

**Public Health, a Great Investment for our Community**

**Kim Rieman, Health Commissioner**

*Working towards a healthy and safe Putnam County.* This tag line represents the goal of our dedicated staff. The important work we do impacts every member of the community and can be seen throughout the county. Prevention is our goal as we provide immunizations, inspect restaurants and swimming pools, and conduct programs that enhance wellness. While the work is plentiful and the demands on local health departments continues to grow, funding remains the same or decreases. Public Health, like many businesses and governmental agencies are forced to do more with limited resources.

The Putnam County Health Department receives funding from 3 primary sources: Fees for services; local governmental dollars (mostly comprised of levy funds); and state and federal grants and subsidies. The following explains how these funds are used in our agency and the outlook of those funding streams.

Fees for services make up approximately 50% of our revenue. Examples of this income include payments we receive from immunizations, birth and death certificates, and environmental program fees. In several programs such as vital statistics, a percentage of the fee is sent to the state and is not maintained locally. For example, almost half of the amount we collect for a birth certificate is sent to the Ohio Department of Health. Cost analyses are performed for Environmental Health services to ensure that fees do not exceed the cost to run the program. Our leadership team monitors activity in all fee-for-service programs. We are fortunate that activity has remained steady, as has the income generated. Surrounding counties have seen a decrease in some programs such as immunizations.

The Health Department tax levies are our next source of revenue and are vital to our budget. We have a .5 mil (5 year) levy as well as a .25 mil (10 year) levy. Levy funds are used to help provide programs that are not covered through grants or fees such as school health nursing, communicable disease outbreak control and car seat education and installation assistance. The funds also allow the health department to conduct rabies surveillance, nuisance investigations and school safety inspections. In November, our .5 mil renewal levy was approved by voters and we are honored to be able to continue to provide these important services to our residents.

State and federal grants, our state subsidy and grants from other sources make up our last portion of funding. A portion of this funding is money that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) sends to states. The CDC funding for state per capita for Fiscal Year 2016 ranges from a high of \$49.67 down to \$15.39. Ohio is near the bottom at \$17.90. Our state subsidy from the Ohio Department of Health in 2017 was just over \$6,500, which equals less than \$.20 per resident. Our staff have been successful in obtaining grants to address health needs in our community and special funds for mandated projects like our Community Health Assessment and our Community Health Improvement Plan. Achieving Public Health Accreditation is crucial. Beginning in 2020, grant funds will not be available to non-accredited health departments.

The Putnam County Health Department relies on funding from all three sources of revenue. It is important to improve funding for public health. Local investment can be maintained with continued support of our levies. State and federal funding must be improved so that our important work of prevention can continue with hopes to achieve our vision: *The Putnam County community will be free of preventable disease, live and work in a healthy environment and have access to quality care.*

*Kim Rieman*

**PUBLIC HEALTH: A Wise Investment**

**Balance as of January 1, 2017 \$912,105.21**

<b>REVENUE</b>	
Putnam County Tax Levy	\$400,954.96
Other Local Government Funds	45,026.99
Federal/State Grants/Subsidy	413,145.59
Service Fees	616,540.16
Misc. Grants/ Receipts	55,547.25
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$1,531,214.95</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Administrative Costs	\$887,456.78
Supplies (Medical, Office, Program)	343,446.10
ODH Grants	28,457.07
WPCLF Grant	243,579.58
Share to State	35,534.88
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,538,474.41</b>

**January 1 Balance + Receipts \$ 2,443,320.16**

**Balance as of December 31, 2017 \$ 904, 845.75**

**PCHD and Partners Continually Working Towards a Safe Putnam County**  
**Angela Recker, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator**

"Working towards a healthy and safe Putnam County" is the motto of the Putnam County Health Department. There are numerous ways that the Health Department works towards achieving this goal. One essential element is ensuring that the Putnam County community is prepared in the event of an emergency. The Putnam County Health Department is the recipient of the PHEP (Public Health Emergency Preparedness) Grant. The PHEP grant identifies 15 Public Health Preparedness Capabilities. These capabilities include topics such as Emergency Public Information and Warning, Fatality Management, Medical Countermeasures Distribution (i.e. administering needed medications), Responder Safety and Health and Volunteer Management. The Health Department strengthens its ability to perform these 15 capabilities through attending trainings, documenting policies and procedures, participating in community coalition meetings, and putting plans into action through drills and exercises.

Our drills and exercises are important tools to measure our response abilities. The Putnam County Health Department involves numerous community partners in drills and exercises. This relationship-building is a vital component to successful emergency preparedness and response. For a small community, our ability to effectively work with our partners directly effects our response effort. In 2017, the Putnam County Health Department, along with Putnam County Office of Public Safety, developed and coordinated a table-top exercise and drill for the healthcare agencies of Putnam County. Four area long-term care facilities, Putnam County HomeCare and Hospice, the Dialysis Center, St Rita's Ambulatory Care Center, and the Putnam County Sheriff's Office participated in the exercise that tested the healthcare community's ability to respond in a snow emergency. At the conclusion of these exercises, agencies then evaluated their actions and developed improvement plans to strengthen their future response activities. These joint efforts continually foster our unified community vision of a *healthy and safe Putnam County*.

Emergency Preparedness Backpacks were raffled at the Putnam County Fair



Backpack winner Connie Butler with Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Angela Recker



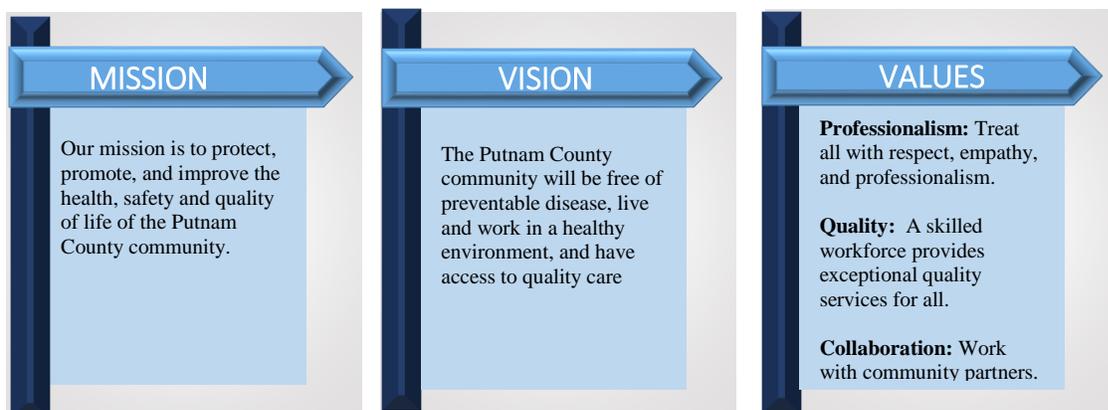
Backpack winner Brenna Karhoff with Health Commissioner, Kim Riemann

The *2018-2020 Putnam County Community Health Improvement Plan* is ready to go! This plan is filled with strategies to address the four strategic priorities that were identified:

- Mental Health and Addiction
- Preventable and Chronic Diseases/Conditions
- Abuse
- Safety

To determine the priorities, the Putnam County Health Department led the *Partners for a Healthy Putnam County* through the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) process. This process included conducting a Community Health Assessment (CHA) and developing a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). By using the MAPP process, we were certain to use data from the CHA, completed in 2016-2017, to help guide our efforts in developing a plan that will focus on the health and safety needs of our community.

It took many hours and great collaboration with our community partners to develop a Community Health Improvement Plan that includes evidence-based programs and policies to make a positive impact on our community. The PCHD will continue our work with many partners over the next few years to implement the strategies with a vision of “promoting active and healthy lifestyles to enhance the quality of life in Putnam County”. For more information about the *2016-2017 Putnam County Community Health Assessment* and the *2018-2020 Putnam County Community Health Improvement Plan* please visit [www.putnamhealth.com](http://www.putnamhealth.com).



## STRATEGIC PLAN

Joan Kline, Health Educator/Accreditation Coordinator

In 2017, the Putnam County Health Department staff, with input from the Board of Health, partners and stakeholders, worked through the strategic planning process to develop the *2018-2020 Putnam County Health Department Strategic Plan*. This plan provides our staff, Leadership Team, Board of Health and community stakeholders and partners with a planned approach and a clear picture of what we plan to achieve during the life of the plan. The process included conducting an assessment of our agency to determine our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, and to discover where improvement is needed. After determining “where we are now” and “where we want to be”, the following priorities were identified:

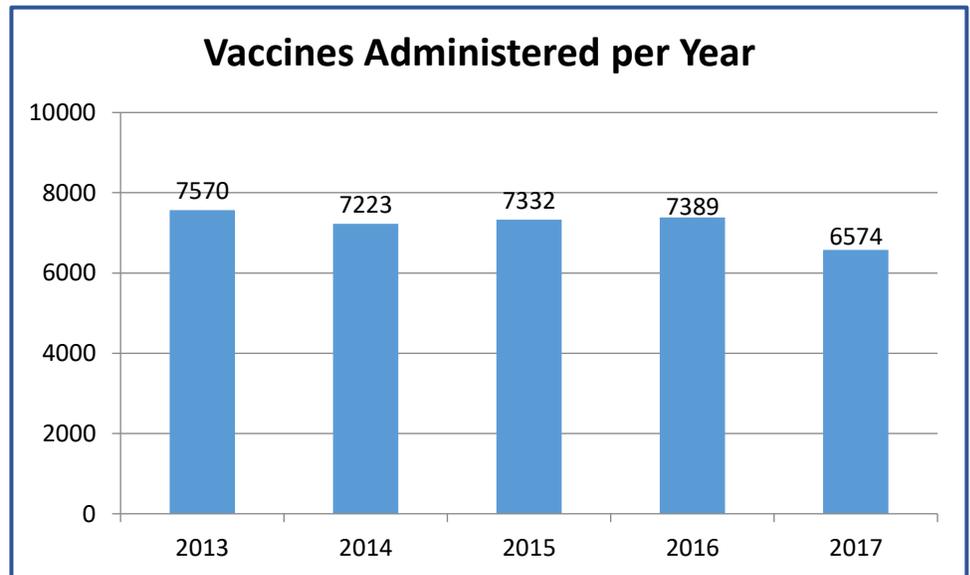
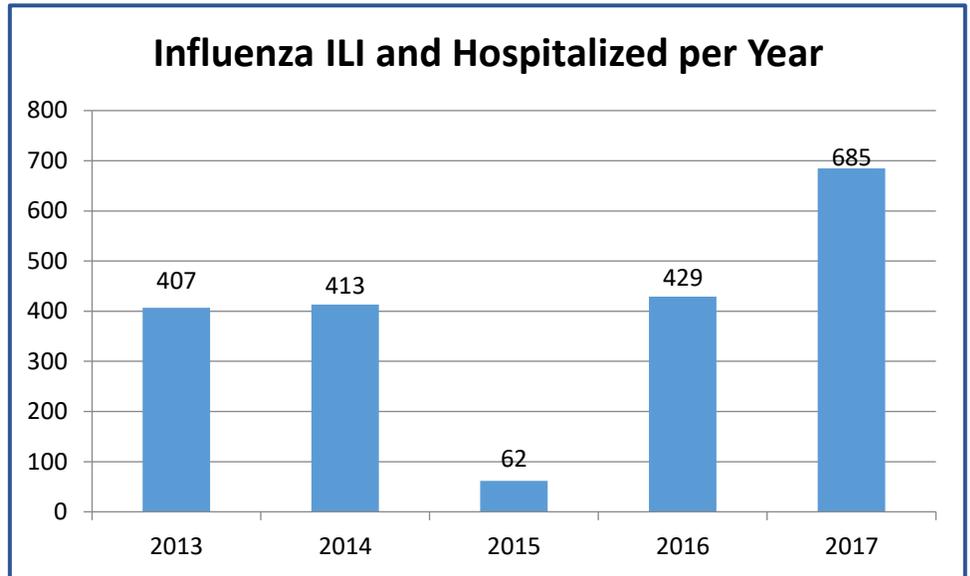
- **Marketing** – increase awareness of our programs
- **Financial Sustainability** – maintain financial stability and look for innovative funding
- **Collaboration** – internally with staff and externally with partners
- **Competent Workforce** – train and retain highly qualified employees

The strategic plan’s Action Plan includes many goals and objectives to lead our agency into a future of effective and efficient programs and services for the Putnam County community. The 2018-2020 Putnam County Strategic Plan is available on the Putnam County Health Department website at [www.putnamhealth.com](http://www.putnamhealth.com).

**Communicable Disease**

One of the ten essential public health services is to diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community. Sexually transmitted diseases such as Chlamydia continue to be the most common reportable disease. Some parts of the state are seeing increased numbers of Hepatitis C related to the drug epidemic, but our numbers remain consistently low. This year, Putnam County saw more Hepatitis A, which is spread via the fecal-oral route, typically on contaminated food. It's a good reminder to providers to test for all possible causes of gastrointestinal illness.

<b>Communicable Disease Summary 2017</b>	
Campylobacteriosis	6
Chlamydia	60
Cryptosporidia	8
E. Coli	2
Giardiasis	2
Gonorrhea	6
Group B Strep	1
Hepatitis A	3
Hepatitis B	1
Hepatitis C	5
Haemophilus Influenzae	1
Invasive Strep. Pneumoniae	2
Pertussis	7
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	2
Salmonellosis	8
Varicella	1
Viral meningitis	2
Yersinia	10
Influenza hospitalization	37
Influenza - lab confirmed	275
Influenza - physician diagnosed	373
<b>Communicable Disease Total</b>	<b>809</b>



**Immunizations**

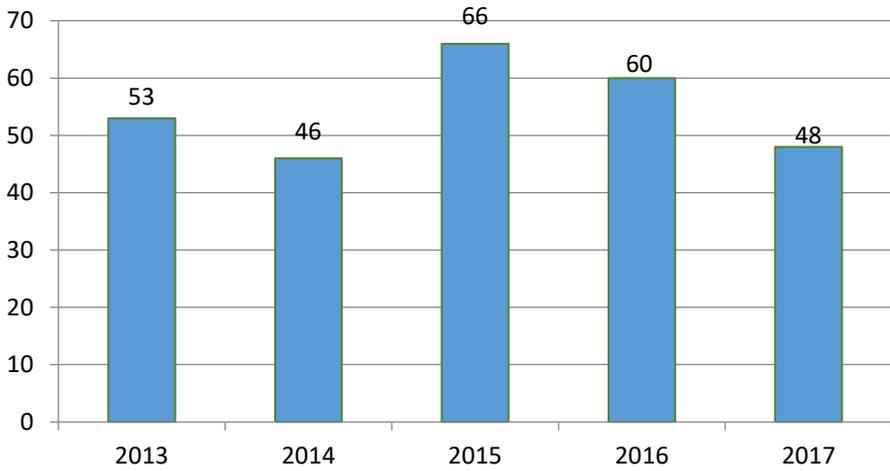
Immunizations are a vital link in communicable disease control. The health department serves children and adults in Putnam County with a full line of vaccines that prevent numerous diseases. PCHD bills Medicaid, Medicare, and most private insurances for providing these immunizations.

This year the number of meningitis vaccines administered decreased from 2016 due to college-aged students already having the vaccine going into their senior year. The number of influenza vaccines given decreased slightly although influenza disease had a much stronger illness rate in December compared to previous years.

**Innovative Partnership with Mental Health**

In late 2017, the health department contracted with Pathways Counseling Center to provide nursing services to their clients. A public health nurse will split time each week between Pathways and the health department. This partnership is one way the health department is looking at innovative ways to address community needs and raise revenue.

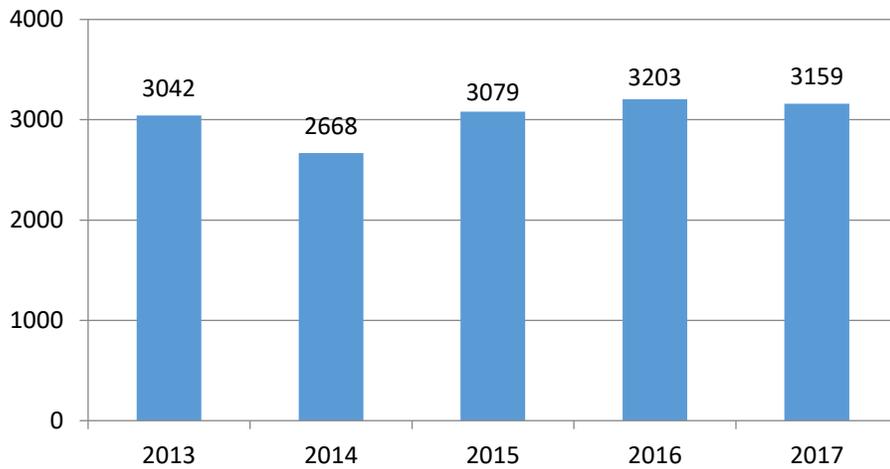
**ODH Car Seats Distributed per Year**



**Car Seat Program**

Last year saw some changes in this program. We began asking for a donation of \$25 versus being completely free. No parents were turned away due to inability to pay and were told that a donation is requested but not mandatory. New partnerships were developed in this program. PCHD partnered with the Baby Needs program to purchase infant carriers and distribute to families referred from their program. A car seat check was held at Graff Chevrolet in Ottawa where residents could get their car seat checked for correct installation at no cost. The Eagles of Ottawa donated money which will be used to purchase seats and materials needed to promote child passenger safety.

**Vision Screenings per Year**



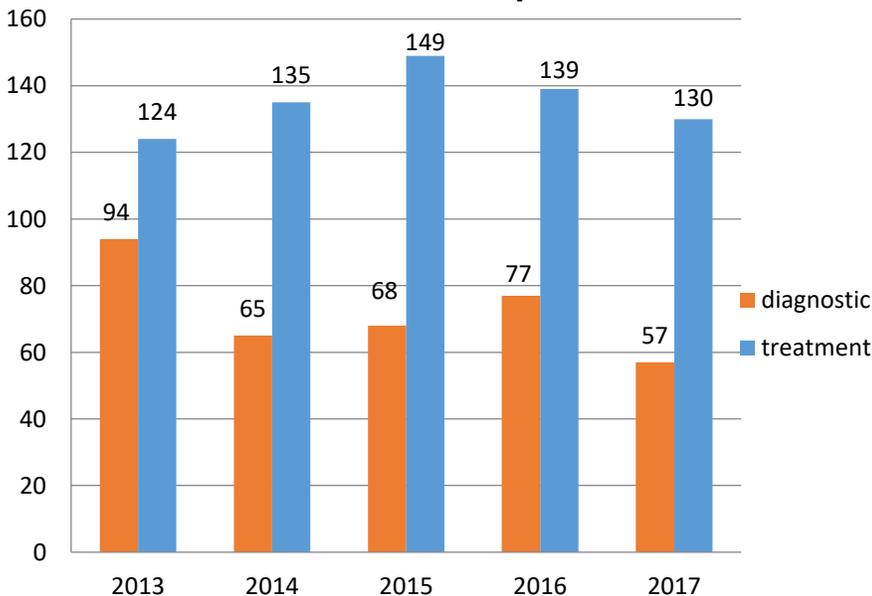
**School Nursing**

Health Department nurses provide vision and scoliosis screenings for county schools free of charge. Vision screenings are done in Kindergarten and grades 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9. In the 2018-19 school year, vision screening will also be done in 11<sup>th</sup> grade, so these numbers are expected to increase. Scoliosis screenings are done in grades 6, 7, and 8.

**Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps**

Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH) is a state program that assists parents with their child's special health care needs. CMH consists of two parts. Part one is the diagnostic program where a public health nurse refers a child to a physician, and the child receives diagnostic testing to rule out a medical condition. This program is eligible to any family, regardless of income. Part two is the treatment program. Once the child has a diagnosis, CMH looks at eligibility based on diagnosis and parental income. This program has benefitted many Putnam County families over the years. It provides assistance with payment of medical bills that insurance doesn't cover.

**BCMh Clients per Year**



The proposed legislative changes to the CMH program were not passed in 2017 due to a significant lobby effort by parents of children on the program. The Parent Advocacy Committee organized parents to talk to their state legislators and provide testimony at public hearings to keep the program intact. Thankfully their efforts were rewarded with the changes being withdrawn from the budget bill. This reinforces that our voices can be heard and make a difference.

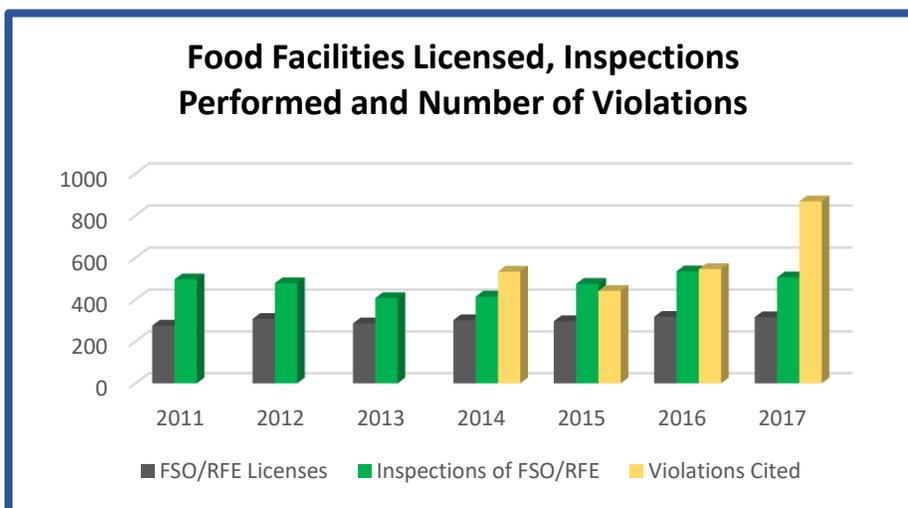
The Environmental Health (EH) staff have had a busy 2017! In the fall 2017, the EH division added a new employee, Dainna Raye, to oversee the Operation and Maintenance Program for Sewage Treatment Systems. She, along with all of the EH staff, have been working hard on the many environmental health programs, as well as assisting with accreditation efforts. The EH staff work in ten different areas of Environmental Health: Body Art, Campgrounds, Food Safety, Swimming Pools & Spas, Nuisances, Rabies Surveillance, School Inspections, Solid Waste – Gas Monitoring, Sewage and Water programs. The charts and graphs shown indicate the EH activities by year since 2011.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>FSO/RFE (Food) Licenses</b>	276	308	287	302	297	318	316
<b>Inspections of FSO/RFE</b>	497	479	408	415	476	535	507
<b>Violations Cited</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	534	442	546	868
<b>Pools and Spas Licensed</b>	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
<b>Campgrounds Licensed</b>	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>School Inspections</b>	25	28	28	28	16	14	30
<b>Sewage Treatment System Permits</b>	18	32	34	45	29	42	49
<b>Sewage Treatment System Site Evaluations</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	27	44	56
<b>Private Water System Permits</b>	55	77	60	48	52	59	50
<b>Water Samples</b>	152	148	105	155	157	173	180
<b>Animal Bites (Rabies Surveillance)</b>	34	41	30	46	43	52	42
<b>Nuisances</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	12

**Food Safety Program**

The number of licenses being issued for Food Service Operations (FSO) and Retail Food Establishments (RFE) fluctuate each year, but overall are remaining consistent. An example of an FSO is a restaurant and an example of an RFE would be a carryout. The total number of inspections conducted each licensing period depend on the risk level of the licensed facility and if any follow-up inspections are determined necessary. As the chart shows, in 2014 we began tracking food safety violations. The violations vary from non-critical to critical, as defined by the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Agriculture. In 2017, compared to previous years, there was a sizable growth in the number of violations that were documented during inspections in food service operations and retail food establishments. This is contributed to new requirements of the survey from the state agencies, as well as additional training and education for staff working in the program.

A new requirement for the food program in 2016 required facilities licensed as a Risk Level 3 or 4, which are the highest risk levels, to have at least one employee achieve Level 2 food safety certification. The Putnam County Health Department continues to offer Level 2 courses to assist licensed facilities in meeting this requirement. The PCHD has provided training and testing to 184 individuals from multiple counties, including: Putnam, Paulding, Defiance, Henry, and Van Wert.



In 2017, representatives from the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Agriculture were both on-site to perform surveys of the Food Service Operations and Retail Food Establishments food programs, respectfully. The reports show that the PCHD is complying with the requirements and is an approved agency for Putnam County’s Food Safety Program.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

### Continued

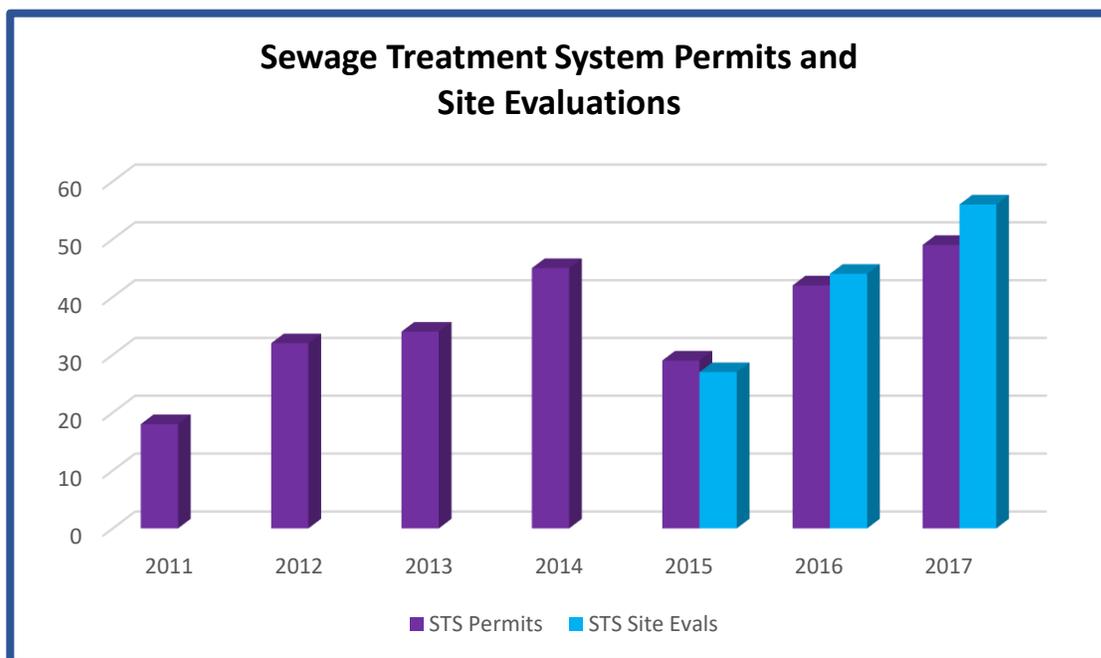
#### Sewage Treatment System Program

The new Sewage Treatment System (STS) regulations became effective January 1, 2015. As shown in the chart, there was an increase in the number of permits in 2014 prior to the rule change and a decrease in the number of permits issued in 2015. In 2016, the number of permits issued returned to over 40 and has continued to increase thereafter. The new regulations seem to have had little to no effect on building activity in Putnam County. When the new regulations began in 2015, PCHD started to track the site evaluations performed in the county. The number of site evaluations conducted has also continued to climb annually. This does not take into account the soil evaluations required for new lots that have an existing dwelling on the lot.

The Ohio Department of Health performed a survey of the sewage program in December 2017. The final report is not yet available, but the exit interview with ODH staff indicated that PCHD is working within the regulations, and we continually strive to improve the program.

The Water Pollution Control Loan Fund from Ohio EPA has allowed PCHD to assist homeowners with the repairing or replacing of their STS. PCHD was awarded \$100,000 in 2015 and \$300,000 in 2016 through this fund. From 2015 through 2017, \$329,636.27 of the funds was distributed to help Putnam County residents. In December 2017, PCHD was awarded the maximum amount of \$200,000 for 2018 to continue the program!

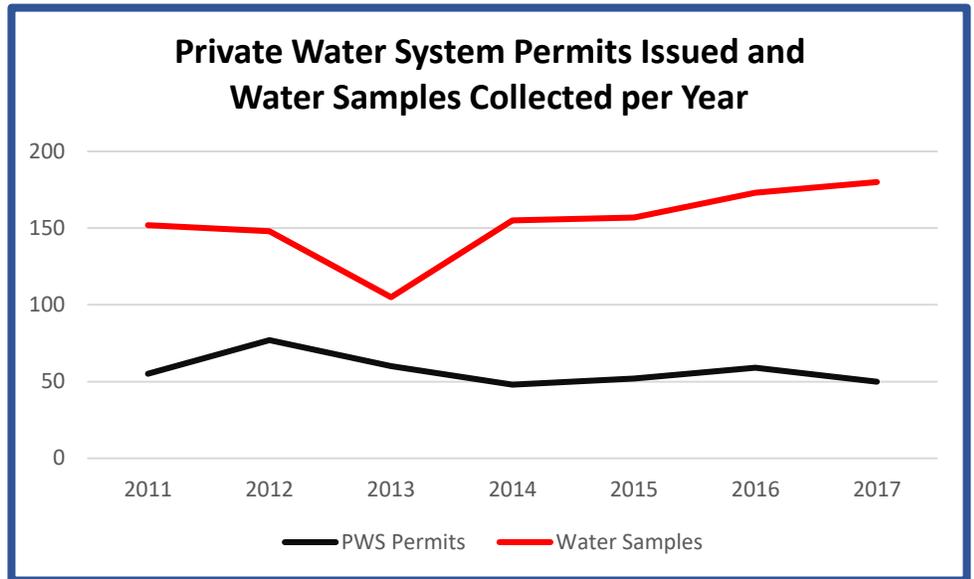
In 2017, PCHD staff presented at 5 public meetings to discuss the proposed Operation and Maintenance Plan developed and proposed through stakeholder meetings throughout 2016 and early 2017. The stakeholder and public meetings proved to be very beneficial progression of the O&M plan. The plan was approved by the Board of Health in May 2017. Beginning in 2018, the Operation and Maintenance Program will officially be in effect. One-tenth (approximately 700) of the properties in Putnam County will be incorporated into the program annually for ten consecutive years.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH Continued

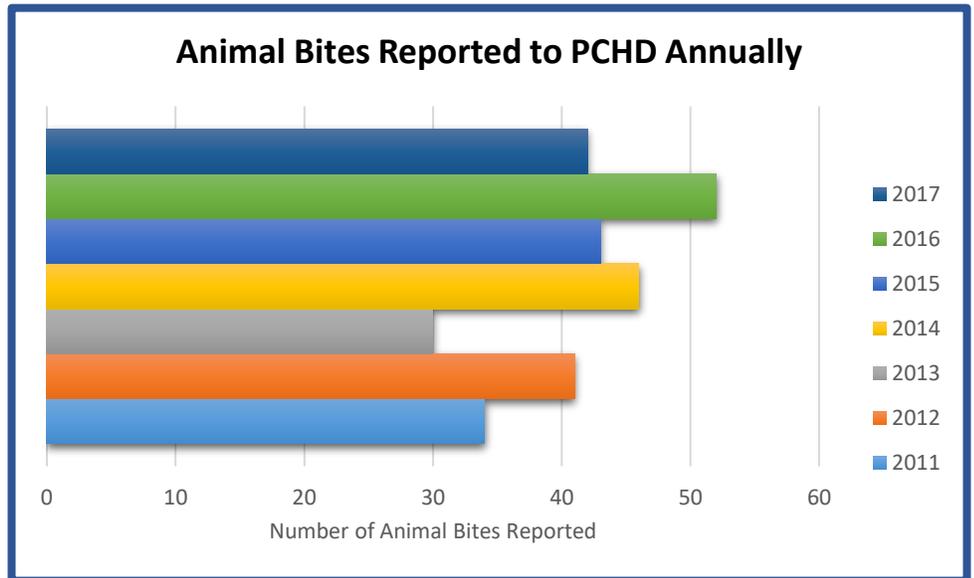
### Private Water Systems Program

In the last few years, PCHD has noticed a consistent number of permits being issued for Private Water Systems (PWS). Although the number of permits have remained relatively level, the number of water samples collected by PCHD has continued to increase. This may be due to the increase in home sales, which often require a water sample before closing, and more individuals who want to ensure that their water is safe for consumption.



### Rabies Surveillance Program

In order to improve the Rabies Surveillance Program, the EH staff reached out to physician's offices regarding the importance and the requirements of reporting an animal bite to the PCHD. In addition, EH staff worked with local veterinary offices to review the requirements that must be met before an animal can be released from quarantine. New forms were created to assist individuals and health care providers in reporting animal bites to PCHD. The graph shows the number of animal bites reported to the PCHD since 2011.



### Public Health Nuisance Program

The PCHD is responsible for investigating complaints involving nuisances that can affect the public. The nuisances that EH staff can work with property owners for abatement include; rodents, garbage, sewage, and water. Our office has noticed a substantial increase in the number of complaints being reported to our office.

**The Environmental Health Staff looks forward to an exciting 2018!**

**Certified Birth and Death Records**

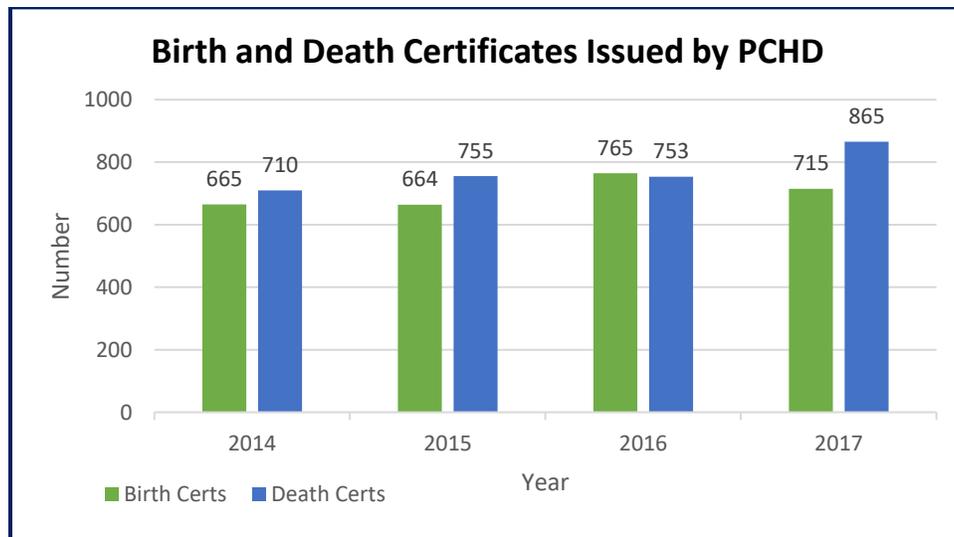
The health department registrar is responsible for filing all births and deaths that occur in Putnam County with the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Columbus.

Since 2011, Ohioans have been able to obtain a certified copy of any Ohio birth record at the local health department. Birth records are available from 1908 – Present. Death certificates, however, must be obtained from the county in which the death occurred. In 2017, the Putnam County Health Department issued 715 birth certificates and 865 death certificates.

The Putnam County Health Department processes requests for certified birth and death records Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$27.00 per certified record. Cash, check, debit or credit cards are accepted (an additional fee will apply for debit and credit cards).

<b>Leading Causes of Death for Putnam County Residents 2017</b>	
Heart Disease	73
Cancer	66
Pulmonary Disease/Pneumonia	35
Cerebral Vascular Accidents/Stroke	16
Dementia (Alzheimer’s and others)	16
Accidents (Motor Vehicle, Accidental Drowning, Unintentional Deaths, Etc.)*	12
Diabetes	12
Sepsis	11
Renal Failure	9
Suicides*	5
Other (4 or less each for causes such as Malnutrition, peptic ulcer, extreme premature birth, surgical complications, etc.)	56
Uncertain Etiology/Unknown	25
*Drug Overdose (included in accident and suicide)	3

**All figures obtained from the Ohio Department of Health Data Warehouse**



## YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

In December, 2017, two employees were recognized for their years of service to the Putnam County Health Department.

**Beth Skulina**, Sanitarian II, has been with the Health Department for 5 years and has been a key member of our Environmental Health Division.

**Joan Kline** celebrated 20 years with our agency this year. Currently, she is our Accreditation Coordinator and Health Educator.

**Thank you Beth and Joan for your service to the community!**

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## BOARD OF HEALTH

The Putnam County Board of Health serves both the Putnam County Health Department and Putnam County HomeCare and Hospice. Members of the 2017 Board include Mr. Raymond Brinkman, Mr. Al Hueve, Ms. Teresa Hermiller, Ms. Nancy Wischmeyer-Schaub, and Dr. Mandy Klass.

The Board of Health holds meetings on the second Thursday evening of each month. For more information, visit our website at [www.putnamhealth.com](http://www.putnamhealth.com) or call the Health Department at 419-523-5608.

On February 13, 2018, Ray Brinkman presided over his last Putnam County Board of Health Meeting. Ray joined the Board in March, 1994 and served as president for a number of years. We thank Ray for his years of service to the Putnam County Community.

## PUTNAM COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

*Working towards a healthy and safe Putnam County*

Kim Rieman, RN, MPH, CHES	Health Commissioner
Mary Ann Myers, MD	Medical Director
Sherri Recker, RN, MSN	Director of Nursing
Brandi Schrader, M.Ed., RS	Director of Environmental Health
Joan Kline, CHES	Health Educator, Accreditation Coordinator
Angela Recker	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Dawn Schmenk, RN, BSN	Public Health Nurse
Dunel Fry, RN, BSN	Public Health Nurse
Patty Jerwers, RN	Public Health Nurse
Beth Skulina, M.Ed., RS	Registered Sanitarian
Laura Gulker, RS	Registered Sanitarian
Dainna Raye, RS	Registered Sanitarian
Laurie Meyer	Billing, Nursing Clerk, Deputy Registrar
Abigail Greve	Registrar, Clerk Receptionist
Terri Rayle	Fiscal Clerk



**WE HAVE ENJOYED BEING OF SERVICE IN  
2017 AND LOOK FORWARD TO A  
HEALTHY AND SAFE 2018.**

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# Putnam County Health Department

*Working towards a healthy and safe Putnam County*



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Fax: 419-523-4171

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Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

[www.putnamhealth.com](http://www.putnamhealth.com)

## Community Services Include

Immunizations/Flu Clinics  
Birth and Death Certificates  
Private Water and Septic Permits  
Emergency Preparedness  
School Health Nursing  
Communicable Disease Monitoring  
Water Samples  
Food Service Inspections