

Website and Social Media:

The Darke County General Health District uses multiple media sources to spread the word about Public Health in Darke County.

Check out our user friendly website:
www.darkecountyhealth.org



Customer satisfaction is important to us! Let us know how we are doing by completing our survey located on our main webpage!



You can also like our page on Facebook or follow us on Twitter!



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Darke County General Health District

Public Health Services

2022 Annual Report



Contributing to a stronger,
healthier community.

What does the Darke County General Health District Do?

- A message from our Health Commissioner, Jordan Francis, MPH
- What is New
- Financial Report
- Nursing Division Services
- Vital Statistics
- Environmental Division Services



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The Darke County Health Department
is a Nationally Accredited Health Department



Health Commissioner's Message: Jordan Francis, MPH



Public health isn't confined to the brick building on Garst Avenue that houses your local health department. While the health department works hard to promote and protect the health and wellbeing of our community, true public health requires a collaborative effort within the Local Public Health System (LPHS). Health and human service agencies in our community, including the health department, health care providers, our local hospital, and other public health stakeholders must all work together to address threats to public health within our community. Darke County's Local Public Health System is strengthened by the willingness of key stakeholders to strategically

collaborate to address identified community needs. Some examples of our community partners' exemplary willingness to collaborate effectively include the fast and efficient delivery of vaccines at a community clinic during the COVID-19 pandemic and the initial formation of the Coalition for a Healthy Darke County in an effort to address the devastating effects of substance use disorder that arose during the opioid epidemic.

Our greatest strength as a health department and Local Public Health System is our ability to communicate and collaborate effectively in identifying and addressing our greatest health needs, while maintaining an altruistic approach to reaching our vision of a healthy, safe, and thriving Darke County.

Mr. Francis has served many roles, including chair of Ohio Public Health Association, board member of EverHeart Hospice, president of Darke County Wellness Challenge, and Public Health Practitioner of the Year (2018). Prior to being selected as Darke County General Health District's Health Commissioner, Francis had served for seven years as Director of Wellness Services for Wayne HealthCare in Greenville.

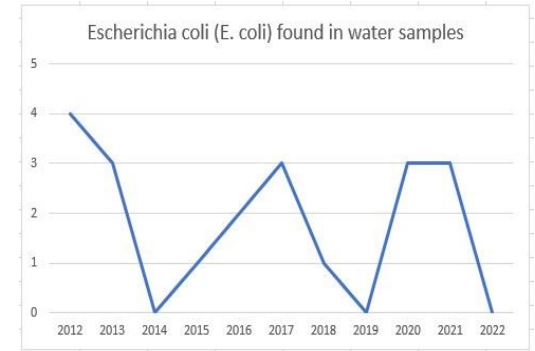
Health Commissioner Terrence L. Holman, DVM, REHS Retires after 37 Years of Service

After 37 years of service to the Darke County General Health District Health Commissioner, Dr. Terrence L. Holman, DVM, REHS retired at the end of the year. "It has been a privilege and an honor to serve Darke County." said Health Commissioner Dr. Terrence Holman. "Our staff are out doing inspections and promoting public health programs each and every day. Our accomplishments in improving the health and wellness of our county would not be possible without our educated and dedicated staff. I am confident Darke County will continue to be a safe, healthy, and thriving community."



Private Water Systems

The Health Department conducts water samples by request and for new wells, home sales, and land splits. Water samples are pre-screened for high levels of nitrates and nitrites and checked for total coliform (bacteria). If this test is positive the sample is automatically checked for Escherichia coli (E. Coli). The graph shows E. coli positive samples over the last 10 years in Darke County.



Land Splits

All land splits less than twenty acres in size are reviewed to ensure they meet minimum standards of residential lots. New residential lots must be at least 1.5 acres, must have a soil analysis for new and replacement sewage treatment systems, and drainage easements must be obtained. If any existing household sewage treatment system or private water well are on the property being split, they are inspected to ensure the systems conform to operational standards. We also inspect hydrants and cisterns on the property. Call us to get information on the process!

Mosquito Grant

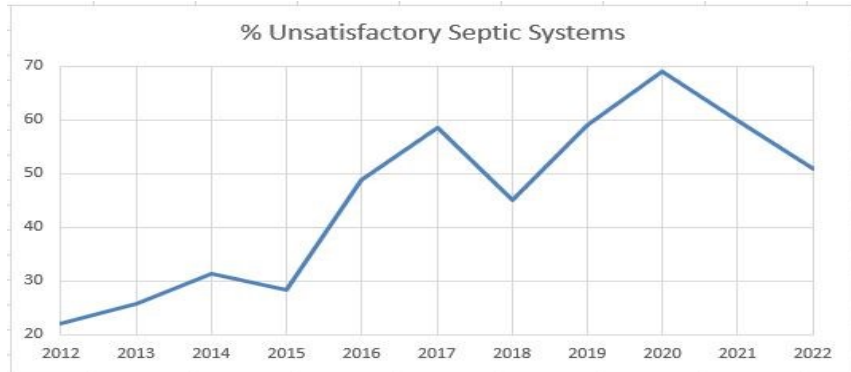
In 2022, the Darke County General Health District (DCGHD) received a \$25,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for mosquito monitoring and prevention. This grant allowed the DCGHD to trap 311 mosquitoes in a 10-week period from 23 different locations throughout 15 townships and villages. Of these, the following disease carrying mosquitoes were identified: Culex Sp. (28), Aedes albopictus (49), Aedes triseriatus (9), and Coquillettidia perturbans (1). These mosquitoes are vectors for a wide array of arboviruses such as West Nile Virus (WNV), La Crosse virus, and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus. The Ohio Department of Health tested Culex Sp. from our county for WNV and there were no positives in 2022.

Some of the grant money was used to purchase a backpack sprayer for the Darke County Parks District. Contracted services were also used to provide fogging for communities in our county that are unable to provide their own mosquito fogging. DCGHD also sprayed in six townships and one village with our sprayer we received from a previous mosquito grant. We were able to trap near these spraying locations to determine if the spraying was effective. We found little to no mosquitoes in these areas which helped us determine that the spraying was effective. For mosquito prevention, the DCGHD distributed mosquito larvicide and mosquito adulticide, as well as having information booths at the Fair and other events. With these booths, staff were able to distribute educational materials, larvicide, and teach about mosquito prevention.



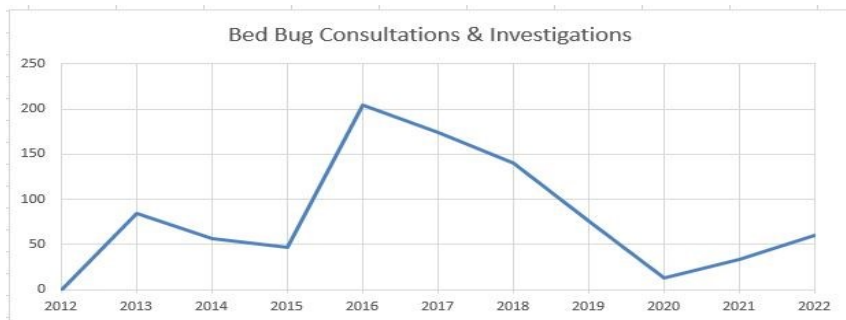
Sewage Operation & Maintenance Program (O&M)

The O&M program helps to reduce pollution and saves homeowners money by preventing septic system failures and protecting public health. This is done through homeowner education, record keeping, and system monitoring and maintenance. In 2022, 51% of Darke County homeowners did not have a satisfactory system during the O&M inspection. The chart below shows the percent of unsatisfactory septic systems that were inspected. This substantiates the need for O&M. There are approximately 8,000 septic systems on the program. Ohio Administrative Code, Section OAC 3701-29-09(I) requires homeowners to have a valid operational permit.



Bed Bugs

Darke County saw an increase in bed bug reports. Bed bugs are not considered a public health threat, however, bed bugs are a nuisance and can be very costly to homeowners. If a home is badly infested, our Darke County Premise Regulations will require treatment. Also, a multi-family dwelling must be treated since the source of contamination is unknown. The Health Department inspects nuisances based on a signed complaint or concern. We check dwellings for health, safety, and sanitation.



About Us:

What is Public Health?

Public Health is a term used to encompass a variety of activities designed to prevent the spread of disease and promote optimal health.

Our Mission:

To develop and maintain an efficient and effective system which will provide for the highest quality of public health services and to promote and protect the Darke County community's physical, mental, social, and environmental well being.

Our Vision:

Our vision is to be an innovative leader in achieving the highest possible health and well being for Darke County and the environment.

The Darke County General Health District and Our Community:

Local health departments were developed to provide an organized approach to public health activities in communities. Activities of the Darke County General Health District include immunizations, vital statistics, environmental health, nursing, emergency preparedness, communicable disease control, epidemiology and health education.

Every time you visit campgrounds, restaurants, swimming pools, schools and grocery stores, the Darke County General Health District plays a role in protecting public health. The health department is also responsible for providing immunizations, performing epidemiological investigations, coordinating emergency response with other agencies, and providing public health education.



What is New at the Darke County General Health District?

The Darke County General Health District will be assessing community health needs in 2023. This process, known as a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), refers to a method of identifying the specific health needs of our service area through systematic data collection and analysis. Collaboration with community partners and public health stakeholders from various sectors will ensure broad community engagement in identifying health needs. Examples of needs that will be identified in this process include prevalent health conditions, barriers to care, and socioeconomic factors that contribute to unmet health needs.

The completed Community Health Needs Assessment will serve as a guide for the prioritization of health needs and the development of strategies to address high priority needs with resources available in our community.

The Darke County General Health District

The Darke County General Health District is a combined health district representing Greenville City and the Darke County Community. There are five individuals appointed to the Board of Health (BOH). The Mayor of Greenville City appoints two members of the Board of Health to represent Greenville City. The District Advisory Council (DAC) appoints two members of the Board of Health to represent Darke County and they elect a five member Licensing Council of regulated parties that selects an additional board member from their group. The District Advisory Council includes the Township Trustees and the Mayors of the Villages within Darke County. The District Advisory Council membership also includes a County Commissioner. At least one board member must be a physician which can be chosen by either the District Advisory Council or the Greenville City Mayor.

Board of Health

The Board of Health’s responsibilities include providing oversight of staff hiring including the Health Commissioner, the adoption of policies and procedures that improve the health department’s operational performance and enhance health equity in our community, and providing direction in instances of enforcement of the Ohio Revised Code—particularly with regard to environmental health concerns.

The current members include:

Dr. Timothy Kathman-President	James Schaar-Vice-President
Jeff Subler	Krista Fourman
Curtis Yount	Gary Giere-Alternate

Accreditation Update

In 2022, the Darke County General Health District submitted its first Accreditation Annual Report. The first year annual report reviewed the Health Department’s progress on performance management/quality improvement, implemented quality improvement projects, processes to prepare for reaccreditation, and emerging public health issues and innovations. The Darke County General Health District received positive feedback from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) noting our continued focus on continuous quality improvement and performance management employing real-time responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, PHAB also released its latest version of standards and measures. This updated version has 10 domains (previously 12) that align with the 10 Essential Public Health Services.



Program		Solid Waste	
Food Safety		Solid Waste Transfer Station	1
Food Service Operation	158	Closed Landfills	4
Retail Food Operation	75	Compost Facilities	4
Mobile Food Service	75	Solid Waste Haulers	12
Temporary Food Service	121	Trash Complaint	18
Vending	19	Solid Waste Inspections	61
Food Safety Inspections	830	Solid Waste Consultations	47
Food Safety Consultations	480	Scrap Tire Facility	31
		Infectious Waste Facility	8
Recreational			
Swimming Pools & Spas	16	Plumbing	
Bathing Beaches	6	Plumbing Permits	174
RV Parks/ Camps	8	Registered Plumbers	96
Temporary Camps	38	Appliance Installer	4
Recreational Inspections	106	Sewer & Water Line Installer	2
Recreational Consultations	41	Plumbing Inspections	452
Private Sewage Treatment Systems		Rabies	
New Sewage Treatment System (STS) Permit	24	Animal Bites Reported	137
Replacement STS Permit	55	Animal Submitted for Testing	6
Alteration STS Permit	23		
Final Installation Inspection	101	School & County Jail Inspections	30
Building Site Inspections	18		
Special Service Inspections	39	Smoke Free Ohio	1
Operation & Maintenance Inspections	1599		
Other Sewage Inspection/ Re-Inspection	859	Premise	
Septic Installers	27	Housing Inspections	22
Service Providers	13	Mold Inspections	8
Sewage Haulers	10	Lead Inspections	1
Sewage Consultations	2299	Bed Bug Inspections	8
		Other Insect/ Rodent Inspections	3
Private Water Systems		Methamphetamine	0
New Private Water System (PWS) Permit	59	Other Nuisance	50
Alteration PWS Permit	9	Premise Inspections	39
Well Sealing Permits	2	Premise Consultations	279
Water Samples	220		
Unsatisfactory Bacteria Water Samples	20	Tattoo Operations	9
Unsatisfactory E-Coli Water Samples	0		
Water Hauler	3	Mosquito Control Consultations	299
Private Water Inspections	122		
Private Water Consultations	354	All Program Letters Sent	9029

Environmental Division Services:

The Environmental Division works to protect the health of the community, prevent disease, and protect the environment through the enforcement of local and state rules and regulations, along with providing consultations and educational material regarding our health programs and activities. Our public health sanitarians conduct routine inspections of licensed establishments which reduces the risk of such things as food-borne illnesses and contaminated drinking water supplies. All programs are to help ensure the well-being of Darke County residents and the environment.

The Environmental Division has many services we provide to protect the community and the environment. These programs include: Food Safety, Home Sewage Treatment Systems, Private Water, Plumbing, Tattoo & Body Piercing, Swimming Pools/Recreational Camps/Bathing Beaches, Schools and Correctional Facilities, Rabies, Nuisances, Mosquitoes, Healthy Homes, Smoking, and Lead/Air Quality.



Food Plan Review

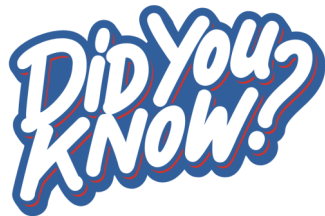
The Environmental Division inspects all licensed food facilities to help protect the public from foodborne diseases. We also review plans and equipment specifications for new facilities and those facilities that may require updates during a change of ownership. This process is called Plan Review and existing facilities that change ownership are required to update the facility to meet current regulations under 3717-1-20 (B)(3). Licenses are nontransferable and new facilities or new ownership cannot have any outstanding violations when opening. Therefore, if a change of ownership is planned, we encourage you to get a hold of the Health Department to avoid any disruption in the operation.

Ohio EPA Grant Money Used for Septic Updates

In 2022, the Darke County Health Department was awarded \$150,000 from the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund. These funds continue to help Darke County homeowners repair/replace sewage treatment systems in the county. We are very fortunate to have been awarded another \$150,000 to be used in 2023! We currently have a lengthy waiting list so we will not be accepting additional applications in 2023 however we will continue to apply for more funding. Qualification is based on total household annual income, the homeowner must be up to date on taxes, and the home must be owner-occupied. Contact the Health Department for more details.

Did you know?

Many of our inspections can be found online. Visit our website!



Public Health Leadership Team



Jordan Francis, MPH
Health Commissioner



Ginger Magoto, REHS, MPH, MS
Environmental Director, GIS Specialist



Emily Hoisington, BSN, RN
Director of Nursing



Jody Hocker
Administrative Assistant, Account Clerk

Performance Management/Quality Improvement

The Darke County General Health District undertook a Quality Improvement Project to help achieve a strategic priority of developing and implementing local “Careers in Public Health” initiatives and recruitment strategies. This strategic priority highlighted the need to explore partnerships with our local school districts, utilize social media to highlight different career paths within public health, as well as expand on offering internship opportunities at the Health Department. The Darke County General Health District worked with various local school districts and Darke County Economic Development to partner with them for upcoming career days and job shadowing events. By the end of 2022, the Health Department was able to partake in local career day events, as well as host 10 individuals for job shadowing, and created 17 public health career path social media posts.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As you can see from the Financial Summary Statement below, the Health District has managed to maintain a carryover balance. Carryover is essential to funding the first few months of the year. The Health District has also been able to maintain grant funding by diligent field work and fiscal management throughout the years. We are committed to remain fiscally responsible in 2023 and beyond.

FUNDS	2021 CARRY-OVER	2022 REVENUE	2022 EXPENSES	2022 BALANCE	2022 Carry over for encumbered Expenses	2023 Beginning BALANCE
GENERAL HEALTH	\$296,838.53	\$1,049,271.10	\$1,080,233.95	\$265,875.68	\$295.15	\$265,580.53
SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS	\$33,595.35	\$307,080.72	\$263,829.15	\$76,846.92	\$0.00	\$76,846.92
FOOD SERVICE	\$110,554.86	\$176,631.08	\$171,984.63	\$115,201.31	\$0.00	\$115,201.31
MEDICAL RESERVE CORP	\$11,928.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,928.47	\$0.00	\$11,928.47
GET VACCINATED	\$7,904.02	\$33,877.00	\$34,861.59	\$6,919.43	\$0.00	\$6,919.43
CAMPSGROUNDS	\$2,528.53	\$5,836.70	\$5,592.27	\$2,772.96	\$0.00	\$2,772.96
PRIVATE WATER	\$65,152.37	\$48,020.00	\$64,316.33	\$48,856.04	\$150.95	\$48,705.09
SOLID WASTE	\$18,973.97	\$36,657.25	\$48,899.66	\$6,731.56	\$0.00	\$6,731.56
HELP ME GROW	\$123,877.27	\$374,529.21	\$401,466.90	\$96,939.58	\$0.00	\$96,939.58
POOLS/SPAS	\$13,883.42	\$9,042.50	\$9,369.66	\$13,556.26	\$0.00	\$13,556.26
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT	\$22,813.98	\$100,831.00	\$115,342.90	\$8,302.08	\$0.00	\$8,302.08
OH EPA WPCLF	\$27,575.72	\$219,275.23	\$246,850.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Public Health Workforce Development	\$8,127.74	\$103,408.47	\$97,109.50	\$14,426.71	\$0.00	\$14,426.71
Mosquito Grant	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$24,238.00	\$762.00	\$0.00	\$762.00
Lead Grant	\$0.00	\$9,456.03	\$9,456.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Covid-19 Enhanced Operations	\$8,371.76	\$464,827.83	\$467,737.20	\$5,462.39	\$0.00	\$5,462.39
Covid-19 Vaccination Grant	\$0.00	\$57,833.19	\$42,460.42	\$15,372.77	\$1,154.25	\$14,218.52
TOTALS	\$752,125.99	\$3,021,577.31	\$3,083,749.14	\$689,954.16	\$1,600.35	\$688,353.81

Vital Statistics:

In previous years, we have reported births and deaths, along with causes of death, that occurred within Darke County. The data shown here is for 2022 births and deaths, along with primary causes of death, for Darke County residents, regardless of where the event happened. We feel this presents a better picture of what is happening in our Darke County communities. This information is used to determine trends in causes of death, health assessment, receiving funding in various forms, and genealogical purposes. For your convenience, you can process online requests through VitalChek Network Inc. at their website, www.vitalchek.com. All major credit cards are accepted, including American Express®, Discover®, MasterCard®, or Visa®.

Statistical Information for Darke Co. Residents				
Births		Deaths		
	Number		Number	
Births Recorded	583	Deaths Recorded	688	
Hospital	566	Males	323	
Out of Institution	17	Females	365	
Males	282	Oldest	108 yrs	
Females	301	Youngest	11 hrs	
Sets of Twins	23			
Youngest Mother	15 yrs	Out-of-County Death	60 90	
Oldest Mother	44 yrs	In-County Death	245 269	
Parents' Marital Status		Out-of-State Death	18 6	
Wed	412	Natural Causes	291 341	
Unwed	171	Accidental Death	25 19	
Darke Co. Births	216	Suicide	6 2	
Out-of-County Births	326	Homicide	1 1	
Out-of State Births	41	Undetermined	0 2	
		Pending Investigation	0 0	
Primary Causes of Death			Men	Women
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases			4	10
Malignant Neoplasms			47	38
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs			4	0
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases			9	16
Mental, behavioral, and neurodevelopmental disorders			20	17
Diseases of the nervous system			10	37
Diseases of the circulatory system			96	102
Diseases of the respiratory system			59	69
Diseases of the digestive system			5	14
Diseases of the genitourinary system			10	4
Not elsewhere classified symptoms, signs and abnormal findings			14	23
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes			10	9
External causes of morbidity			12	9
COVID-19			5	11
Redacted Cause from Out-of-State Death Records			18	6
Pending Investigation			0	0
TOTALS			323	365

Central Ohio Measles Outbreak

In early November 2022, a measles outbreak was declared in central Ohio. Cases emerged quickly in November and December, with cases tapering off towards the end of the year. During this time, the Darke County General Health District staff worked diligently to produce and distribute educational materials. Education was provided to local medical offices, hospitals, schools, and daycares. Text messages were sent to parents of unvaccinated children in the county in an effort to promote vaccination and increase protection against the measles virus. The Central Ohio Measles Outbreak was declared over on February 5th, 2023 after 42 days with no new cases – or two incubation periods of the measles virus. “In recent years, nationwide we have seen a slight drop in vaccination rates among our children,” Dr. Vanderhoff said. “This has led to several outbreaks, such as measles, that again, are largely preventable.”



Darke County Medical Reserve Corps

The Darke County Medical Reserve Corps is a volunteer group that brings together local health professionals and non-health professionals. These volunteers are willing to assist the Health Department and their community during emergency medical responses. For more information or to become a volunteer, please contact the Darke County Health Department at 937-548-4196.



Grants

The Darke County General Health District continues to be fortunate to receive various grants from the Ohio Department of Health to aid in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. During 2022, the Health Department used funding from the following grants: Enhanced Operations and COVID-19 Vaccination. These grants allowed the Health Department to pay personnel costs, purchase vaccination supplies, nursing equipment, and other additional supplies to help aid our response to the pandemic. Additionally, the Darke County General Health District received the Workforce Development Grant from the Ohio Department of Health. This grant allowed us to hire additional personnel and retain current employees to help serve the population of Darke County.

Nursing Division Services:

Lots of Shots

In 2022, the Health Department gave numerous immunizations. Maintaining high immunization rates is essential to preventing outbreaks of diseases. In order to help meet the needs of Darke County residents, there was a special clinic held for children entering 7th and 12th grade. This clinic has been very successful. There were 205 children who attended and 313 vaccines given in just one day. This clinic alone took care of 15% of the 7th and 12th grade children in Darke County who needed vaccines.



Communicable Diseases

It is important to track and report communicable diseases in our county in an effort to prevent and control infectious diseases. In order to protect the public from serious diseases, we identify issues, assess situations, collect data, educate, and refer to community health providers. Being aware of trends allows for recognizing issues, educating individuals, and preventing outbreaks in our community.

Community Health Services by the NUMBERS

COVID-19 Cases	5397
Communicable Diseases (including COVID-19 cases)	5705
COVID-19 Outbreaks	23
COVID-19 Vaccines Given, Total	735
COVID-19 Adult vaccines	657
COVID-19 Pediatric vaccines	78
CMH Children Served	358
FAME Clients Served	15
Flu Vaccines Given	494
Early Intervention Visits	781
Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program Visits	918
Hepatitis C Cases	48
Immunizations Given	2,852
STDs Reported	138

This table is just a small sampling of Community Health Services provided during 2022.

Help Me Grow

Help Me Grow offers a free voluntary program to prenatal women, children, and families. When a parent schedules a home visit with Help Me Grow, they will have the opportunity to share their thoughts about parenting, ask questions, and receive reliable information based on their individual family needs or topics of interest. Topics may include, but are not limited to: healthy pregnancies, baby and child health, breastfeeding, nutrition, immunizations, child growth and development, discipline, toilet training, child safety, household safety, and local resources. The Help Me Grow staff are support people who help the family reach their goals. In 2022, all families enrolled in Help Me Grow services were eligible to receive free diapers, wipes and grocery



gift cards. The Help Me Grow and Early Intervention teams come together to host holiday parties for families throughout the year. During these events, there are fun activities for children and parents to have the chance to connect. Staff also host play groups every month for children to develop their social skills. This is another opportunity for parents to connect and share resources.

Early Intervention.

Early Intervention provides family-centered developmental services for infants and toddlers up to age 3. The Darke County General Health District staff works in collaboration with the Board of Developmental Disabilities to provide free services to the children who need them. Through collaborative efforts, families work with providers to receive therapies, utilize community resources, and understand the present and future needs of their children.



Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

The Darke County General Health District has two staff members—a Lead case manager and a Public Health nurse—who collaborate on all cases of high lead levels in Darke County children. The goal of the Lead program is to facilitate primary prevention efforts and lowering of elevated blood lead levels in Darke County children by increasing and improving case management activities for lead poisoned children. Some of these activities include: providing education to the family, providing home cleaning supplies, and conducting a Public Health Lead investigation, including a home inspection in conjunction with ODH. In 2022, the Health Department received a grant from ODH to help increase lead testing rates for children at risk for lead poisoning and to build awareness of this issue in the state. This grant allowed us to provide educational materials to local medical providers as well as posting billboards about lead poisoning prevention in Darke County.

School Nurses



School nurses collaborate on a regular basis through the academic year with the Darke County General Health District staff. They come together to discuss school health issues and have in-services pertinent to the children in Darke County. The Darke County General Health District supports them in their efforts to provide health screenings, manage medications, prevent the spread of disease, and assure appropriate immunization statuses. In 2022, the school nurses attended several meetings with

the Darke County General Health District nurses, as well as Family Health Services staff to collaborate on COVID-19 testing, prevention, and guidelines, which changed multiple times throughout the school year.

Work Experience Program

The Darke County General Health District partners with Darke County Job & Family Services to provide the Work Experience Program. The Health Department provides an opportunity for individuals to work a set amount of hours each month in exchange for benefits such as cash assistance or food stamps.

TB Control

Tuberculosis is a potentially fatal and contagious disease that can affect almost any part of the body, but is primarily an infection of the lungs. The Darke County General Health District TB Control nurse plays an important role in surveillance and containment of the disease for our local population. The Darke County General Health District provides direct observation therapy (DOT) which is the gold standard for TB treatment. DOT requires the TB control nurse to watch TB patients take their medication on a daily basis, whether it be face-to-face or virtually, for a set timeframe which is typically anywhere from four to nine months.



Emergency Response-PHEP

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) is a program that aims to prepare Darke County for any public health emergency that may persist. The Darke County General Health District worked on creating an Environmental Health Response Plan in an effort to provide a framework to outline the emergency response actions of our agency during an environmental health emergency. Staff also participated in various tabletop exercises and drills to ensure that no matter the event, the staff at the Darke County General Health District remain prepared to respond.