



2022 COMMUNITY UPDATE

It is with great pride and accomplishment that I present Oakland County Health Division’s 2022 Community Update. I am very proud of our organization and the amazing staff who step up every day to make Oakland County healthier.

This publication is dedicated to our beloved Health Officer, Dr. Calandra Green who passed away tragically on May 11, 2023. Calandra worked diligently in the creation of this report to showcase Health Division staff whom she cared so deeply and the impactful work which she was passionate about.

It’s difficult to find the words to describe what she was to the Health Division, our employees, and the community members she so passionately served on our behalf. She was our teammate for only four short years, and in that time demonstrated outstanding leadership that helped move public health in Oakland County to be more ingrained in the community.

You may have met Calandra on the frontlines, talking with people at a church health fair or vaccinating someone herself at an ice cold, drive-thru vaccination site during the depths of the pandemic. You likely noticed her welcoming smile and vibrant energy, enjoying every moment of every encounter. That is who she was: humble, caring, driven, supportive, real, an exceptional human and excellent leader.

You will see demonstrations of this work and the many programs under her guidance on these pages. We are proud of this work and promise to work diligently to keep her memory alive by advancing the vision she had for the Health Division.



In good health,
Leigh-Anne Stafford
Leigh-Anne Stafford
Director, Health & Human Services



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The stories and photos (excluding cover image) in this book are real.

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We are dedicated to providing access to affordable, quality health care for our residents. It started with our Health360 initiative that brought Honor Community Health and OLSHA – our community action agency - into the county clinics to provide primary care and wraparound services onsite. Nearly 7,300 residents received these new Health 360 services in 2022 at our clinics in Pontiac and Southfield and I’m deeply grateful to all of our health professionals for their outstanding efforts to keep our residents healthy.
~ Oakland County Executive, Dave Coulter





There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has transformed our lives these last few years. Its impact on public health is one of continual change, challenges, and new successes. Our work this past year demonstrated sustained public health response but also recovery and re-engagement efforts. We worked to decrease the number of hospitalizations and severe disease from COVID-19 variants, incorporated our previous work fully back into practice and addressed new, evolving community issues.

The Health Division's robust relationships with community partners, commitment to improvement and growth as an organization, and skill in promoting public health's value helped us gain significant recognition when we were awarded national accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB).

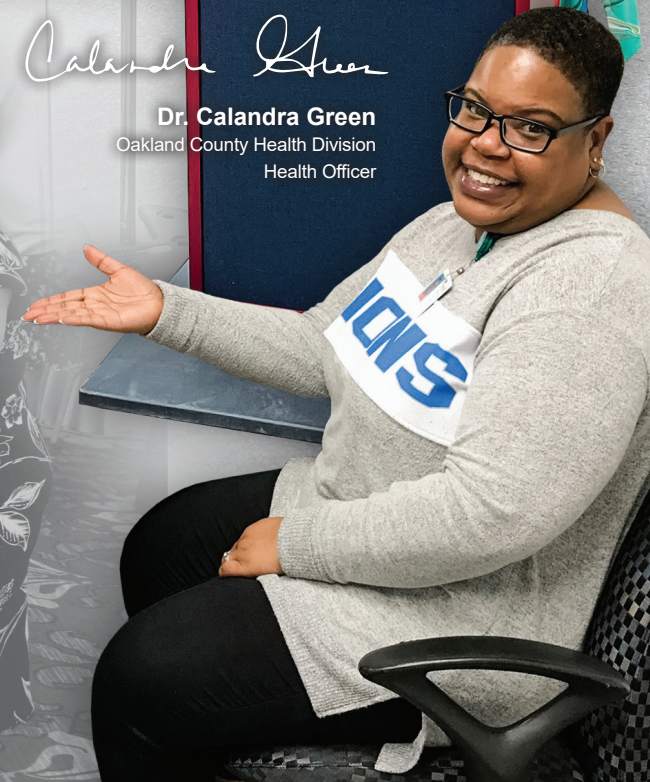
Through this recent public health journey we have gained better connection to the community and our partners; more knowledge about our community's needs; and more focus on quality improvement and dedication to addressing the root causes of health inequities. I witnessed staff making sacrifices in their personal lives to ensure services remained top quality and that community needs were addressed.

Please join me in acknowledging our entire public health team as you read our 2022 Community Update. This report provides a glimpse of our ongoing commitment to health and quality of life in Oakland County.



Calandra Green

Dr. Calandra Green
Oakland County Health Division
Health Officer



Be Well


FAST FACTS: PROVIDING ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES

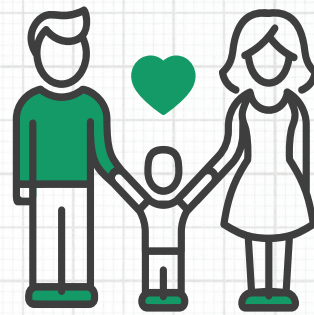


NURSE ON CALL
.... HOTLINE
ANSWERED
46,928 CALLS
AND EMAILS

343 DENTAL
EXAMS PROVIDED



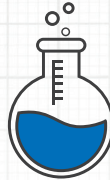
12,285 CHILDREN NEEDED
FURTHER EVALUATION AFTER
 **107,142**
HEARING & VISION SCREENINGS




CHILDREN'S
SPECIAL HEALTH CARE
.... SERVICES
SUPPORTED
3,242 CLIENTS

FAST FACTS: ENSURING A SAFE & CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

32,104
WATER TESTS
CONDUCTED ON

21,658
 **WATER**
SAMPLES

1,811  **716**
INSPECTIONS ON WATER WELLS

INSPECTED 4,580
LICENSED
FOOD SERVICE
ESTABLISHMENTS 

761 WELL
..... AND
699 SEPTIC
INSTALLATION
 **PERMITS**
ISSUED
.....
RESIDENTIAL
AND NON-RESIDENTIAL



SPOTLIGHT

Nurse-Family Parentship supported me in my challenging decision to give a natural birth, to be a breastfeeding champion for 2 years, and to join a group of local leaders that advocate for programs. ~ Desiree, OCHD/WIC Client

MOVING THE NEEDLE TOWARDS INFANT VITALITY

Infant mortality or death of a child under the age of 1 year old is a key community health indicator. Data from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services shows that infant mortality has decreased overall in Oakland County since 2012. This decrease is due to the collective efforts of individuals, communities, and organizations. The Health Division plays an important role in those efforts and is dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of children and families through the following initiatives:

Infant Vitality Grant funding from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is to learn how individuals, communities, and organizations contributed to the decrease in infant mortality. Health Division staff engaged in discussions with community members to understand how mothers are being supported to then further improve infant vitality resources and strategies in Oakland County.

Infant Safe Sleep Grant funding from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to prevent infant sleep-related deaths in Oakland County. Work funded by this grant includes offering virtual baby safety fairs to provide education on a variety of topics including but not limited to the ABCs of safe sleep, household safety, and child passenger safety. Funds also supported providing safe sleep education sessions and distributing play yards (pack-n-plays) to families to improve their ability to offer a safe sleep space for their baby.

Oakland County Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) team consists of the Health Division and local partners that review fetal and infant deaths, with a focus on infant deaths in Oakland County. This team meets monthly to review cases and make recommendations or identify action steps to prevent future fetal and infant deaths.

Best Start for Babies community action team acts on recommendations from Oakland County's FIMR to prevent infant deaths through education and community partnership.



OAKLAND COUNTY'S INFANT DEATH RATE
DECREASED FROM 7.0 TO 4.8
IN 9 YEARS DUE TO SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY SERVICES



SPOTLIGHT

The harm reduction program saves lives. I know this because together with their staff, they have saved mine. I will be clean and sober on my birthday for the first time in over 30 years and it feels so good! The harm reduction team are my guardian angels. ~ Ron, OCHD Harm Reduction Client



REDUCING HARM, EXTENDING EMPATHY

In January 2022, the Health Division launched a Harm Reduction Clinic in downtown Pontiac to prevent opioid overdoses, hepatitis C and HIV, and reduce associated hospitalizations.

The clinic offers comprehensive services to meet the needs of individuals. Staff develop long-lasting connections with clients to support them on a journey to better health. Services provided include referral and linkage to substance use treatment; free, confidential STI, HIV and Hepatitis C testing; sterile syringes, works, and disposal services; overdose education and free Narcan; peer support services; wound care; and risk reduction counseling.

The clinic has enrolled over 250 clients in services; provided over 800 clinic visits; collected over 15,000 syringes; and distributed over 700 boxes of Narcan. Our staff's dedication, commitment, and compassion are evident through the relationships they build with clients. The team has a natural ability to provide an empathic ear, a voice for advocacy, and a hug when needed.

Kudos to the Harm Reduction Team:

- Scott Chico, RN, Harm Reduction Nurse
- Sylvia Mitchell, MSW, Peer Recovery Coach
- Maurice Cummings, Public Health Resource Navigator
- Emerson Craven, HIV PrEP Navigator and Harm Reduction Support Staff
- Sasha Mitevski, RN – Hep C Care Coordinator and Harm Reduction Nurse



OCHD CLIENTS REPORTED
OVER 200 RESCUES 
OR LIVES SAVED FROM USING NARCAN



SPOTLIGHT

We are overwhelmingly grateful for Oakland County's commitment to provide critical food assistance for our residents. As the pandemic rages on and the cost-of-living expenses continue to rise, many families are still struggling to have their basic needs met. We look forward to partnering with food providers across the county, to provide help and support where it is needed most. ~ Dustin McClellan, Pontiac Community Foundation CEO

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUNDS IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY

Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt on many levels throughout our community. As food prices rose nationally - the highest single year increase in 43 years – many residents have experienced challenges having enough food with clear inequities evident among race and ethnic groups. Food insecurity is defined as a lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life. Oakland County Executive David Coulter dedicated over \$2.25 million of the County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to address food insecurity and improve food access. The Department of Health & Human Services assisted in implementing the following initiatives:

Support of emergency food providers: \$1.35 million dollars went directly to two of the county's largest emergency food providers (Lighthouse and Oakland Hope) to purchase and distribute additional food for those in need. Funds also helped Oakland Hope build a permanent food pantry in Pontiac, where clients select what foods they need.

Healthy Food Access grants: A partnership with the Pontiac Community Foundation aided development of a Healthy Food Access Grant Program offered \$350,000 to provide one-time grants to 10 non-profit organizations providing critical food assistance services.

Expansion of nutrition assistance programs: The Fair Food Network is set to receive \$250,000 to expand Oakland County locations offering the Double Up Food Bucks (DUFb) program. DUFb provides Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) users additional money to purchase produce. Funds support businesses with technological or equipment enhancements, as well as providing additional produce incentives.

Local food system research: \$300,000 was earmarked towards conducting an analysis of community needs, trends, opportunities, and challenges related to Oakland County's local food system. This study involves strategic assessment and planning with community stakeholders resulting in a comprehensive plan to improve healthy food access and security in Oakland County.

NEARLY **11%** OF OAKLAND COUNTY RESIDENTS
HAVE REPORTED THEY WERE
FOOD INSECURE





SPOTLIGHT

Our environmental health sanitarians, nurses, laboratory staff and nutritionists, work with families to reduce impacts of lead in affected children. I am proud to be part of such a dedicated, knowledgeable, and resilient public health team. ~ Richard Peresky, Senior Public Health Sanitarian

LEAD INVESTIGATIONS REDUCE LEAD HAZARDS FOR CHILDREN

In some homes, young children live and play in environments that expose them to the damaging effects of lead. Whether children are endangered from lead paint in older homes, toys, spices, cosmetics, jewelry or more, there is no safe level of lead exposure.

The Health Division has a long history of providing lead-related services to the community. We offer environmental investigation of homes; case management from nurses; referrals for home lead abatement services; and follow-up testing services for children with highly elevated blood lead levels.

This includes interviews and education with the child's parents or guardians, detailed sketches of the home's floor plan, and extensive sampling of painted surfaces, dust, water, select toys, food items, and cosmetics, as well as collections of soil on the home's exterior. Lead hazards are remediated including removing items from child's access, cleaning and removing dust using HEPA vacuum cleaning, and replacing features within homes such as faucets with lead-free fixtures.

Successfully the blood lead levels of the children we serve are reduced to acceptable ranges by implementing comprehensive mitigation measures.



SANITARIANS CONDUCTED
10 ENVIRONMENTAL
INVESTIGATIONS
TO DETECT LEAD RISKS 



SPOTLIGHT

All our Communicable Disease staff, from epidemiologists, nurses & clerical staff, worked tirelessly through the pandemic behind the scenes supporting schools, restaurants, businesses and residents with expert guidance. They are an incredible asset to Oakland County. ~ Kate Guzman, Administrator Public Health

OCHD EPIDEMIOLOGISTS PROVIDE STEADINESS COMBATting COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the epidemiology team provided consistent, stable, and clear guidance during a tumultuous and evolving pandemic. They were able to lean on their expertise and draw on support from coworkers and the community to carry on with crucial public health work.

Epidemiologists Jarrod D’Valentine, Lauren Fink, Brionna Powell, Ann Williams-Bowman, and Mike Swain, along with Chief of Communicable Disease, Christie Clement, formed and strengthened strong partnerships with community entities such as hospital infection control departments, private providers, community health centers, long-term care facilities, K-12 schools, childcare facilities, colleges and universities, and local businesses.

Specifically with childcare facilities and K-12 schools, the epidemiology team provided expert knowledge, consultation, and real time data via daily phone and email consultations and weekly school superintendent meetings.

The epidemiologists provided expert, data-informed guidance to county administration related to implementing mitigation strategies within the community. This team quickly created, trained, and maintained a large team of highly trained staff to handle case investigation and contact tracing.


Through their dedication and considerable time commitment they were able to provide continual updates about the progression of COVID-19 in our community that served as the foundation of the Health Division’s response efforts.

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231,474

PEOPLE WERE
VACCINATED
FOR COVID-19

[2021-2022]



.....

FAST FACTS: PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF DISEASE

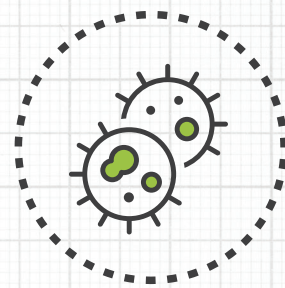


33,093
IMMUNIZATIONS TO
19,312
CHILDREN AND
..... ADULTS

31,209 STI TESTS
PERFORMED



4,737 HIV TESTS
ADMINISTERED





4,885
COMMUNICABLE
DISEASE CASES
REPORTED
..... AND
INVESTIGATED

FAST FACTS: ENCOURAGING HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

ASSISTED
11,338
..... **WIC**
CLIENTS
TO EAT WELL
EACH MONTH



2,070 RESIDENTS
RECEIVED 
NUTRITION EDUCATION
AND PRODUCE VOUCHERS

208 RESIDENTS
RECEIVED 
SUBSTANCE USE & ABUSE
PREVENTION TRAINING

CONDUCTED
2,605
-- VISITS TO --
RESIDENTS
WITH HIGH-RISK
NUTRITION
NEEDS



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Thank you to the many organizations and individuals who participate in our partnerships making Oakland County healthier. Your willingness to collaborate and meet community needs together is achieving positive health outcomes across all our communities.

Representatives from hospitals, human services, behavioral health, education, businesses, parks and recreation, economic development, emergency response, community organizations, elected officials, community members and more are engaged in the following collaboratives:

- Best Start for Babies
- Energizing Connections for Healthier Oakland (ECHO)
- Healthy Oakland Partnership (HOP)
- Healthy Pontiac, We Can! (HPWC)
- Homeless Healthcare Collaboration
- Hospital Partnership
- Long-term Care Partnership
- Oakland County Food Policy Council (OCFPC)
- Oakland County Substance Use Prevention Partnership
- Oakland County Suicide Prevention Task Force
- Senior Advisory Council

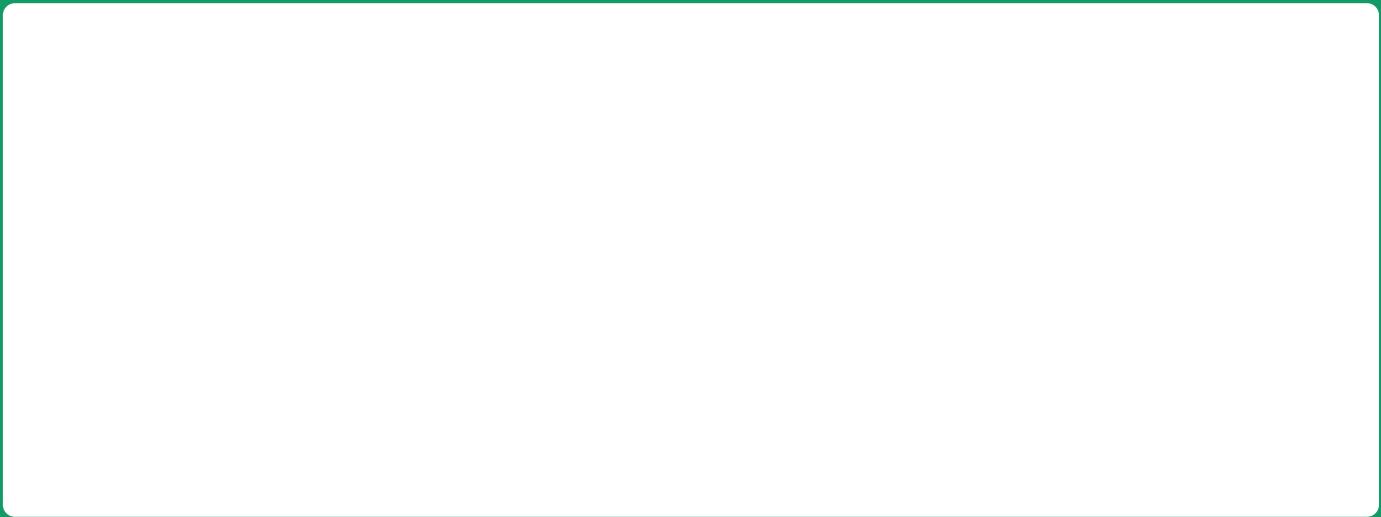


Pictured: Partners, collaborators, and OCHD staff at various 2022 community events.



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PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
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PAID
ROYAL OAK MI
PERMIT 14



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