



# 2008 Annual Report

Trumbull County General Health District

176 Chestnut Avenue, N.E.

Warren, Ohio 44483

[www.tcbh.org](http://www.tcbh.org)



## *Vision Statement*

As the foundation of public health, the dedicated staff of the Trumbull County General Health District shall be leaders in providing a county inoculated against communicable diseases, educated to the methods necessary to improve the health of all and free of environmental hazards.

## *Mission Statement*

The mission of the Trumbull County General Health District is to promote and protect the health of the public by means of education, regulation, enforcement and preventive health services provided through:

- Nursing
- Environmental Health
- Health Promotion

We will treat the public with dignity and respect, recognizing cultural diversity and individual needs through our programs and services.

## *Core Values*

Excellence  
Professionalism  
Leadership  
Integrity  
Respect for all  
Recognition of Cultural Diversity

## 2008 TRUMBULL COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
William Hagood	99 S. Outer Dr., Vienna	March 2009
Dr. Pat DiTommaso	6265 Sodom Hutchings Rd., Liberty	March 2010
Donald Scott Thompson	724 Yankee Run Rd., Masury	March 2011
Robert Biery, Jr.	1750 Braceville Robinson Rd., Southington	March 2012
Denise Allen	3688 Nelson Mosier Rd., Leavittsburg	March 2013

## 2008 TRUMBULL COUNTY DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Fred Hanley	Chairman
Walt Emrick	Vice Chairman
Rebecca Whitman	Secretary

## 2008 TRUMBULL COUNTY HEALTH LICENSING COUNCIL

<u>Name &amp; License Group Representation</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Robert A. Rieke Recreational Parks/Camps	3959 St. Rt. 305, Southington	March 2010
Sheryl L. Albright Food Service Operations	6278 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Hubbard	March 2010
William Hagood Manufactured Home Parks	99 S. Outer Dr., Vienna	March 2011
Thomas Sutcliffe Swimming Pools	RDW Co., 6600 Seville Dr., Suite #1, Canfield	March 2011
Robert Biery, Jr. Retail Food Establishments	1750 Braceville Robinson Rd., Southington	March 2012
Tim Page Construction & Demolition Debris	Lordstown Construction Recovery 6205 Newton Falls-Bailey Rd., S.W., Warren	March 2012
Thomas O. Shepker Solid Waste Landfill	WCI Steel, Inc. 1040 Pine Ave., S.E., Warren	March 2012

176 Chestnut Avenue, N.E.  
Warren, Ohio 44483

Phone: 330-675-2489

Fax: 330-675-2494

Email: [health@tcbh.org](mailto:health@tcbh.org)

[www.tcbh.org](http://www.tcbh.org)

*You can e-mail individual employees by using their first initial & last name @ tcbh.org*

## How We Served You in 2008:

Immunization of Children & Adults

Blood Tests for Lead

Screening of Students for Vision & Hearing

Newborn Home Visits

Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh) Diagnostic Applications

Animal Bite Investigations

Animals Tested for Rabies

Car & Booster Seat Classes

Nuisance Complaint Investigations

Manufactured Home Park Inspections

Park/Campground Inspections

School Inspections

Public Swimming Pool Inspections

Water Sample Collection

Real Estate Evaluations

Food Service/Retail Food Establishment Inspections

Plumbing Inspections

Smoking Investigations

## Trumbull County Health Department Personnel — 2008

**Sharon Bednar**, Secretary

**Johnna Ben**, Administrative Secretary

**Nichole Brink**, Service Coordinator

**Jodi Cesene**, Health Educator/Planner (*Laid Off June 2008—Loss of Tobacco Grant Funding*)

**Jan Chickering**, Medical Assistant

**Beverly Cope**, Medical Assistant

**Richard Curl, R.S.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Daniel Dean**, Network Computer Systems/Data/Medical Coordinator

**Rick Dezi, S.I.T.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**James Enyeart, M.D.**, Health Commissioner

**Trudy Seymour-Evans**, Project Director

**Kevin Francis, R.S.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Greg Hall, S.I.T.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Rodney Hedge, R.S.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Catherine Lavernuick**, Service Coordinator

**Judith Roman, R.N.**, Clinic Coordinator

**Steven R. Kramer, R.S.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Selene Layton, R.N.**, Director of Nursing

**Natalie Markusic, R.S.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Frank Migliozi, R.S.**, Director of Environmental Health

**Mel Milliron, C.H.E.S.**, Health Educator/Planner

**Deborah Mokosh, R.N.**, Public Health Nurse

**Robert O'Connell, C.P.I.**, Plumbing Inspector

**Sharon O'Donnell**, Secretary

**Julia Paolone.**, Secretary

**Joseph Pink, R.S.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Lucinda Sentner, R.N.**, Public Health Nurse

**Elizabeth Shelar**, Service Coordinator

**Dianne Simon, R.S.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Randee Shoenberger, R.N.**, Public Health Nurse

**Rita Spahlinger, R.N.**, Public Health Nurse

**Lisa Spelich**, Food Protection Secretary

**Sandra Swann, B.S.N., R.N.**, Public Health Nurse; Epidemiologist

**Kris Wilster, S.I.T.**, Public Health Sanitarian

**Jennifer Wozniak**, Service Coordinator

# Financial

The Trumbull County Health Department is pleased to submit their 2008 Annual Report to the Trumbull County Health District Advisory Council at its annual meeting.

Upon reviewing this report, we hope that you will see that your Health Department continues to provide services to accommodate

the health-related needs of the county. Contained within this report is a synopsis of a few of our many programs.

The Health Department receives funding through various grants, fees, state subsidy and inside millage of .15. The increase in revenue over the last few years stems largely from the new tipping fees that were put into effect by the

state of Ohio for all construction & demolition debris landfills.

The breakdown below for the Health Department's income and expenses for year 2008 is based upon figures reported to the Ohio Department of Health for the Annual Financial Report of Local Health Departments for Calendar Year 2008.

<u>2008 - Total Funds Available</u>	
<b>\$3,788,864.69</b>	
**2007 Carry Over Balance	\$287,879.24
Local Sources of Funds ( <i>Inside Millage</i> )	425,427.61
Personal Health Services ( <i>Nursing</i> )	258,714.27
Environmental Health Fees	2,159,549.05
Locally Funded Proj./Special Contracts	
- Health Promotion	26,078.38
- School Health	4,350.00
- Other	5,251.15
Donations ( <i>Car Seat Program</i> )	2,334.00
Miscellaneous ( <i>Jury Reimb., Health Ins. Reimb., Telephone Reimb., etc.</i> )	26,358.13
State Subsidy	44,842.36
ODH State Funded Proj./Grants	548,080.50

<u>2008 Expenses</u>	
<b>\$3,665,298.16</b>	
*Personal Health ( <i>Nursing</i> )	\$844,850.16
*Environmental Health	2,068,792.62
*Health Promotion	110,907.55
*General Administration	593,129.83
Laboratory/Clinical	0.00
Laboratory/Environmental	47,618.00
*These figures include salaries and fringe benefits.	
**Carry Over Balance includes grant monies and is included in the overall 2007 "Total Available Funds" figure listed above.	
Please Note: Environmental Health Expenditures include \$744,768.09 Fees Remitted to Ohio Department of Health & Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for Revenue Collected on Their Behalf.	

## Health Department Employees as of 12/31/08

Administrative Staff	7 (1 Part-Time)
Health Educator	1
Medical Assistants	2
Sanitarians	*11
Plumbing Inspector	1
Nurses	**7
Service Coordinators (Help Me Grow Program)	4
Project Director (Help Me Grow Program)	1

\*Includes Director of Environmental Health

\*\*Includes Director of Nursing

# James J. Enyeart, M.D. Health Commissioner

2008  
Annual Report

This has been a challenging year for Public Health in a variety of ways. Of course first is the economics of the times effecting both the public and private sectors. Second is the ever escalating responsibility borne by Health Departments in areas of public safety regulations, e.g. smoking restriction and school safety. Third is the ever growing complexity of communicable diseases. These occupy an ever increasing amount of our time in prevention, as well as detection.

Our business, like any others, must run on sound economic principles. As you know, our capital comes from fees (inspections, permits, licenses etc.), grants (private and public), tax revenue (inside millage), and the state subsidy (calculated per capita). Our housing is provided for by the jurisdiction that we serve. The management of our budget falls to the Health Commission and our Board of Health. We have thus far been able to avoid lay offs and work reduction by monitoring our costs and reducing them where feasible. The bargaining unit that represents the county health department has played an integral role in this as well.

These tough economic times are even harder on smaller and municipal health departments. So called city health departments have encountered more and more difficulty because like the county, more and more is being asked of them. Additionally, when budgets are tight, other services compete for the same revenues at the city level. Thus we see competition for funds within the municipality where by the administration must choose which services to cut and by how much.

The county health department has mutual aid agreements with all of our local health departments. Additionally, we provide assistance in the form of additional services, personnel and expertise when and if asked. We have collectively worked on mass flu clinics, infrastructure development, emergency planning and development of a county-wide volunteer corps, sharing of capital resources, medical expertise, vaccines and technical supports. We are always anxious to help when and where we can. Our prime concern is meeting the needs of our constituents.

There are no better examples of this than the role of the health department in enforcing Jarod's law and the Smoking Ban. Neither one of these mandates came with the funding needed to properly enforce them. Nevertheless, the health department has continued to meet all of the necessary requirements of those regulations. We have received special recognition from the Ohio Department of Health for our efforts in the smoking program.

As far as Jarod's Law is concerned, we have met with some obstacles with regard to the cooperation we are receiving from some of our schools. We have met with the superintendents' representatives about our concerns and will continue to educate the schools as to their obligations under the law. In fairness to the schools, I believe they too are facing the task of expanding their role, while coping with smaller and smaller budgets.

Our role in disease prevention is a time honored one. The number and kinds of communicable diseases that we tract and work with have never been higher. Of course, the foodborne illness in the news recently is well known. We are also following E Coli, Cryptosporidium, West Nile Virus, Pertussis (whooping cough), Rabies, and Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) to name a few more.

We provide timely information to the media to help all of our residents understand and respond effectively to these threats. We also share information among the many agencies and governmental entities that have an interest in these problems. Monthly, we also provide a full report to the public at our regular meeting of the Board of Health. We are proud of the service we provide the citizens of Trumbull County and look forward to continuing the same quality of service for years to come.



# Environmental Division

Frank J. Migliozi, R.S.

Director of Environmental Health

The environmental division of the general health district provides a public health service to approximately 15 programs. These programs provide education, inspection and enforcement to protect our precious environment, our natural resources and most of all our health and well being. It becomes a serious challenge to provide these services during dire economic times. However, working hand in hand with other agencies and developing a clear set of policies, a balance of environmental protection while considering economics can be achieved.

In 2008, staff representatives of the environmental health division were involved in the following committees listed below:

- Phase II Storm Water
- Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)
- Bio Terrorism
- Solid Waste Law Enforcement
- Meander Source Water Protection
- Sewer Projects

Collectively, these committees were formed to develop and implement plans to protect and preserve surface and ground waters, land preservation and clean air. They also afford the ability for county agencies to work together to develop a mechanism to respond to disasters, whether natural or intentional. Working with core individuals and agencies allow the achievement of plans and policies to be developed, necessary resources to achieve them and the most cost effective means to succeed.

In addition, the following programs became effective and/or changes considered at the state level in 2008:

- School Inspections
- Public Pool Entrapment Laws
- Proposed Changes to the Ohio Food Code
- Proposed Changes to Septic Legislation

The environmental staff has supplied feedback to appropriate individuals for consideration. The purpose of this is an attempt to educate individuals in charge of schools or pool operations of these changes and expectations, but also to provide the state with a list of concerns that large changes may impose on Trumbull County Residents.

For more information, please visit our website or feel free to contact the environmental division of the health district.

Thank you.



# School Inspection Program—Rodney Hedge, R.S., Natalie Markusic, R.S. and Rick Dezsi, S.I.T.

The health department has inspected school annually for many years. The inspection identified mainly sanitation issues and the health department could only give the schools recommendations for addressing issues. The 2007-2008 school year was the first year for school inspections conducted under the guidance of Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.) Chapter 3701-54, also referred to as “Jarod’s Law”.

Under O.A.C. 3701-54, the health department identifies violations of the law and is required to enforce the inspections. Another change with the implementation of Jarod’s Law is the type of items inspected. The health department is required to inspect the exterior of the buildings, athletic facilities, and playgrounds. We also check interior rooms for water intrusion, pest infiltration, air quality and ventilation, proper lighting, sanitary conditions, plumbing issues, tip/trip/slip hazards, chemical safety, required use of personal protective equipment, general safety issues, safety equipment/signs in place (first aid kits, eyewash stations, etc.) and the conditions of walls, floors and ceilings. We review records of roof inspections, radon testing, asbestos management, bleacher inspections, HVAC system, etc.

We have been working hand-in-hand with the schools to help them learn and implement the new rules as we begin this new age of school inspections. The first round of inspections was a learning experience for all involved. The next round will be more in-depth and will see the schools addressing the violations identified during the 2007-2008 inspections. As we go forward, we will be working to provide a safer and healthier environment for our children.

If you would like to learn more about Jarod’s Law, visit the Ohio Department of Health’s website at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/eh/schooleh/sehmain.aspx>.

## Environmental Programs:

- Household Sewage Treatment System
- Operation & Maintenance Inspections
- Real Estate Evaluations
- Plumbing
- Nuisance Abatement
- Solid Waste Investigation
- Tattoo & Body Piercing
- Semi-Public Sewage Treatment Systems (H.B. 110)
- Food Service
- School Inspections
- Manufactured Home Parks
- Recreational Parks/Camps
- Public Swimming Pools
- Private Water Systems
- Smoke Free Workplace

## Link Deposit Fund Loan Program

The Link Deposit Fund is a low interest loan program through the Ohio EPA that can be used by Trumbull County residents that have a failing existing sewage system and are under orders of the Board of Health to repair/replace said system with an on-lot system or new state approved off-lot system **only** that obtains an National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. An NPDES permit is required for any sewage system that will discharge into waters of the state. Alterations to off-lot systems that involve maintaining the primary treatment component (and thus a NPDES permit will not be required) are NOT eligible. It may also be used for the purpose of lateral connections and tank abandonment for mandated sanitary sewer connections. **IT MAY NOT BE USED FOR ANY NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.**

The participating institutions in this program are Cortland Banks (all branches within Trumbull County), Key Bank (Liberty, Austintown, Boardman, Poland, Canfield, Orwell, Jefferson, Ravenna & Rootstown Branches) and Farmers National Bank (all branches within Trumbull County).

Trumbull County Residents are encouraged to avail themselves of this program. For more information, please contact the office or visit our website.

## **Operation & Maintenance Program for Home Sewage Treatment Systems**

**Greg Hall, S.I.T. & Kris Wilster, S.I.T.—Inspectors**

While inspecting various household sewage treatment systems, the sanitarians continue to educate all interested homeowners in the proper use and operation of their septic system. Many homeowners appreciate this since there is misinformation from unformed sources.

Approximately 500 Level 1 on-lot sewage systems were registered. The Permit to Operate Fee was reduced from \$50.00 to \$25.00 in 2008 to cover administrative costs for documentation, reporting, tracking maintenance and responding to complaints.

Approximately 120 Level 2 on-lot systems were inspected. This entailed a visual inspection of the trash trap, aerator, splitter box, and obtaining a sample for Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS).

Approximately 1,500 Level 3 off-lot systems were inspected. This involves visually inspecting the trash trap, aerator, dosing tank and sand filter (if applicable), chlorinator, dechlorinator, and ultraviolet system. A sample was obtained for BOD/TSS and fecal coliform test.

There were no Level 4 systems inspected this year, which are sewage systems that require an NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to allow discharge to waters of the state. This was new for 2008, and therefore those systems did not yet meet the one year testing cycle required by the state.

Approximately 80 Level 5 systems, which are failing systems that are given a “temporary fix” because sanitary sewers are emanate for the area, were inspected. This inspection entails visually inspecting the trash trap, aerator (if applicable), chlorinator and reviewing for a current pump tank receipt.

In conclusion, by ensuring that septic systems are performing as designed, the preservation of surface and ground waters are improved. By reducing waterborne diseases, it benefits everyone and makes for a safer environment for all citizens of Trumbull County.

## **Plumbing— Robert O’Connell, C.P.I., Certified Plumbing Inspector**

Construction in Trumbull County has declined over the last year. Permits for plumbing are following the construction industry curve across the state, as well as the county. A few large projects, such as the Hubbard and Girard schools and the Universal Development in Vienna are the bright spots for 2009.

Plumbing inspections for sewer projects are growing by the day as more sewer projects are being completed. We have completed over 400 inspections, and we have close to 700 on the books. These inspections are grey water, clear water and to assure that the new projects will not over use our planned sewer plants.

The manufactured home park inspections are keeping up with ever changing state regulations. We will continue to try to make these rules user friendly.

## Food Service Operation & Retail Food Establishment Program - Dianne Simon, R.S. & Rick Dezsi, S.I.T.

The general guidelines for food safety remain the same. Four main guidelines should be followed to prevent foodborne illness. They include:

**Clean**—Wash hands & surfaces often. Wash hands with warm soapy water for 20 seconds before & after handling food. Wash fruits and vegetables with cold water before using. There is no need to wash or rinse meat or poultry.

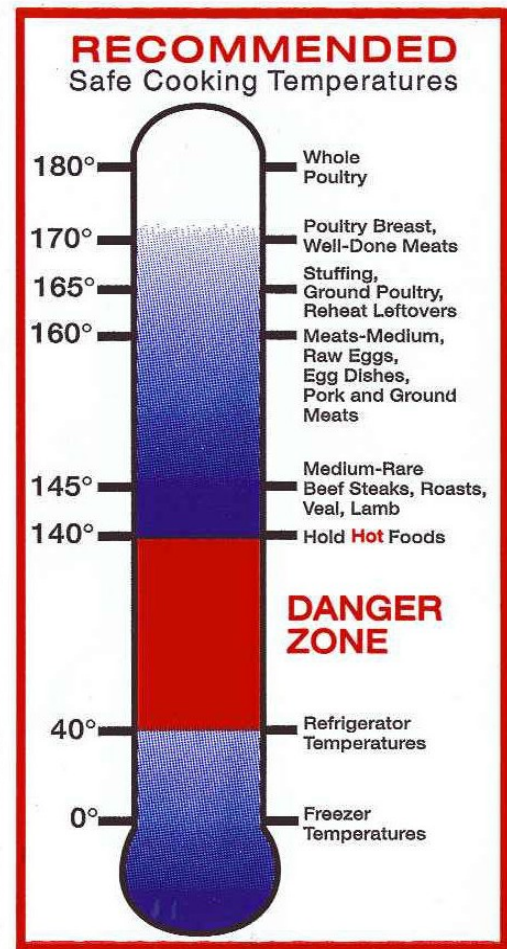
**Separate**—Do not cross-contaminate. Separate raw, cooked & ready-to-eat foods. Never place cooked food on a plate which previously held raw meat, poultry or seafood.

**Cook**—Cook food to proper temperatures to be sure bacteria and pathogens are destroyed. Use a food thermometer to be sure.

**Chill**—Refrigerate promptly. Refrigerate or freeze perishables, prepared foods, and leftovers within 2 hours or sooner.

Consumers with food safety questions can phone the toll free USDA meat and poultry hotline at 1-888-MPHOTLINE

From 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
Monday—Friday



*"Cook food to proper temperatures to be sure bacteria and pathogens are destroyed."*

## Solid Waste and Construction & Demolition Debris Programs —Kevin Francis, R.S.

The Trumbull County Health Department receives funding from the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District (GTSWMD) to provide various enforcement activities, which include investigation of complaints of open dumping and inspection of solid waste facilities. The GTSWMD sponsors recycling collection events throughout the year. Trumbull County has 30 recycle drop-off sites. These locations can be found at [www.startrecycling.com](http://www.startrecycling.com).

The Trumbull County Health Department, in collaboration with the GTSWMD and the Trumbull County Sheriff's Department, investigated solid waste and open dumping complaints. The sheriff's department designated a deputy from their department to be an enforcement officer who works closely with our inspector to increase compliance and reduce the amount of cases going to the court system.

The Trumbull County General Health District also has one construction & demolition debris landfill licensed in Trumbull County. Weekly inspections of this site are conducted to verify compliance with their records/manifests, nature of material, unloading zone, driveway to landfill, rotor dump site, leachate ground water densities, seed pond, natural waterways and outer boundaries of the facility.

# Semi-Public Sewage Treatment System Program (H.B. 110) - Richard Curl, R.S.

The H.B. 110 or Semi-Public Sewage Treatment System Program (SPSTS) provides inspection and operation assistance to wastewater systems other than 1, 2 or 3 family homes. Examples of these are small businesses, churches, schools and private clubs or organizations. An agreement with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allows our county health department to conduct the required annual inspections of these systems. The Ohio EPA continues to inspect systems that are not working properly, specify the type of repairs or replacements needed and provides for enforcement for the most severe problem systems.

In the Summer of 2008, Richard Curl, R.S. took over the H.B. 110 program.



This change allows him to utilize his background in sewage treatment. The systems encountered range in complexity from high tech multi-stage treatment to simple septic tanks to

Amish schoolhouse privies. The improvement of wastewater treatment of the registered SPSTS has made a noticeable change in the quality of effluent being discharged. The increased level of proper SPSTS operation has occurred primarily through education and less often with enforcement action.

The Ohio EPA has increased the level of operational inspections required. This has led to the Ohio EPA registering many business owners/operators as day to day registered operations to supplement the weekly, bi-weekly or monthly service provider inspections. Additionally, a significant number of problematic SPSTS systems have been

## Licenses, Permits & Registrations

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Master Plumbers.....	94	101	102	107	116
Journeyman Plumbers .....	47	48	43	47	31
Sewage System Installers.....	61	63	70	68	71
Sanitary Servicemen .....	24	24	26	26	23
Garbage & Refuse Haulers.....	18	18	20	19	18
Water Haulers .....	4	3	3	2	2
Tattoo/Body Piercing Establishments.....	8	7	5	4	2
Tattoo/Body Piercing Artists .....	23	25	16	13	11
Service Providers.....	14	14	12	14	14
Food Service Operations/Retail Food Establishments .....	626	623	632	637	642
Mobile Units .....	86	89	86	76	73
Vending Machines.....	134	143	156	166	167
Plumbing Permits .....	333	395	506	504	574
Sewage System Permits .....	323	121	903	600	500
<i>Off-Lots 189; On-Lots 70; Mounds 23; Temporary Fix 40; Nuisance Complaints 239</i>					
Preliminary Evaluations.....	364	349	759	678	632
Private Water Systems (Wells/Sealing) .....	85/23	112/33	112/10	173/6	171/7
Manufactured Home Parks .....	33	33	33	33	33
Recreational Parks/Camps.....	14	15	15	15	15
Swimming Pools.....	48	47	43	38	38
Semi-Public Disposal Systems.....	742	739	734	734	809
Real Estate Sewage Inspections .....	656	507	395	518	444
Permit to Operate (O&M) .....	2,475	2,049	1,914	963	792

# NURSING & EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

## *A Message from the Director of Nursing*

### Nursing & Educational Services

*Child & Family Health Services*

*Immunizations*

*Help Me Grow Services*

*Bureau of Children with Medical*

*Trumbull County Child Fatality*

*Emergency Preparedness*

*Medical Reserve Corps*

*Car Seat Program*

*Vision & Hearing Screening*

*Communicable Disease Investigation*

*Rabies*

The nursing division of the Trumbull County Health Department is committed to providing comprehensive, preventative health care to the residents of Trumbull County. The programs listed on the following pages are examples of our attempt to meet the needs of the community.

2008 was a year of challenges for the nursing department. We, along with many others had to strive to continue to provide high quality services to the community with dwindling resources. Forming partnerships and collaborating with other agencies was one of the ways we were able to provide ongoing services and programs.

Just a few of our successful collaborations and outcomes included:

- **Working with a variety of partners to form an assessment committee that would help determine needs in the community and then strategize to meet those needs.** One issue identified by the committee was maternal depression. Through our partnerships we devised a mechanism to screen new moms and a place to refer them. We also formed a multi agency team to plan a day long educational program on maternal depression.
- **The Child Fatality Review Committee** is also a multi agency collaboration that utilized many community agency partners to organize a "Safety Town" that will help teach kindergarten children a variety of safety issues.
- **In 2008 we added four Help Me Grow Services Coordinators and the Help Me Grow Project Director to the nursing staff.** This was a partnership that has helped to stabilize the program staff and thus provide more consistent service to the clients. Under this program we also collaborated with the other health departments in our county to provide uniform newborn home visits to any family in Trumbull County.
- **Our collaboration** with the other health departments in the county afforded us the opportunity to share ideas about children's immunization services and has provided the residents the opportunity to go to any health department in the county and get their children immunized.

These are just a few highlights of our collaborative activities; there are numerous others and we intend to continue to build partnerships in order to provide the residents of this county the best possible comprehensive and preventative health care services.

The pages that follow provide a more in depth explanation of programs and accomplishments of the nursing department. It is my hope that this report gives the reader a clearer picture of "Public Health Nursing" as well as the dedication of the Trumbull County Health Department nursing staff and their commitment to the health and well being of the residents of this community.

*Selene Layton, BA, RNC*  
Director of Nursing Services

### Cultural Competency

The Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health issued national standards that respond to the need to ensure that all people entering any health care system receive equitable and effective treatment in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner. The nursing department utilizes the CLAS (Cultural and Linguistically Appropriate Services) Standards to help us address the needs of all of the population in the county in a culturally appropriate manner. The following are the 14 standards that are included in CLAS:

1. Understandable and respectful care.
2. Diverse staff and leadership
3. Ongoing education and training
4. Language assistance services
5. Rights to receive language assistance.
6. Competence of language assistance.
7. Patient related materials
8. Written strategic plan
9. Organizational self assessment
10. Patient/consumer data
11. Community profile
12. Community partnerships
13. Conflict/grievance processes
14. Implementation

# Child & Family Health Services



## THE CHILD AND FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM (C.F.H.S.P.)

The Ohio Department of Health funds this program as a means to assess the health status of the community through the identification of health needs, service gaps, and barriers to care, and then to plan programs and services to meet those needs.

The direction of this grant changed from providing direct health care services to providing population based services. As a result, the Trumbull County Health Department no longer provides prenatal or children's clinics.

### *Community Assessment*

In order to better provide programs in the county, we do ongoing assessment of the community needs and resources. We formed a community assessment committee that meets at least quarterly. The committee is made up of a variety of organizations and agencies that provide services in our community. Identification of needs and resources is done through surveys, data collection, and focal group discussions.

In 2008 a community survey was created by the committee and distributed to approximately 5000 residents. Approximately 1000 completed surveys were returned. The results will be compiled and analyzed by our Epidemiologist and a report of the findings will be distributed to committee members and other interested parties. This data will be used to plan future programs to meet the needs in Trumbull County.

Community assessment is an ongoing process and we welcome any member of the community to join us and provide input.

### *Community Based Lead Screenings for Children One to Six Years of Age* *Submitted by: Rita Spahlinger, RN*

The major component of this program is education. The health department took a lead role in establishing the Lead Task Force Lead which is a collaboration of agencies working to increase education about lead poisoning in Trumbull County. We partner with WIC, private offices, and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to provide follow up and case management of children with elevated lead levels.

The Lead Coordinator provided case management for four families whose children were found to have elevated lead levels in 2008.

### *Folic Acid Education*

This program aims to educate all women of child-bearing age on the importance of an adequate intake of folic acid. In addition to community based education, the staff provided folic acid information to the 114 clients who came to the health department for pregnancy tests. The long-range goal is to prevent the occurrence of birth defects such as neural tube disorders. According to Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics, congenital malformations was the number two cause of infant deaths in Trumbull County in 2006 (most recent data available.)

### *Preschool Childhood Obesity Prevention Program*

*Submitted by: Judi Roman, RN & Jan Chickering, MA*

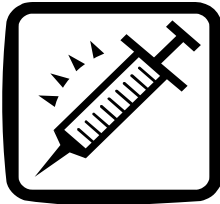
The goal of this program is to introduce young children to the idea that eating healthy can taste good and doing physical activity can be fun. Staff provide six weekly sessions at area daycares/preschools. Each session focuses on something different such as: Go/Slow Foods, Fruit /Veggie Game and Snack, Fitness Fun, Fat Presentation, Happy Heart, Sugar Presentation. Information about each session is sent home with the children so parents can follow through at home. Staff provided sessions at six preschools in 2008.

### *Pregnancy Screening*

**Trumbull County Health Department is a site that provides screening for pregnancy.** We use urine pregnancy tests and request a \$5 donation for the testing. No one is denied this service if they are unable to pay. This program is sponsored by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Child and Family Health Service (CFHS) program.

**All women who are screened** are given folic acid information. Women who have a positive test are given referral information and educated about healthy pregnancy habits such as keeping physician appointments, taking vitamins, healthy diet, and no smoking. Assistance is provided for application to Healthy Start, Help Me Grow and the WIC program.

**In 2008,** the Trumbull County Health Department provided **114 pregnancy tests.** Of these, 68 were positive and 46 were negative.



# Immunizations

*Submitted by: Rita Spahlinger, RN & Bev Cope, MA*



## Childhood Immunization Program

The primary objective of this program is to increase age appropriate immunization levels in children under two years of age. The Ohio Department of Health (Immunization Action Plan) funds a portion of this program. The aim of this program is to provide service delivery, information and education, and assessment.

There are 10 clinic sites located around Trumbull County. **63% of the clients who attended our clinics in 2008 were up to date on their immu-**

**nizations by 2 years of age.** The definition of up to date has been changed to include 4 Dtap, 3 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 MMR and 1 Varicella. **4708 children were immunized at the health department clinics in 2008.**

## Influenza

**Public Health Nurses administered 1,441 flu shots at 12 sites around Trumbull County.** These shots were administered during the months of October, November and December to residents of all Ages.

## Adult Immunization Clinics

**Adult immunization services are offered monthly at the health department for any adult in Trumbull County.** Vaccines available are Td (tetanus/diphtheria) Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis), MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella), Varicella (chicken pox) and Hepatitis B. **We provided immunizations for 201 adults in 2008.**



## **HELP ME GROW (HMG)**

*Coordinator: Trudy Seymour-Evans, LSW, MS Ed.*

**This is a state program funded through Ohio Department of Health and administered through the Trumbull County Family and Children First Council.** The components that the Trumbull County Health Department provides service for are:

## Newborn Home Visitation Program

**Submitted by Debbie Mokosh, RN - Randee Shoenberger RN - Judi Roman, RN**

**This is a collaborative program of all four health departments with Trumbull County Health Department as the lead agency.** It provides all parents of new infants an opportunity to have a registered nurse visit within the first six weeks after a baby is born. The nurse does a brief assessment of the baby and answers any questions or concerns that the parents may have. The emphasis of the program is to introduce new parents to the services and programs available in the community. Referrals for services are made at the time of the visit or anytime thereafter. **There were 504 home visits made by nurses in Trumbull County in 2008; 301 of those visits were made by Trumbull County Health Department nursing staff.**

## Service Coordination

**Submitted by: Beth Shelar, AS - Cathy Lauvernick, LSW - Nikki Brink, BS - Jen Wozniak, AAS  
Randee Shoenberger, RN - Debbie Mokosh, RN - Judi Roman, RN**

**We have 4 full time Service Coordinators and 3 Public Health Nurses who provide service coordination for children who need ongoing HMG services.** This includes working with the families to develop a plan that addresses the family's needs and regular home visits to assist them to meet those needs. **There were 610 Children served in 2008. 200 of these children were served by the Trumbull County Health Department Service Coordination Team.**

## BCMh

## Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps

**Submitted by: Randee Shoenberger, RN - Judi Roman, RN - Debbie Mokosh, RN**

**The mission of the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh) is to assist families of children with special health care needs.** BCMh is a state-administered program within the Ohio Department of Health. The Bureau promotes early identification of children with handicapping conditions and treatment of these children by appropriate providers. **Public Health Nurses assist clients to obtain optimum available services.** **There are 242 children enrolled in the BCMh treatment and diagnostic plans. Nurses completed 29 home visits with BCMh clients in 2008.**

# THE TRUMBULL COUNTY CHILD FATALITY REVIEW BOARD

Submitted by: Judi Roman, RN and  
Randee Shoenberger, RN



The Trumbull County Child Fatality Review Board was established in response to a law mandating that each of Ohio's counties review the deaths of children under 18 years of age. The mission of the board is to reduce the incidence of preventable deaths by: promoting cooperation, collaboration and communication among agencies that serve families and children; developing and maintaining a database of all child deaths that causes occur to residents of Trumbull County in order to understand the causes and incidents of those deaths; developing and recommending plans and programs that might prevent child deaths; and providing the Ohio Department of Health with aggregate data, trends and patterns concerning child deaths.

The Child Fatality Review Board is composed of representatives from the following agencies:

- The Trumbull County Health Department
- Trumbull County Coroner's Office
- Trumbull County Lifelines (Board of Alcohol, Drug Addictions and Mental Health)
- Trumbull County Children's Service Board
- Warren City Health Department
- Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office
- Trumbull County Sheriff's Office
- Trumbull County Education Service Center
- Warren City Schools
- Girard City Health Department

Activities of the Board during 2008 included reviews of the deaths that occurred in 2007 to children residing in Trumbull County who were under the age of 18 years. The board met quarterly to review selected individual deaths. A five member subcommittee met monthly to gather data, review the deaths and select cases for full review by the full board.

There were 31 deaths to children under 18 years of age in Trumbull County during 2007. A total of 23 deaths were considered natural, (from disease process, congenital anomalies or prematurity) During the year 2007, 13 of these natural deaths were due to premature births. There were 2 probable SIDS. 5 cases were coroner's cases, 2 suicides and 3 homicides.

The CFR Board continued working on Safety Town which will take place in late summer of 2009. We are collaborating with Warren City School's and will have a 4 day event at Willard School in Warren, Ohio. This program is for children entering kindergarten. The curriculum has been developed and most of the speakers have been confirmed. Our long term goal is to have a permanent site in which Safety Town can be available to all Trumbull County residents.

The CFR board continues to be active in initiating new programs in our county. As mentioned above, we reviewed an increase number of deaths related to premature births. Since we receive very little information on these cases we developed a questionnaire that was sent to the delivering physicians. Our goal of requesting additional information is that we would be able to recognize and identify risk factors leading to the premature births/deaths. To date the physicians have been very cooperative in returning these questionnaires, and we are looking at educational activities/campaigns to address as a result of the information obtained.

A Rapid Response Kits Grant was received through the Safe Kids Coalition. The amount received was \$600.00. This money was given to the Youngstown Fire Department for their fire prevention activities. The grant is awarded to communities that have fires which result in injuries or deaths of children.

During 2007 the Trumbull County Health Department and Child Fatality Review Board developed a campaign regarding swimming safety. Our efforts were recognized and the Trumbull County Commissioners "adopted a resolution raising the level of awareness of water and pool safety for 2008 water recreation season" for all Trumbull County residents. A billboard was designed and was displayed at the Eastwood Mall complex (see above picture.)

We are in the beginning stages of developing a new campaign about the dangers of "co-sleeping" with newborn infants. Our focus will be teaching new parents the proper sleeping environment of their newborn infants. Our goal is to include the local hospitals with this endeavor.

## Summary of Children's Deaths Occurring in 2007 (Reviewed in 2008)

**Total # of Deaths to Children under the Age of 18 Years in Trumbull County = 31**

**Coroner's Cases = 5**

**Natural Deaths to Children 1 to 18 Years of Age = 23**

These include the following:

- 13 - Premature Birth
- 2 - Probable SIDS
- 1 - Sudden unexplained Death
- 2 - Suicides





## ***BIO-TERRORISM/EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS***

*Submitted by: Selene Layton, BA, RNC*

**We have created a consortium of 26 agencies in the county who meet on a regular basis and are working on coordinated planning that we would all follow in case of a bio-terrorism or other large public health event.** This committee has been working diligently and testing our planning efforts throughout the year.

**In April we participated in** Trumbull Memorial Hospital's Disaster Day and in May the Epidemiologist participated in a regional epidemiology drill in Summit County. The emergency coordinator for the health departments participated in Humility of Mary Health Partners' tabletop exercise for long term care facilities and all four health departments in Trumbull County exercised our Continuity of Operation Plans in June. In July all four health departments in Trumbull County worked together along with the other 10 health departments in our region to test our response to an influenza pandemic and helped us to determine strengths and weaknesses in our plans. Trumbull County staff participated as evaluators and controllers during this exercise.

**In October** staff from the four health departments in Trumbull County exercised our ability to provide vaccine to a large number of people by doing a "drive through" flu clinic at the Trumbull County Fairgrounds. Other participants included the Red Cross, Trumbull County and Niles City EMA, HMHP (St. Joseph's Hospital), Lifelines, Youngstown State and Kent State University students and instructors, many community and the MRC volunteers. This clinic allowed us to test our ability to set up and run a mass dispensing clinic without people having to be out of their cars. This would be especially important if we were trying to prevent the spread of a contagious disease.

**Although communicable disease investigation has always been a health department core function,** we have put new emphasis on early recognition and investigation of possible outbreaks; we have Sandy Swann, a Public Health Nurse, who is specially trained in epidemiology and works closely with the other health departments, physicians, and hospitals to do surveillance and track trends in diseases.



### ***Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)***

**Submitted by: Lucinda Sentner, RN**

The Trumbull County Medical Reserve Corps operates out of the Trumbull County Health Department. The mission of the MRC is to provide registered and trained medical volunteers to assist public health in times of disaster and throughout the year as needed. The volunteers are registered in to a state wide data base according to credentials, skills, and level of volunteer time preferred. Those who are registered in this way will be supported with liability coverage through the State of Ohio while reporting to a public health need as a volunteer. Badges have been made and a background check has been done through the Trumbull County Sheriff's Department. Trainings needed include: Incident Command, Public Health Immunization Practices, Psychological First Aid, and MRC 101 or an Intro to MRC. Trumbull County currently has 130 volunteers.

MRC activities for 2008:

- \* 155 VOLUNTEERS have submitted registration forms or registered on-line. This includes: 8 physicians, 89 nurses, 4 EMS, 1 Dentist, 4 mental health, 31 non-medical, and 18 other.
- \* 6 volunteer meetings were held, 3-10 volunteers attended at each session to plan activities for the year.
- \* 14 trained in Psychological First Aid (offered on two dates).
- \* 12 trained in CERT( a 24 hour training).
- \* 20 trained in NIMS 100 and 700 (offered through Hazmat on 4 occasions).
- \* 16 attended MRC101 trainings (offered on three occasions).
- \* 23 attended Intro To MRC (this conference offered CEU's to nurses, sanitarians, and mental health).
- \* 9 attended the Trumbull County Fair to man a booth for recruitment.
- \* 4 Volunteer Reception Center Trainings were conducted. The outcome: One official Volunteer Reception Center at the Mecca Moose Lodge in Cortland ; 8 volunteers to staff the site.
- \* 4 volunteers assisted Local Public Health with a Mass Flu Clinic.
- \* 16 have receive background checks and photo id through the Trumbull County Sheriff's office.

In 2009, The MRC will have an office on the first floor of the TCHD, at 176 Chestnut Ave. N.E., Warren, Ohio, 44483.

**CAR SEAT PROGRAM: Safe Kids Mahoning Valley**  
Submitted by: Lucinda Sentner, RN

The vision of this Coalition is to eliminate accidental injury and death to children in Trumbull and Mahoning Counties. The mission of this Coalition is to prevent accidental death and injury to children age 14 and under through education of adults and children.

The highest priority area has been to address injuries and deaths occurring in and around motor vehicles. **Education is provided in three ways:** 1). Educational classes to caregivers through the Trumbull County Health Department which includes a short child passenger safety video, a hands-on demonstration about how the car seat works, and instructions on installation of the child restraint in the caregivers vehicle. Classes are conducted three times each month at the TCHD and one time each month at St. Joe's at the Mall. Included in the program is the opportunity for those less fortunate to obtain a new car seat for a small donation of \$15.00 or FREE if needed. 2). Community Car Seat Check- Up Events. In 2008, Safe Kids Mahoning Valley participated in 7 Check Up Events at various locations throughout Trumbull and Mahoning Counties. These events check the child restraints for proper fit to the child, proper positioning in the vehicle, and verify recall information. And, 3). Workshops to parents/caregivers, cub scout packs, and teen age school events. Starting in 2009, Classes may now be accessed in Mahoning County through Akron Children's Hospital at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center. The class is offered the last Wednesday of each month at 1:00 P.M.

**During the 7 check up events in 2008 there were:**

- 119 seats checked
- 4 infant seats distributed
- 12 rear facing convertible seats distributed
- 10 forward facing seats with harness distributed
- 7 belt positioning booster seats distributed

Funding for this program is assisted by:  
Trumbull County Help Me Grow, St. Joe's Hospital, Ohio Department of Public Safety, and private citizen donations.

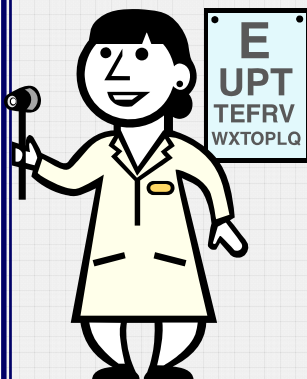


**Trumbull County Health Department is an Official Safe Kids Fitting Station and in 2008 there were:**

- 228 seats were checked
- 216 seats were distributed

**Also in 2008:**

- 12 Safe Kids parent/ caregiver workshops were conducted.
- 400 children were reached through seat check-ups, work shops, and health fairs.



**AMISH SCHOOL  
VISION AND HEARING  
SCREENING**

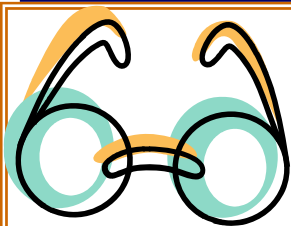
Submitted by: Lucinda Sentner, RN

Trumbull County Health Department provides Vision and Hearing Screening for the Amish Schools in Trumbull County. The vision screening is for distance (near-sightedness). This screening is provided by the Nursing Division.

In 2008 we screened 17 Amish Schools in Trumbull County. We also provided vision screening for Bloomfield Elementary School. Screening was conducted in grades 1,3,5, and 7; and any child in the other grades that warranted a concern. A total of 467 children were screened. **Seventeen vision referrals and fifteen hearing referrals were made for follow up.**

**SIGHT FOR STUDENTS PROGRAM**

Submitted by: Jan Chickering, MA



The Trumbull County Health Department contracts with Ohio's Prevent Blindness Program to assist families in Trumbull County with application for financial assistance for vision exams and glasses. This program is for "gap kids" who cannot obtain vision insurance at work and who are not eligible for government aid. Families can earn up to 200% poverty level and cannot be enrolled in another eye care insurance program or be covered by Medicaid. This program provides an eye exam and glasses for students who are in school up to age 18.

This program is administered by the Nursing Division of the Health Department. Students who are identified by us in need of this service are mailed an application to complete. The application is reviewed and forwarded by us to Prevent Blindness Ohio. Once approved, the family is mailed vouchers for both an eye exam and glasses with a list of participating providers.

In 2008 we processed 33 applications for this program and 27 of these were approved to receive an eye exam and glasses.

**Table I: 2008 Confirmed Communicable Disease Investigations in Trumbull County**  
(see Epi Note)

<u>Mesopotamia</u> 1- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 2- Pertussis 1- Strep Pneumonia +	<u>Bloomfield</u> 1- Campylobacter	<u>Green</u> 1- Giardia	<u>Gustavus</u> 1- Hepatitis C (Chronic)	<u>Kinsman</u>
<u>Farmington</u> 1- Campylobacter 1- Pertussis 2- Salmonella	<u>Bristol</u> 2- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- Meningitis - Viral 1- Strep Pneumonia 1 - Yersiniosis	<u>Mecca</u> 1- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- Salmonella 1- Strep Pneumonia	<u>Johnston</u>	<u>Vernon</u> 1- Campylobacter 1- Ecoli 0157:H7 1- Giardia
<u>Southington</u> 3- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- Meningitis - Viral 2- Salmonella	<u>Champion</u> 1- Cryptosporidium 1- Hepatitis B (Acute) 1- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- Pertussis 2- Salmonella 2- Strep Pneumonia 1- Varicella	<u>Bazetta</u> 4- Campylobacter 1- Cryptosporidium 2- Giardia 6- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- Strep Pneumonia	<u>Fowler</u> 1- Cryptosporidium 2- Lyme Disease	<u>Hartford</u> 2- Salmonella
<u>Braceville</u> 1- Campylobacter 2- Strep Pneumonia	<u>Warren *</u> 3- Campylobacter 1- Cryptosporidium 1- Giardia 2- Hepatitis B (Chronic) 19- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- HIB 1- Legionnaires 2- Meningitis – Viral 1- Pertussis 7- Shigella 5- Salmonella 2- Strep Group A < 1- Strep Group B - Newborn 14- Strep Pneumonia 2- Yersiniosis	<u>Howland</u> 6- Campylobacter 2- Cryptosporidium 1- Giardia 15- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- Lyme Disease 7- Salmonella 2- Shigella 10- Strep Pneumonia	<u>Vienna</u> 1- Giardia 1- Varicella	<u>Brookfield</u> 1- Hepatitis B (Chronic) 4- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 2- Listeriosis 1- Pertussis 2- Salmonella 1- Strep Group A
<u>Newton</u> 1- Giardia 1- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- Mycobacterial Other than TB (MOTT) 1- Shigella 1- Strep Group A 1- Strep Pneumonia	<u>Lordstown</u>	<u>Weathersfield</u> 1- Campylobacter 1- Cryptosporidium 2- E-Coli - 0157:H7 1- Encephalitis - Viral 1- Giardia 1- Hepatitis A 1- Hepatitis B (Acute) 11- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 2- HIB 2- Meningococcal Disease (Bacterial) 3- Meningitis - Viral 2- Salmonella 5- Strep Pneumonia 1- Varicella	<u>Liberty</u> 1- Campylobacter 1- Cryptosporidiosis 1- Hepatitis B 1- Hepatitis C (Acute) 10- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 1- Legionnaires 3- Salmonella 1- Strep Group A 6- Strep Pneumonia	<u>Hubbard</u> 2- Giardia 5- Hepatitis C (Chronic) 2- Mycobacterial Other than TB (MOTT) 2- Salmonella 3- Strep Pneumonia



Submitted by: Sandy Swann R.N., B.S.N., Epidemiologist

There were 1101 Communicable Disease Cases investigated in Trumbull County for year 2008. Of these cases, 874 are classified as confirmed cases, 84 are classified as probable cases, 110 are classified as suspect cases and 33 are classified as not cases. These cases were investigated by the Nurses at the four Health Departments in Trumbull County. The distribution of these case investigations are as follows: Trumbull County General Health District—276 Cases; Girard City Health Department—21 Cases; Niles City Health Department—55 Cases; and Warren City Health Department—749 Cases (Warren City investigated all of the reportable sexually transmitted diseases in Trumbull County for year 2008.)

- Table I lists the Communicable Disease Cases that were classified as confirmed in Trumbull County. These cases are confirmed based on either laboratory confirmation; meet the case clinical definition and / or are epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case. These cases were geo-coded by the Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS) and Table 1 illustrates the distribution of the cases in Trumbull County based on the ODRS coding. Table I does not include the confirmed Chlamydia and Gonococcal Infection (Gonorrhea)—they are listed below as number of cases.

**The following is a key for some of the diseases listed in the Table I:**

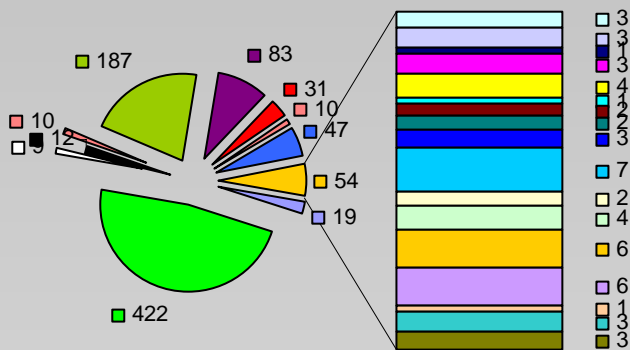
< Strep Group A cases includes both invasive and non-invasive.

+ Strep pneumonia cases include antibiotic resistance known, unknown or non-resistant cases.

\*Warren includes cases that have zip codes ending in 81, 83, 84, 85, & 30 (Leavittsburg) that did not geo-code into any of the other townships.

- The Graph below illustrates the Type and Number of the Confirmed Communicable Diseases that were reported to all Health Districts in Trumbull County.
- There were 6333 Influenza cases reported to Trumbull County Health Department by schools and nursing homes, hospitals and labs. 84 of these reported cases were lab and hospital confirmed.
- There were 422 lab confirmed cases of Chlamydia infection and 187 lab confirmed cases of Gonococcal infection in Trumbull County.

2008 Confirmed Communicable Disease Cases in Trumbull County



- Campylobacteriosis
- Chlamydia Infection
- Cryptosporidiosis
- E. coli enterohemorrhagic O157:H7
- Encephalitis primary
- Giardiasis
- Gonococcal infection
- Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease)
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B (including delta) - Acute
- Hepatitis B (including delta) - Chronic
- Hepatitis C - Acute
- Hepatitis C - Chronic
- Legionellosis - Legionnaires' Disease
- Listeriosis
- Lyme Disease
- Meningitis - aseptic/viral
- Meningococcal disease - Neisseria meningitidis
- Mycobacterial Disease other than TB (MOTT)
- Pertussis
- Salmonellosis
- Shigellosis
- Streptococcal - Group A invasive
- Streptococcal - Group B newborn

# RABIES



Submitted by: Beverly Cope M.A.; Debbie Mokosh R.N.; and Sandy Swann R.N., B.S.N., Epidemiologist

2008 has been a very busy year for the Nursing Department and Rabies. During 2008 we processed 234 animal exposure events. Of these 234 events, 195 involved animal to human contact. Most of these were dog bite exposures with cat exposures being the second most common event.

We also increased our animal surveillance for rabies this year. Since we are considered a "rabies endemic area for raccoon strain rabies", the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) contracts with us to provide active surveillance of suspect raccoons, foxes and skunks. In 2008 we submitted 47 raccoons and 2 fox under this contract for sick / unusual behavior and / or human exposure. This is 28 more animals than we submitted last year. We also submitted other animals not included in this contract for human or animal exposure. These animals include: 1 chipmunk, 1 coyote, 1 opossum, 1 squirrel and 11 bats. Our staff continues to coordinate and participate in ground Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV) baiting as an effort to control and eliminate raccoon strain rabies in Trumbull County. **The Table to the right provides the numbers and location of distribution for the ORV baits for fall of 2008.**

Unfortunately due to this increase surveillance we found that Trumbull County is not free from raccoon strain rabies. In 2008 we identified 1 rabies positive bat, 1 rabies positive raccoon and 1 rabies positive coyote. The rabies positive raccoon and coyote were typed and found to have raccoon strain rabies. Our last reported positive case for raccoon strain rabies was reported in 2005.

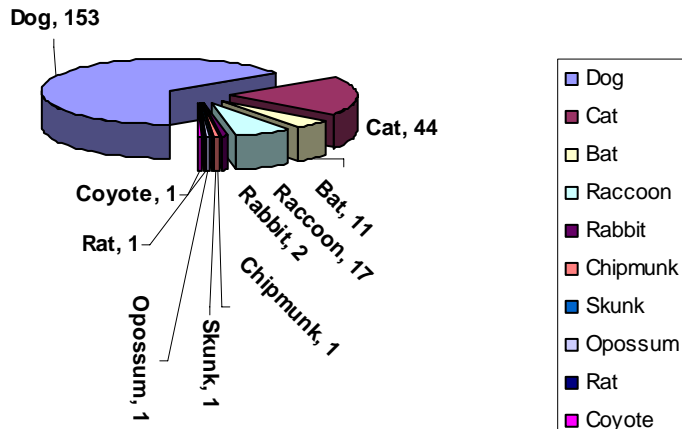
Rabies is a viral disease that affects animals and people and is almost always fatal. It is a huge concern for our department since Trumbull County is considered a "rabies endemic county" for raccoon strain rabies. The raccoon strain rabies is of great concern because it affects other wild animals and spills over into domestic animals, especially cats. Therefore, exposures to animals who are not vaccinated for rabies and all wild animals always pose a threat of rabies. All animal exposures require either a quarantine period of the animal or testing of the animal to determine the animals rabies status. If this is not possible, post exposure treatment for rabies is indicated for these exposures. This treatment is both expensive and concerning. This cost is estimated to be about \$1,500 to \$2,500 per a person. **Therefore, the two most important things you can do to prevent an exposure is 1) keep your dogs, cats and ferrets vaccinated for rabies and 2) avoid contact with all wild animals and any stray or unfamiliar dog, cat or other domestic animal.**

2008 Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV) Ground Baiting in Trumbull County

AREA	# BAITS	DISTR	MILES	HOURS*
Cortland City	315	315	47	3.5
Hubbard City	630	630	60	4
McDonald City	360	360	27	1.25
Trumbull #1- Brookfield Township	2,160	2,160	92	4.5
Trumbull #2- Liberty East	945	945	45	2.75
Trumbull #3- Trumbull #4- Liberty West	450	450	46	1.25
Trumbull #5- Howland Township	630	630	45	2.75
Trumbull #6- Weathersfield	2,160	2,160	60	6
Trumbull #7- Portions of Warren	1,350	1,350	57	3.75
	1,440	1,440	45	2.5
Trumbull County General Health	10,440	10,440	524	32.25
WCHD A- Warren	720	720	19.2	2
WCHD B- Warren	675	675	14	4
WCHD C- Warren	1,035	1035	17.9	2.25
WCHD D- Warren	1,080	1,080	23	4
Warren City Health District Total	3,510	3,510	74.1	12.25
NCHD- Niles City	1,665	1,665	80	6.5
GCHD- Girard City	945	945	50	8
Total	16,560	16,560	728.1	59

\* Bait were distributed in Teams of Two.

2008 Reported Animal Bite / Rabies Exposure Events for Trumbull County General Health District



- AVOID CONTACT WITH WILD-LIFE AND ANIMALS YOU DO NOT KNOW!
- VACCINATE YOUR DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS FOR RABIES AND KEEP THEM CURRENT!  
IT'S THE LAW!





# Health Education

Mel Milliron, C.H.E.S.

In year 2001 the Health Department wrote for and received a four-year Cardio-Vascular Health (CVH) grant. The purpose of the project is to improve opportunities for Trumbull County residents to reduce their risk of heart disease. In December of 2004 the grant was renewed for an additional four years, pending the completion of annual grant objectives.

In following are key components of the CVH project.

- **Ultimate Goal:** Affect changes in health related policies so that positive changes are permanent.
- **Funded Projects:** Must reflect population based strategies.
- **Settings:** Projects must address worksite, school, healthcare and community settings.
- **Risk Factors:** The focus is on the modifiable risk factors including tobacco, physical activity, nutrition, blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol.
- **Collaboration:** The project director must work in collaboration with other agencies and groups to reach statewide objectives.
- **Multi County Grant:** We have teamed up with Ashtabula County on the project.
- **Great Need:** In 2001 Trumbull County was ranked the 23<sup>rd</sup> worst county in Ohio for heart disease. We had a 26.6% adult smoking rate; a 21.7% obesity rate and 92.4% of Trumbull County residents report a sedentary lifestyle. In regard to clinical risk factors, 28.9% of residents

surveyed have high cholesterol, 26.1% have elevated blood pressure and almost 10% report being diagnosed with diabetes.

Current rates are: Smoking 21.9%, Physical Inactivity 77%, Obesity Rate 25%, High Blood Pressure 27.5%, Diabetes 9.6%.

- **Heart-Healthy Community Coalition:** A CVH coalition of agencies and individuals was developed. The purpose of the coalition is to reduce heart disease in the target area. The coalition meets on a quarterly basis with the Health Educator acting as the coordinator.
- **Target Area:** The target area must be a community of high poverty with sufficient numbers to make a noticeable impact. The target areas in Trumbull County are Warren as well as Bloomfield and Mesopotamia townships.
- **Heart-Healthy Community Checklist:** The first year was devoted to assessing the targeted community using the Checklist. The Checklist measures services, opportunities, the environment and systems that are available to residents who want to lead a heart-healthy lifestyle. The survey examined health care organizations, schools, the community and worksites. Risk factors addressed are lack of physical activity, poor nutrition, tobacco use and clinical risk factors including cholesterol, diabetes and high blood pressure. The

Checklist is used on an annual basis. Scores in all areas have improved over the last seven years.

- **Action Plan:** An action plan was developed by the coalition to improve areas of need. The action plan has specific objectives that target educational, environmental change and policy/regulation strategies.

## **Other Coalition Involvement:**

As part of the grant, the Health Educator is an active member of the following coalitions and committees.

- Trumbull Coordinated School Health Coalition-Coordinator
- Action For Healthy Kids Zone Four Committee
- Friends of the Western Reserve Greenway
- MC&T Coalition-Three County Tobacco Coalition
- Trumbull Memorial Hospital Foundation Community Relations Committee
- The Ohio State University Extension Advisory Board
- Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- UAW/GM Diabetes Work Group
- Sunshine Board
- Community Concerned Citizens II-Secretary

## **Presentations and Lectures**

Presentations were made throughout the year on physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use, coordinated school health, healthy communities & healthy schools. Presentation sites and audiences included Kent State University Trumbull Campus, WIC, Warren Rotary, Champion High & Middle Schools, Warren City Schools, Ohio Physical Activity Plan, Action for Health Kids Conference, School Nurses & the Ohio Department of Health.

## Highlights of Health Education Activities in 2008

- **Healthy Community Gold Award:** We submitted an application for a Healthy Community Award for Warren City. The Warren City Community received a Gold Award.
- **Healthy Worksite Award:** Howland Township applied for a Healthy Worksite award and received a Bronze.
- **City Parks:** Coalition members were instrumental in keeping open Quinby Park and holding the 7th Annual Juneteenth celebration.
- **Trumbull Memorial Hospital Foundation:** The Health Educator is an active member of the TMH Foundation "Move To Improve" program that inspired over 400 county residents to become more physically active and to improve their nutrition practices. The Foundation also sponsored a run/walk to raise money for breast cancer awareness.
- **Dining With Diabetes:** We co-sponsored this three part series with the Ohio State University Extension. The program helps diabetics learn about their disease and how to cope with it.
- **Food Service Training:** The Health Department co-sponsored a workshop for school food service personnel that dealt with coordinated school health, accommodating child health issues, nutrition standards, school breakfast and partnering with classroom teachers on nutrition education. Fifty-six school food service staff from six counties and 22 school districts were in attendance.
- **Action For Healthy Kids Zone Four:** Two workshops focusing on nutrition and physical activity and their link to academic performance were attended by 99 school staff..
- **School Wellness Policies:** The Health Educator is a community member of the Warren City School's Wellness Team.
- **Worksite Wellness:** A worksite wellness conference was held. There were 74 people in attendance.
- **Mini-Grants:** We applied for and received funding for four mini-grants that were awarded to four Trumbull County school districts.
- A Trumbull County Parks resource guide was updated and printed.
- The Community Resource Guide was updated and printed.



*Please contact the health  
department for more information  
on any of these activities.*