



Licking County Health Department

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www.LickingCoHealth.org

2018 Mid-Year Report

Five Public Health Spotlights

From the Licking County Health Commissioner, R. Joseph Ebel, R.S., M.S., M.B.A.



OpioiD Epidemic - #1

Illicit opioid drug use continues to challenge our community. Whether it is prescription opioid abuse or heroin use, drug addiction creates serious health impacts, including possible death due to overdose. Our Drug Overdose Prevention Grant and Overdose Fatality Review Board works to identify trends and promote actions that reduce drug use and prevent overdose deaths. Our Project DAWN naloxone program received United Way funding to allow continued distribution of life-saving opioid overdose reversal kits.

LCHD continues to offer grants through the Ohio EPA water pollution control fund to income-eligible local residents to assist in the repair or replacement of their failing sewage systems or to connect failed systems to public sewers.

Our staff work hard to get important health information to the public in a timely manner, so that they can make informed decisions about their health. LCHD's Facebook page has nearly 7,000 followers, more than any other health department in Ohio! We also have over 1,800 subscribers to our email news and health alert system, and over 3,000 visitors to our website each month. I also have a monthly editorial in the Newark Advocate. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for updates!

#3 - Lyme Disease

Cases of Lyme Disease, transmitted by infected ticks, continue to climb. In 2017, 20 total cases were reported, up from only 11 cases in 2016. This year we already have 14 cases identified, with peak reporting season to come in July. To reduce your risk of contracting Lyme Disease, wear repellent, check for ticks, shower soon after being outdoors, and call your doctor if a fever or rash develops.

#5 - Health in All Policies

LCHD collaborates with our local elected officials, organizations, and other partners to find innovative solutions to build communities where all people feel empowered and connected. By identifying shared goals, we can maximize our resources to improving the health of our communities by incorporating health, sustainability, and equity considerations into decision-making.

January - June 2018

Health Education

Promoting healthy lifestyles through education.



Health Educators have provided over 1,700 third-grade students in 11 Licking County school districts with comprehensive health and wellness lessons through the Partners in Wellness program. The program covers all wellness, including physical, social and emotional health.



LCHD's Wellness Coalition coordinated our ninth annual Change Gears: Ride a Bike event in June. Staff distributed free snacks and give-aways. The event had a total of 95 participants.



Our Prescription Drug Overdose program has formed a coalition and provided prescription drug safety messaging to private middle and high school students along with workplaces in Licking County. The overall goal is to reduce prescription drug overdoses in Licking County.



The goal of the Community Cessation Initiative (CCI) is to reduce tobacco use and improve the health of residents in Licking County by building cessation capacity. CCI is a free program designed for individuals wish to quit tobacco and aims to connect people with individualized services as well as increase awareness and availability of services.

Free mammograms have been provided to 11 women through Screening and Survivor Support (SASS). Of those, two have received diagnostic follow-up testing. SASS also provided eight Licking County breast cancer patients with a total of \$4,000.00 in financial aid stipends.



More LCHD Health Education programs and services include our Child Safety Seat program, *stand* Tobacco Prevention program, Creating Healthy Communities, Safe Communities, Radon Prevention, Licking County Wellness Coalition, Moving to the Future, Moms Quit for Two, Worksite Wellness Workshop, and Ohio Healthy program.



January - June 2018

Women, Infants & Children

(WIC) Special Supplemental Nutrition Program.

WIC serves low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, infants and children up to age five by providing them nutrition education, supplemental foods, breastfeeding support and referrals.

2,523 total WIC participants served in first half of 2018 in Licking County.

97 served at the Johnstown satellite clinic

2,020 served at the LCHD clinic in Newark

308 served at the Pataskala satellite clinic

98 served at the Buckeye Lake satellite clinic

Women's Fair



Our 5th Annual Breastfeeding & Women's Health Fair was May 10. This year's event was hosted by the Licking County Family YMCA with more vendors and attendees that previous years.



2018 marks our 15th year in distributing Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers to WIC families. Each family receives a total of \$20.00 to be spent at local farm stands and markets to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs. This program is a win-win benefiting WIC families and local farmers.

LCHD WIC



WIC Garden



LCHD's WIC garden is in its second year of production with its biggest harvest yet. The garden is located next to the WIC entry so that families can enjoy seeing the entire growing process. As produce ripens, it is picked, washed, and made available to WIC families, along with recipes.

January - June 2018

Public Health Nursing

Programs and Clinics by the Numbers



Our Project DAWN program is funded through the United Way of Licking County and distributes naloxone kits through local trainings and via an online request form on our website. We trained 78 people to recognize symptoms of a opioid overdose and distributed 73 Project Dawn naloxone kits in the first half of 2018.

Members of the Medical Reserve Corps were given the opportunity to help staff an emergency shelter that was opened due to a large fire in an apartment complex in Franklin County. Also, members were recruited to act as victims in the Central Ohio Healthcare Preparedness Coalition drill.

LCHD's Breast and Cervical Cancer Project (BCCP) serves a 14-county region and provided breast and/or cervical screenings to 691 women during the first half of 2018.



LCHD provided 75 Newborn Home visits in the first half of the year to Licking County newborns. We provide a head-to-toe assessment of the newborn, a weight check, breastfeeding assistance, and answers any questions the new parents may have.

Additional LCHD Public Health Nursing programs include At-Risk Pregnancy (221 consultations), Early Head Start program (959 visits), Immunization Clinic (644 patients), STD Clinic (165 patients), Travel Clinic (217 patients), TB (159 patients), and Dental Sealants (1,124 patients and 3,136 sealants) served within the first half of 2018.

The Children with Medical Handicaps Program (BCMh) links families of children with special health care needs to a network of quality providers. Our nurses increase the child's access to care, assist in coordination of services and aid families in finding and utilizing the appropriate sources of payment for services that their child receives.

Total number of BCMH clients (0 to 18): 938, (18 to 21): 34
Total Home Visits: 69



January - June 2018

Environmental Health

Registered Sanitarians & Inspectors enforce regulations



Water Pollution Control

LCHD continued our Water Pollution Control Loan Fund to assist low income homeowners with repairing or replacing their septic systems. LCHD has enrolled over 40 properties into the program which helps protect water resources within the county.

Water Sampling

In 2018, we doubled the number of days which we offer water samples to customers by collecting them four days a week. This makes it more convenient for our customers to have a water sample to close on a new house or have peace of mind related to the safety of their drinking water.

Nuisance Complaints

LCHD received a total of 278 solid waste complaints during the first half of 2018 including accumulation of trash on properties, illegally dumped tires, and various housing concerns. Our staff investigated each complaint and abated 221 of the complaints. The complaints that were not abated continue through the enforcement process. Not only has our office been effective at responding to complaints, but resolving them as well.

Food Safety Program

Our Food Safety Team conducted over 850 food safety inspections during the first half of the year including restaurants, convenient stores, food trucks and various festivals throughout the county. Our inspectors enforce the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code and educate operators on how to safely prepare and serve food. We've trained over 100 operators regarding food safety concepts. Providing education to operators helps to prevent violations from occurring in facilities, which improves the level of food safety in the facilities. Look for our inspection stickers when you are out to eat!



January - June 2018

Awarded Grants

In the first half of 2018, LCHD received 23 grants

Over 65 percent of LCHD staff members (45 out of 67) are involved in grant-funded programs.

Continuation or re-awarded grants for January through June 2018:

23

New grants that began January through June 2018:

7

Newly awarded grants that began after June 2018:

2

New and Notable

Retail Program Standards (Association of Food and Drug Officials), Get Vaccinated (Ohio Department of Health - ODH), Human Trafficking (Ohio Children's Trust Fund), Project DAWN naloxone distribution (United Way of Licking County), Community Health Assessment (ODH), Community Health Improvement Plan (ODH), Child Injury Action Group (Ohio Injury Prevention Partnership), Click it or Ticket (State Farm), and Reinvent the Reel (Truth Initiative).

Education



Public Health Recognition



Community Partnerships



Local Support



Events



Community Involvement



January - June 2018

Epidemiological Statistics

Rates calculated by dividing the number of cases by population and multiplying by 100,000 (standardizes data for comparison).

| 2018 Mid-Year Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Rates | 2018 Mid-Year | | 2017 Mid-Year | |
|--|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| | Cases | Rate | Cases | Rate |
| Chlamydia | 308 | 177.6 | 371 | 213.9 |
| Gonorrhea | 121 | 69.8 | 174 | 100.3 |

| 2018 Mid-Year Top Five Reportable Disease Rates | 2018 Mid-Year | | 2017 Mid-Year | |
|---|---------------|------|---------------|------|
| | Cases | Rate | Cases | Rate |
| Hepatitis C - chronic | 88 | 50.7 | 109 | 62.8 |
| Hepatitis B/Delta - chronic | 18 | 10.4 | 19 | 11.0 |
| Lyme Disease | 14 | 8.1 | 9 | 5.2 |
| Streptococcal - Group A | 10 | 5.8 | 1 | 0.6 |
| Campylobacteriosis | 9 | 5.2 | 8 | 4.6 |

Epi Updates

LCHD Communicable Disease staff are working on an investigation process project of Hepatitis C cases to confirm all risk factors. The ultimate goal is to find an estimation for the number of cases who use injection drugs. Data provided by The Ohio Department of Health traditionally links IV drug use as one of the top risk factors for Hepatitis C infections, but LCHD is collecting more data to develop local interventions.

Lyme Disease cases continue to increase after an all time high reported in 2017. Investigations into these cases continue to suggest local transmission is occurring. GIS mapping is used to track all cases which are being reported all over the county.

Emergency Preparedness

LCHD has developed a new Emergency Response Plan (ERP) set by guidelines created by ODH. LCHD submitted and passed the approval process for the ERP during budget period one of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant.

LCHD is coordinating with Licking County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) to hold a building specific Active Shooter training for all staff. During this training, LCHD staff will participate in a three-part course covering a lecture on active shooters, a hands on medical training, and a live exercise where participants will react to a simulated active shooter.



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