

Putnam County Health Department



Maternal and Child Health Programs offered in the Community

The Putnam County Health Department's Nursing Division was recently awarded the Maternal and Child Health Grant from the Ohio Department of Health. With this grant, health department staff will be working with various community partners to implement new activities and programs. These activities include:

1. **The Ohio Healthy Program.** This is a preschool/daycare certification that encourages physical activity and nutrition policy changes. Our nurses will provide education and

- technical assistance to make these changes possible.
2. **Project KIND** is an evidenced-based program that will provide training to kindergarten teachers focusing on teaching key concepts of respect, manners and self-regulation to young children. Our nurses will work with two schools to implement this program.
3. **Media Smart Youth** is an after-school activity program that will teach 11-13 year olds about the influence of the media on our health. In addition to learning about physical activity

- and nutrition, the youth will implement their own media messages.
4. **Blessings in a Backpack** is a weekend food program that addresses food insecurity issues for school age children. Eligible children in one school district may sign up to receive a package of food they can prepare over the weekend.
5. **A Nutrition Assessment** will be conducted with mothers and children focusing on nutritional needs of lower income families.

The hope is that all of these activities continue and are enhanced during the grant's three-year cycle and impactful changes will be made in the health of our community.

By The Numbers Environmental Health Jan 1—Sept 30, 2016	
Food Service/Retail Food Licenses Issued	167
Mobile Licenses Issued	52
Temporary Food Licenses	70
Pools and Spas	9
Campgrounds	2
Sewage Treatment System Permits	33
Site Evaluations	31
Private Water System Permits	47
Water Samples	121
Animal Bite Investigations	49

Household Sewage Treatment Systems - Operation and Maintenance Planning

STS (Sewage Treatment System) regulations require all sewage treatment systems be maintained under an operational and maintenance permit. The health department is asking for assistance in developing this plan.

Township trustees, village mayors, and other county agencies such as Regional Planning Commission, Soil and Water, the

County Engineer, the Prosecutor and the County Commissioners have been asked to attend meetings to discuss how to best implement an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) plan that best fits the needs of our county. Public input is welcome at these meetings.

It is estimated that there are approximately 6,800 household sewage

treatment systems in our county that must be incorporated into the program.

If you would like to be informed about upcoming meetings, please contact Brandi Schrader at 419-523-5608 ext 240.

By The Numbers Nursing Jan 1—Sept 30, 2016	
Immunizations (including TB tests)	4822
School Vision Screenings	2033
School Scoliosis Screenings	1002
BCMH Visits	104
Car Seats Distributed	53
Car Seat Checks	20
Reportable Diseases	107

By The Numbers Vital Statistics Jan 1—Sept 30, 2016	
Death Certificates Issued	600
Birth Certificates Issued	525

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Flu Shots

It is not too late to get your flu shot! This is a great time to get your shot to protect you for the remainder of the flu season.

- We bill most major insurance companies.
- To assist those with mobility issues, we have the ability to provide drive-thru flu vaccine.

Please call 419-523-5608 to schedule an appointment. If you are in need of the drive thru option, please state that when making your appointment.

PCHD and Partners Test Ability to Treat Residents

The purpose of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program is to ensure that our county is ready to respond to natural, man-made, or biological emergencies. The goal is to minimize the negative effects on the health and safety of our residents. In addition to developing plans for response to these situations, it is necessary to exercise scenarios to determine if changes or training is needed.

In September, the Health Department exercised our ability to communicate with the Medical Counter Measures (MCM) group. This group consists of organizations that will assist in the dispensing of medications or vaccines during an event. Messages were distributed to simulate the sharing of important information so that dispensing can begin.

We then tested our ability to order medical materials from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), inventory materials as they are delivered to our county and prepare them for distribution to our Closed PODS (Points of Dispensing). Closed PODS are area businesses or organizations that have agreed to follow protocols to distribute medications or vaccines to a pre-determined population.

Finally, we tested our ability to distribute material to our Closed PODS and provide just-in-time training so that the POD staff can store and dispense the medication correctly. We also provided instruction on completing the proper paperwork so that the materials can be tracked efficiently.

The exercise was successful as the staff was able to familiarize themselves with these important processes. In addition, we could determine what parts of our plans need to be improved or where our staff need additional training. The experience was extremely valuable and has made our staff better able to respond to our residents' needs in the event of an emergency.



Community Health Assessment in the Works!

In an effort to determine the health needs of our community, the Putnam County Health Department is currently leading the Partners for a Healthy Putnam County through a community health assessment process. The Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) model is being used to conduct four different assessments of the health status of our residents.

Below is a description of the four MAPP assessments and our progress to date:

- Community Health Status Assessment – a survey has been sent to randomly selected homes to gather primary health data directly for county residents. The data will provide quantitative information on health status, quality of life and risk factors.
- Community Themes and Strengths Assessment – focus groups are currently being conducted with a variety of populations within our county. This information identifies what is important to community members, what they feel the health and quality of life status is in the county and what assets are available to address health issues.
- Local Public Health System Assessment – our health partners gathered on November 3rd to measure how well our local public health system delivers the 10 Essential Public Health Services.
- Forces of Change Assessment – this assessment, which will be completed soon, identifies forces such as trends, factors and events that can affect the community and the local public health system.

After the data from the four MAPP assessments have been gathered, a town hall meeting will be held to share the preliminary data with the community. An emphasis will be placed on the extent of health disparities and inequities in our community. The Partners for a Healthy Putnam County will then meet to analyze the data and community input to determine the strategic issues that will be addressed in the next 3-5 years in the Community Health Improvement Plan.

Watch for more information about the Community Health Assessment and the Community Health Improvement Plan in the near future!

QI = Quality Improvement

Quality Improvement consists of systematic and continuous actions that lead to improvement in services to our community. The health department staff is embarking on QI projects in order to provide quality services as efficiently as possible.

The Environmental Division is working to improve the plan review process for new food service operations and those that have had a transfer of ownership.

In the Nursing Division, the nurses and billing clerk have worked together to improve the billing process for the BCMH program to ensure timely payment for services provided. QI projects will continue to be conducted in order to reach our strategic goal of having a culture of quality within our agency.