



OAKLAND COUNTY HEALTH DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT 2011



Department of Health & Human Services

HEALTH DIVISION

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WORDS FROM OUR MANAGER



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Manager/Health Officer
Oakland County Health Division

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Dear Friends of Public Health,

I am pleased to present the Oakland County Health Division's (OCHD) 2011 Annual Report. This report highlights our efforts to deliver essential public health programs and services that improve the health of our community. The Health Division builds on a well-established public health infrastructure and collaborative relationships to comprehensively respond to a continually changing public health landscape.

As Washington remains focused on developing strategies to reduce the nation's skyrocketing healthcare costs, local public health is at the forefront providing essential disease prevention initiatives in our community. Our local public health staff diligently work to deliver services that prevent disease, enforce public health laws and regulations, promote health and improve quality of life for Oakland County residents. Examples of our many programs and services include:

- Ensuring safe food handling practices in food service establishments
- Protecting water resources through on-site well and septic permit programs
- Overseeing and ensuring safe handling of vaccines in the Vaccines for Children Program
- Providing immunizations from birth through the span of life
- Conducting hearing, vision and developmental testing to help our children achieve their fullest potential
- Connecting high-risk families to community resources
- Providing important prevention programs to reduce tobacco and substance abuse
- Coordinating planning efforts to ensure readiness in the event of a disaster
- Informing the community about emerging health issues

Oakland County Health Division has a proven track record as a premier public health agency as evidenced by being the only health department in Michigan to receive accreditation with commendation for the second, consecutive time from the Michigan Department of Community Health. I invite you to read this report that demonstrates our commitment to the health of Oakland County's citizens and visitors through the provision of key health promotion programs and prevention services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathy Forzley', written over a light blue background.

Kathy Forzley
Oakland County Health Division Manager / Health Officer

FOOD SAFETY

Foodborne illness impacts millions of people in the United States each year resulting in loss of life, hospitalizations, increased healthcare costs, reduced work hours, and lost wages. Preventing foodborne illness is achieved through regulation of food service establishments and worker education to increase the awareness of safe food handling practices.

Oakland County Health Division Sanitarians work to protect our residents and visitors who consume millions of meals that are prepared in Oakland County's food service establishments every year.



Inspections Ensure Safe Places to Eat

Oakland County Health Division's (OCHD) accredited food safety program licenses and inspects more than 4,200 food service establishments, 335 food vending machines, and 106 mobile food operations. In addition, OCHD licenses and inspects food vendors at festivals such as the Woodward Dream Cruise, Arts, Beats and Eats, the Renaissance Festival, and hundreds of other local events.

The Health Division's Environmental Health Sanitarians perform regular inspections at all 4,200 licensed food service establishments to ensure the safe delivery, preparation, and servicing of food. Sanitarians also respond to foodborne illness complaints to investigate and assess food preparation and handling practices.

- Conducted 15,075 food service sanitation inspections
- Inspected and licensed 1,210 temporary food service operations
- Investigated 1,075 food service complaints
- Responded to and investigated 18 foodborne illness outbreaks
- Conducted 322 plan reviews for new food service establishments
- Approved the licensure and opening of 281 new food service establishments

Education Increases Knowledge of Safe Food Handling Practices

State of Michigan food safety regulations require that each food service establishment employs at least one full-time manager certified in safe food handling. The Health Division teaches Food Service Management Certification courses and provides general food safety classes to give food service workers the latest information pertaining to the causes and prevention of foodborne illness, food protection monitoring strategies, and the requirements of the Michigan Food Law.

- Taught 29 Food Service Management Courses
- Certified 494 Food Service Managers
- Conducted 34 general food safety classes for 325 food service workers

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Land and Water Programs Protect Our Valuable Resources

Oakland County is home to hundreds of beaches and recreational water sources and has more than 100,000 water wells on commercial and residential properties. The Oakland County Health Division ensures water is safe for household and recreational use by providing water quality testing and analysis, inspections of public swimming pools, and a permit program for water well construction.

In addition, the safe disposal of on-site sewage is crucial to preventing contamination of land, as well as surface and groundwater systems. Oakland County has over 85,000 on-site sewage disposal systems on residential and commercial properties. The Environmental Health Services unit protects land and water by issuing permits and inspecting the installation of on-site sewage disposal systems and conducting soil and site evaluations for proposed subdivisions.

- Inspected 2,835 water wells
- Issued 829 well permits
- Reviewed and provided safety information for 13,325 drinking water test results
- Inspected 1,064 public swimming pools
- Conducted 395 bathing beach site visits
- Issued 469 septic permits

Shelter Programs Ensure Safe Environments for Care-Giving and Recreation

The Environmental Health Services unit ensures safe shelter environments by conducting health and safety inspections at day care centers, foster homes, group homes, and campgrounds.

- Inspected 262 child and adult care centers
- Inspected 41 public campgrounds

Body Art Program Ensures Safe Establishments and Knowledgeable Practitioners

Body art establishments are regulated and monitored by the Oakland County Sanitary Code and the State of Michigan's Body Art Law. The Health Division licenses and inspects all of Oakland County's 43 body art establishments in accordance with these requirements. OCHD also conducts bloodborne pathogen classes for body art practitioners and provides permits to artists to perform body art at licensed facilities.

- Licensed 42 body art establishments
- Conducted 115 body art facility inspections
- Issued 927 body artist practitioner permits since 2000



IMMUNIZATIONS

Immunizations Are A Cost-Effective Public Health Tool

Vaccines are among the 21st century's most successful and cost-effective public health tool for preventing disease. Thanks to immunizations, debilitating and often fatal diseases like polio, diphtheria, and small pox, which were once common, are now distant memories in the United States. From infants to senior citizens, timely immunizations are one of the most important ways to protect yourself and others from avoidable diseases.

Oakland County's Immunization Program Reduces Vaccine-Preventable Disease

Population immunity to communicable disease is dependent upon a high immunization coverage rate in the community. Oakland County Health Division is the county's premier resource to raise immunization rates. As one of the largest local providers for the federally-funded Vaccines for Children Program, the Health Division is able to increase vaccination rates by providing immunizations to infants and children who are uninsured.

The Health Division Ensures Vaccine Quality Controls Are In Place In The Community

The Health Division's Immunization Action Plan (IAP) Program staff provide technical assistance to approximately 500 childcare centers and 500 schools to help Oakland County exceed state-mandated immunization requirements. The IAP staff also work with almost 600 medical providers to educate about immunization practices and ensure vaccine quality controls are in place.

Immunizations Are Not Just For Children

Adults of all ages need immunizations to stay healthy. Different vaccines are recommended depending on health, age, lifestyle, and occupation. OCHD offers low-cost flu, pneumonia, pertussis, shingles, and other vaccines to support Oakland County adults throughout their lifespan.

- Increased immunization rate by 19% in two years
- Achieved immunization coverage rate of 70% for age 19-36 months
- Administered 66,417 immunizations
- Administered 30,901 doses of seasonal flu vaccine
- Provided 37,525 reminder notices to parents regarding children's vaccination schedule
- Provided assistance to approximately 500 medical provider offices to ensure high standards of immunization practices for 190,726 doses of vaccines



MATERNAL, INFANT AND CHILD HEALTH

Infant-Toddler Developmental Assessments

Oakland County Health Division ensures that children with a health condition or developmental delay from birth to age three reach their full growth potential. Assessment and case management services provided by Public Health Nurses enable families to receive infant growth and development monitoring, intervention activities, and referrals to Early On Family Support Services. Public Health Nurses advocate for families to receive appropriate school services and help guide them through the process.

- Completed 1,769 growth and development screenings
- Assessed 385 children for early intervention services
- Identified 48% of children screened with a developmental delay
- Provided 286 families with case management

Hearing and Vision

The Hearing and Vision Program provides state-mandated screening to identify and refer school-age children to treatment for hearing and vision problems that may impede a child's development and academic performance. Screenings were conducted within the county's twenty-eight school districts, pre-schools, childcare centers, and Health Division offices, successfully reaching 97% of the target population.

- Provided hearing screenings for 56,406 children
- Provided vision screenings for 72,063 children
- Identified 8,725 children as needing further evaluation by a physician



Woman, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Food Program

Oakland County's Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Food Program helps pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and young children up to age five receive healthy foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and referrals to important services. WIC generates important reductions in health care costs and long-term improvements in the health of women and children. For every dollar spent on WIC, it is estimated that savings of more than \$3.50 in health care costs occurs.

- Provided food assistance to an average of 15,869 participants every month
- Increased participation in WIC by 18% since 2007

DENTAL HEALTH



Poor oral health remains a significant public health problem, despite remarkable progress over the past 50 years. Tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease. There are striking disparities in oral diseases among underserved populations. Many children, the elderly, people with special needs, and adults who lack dental insurance go without proper care that prevents oral diseases that can become life threatening.

A major concern in the dental community is that skipping regular, preventative dental care until a life-threatening problem develops prompts unnecessary emergency department visits that consume scarce and valuable hospital resources.

The Dental Program covers low-cost oral examinations, x-rays, cleanings, fluoride, sealants, routine fillings, extractions, partial or full dentures, and patient education. The following services were provided:

- 638 individuals enrolled
- 630 full dental examinations
- 1,075 extractions
- 897 dental fillings
- 520 x-rays
- 174 sets of complete or removable dentures

Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) plays a vital role in improving quality of life and eliminating health disparities. The Health Division's Dental Program improves the oral health of low income residents who lack dental insurance. Enrollees receive basic dental needs and evaluation from contracted dental providers.

INTERVENTION SERVICES

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)

Many special health care needs of medically eligible children and some adults are provided through the State of Michigan's CSHCS program. CSHCS covers specialty medical treatment, prescriptions, and equipment, and assists families to coordinate special health services and benefits. The program is not based on financial eligibility. The Health Division's local CSHCS program assists families with enrollment, renewal, coordinating health insurance and CSHCS benefits, and case management.

- Served 2,434 Oakland County residents with special needs
- Provided 972 home visits to help manage a child's complex health needs

Nutrition Services

Registered dietitians from Oakland County Health Division's Nutrition Services provide nutritional services to the residents of Oakland County including home-based nutrition assessment and counseling for high risk pregnant women and infants, overweight and obese children, and children and adults with chronic disease who have no other resources.

Dietitians work closely with physicians to coordinate care and develop individualized diets and instruction.

- Provided 2,460 home visits to clients
- Received 1,092 referrals for nutrition services
- Made 73 visits to children housed at Oakland County Children's Village

Substance Abuse Services

Oakland County Health Division's Office of Substance Abuse Services (OSAS) Prior Authorization and Central Evaluation (PACE) program is the first step to substance abuse treatment for low income residents of Oakland County. PACE offers confidential services for persons abusing or dependent on alcohol and/or other drugs. The program assesses individuals for detox services and/or intensive outpatient and residential substance abuse programs, coordinates and funds treatment and continuing care services, and refers individuals to treatment programs.

- Admitted 5,292 clients to substance abuse treatment
- Provided assessment, referral, care coordination, and treatment authorization services to 2,614 clients through the PACE Unit
- Funded and managed a network of 17 treatment contracts at 26 different locations



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Over the past century, the profile of communicable disease has changed dramatically. New infectious organisms are emerging. Many diseases, assumed to be eliminated as a public health threat, are still readily present. Although highly visible diseases such as H1N1 influenza have improved community awareness, 1 million Americans still die of preventable communicable diseases. Communicable disease surveillance and control is the cornerstone of Public Health. Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) fulfills this key role in Oakland County.

OCHD's Tuberculosis Program Is A Front-Line Defense Against TB

Tuberculosis (TB) remains the second leading killer of adults in the world. The disease is still prevalent in Oakland County, but rates continue to remain below the national average due to aggressive TB skin testing and treatment. The Health Division is also essential in identifying and treating Latent Tuberculosis Infections (LTBI). LTBI affects people who test positive for TB but have a normal chest x-ray and are not infectious to other people. Ten percent of people with LTBI develop TB later in life if they do not receive treatment.

- Administered 14,411 TB skin tests
- Identified and treated 22 active TB cases and contacts
- Identified and treated 163 latent TB infections

Rabies In The United States Has Changed Dramatically

Public health oversight and treatment to eliminate human rabies has a proven track record. More than 90% of all rabies animal cases reported annually now occur in wildlife, and nearly all rabies-related human deaths have been eliminated. However, rabies must continue to be monitored due to the fatal nature of the disease. Each year, the Health Division responds to animal bite and potential exposure incidents due to human contact with wild animals. The Communicable Disease team consults with individuals potentially exposed, determines the need for post-exposure treatment, coordinates rabies testing, and educates physicians, hospitals, and the public about the disease.

- In June 2011, Michigan's first groundhog was identified with rabies
- There were a total of 6 rabid animals discovered in Oakland County in 2011, including 2 bats, 1 dog, 2 skunks and 1 groundhog.



Communicable Diseases Are Monitored By The Health Division

OCHD's Communicable Disease Unit facilitates surveillance and monitoring of disease through Michigan's Disease Surveillance System (MDSS). Physicians, health care providers, laboratories, schools, and childcare centers located in Oakland County are required to report the occurrence of communicable diseases to OCHD. The public health system depends upon these disease reports to monitor the health of the community and ensure timely preventative action.

- Responded to almost 250 communicable disease reports

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

One important role of Public Health is to provide local personal health services that reduce the spread of infectious disease and result in improved health outcomes for an entire community. Oakland County Health Division provides quality clinical care at no or low-cost. Services are provided by highly qualified and experienced Public Health Nurses and Laboratory Technologists. The Health Division's laboratory supports these efforts through rapid test analysis and accurate results.

Confidential services are offered on a walk-in basis such as pregnancy testing; sexually transmitted infections (STI) testing, diagnosis and treatment; and counseling, testing and referrals for HIV prevention and control.

Education and Awareness Are Key to Prevention

The most reliable way to prevent HIV, an unplanned pregnancy, or STIs is to make sure individuals are aware of the risks and preventative measures. All of Oakland County Health Division's clinical programs aim to increase awareness and empower individuals to protect themselves and the community through knowledge, understanding, and risk-reduction education.

- Performed 14,423 STD tests
- Administered 1,307 HIV tests
- Provided 1,704 pregnancy tests



Tobacco remains the main cause of preventable disease and death for about 14,000 Michigan residents every year. Michigan's estimated annual health care costs directly related to tobacco amounts to approximately \$3.4 billion. Oakland County Health Division leads the fight against tobacco and the undue burden it plays on the well-being of county residents and visitors.



TOBACCO PREVENTION

Tobacco Sales To Youth Are Down More Than 50% In Oakland County

The federal Synar Amendment prohibits the sale and distribution of tobacco products to persons under 18. As required by this amendment, Oakland County Health Division coordinates annual Synar checks in Oakland County. Youth inspectors visit randomly-selected outlets that sell tobacco products, either over-the-counter or through vending machines, to determine the percent of retailers willing to sell cigarettes to youth. The Health Division also educates retailers to check I.D. and provides tools to train employees.

- Conducted 450 visits to tobacco retailers to educate about tobacco laws
- Only 6% of retailers were willing to sell to undercover youth, down from 14% the previous year

Clean Air Is Fundamental To Public Health

Safeguarding the health of employees and customers is what drives Oakland County Health Division's goal to ensure Oakland County has smoke-free businesses. People are protected from exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke in all restaurants, bars, and businesses (including hotels and motels) thanks to the Ron Davis Smoke Free Air Law, which prohibits smoking inside these facilities. Public Health Sanitarians respond to citizen complaints about indoor tobacco smoke and ensure smoke-free law regulations are being met by local establishments.

- 100% smoke-free air law compliance assessed from a random selection of 40 venues
- Responded to 154 smoke-free air law complaints

Community Alliances Reduce Tobacco Use

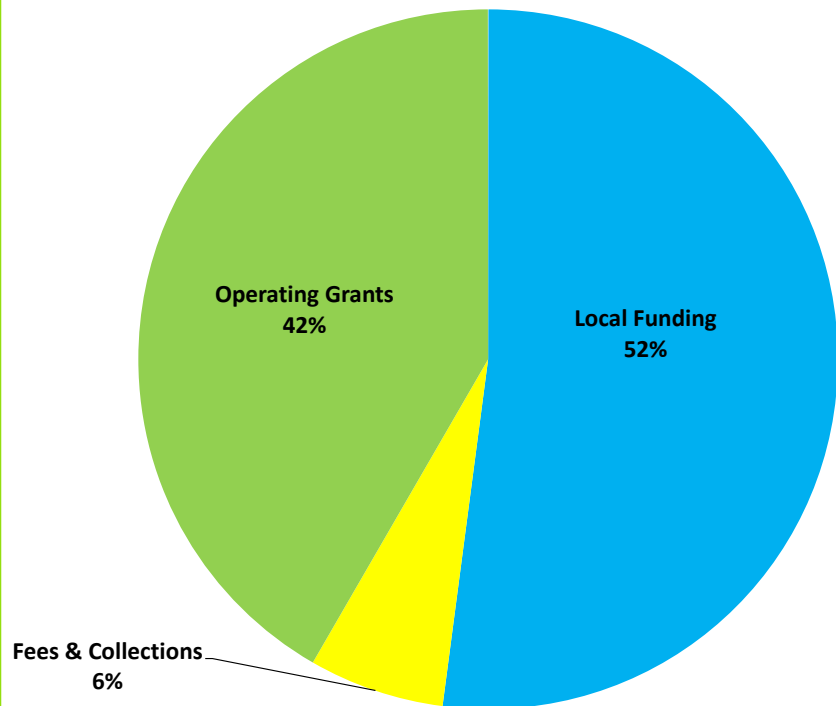
The Tobacco Free Oakland Coalition (TFOC) is a task force spearheaded by OCHD to support policies, educational efforts, and awareness activities that promote Oakland County's mission to keep communities free of tobacco. TFOC is composed of public health professionals, physicians, substance abuse coalition members, non-profit health organizations, and concerned citizens.

- Assessed retailer availability and raised awareness about emerging tobacco products that are being sold and marketed to attract youth

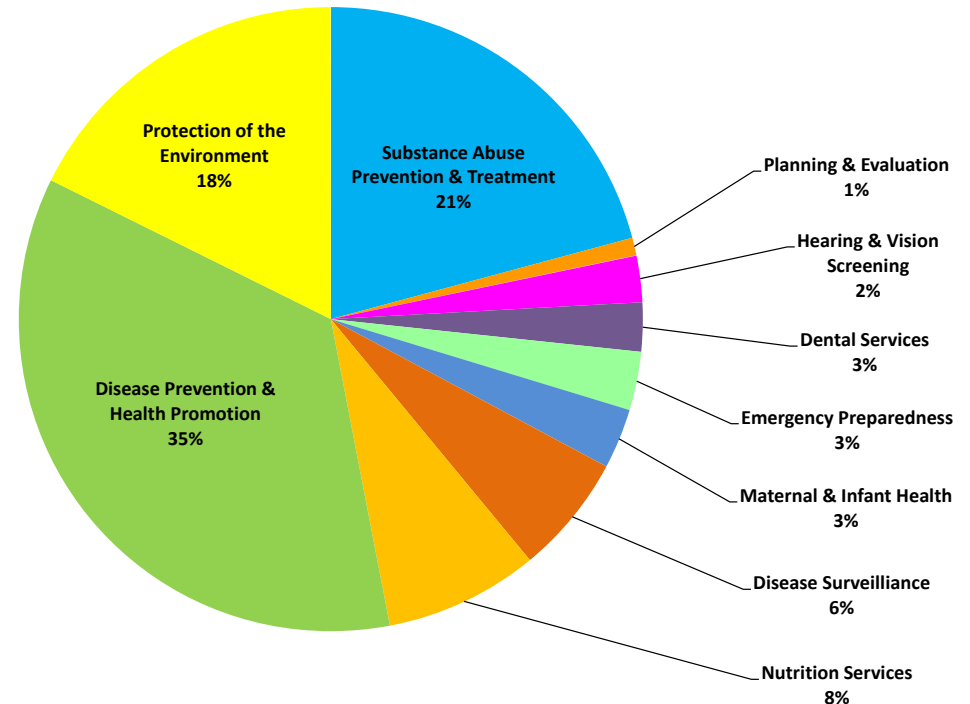
OAKLAND COUNTY HEALTH DIVISION

Financial Information

2010 - 2011 Revenue

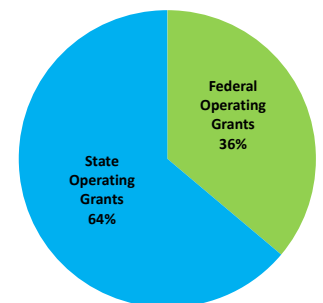


2010 - 2011 Expenditures



Less than 5% of national health spending is devoted to public health, equal to about 4 cents of every healthcare dollar. Prevention programs help our nation address the exploding growth of healthcare treatment costs. A 2008 analysis by the New York Academy of Medicine and the Trust for America's Health, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, focused on public health, concluded that an **investment of \$10 per person annually** in proven, community-based public health initiatives **would return more than \$16 billion within five years**, or \$5.60 per dollar invested.

Operating Grants



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Accreditation with Commendation

Issued by the State of Michigan Department of Community Health, Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) received outstanding commendation by meeting 117 essential requirements during an intensive accreditation review that ensures Oakland County meets the minimum mandates required by state-funded contracts. Special recognition was given to OCHD in every section of the review.

NACCHO Promising Practice Award - Nurse on Call Program

The National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) recognized the Health Division's Nurse on Call (NOC) Program as a Promising Practice in 2011. NOC provides an innovative mechanism for clients to receive community resource information and interact with a public health professional over the phone about health concerns. In 2011, 14,562 individuals were served by NOC.

NACCHO Promising Practice Award - Electronic Inspection Program To Do List Organizational System

NACCHO's Promising Practice Award was bestowed to OCHD's Environmental Health Services for the development of an integrated, electronic To Do List (TDL) component within Oakland County's E-Health system. The TDL provides public health sanitarians with an easy-to-use communication, scheduling and workload management tool that ensures timely and more efficient restaurant inspections.

Great Start Collaborative - Oakland Champion Award

Oakland County Health Division was honored with the Oakland Champion Award for the stellar work done in 2011 to collaborate with Oakland County Early On and assure that children from birth to age three receive the services they need. Public Health Nurses helped enable families to receive growth and development monitoring and provided early intervention activities to facilitate children reaching their growth potential.







L. BROOKS PATTERSON, OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Kathy Forzley, Manager/Health Officer



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The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin, age or disability. State and Federal eligibility requirements apply for certain programs.

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