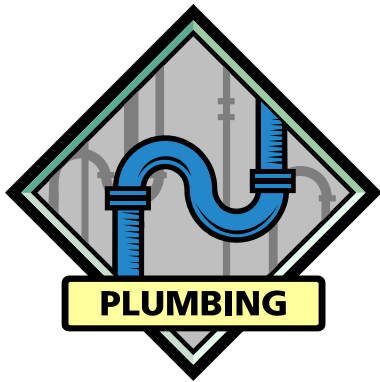
- 102 Household Sewage Treatment Systems Permits
- 3 Small Flows Sewage Treatment System Permits
- 18 Water Well Permits; 6 well alterations
- 165 Food Service/Retail Food Establishments Licenses
- 18 Mobile Food Licenses
- 17 Vending Facility Licenses
- 114 Days of Temporary Food Licenses
- 16 Manufactured Home Parks
- 12 Recreational Park Camps
- 25 Septic Installers
- 5 Land Application Fields
- 10 Water Haulers
- 9 Garbage Haulers (51 trucks)
- 10 Swimming Pools
- 10 Sewage Pumpers



Number of Investigations/Inspections

- 307 septic permit site visits
- 116 Loan Inspections
- 47 Water Sample Collections
- 105 Nuisance Complaints
- 320 Food License Inspections
- 22 Manufactured Home Park Inspections
- 13 Recreational Park Camp Inspections
- 24 Swimming Pool Inspections
- 2 Rabies Clinics with 226 animals vaccinated
- 67 Animal Bite Investigations
- 8 Animals shipped to Lab for Testing
- 14 Smoking Complaint Investigations





Commercial Plumbing Program

- 39 Permits Issued
- 116 Inspections
- 48 Plan Reviews
- 43 Field Consultations
- 53 Site Visits other than Inspections

Southeast Ohio Dental Clinic

(closed 11/18/2010)

- 1,618 patients seen in 3,346 visits
- 1,184 cleanings
- 1,244 fillings, crowns, or other restorative dental work
- 489 extractions
- 121 partial or full dentures



Washington County Health Department Staff

Dr. Kathleen L. Meckstroth, Health Commissioner
 Jeannie Farnsworth, Computer Coordinator
 Chasity Mayle, Bookkeeper
 Pamela Thompson, Receptionist and Registrar

Ken Robinson, Director of Environmental Health
 Josh Lane, Sanitarian
 Shila Harris, Clerk

Valerie Betkoski, Director of Public Health Nursing
 Rae Shaffer, RN
 Barb Pehowciz, RN
 Becky Jones, RN
 Bethany Gaul, RN
 Rhonda Huck, Clerk

Plumbing Inspector
 Ray Touvell

Dental Clinic
 Dale White, DDS
 Adessa Jackson, RDH
 Cheryl Lathrop, Dental Asst
 Karita Miller, Receptionist

Preparedness
 Betty King, Regional Coordinator
 John Berentz, Local Coordinator

Cardiovascular Health
 Court Witschey

Dental Sealant Program
 Renee Robinson



2010 Financial Report

Expenditures	
Salaries and benefits	\$ 941,636.81
Supplies	\$ 73,601.23
Vaccines	\$ 61,597.65
Contracts	\$ 192,930.21
Travel	\$ 20,637.55
Equipment	\$ 46,284.36
Miscellaneous expenses	\$ 10,934.80
Remittance to State	\$ 21,918.59
Total	\$1,369,541.20

Revenue	
Township Allotment	\$ 225,000.00
State Subsidy	\$ 11,102.67
Licenses/Permits	\$ 152,795.41
Client Fees	\$ 402,131.61
BCMh	\$ 14,060.00
Grants	\$ 483,147.25
Vital Statistics	\$ 23,236.31
Miscellaneous receipts	\$ 780.00
Total Receipts	\$1,312,254.25

Board of Health Meetings

The Washington County Board of Health meets in regular session on the second Tuesday of the month at the Washington County Health Department, 342 Muskingum Drive, Marietta. The meetings begin at 7 p.m. and are open to the public. Copies of the minutes are posted to the Health Department's web site following their approval at the Board meeting. The website may be found at www.washco-ohhealth.org.

Current Board of Health members:

Wilbert Antill (2014), President
Richard Daniell (2013), President pro Tempore
Bob Powell (2012), Licensing Council representative
Jim Rodgers (2015)
Dr. Todd Myers (2011)
Steve Johnson (2012), Licensing Council Alternate

