



**Public Health**  
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**Mahoning County  
District Board of Health**

# 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



**FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER:  
PATRICIA MCGOVERN SWEENEY  
JD, MPH, RN**



2013 was another year of significant growth for the Mahoning County District Board of Health (MCDBOH). In addition to a highly successful first year of WIC program operation, this year the MCDBOH received new grant funding to conduct Perinatal Hepatitis B, HIV and Syphilis case finding and case management, opened an additional WIC clinic to serve western Mahoning County, vastly expanded our insurance billing capabilities and established a new program to support tobacco cessation.

We collaborated with community partners to revise the Mahoning County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and became one of just nine communities in Ohio to commit to reducing infant mortality by joining forces with our community partners in the Ohio Institute for Birth Outcome Equity. This expansion of programs occurred while maintaining, and in most cases, providing more services in 2013 than 2012 across all divisions of the department and without increasing staff. This can only happen when dedicated professionals are committed to quality, efficiency, effectiveness and teamwork. I continue to be amazed by the dedicated professionals that are serving Mahoning County residents through the MCDBOH, their professional home.

2014 presents new opportunities. The Affordable Care Act will change the face of health care. As hospitals, health care providers and Accountable Care Organizations become paid for their services based upon their patients' health outcomes, shifting the health care delivery system focus from illness care to prevention, local health departments will become integral partners in their success. Local public health departments, already working in the communities and in patients' homes, can provide the chronic disease prevention and management education, the nutrition and active living support and the direct support of patients in the community that will translate into better health outcomes. I look forward to a truly integrated system where health care providers, public health providers, social service agencies, schools and community groups all work together to improve the public's health! The MCDBOH will do our part to see this begin in 2014.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT  
AND COMMUNITY HEALTH  
IMPROVEMENT PLANNING (CHA/CHIP)  
CONTINUES IN THE VALLEY**

At the close of 2011, the MCDBOH and a steering committee of 30 health-related community leaders published the Tri-County (Mahoning, Columbiana and Trumbull) Community Health Improvement Plan. During the summer of 2013, that steering committee conducted a community-wide survey to assess the extent to which the strategies recommended in the plan had been implemented and to assess the integration of the plan's priorities across the community. The team then carefully reviewed the assessment findings in light of current data and determined that two original plan priorities 1) eliminate childhood lead poisoning; and 2) divert pharmaceutical waste from waste water and landfills had both seen significant improvement since the plan was originally published. Concurrently, two new areas of public health concern were identified. As a result, the CHA/CHIP Team selected the following priorities for the Mahoning County 2014 Community Health Improvement Plan:

1. **PRIORITY:** Reduce infant mortality
2. **PRIORITY:** Improve access to behavioral health care, particularly treatment for and prevention of opiate use
3. **PRIORITY:** Increase the number of adults and children engaged in healthy eating and active living
4. **PRIORITY:** Reduce the incidence and impact of chronic disease, particularly diabetes

During early 2014, the CHA/CHIP Team will complete the plan update by developing measureable, time-specific goals and objectives for achieving each priority.



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**MCDBOH Medical Director**

John Venglarcik, III, MD, FAAP, FIDSA

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION: PREPARING FOR NEW SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM RULES

In November 2013, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) issued the second draft of revised sewage treatment system rules. ODH is anticipating an effective date of May 2014. Many local health departments have asked for an implementation date of January 2015 to ensure adequate time for educating sanitarians and installers about the new rules prior to the next construction season.

For further information, visit the ODH Website: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/eh/sewage/RAC/sewrules.aspx>



## WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY TO ELIMINATE BLIGHT – MOVING OHIO FORWARD

During 2013, the Ohio Attorney General allocated Moving Ohio Forward funds to Mahoning County for the demolition of dangerous dwellings. Working in partnership with zoning inspectors and elected officials, the MCDBOH declared 30 properties to be public health nuisances, the first step in the demolition process. In the City of Campbell Moving Ohio Forward funds were used to demolish five (5) dwellings on their 2013 demolition list.



Before and after pictures of a property in Campbell that was demolished after being declared a nuisance and uninhabitable by the MCDBOH.

## LEADING BY EXAMPLE

This year, three MCDBOH Environmental Health Division Registered Sanitarians became certified pool/spa operators through the Ohio Aquatics Council. The knowledge gained through this certification qualifies our staff to assist the 80 locally licensed pool/spa operators in complying with Ohio pool/spa regulations. By ensuring proper pool/spa water disinfection, circulation, safety and maintenance, our sanitarians protect the health and safety of Mahoning County residents.



Registered sanitarian, John Hallas, is checking the alkalinity level at a local spa and pool.

## PREVENTING SURFACE WATER CONTAMINATION WITH THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF)

Improperly maintained, failing/malfunctioning sewage treatment systems frequently contaminate drinking water sources, streams, lakes and ponds with bacteria and viruses. This year, with funding from the Ohio EPA Wastewater Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) the MCDBOH was able to provide 10 county residents with financial assistance to repair and replace failing home sewage treatment systems. Without this support, making needed repairs to their failed systems would have resulted in significant financial hardship for these homeowners. MCDBOH staff successfully testified to the Ohio EPA in support of continued funding for this program into 2014.



Fluorescent dye confirms that a household sewage treatment system is illegally discharging sewage onto the ground surface and ultimately contaminating surface water – a public nuisance.

## COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION: MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS – BUILDING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPACITY

Formed in 2007, the Mahoning/Columbiana Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a volunteer program that helps build public health infrastructure in local communities. Used to supplement existing local public health personnel in time of an emergency, MRC volunteers do not need to be licensed health care providers.

During 2013, our MRC volunteers participated in multiple trainings, exercises and actual events, including a Personal Preparedness Course, Introduction to Community Emergency Response Team training, Red Cross Shelter training and a Mass Casualty Full Scale exercise. In addition, Mahoning/Columbiana MRC volunteers participated in a “Hands On” Decontamination Course conducted by Saint Elizabeth Health Center.

If interested in joining the MRC, please contact the Community Health Division at 330.270.2855, Ext. 132.



MRC volunteers engaged in a Mass Casualty Full Scale exercise.

## A SAFE SLEEP ENVIRONMENT REDUCES THE RISK OF SUDDEN INFANT DEATHS

In 2013, the MCDBOH received a grant from the CJ Foundation for SIDS to educate WIC clients about Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) risk reduction strategies and to teach pregnant women and new mothers how to provide a safe sleep environment for their infants. 162 new and expectant mothers were trained with 99% consistently reporting their use of safe sleep environments for their infants.

This year the MCDBOH also became a *Cribs for Kids* program partner which enabled us to purchase *Pack n Plays* at a reduced cost. With financial assistance from Ohio WIC, we purchased 100 *Pack n Plays* that were distributed to WIC families who otherwise would have been unable to provide a safe sleep environment for their infants.



ABC of the correct safe sleep environment – ALONE, on his BACK in an empty CRIB (firm mattress, free from toys, blankets and bumper pads).

## WIC PROGRAM: BIDS A “FAWN” FAREWELL AND WELCOMES NEW LEADERSHIP

WIC (Women, Infants and Children) is a supplemental nutrition program that helps income-eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, women who have recently had a baby, or have an infant or child up to five years of age that may be at risk due to inadequate nutrition. WIC services improve pregnancy outcomes by providing the support necessary to achieve full-term pregnancies and reduce the incidence of low birth weight. The MCDBOH WIC program served 5,640 clients in fiscal year 2013.

After serving over 25 years as the WIC Director of Mahoning County, Fawn Allison, RD, LD, CLC retired at the end of 2013. Ms. Allison has been a pillar within the community and a leader in the WIC community statewide.

In keeping with the tradition of great leadership, the MCDBOH appointed Ms. Loretta Floyd-Pleas, MS, RD, LD, CLC as the new director of the WIC program. Loretta brings more than 20 years of experience with her from her positions as the WIC Nutrition Educator, Breastfeeding Coordinator and Assistant WIC Director.



The new WIC Director, Loretta Floyd-Pleas, poses with mom and son DJ as they prepare for their WIC appointment at the Austintown clinic.

Also this year, WIC resumed serving clients in the southwestern portion of Mahoning County with the establishment of a new WIC clinic in the Goshen Administrative Building. The site has had a successful start and has been a welcomed addition for WIC clients.

WIC Clients are seen by appointment Monday – Friday  
between 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM, at the following locations:

**Austintown**  
50 Westchester Drive . . . . . Phone: 330.792.2397

**Boardman**  
3910 Hillman Way . . . . . Phone: 330.788.1485

**Goshen**  
14003 West South Range Rd. . . . . Phone: 330.507.9290

**Youngstown**  
345 Oak Hill . . . . . Phone: 330.743.3333, Ext. 5

## ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY: MAINTAINS EPA DRINKING WATER CERTIFICATION

To ensure full compliance with the State of Ohio's drinking water certification program, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts on-site visits every three years, to review laboratory documentation and operations and to re-certify personnel. The MCDBOH Environmental Laboratory holds certification in Microbiology, Trace Metals Analysis and Inorganic Testing. During 2013, our Environmental Laboratory underwent two site visits from the Ohio EPA Division of Drinking and Groundwater to re-certify laboratory personnel to perform drinking water testing on public water systems. The Ohio EPA auditors found no violations in laboratory standards or services.

## CONDUCTS SOIL AND DUST WIPE SAMPLING TO TEST FOR CONTAMINATION

The MCDBOH Environmental Laboratory partnered with Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation to provide lead testing of more than eight hundred soil samples from targeted locations throughout the city.



Laboratory Technician, Janine Soubra, is analyzing dust wipe samples for lead.

## HEALTHY SOIL FOR HEALTHY GARDENS

With the increase in urban gardening in our area, it is wise to be aware of possible soil contamination. Soil can be contaminated due to past activity, such as use of lead paint, use of fertilizers, coal ash, industrial activity, arsenic-treated lumber and even general levels of high traffic.

The MCDBOH Environmental Laboratory can evaluate soil for trace metal contaminants such as lead, arsenic, mercury and cadmium. The laboratory can also test for common soil properties, such as pH, nitrogens and phosphates. For further information please contact the Environmental Laboratory at 330.270.2855, Ext. 180.



## NURSING DIVISION: EXPANDS PROGRAMS TO MEET INCREASED DEMAND FOR SERVICES

Since the mid-1990s, MCDBOH public health nurses have provided medical safety-net services for children through the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Child and Family Health Services Grant (CFHS). This grant enables us to conduct monthly well child and immunization clinics at five locations throughout Mahoning County. 2013 client records indicate a 36% increase in the number of clinical services provided by the division. These services included over 4,900 children's immunizations, 1,628 adult immunizations and 2,923 flu vaccines. In addition, our public health nurses provided over 7,500 contacts with families needing service coordination from the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps Program (BCMHS).



In 2013, the nursing division also acquired two additional ODH grant programs: a Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP) and the Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Program. The PHBPP grant enables a public health nurse to outreach to obstetricians, pediatricians and labor and delivery nursing staff members at eight local hospitals in Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana and Portage counties to assure that pregnant women and newborn infants are screened for and vaccinated against Hepatitis B. The DIS funding enables a social worker to screen individuals who may be at risk for HIV or Syphilis in Mahoning, Columbiana or Jefferson counties and to provide education and counseling services related to HIV and Syphilis infections.

Also, recognizing the role that tobacco plays in Mahoning County's leading causes of death: Heart Disease, Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease, Cancer and Stroke, the MCDBOH can now provide a Certified Tobacco Cessation Specialist to assist individuals and employers interested in kicking the tobacco habit for themselves or to improve the health of their workforce. Private or group sessions are available.



For more information about any of the MCDBOH Nursing Division services, please call 330.270.2855, Ext. 125.

# 2013 MAHONING COUNTY DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH STAFF

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## NUTRITION EDUCATOR/ BREAST FEEDING COORDINATOR

Loretta Floyd-Pleas, MS, RD, LD, CLC

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Lillian Davila  
Rosemarie Fragoso

Maria LeBron  
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Heidi DiBacco, IBCLC

Kristi Sanchez

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Linda Evans, MS, RD, LD, CLC  
Carla Moore-Parker, RD, LD, CLC

Melissa Rogers, RD, LD, CLC  
Michelle Rovnak, RD, LD, CLC  
Catherine Pontino, RD, LD

## RETIREMENT

Joyce Naymick (22 years of service)

Fawn Allison (1 year of service)

# MAHONING COUNTY COMMUNICABLE DISEASES TOTAL

*Mahoning County townships, villages, and cities of  
Canfield, Campbell and Struthers*

DISEASE	2012	2013
Campylobacteriosis	17	7
Chlamydia Infection	339	340
Cryptosporidium	10	3
Cytomegalovirus -congenital (CMV)	0	1
Ecoli (non 0157) shixa toxin	2	1
Giardia	3	2
Gonococcal Infection	74	99
Haemophilus Influenza	0	1
Hepatitis A	0	4
Hepatitis B Acute	3	10
Hepatitis B Chronic	16	12
Hepatitis C Chronic	112	89
Influenza-associated hospitalizations	45	70
Influenza, Pediatric Mortality	0	1
Legionella	10	11
Listeria	0	1
Lyme Disease	11	11
Meningitis-Aseptic/Viral	5	11
Meningitis- Bacterial (Other)	0	1
Mumps (suspected)	0	1
Mycobacterial disease-other than TB	11	7
Pertussis	13	14
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	1
Salmonella	13	11
Shigella	0	2
Streptococcal-Group A invasive	4	6
Streptococcal-Group B-Newborn	1	0
Streptococcal Pneumoniae	18	21
Tuberculosis	1	0
Varicella	5	4

## THE FISCAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION: CONTRACTS ADD CONVENIENCE AND SECURITY FOR CLIENTS

In 2013, MCDBOH contracted with all five of the Medicaid Managed Care providers selected by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services to serve Mahoning County: CareSource, United Healthcare, Molina, Buckeye Community Health and Paramount Advantage. In addition, we contract with Medicare providers such as Anthem Senior Advantage, United Healthcare Secure Horizon, Humana and Aetna. Furthermore, the MCDBOH contracts with private insurance companies such as Anthem, Medical Mutual, United Healthcare, Aetna and Tri Care, for immunizations and other covered services. All MCDBOH medical claims are processed through Availity, a medical insurance billing clearinghouse, as opposed to billing insurance companies individually, which is highly effective. This streamlines the billing process and shortens the receivables turnaround time. We are continually adding new insurances and will check your coverage for you.

# MAHONING COUNTY DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH — 2013 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## REVENUES

### LOCAL REVENUES

Environmental Health License, Registration and Permit Fees . . . . .	\$1,240,679
Local Taxes: Inside Millage and Tuberculosis Levy . . . . .	1,035,072
Contracts with Governmental Agencies/Non-profits. . . . .	441,245
Laboratory Services Fees . . . . .	409,849
Insurance Reimbursements. . . . .	174,412
Personal Health Services Patient Paid Fees . . . . .	59,673
Rental Income . . . . .	39,186
Donations. . . . .	20,007
Miscellaneous Revenues (Sale of Assets, Copies) . . . . .	11,912
<b>SUB-TOTAL LOCAL REVENUES . . . . .</b>	<b>\$3,432,035</b>

### STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUES

Ohio Department of Health Funded Grants/Projects	
State Funded Dollars Include: . . . . .	\$128,488
Child and Family Health Services Block Grant	
Ohio Smoke Free Workplace Funds	
Federal Funded Dollars Include: . . . . .	1,419,983
Child and Family Health Services Block Grant	
Immunization Action Plan Grant	
Public Health Infrastructure Grant	
WIC Program	
Medicaid/Medicare Reimbursement for Services . . . . .	194,227
Other State and Federal Dollars Include: . . . . .	282,305
Water Pollution Control Fund – Ohio EPA	
Adult Day Services Grant – Area Agency on Aging	
Passport Program – Area Agency on Aging	
Medical Reserve Corps Grant – NACCHO	
Lead Abatement Grant – HUD	
Homestead and Rollback Reduction Funds	
State Subsidy . . . . .	45,500
<b>SUB-TOTAL STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUES . . . . .</b>	<b>\$2,070,503</b>

**TOTAL REVENUES . . . . . \$5,502,538**

## EXPENDITURES

	FEDERAL/STATE	LOCAL	TOTALS
Personal Health Services . . . . .	\$1,584,940	\$761,607	\$2,346,547
Environmental Health Services . . . . .	138,942	1,405,262	1,544,204
Administrative & Support Services . . . . .	45,500	631,948	677,448
Laboratory Services. . . . .	-	503,091	503,091
Community Health . . . . .	222,328	130,273	352,601
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES . . . . .</b>	<b>\$1,991,710</b>	<b>\$3,432,181</b>	<b>\$5,423,891</b>

THIS IS AN UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2012

*Number and Average Age-Adjusted Death Rates per 100,000*

Cause of Death . . . . .	Mahoning County		Ohio	
	Number . . . . .	Rate . . . . .	Number . . . . .	Rate . . . . .
Heart Disease . . . . .	822	222.5	25,715	186.9
Cancer . . . . .	691	208.2	24,735	184.3
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease . . . . .	138	38.7	6,919	51.6
Stroke . . . . .	167	44	5,586	40.7
Unintentional Injuries . . . . .	113	42.2	5,147	42.2
Alzheimer's Disease . . . . .	109	26.5	3,889	27.5

## MAHONING COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAM DATA 2013

Total client contacts . . . . .	2,676
TB tests administered. . . . .	1,355
Laboratory specimens obtained . . . . .	55
Active TB case . . . . .	1
Active TB case discharged from clinical care . . . . .	1
Latent TB infections evaluated at clinic . . . . .	25
Clients evaluated and started on LTBI treatment . . . . .	18
Latent TB cases discharged from clinical care . . . . .	12

**District Board of Health  
Mahoning County**

50 Westchester Drive  
Youngstown, OH 44515

Toll-free in Mahoning County  
**1.800.873.MCHD**



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WIC Clinics  
*Austintown*  
**330.792.2397**  
*Boardman*  
**330.788.1485**  
*Goshen*  
**330.507.9290**  
*Youngstown*  
**330.743.3333**

Environmental Laboratory Services  
**330.270.2841**

Tuberculosis Clinic  
**330.744.4246**

[www.mahoninghealth.org](http://www.mahoninghealth.org)



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