



# MAHONING COUNTY

## GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

**Health Commissioner**  
Matthew A. Stefanak, M.P.H.  
**Medical Director**  
Brian S. Gordon, M.D.

### ANNUAL REPORT 1991

2801 Market Street  
Youngstown, Ohio 44507-1649  
Phone (216) 788-7041  
Nursing & Clinics 788-5011  
Senior Day Care 782-1749  
Solid Waste Program  
788-0428

**Board of Health President**  
Leonard A. Perry

**Members**  
Fredric D'Amato, M.D.  
Robert C. Dey  
Michael J. Malys  
Diana S. Campana, L.S.W.



**Equal Provider Of Services And Equal Opportunity Employer**  
2801 Market Street • Youngstown, Ohio 44507 • 788-7041  
Nursing 788-5011 Day Care For The Elderly 782-1749  
Toll-Free in Mahoning County 1-800-873-MCHD

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Dolores Bennett, Secretary

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Leonard Perry, President  
Frederic D'Amato, M.D.  
Robert Dey  
Michael Malys  
Diana S. Campana, L.S.W.

### MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Brian S. Gordon, M. D.

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Michele Olin, Office Manager  
Eloise Large, Account Clerk  
Patricia Murphy, Fiscal/Personnel Officer  
Linda Zmith, Secretary

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

Donald A. Somers, R.S., Director

#### SANITARIANS

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Eleanor Cegan, R.S.  
John Hallas, S.I.T.  
Joseph Pink, R.S.  
Ronald Neff, R.S.  
Richard Curl, S.I.T.

#### SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

Richard D. Setty, R.S., Chief  
Katie Svasta, Administrative Assistant  
Candice D'Apolito, R.S.  
David Fetchko, S.I.T.  
Timothy Gourley, S.I.T.

#### PLUMBING DIVISION

Paul Cramer, R.S., C.P.I., Supervisor  
Howard Faison, R.S., C.P.I., Plumbing Inspector

#### NURSING DIVISION STAFF

Helen Mager, R.N., C., B.S.N., Nursing Director  
Yvonne Lewis, Administrative Secretary  
Cynthia Luc, Nursing Assistant

#### GENERALIZED PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES

Martina Borden, R.N.  
Katherine Dilley, R.N.  
Linda Ewing, R.N., C.  
Dolores Lysowski, R.N.

#### CHILD AND FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES

Beverly Mohn, Fiscal Manager  
Mary Moore, Account Clerk  
Karla Krodel, R.N., B.S.N., Prenatal Nurse  
Janet Polas, R. N., B.S.N., Clinic Nurse  
Charlotte Seidler, R.N., Prenatal Clinic Coordinator  
Laura Scalise, Secretary  
Grayce Vuksta, Clerk  
Jane Warga, C.H.E., L.D.,  
Nutritionist/Public Health Educator  
Tina Stalnacker, Data Entry Operator

#### PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

Martha Zetts, D.T.R., Nutritionist  
Suzanne Gomochock, R.N., Health Educator

#### ADULT DAY CARE CENTER

Marion Cleary, R.N., Adult Day Care Nurse  
James Patton, Bus Driver  
Joyce Naymick, Activities Director

## From Your Health Commissioner



Public health was in the news in 1991 like in no previous year in recent memory. Presidential candidates, state legislators, members of the medical establishment and public health workers on a national and local level were all heard to extoll the soundness of investing in **prevention** as the means to control escalating illness care costs and reduce the personal and social burden that avoidable disease places on our society. It seems that our leaders from every point on the political spectrum are beginning to realize what public health workers have preached for years: that every dollar spent on prenatal care, child and adult immunization, child lead poisoning prevention, educating children toward healthier behavior, and strict regulation of drinking water supplies, sewage and solid waste disposal is returned many-fold in the form of healthier babies, children and adults and a cleaner environment.

We see this realization manifest in several promising initiatives. Congress is considering a redirection of substantial funding to the Preventive Health Block Grant to the states, which pays for many of our programs aimed at preventing tobacco use and promoting good nutrition and exercise among our school children. The federal Centers for Disease Control has launched an aggressive campaign to promote screening of young children for the insidious threat of lead poisoning and other federal agencies have begun to stimulate efforts to remove lead from the child's environment through grants to the states. Here in Ohio, the Governor has dedicated a significant block of maternal and child health funds to outreach programs for women at risk for delivering the small and premature babies who place such a great financial burden on the states's Medicaid program. And in the State Legislature, Senators are now considering legislation which could result in a major overhaul of the state's antiquated public health laws and strengthen local health departments' ability to prevent groundwater pollution from improper sewage disposal.

Your Health Department will be influenced by all of these developments because, after all, its central focus is the quiet, unglamorous task of disease prevention. As one person recently remarked to me: "You never realize the Health Department is there - until you need it." It is gratifying that public health is receiving some long-overdue attention from political leaders and consumers of our services alike.

Matthew A. Stefanak, M.P.H.  
Mahoning County Health Commissioner

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## *Environmental Health Services*

The year of 1991 was one of great improvement for the Environmental Health Division. The redistricting of the environmental sanitarians along with the hiring of an additional sanitarian, allowed us to increase our productivity and better meet the needs of the public and townships we serve. A measure of this improvement can be found in the successful completion of mandated state program surveys in our food service, campground, swimming pool/spa and private water systems programs.

The Mahoning County Health Department continues to play an active role in public health issues by reviewing and commenting on important pieces of legislation. Senate Bill 230 was introduced into the Ohio legislature in the fall of 1991. This piece of legislation deals with the use of home sewage systems as a means for waste water disposal. Presently such systems are regulated by a myriad of local and state regulations. One of the goals of Senate Bill 230 is to establish a statewide uniform minimum standard for home sewage systems. Most importantly at the local level, this legislation would allow local health departments to establish home maintenance inspections for sewage systems. In Mahoning County, where a significant number of residents rely on home sewage systems for their waste water disposal, a comprehensive sewage program is important to prevent surface and ground water pollution.

Our Solid Waste Program continues to grow and evolve to meet the demands of the ever changing solid waste industry. In 1991, the Mahoning County Health Department along with the Poland Township Trustees and the Mahoning County Solid Waste District settled a long standing dispute regarding BFI's Carbon Limestone Landfill. Through this landmark settlement,



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we were able to address the environmental concerns of the facility and guaranteed a minimum of thirty years of waste disposal capacity for the County. The Health Department also adopted regulations governing construction and demolition debris sites to insure that this presently unregulated waste is handled in an environmentally sound manner. Additional items regarding the Solid Waste Program are detailed under the Solid Waste Program section of this report.

In the upcoming year, the Environmental Division will continue to build and improve our sound foundation of environmental programs. We will review our programs and update them as necessary so that they reflect our goal of comprehensive public health protection. Through such efforts, we feel that we can best meet the needs of the communities we serve.



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## ***Solid Waste Program***

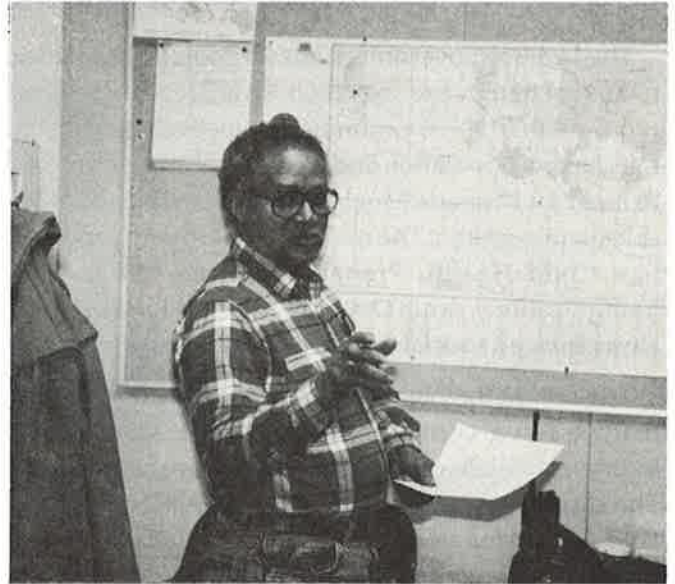
The Solid Waste Program, administered under the Division of Environmental Health, continues to mature.

Program personnel continue to avail themselves of continuing education opportunities to keep pace with developments in the field. Several college level programs have been attended as well as a major international conference on solid waste and related issues.

In-service training is completed as new equipment is obtained. In 1991, we were fortunate to obtain a polarizing/phase contrast microscope (for identification of asbestos), a teflon well baler (for ground water sampling) and a Geoprobe soil sampler (for sampling contaminated soils).

Another major accomplishment in 1991 was the promulgation of regulations for construction and demolition debris disposal facilities. Two applications for licenses are currently under review.

As of last fall, we have now successfully completed two Ohio EPA surveys of our program. A quote from one of them serves to sum up the status of the program: *"The result of our survey is that we find your solid waste program to be progressive, well organized, and a model for the rest of our district."* For a more detailed analysis of the program, please request a copy of our *"Goal, Status, Objectives and Planning Report,"* January 1992.



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## ***Plumbing Division***

The year 1991 was again one of many changes for the Plumbing Division. The Plumbing Code had several major changes that took place in July. Additional changes were sent to the State Board of Building Standard for public hearing.

Regulations requiring the licensing and inspections of commercial sewage systems continues and has become a program with a lot of repairs and inspections needed to make sure the sewage treatment plants are in working condition. Howard and I make inspections daily to make sure everyone is in compliance.

New commercial sites are still evaluated by the State Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) on a monthly basis with joint on-site inspections. These inspections include the consideration of the suitability of soils, creeks, streams on lot dissipation of treated waste water and how the proposed treatment system fits into the general plan of sanitary sewers for the area. Sewage plans are submitted by a professional engineer and when approved by the E.P.A., the project may begin.

The total number of plumbing inspections in all areas of plumbing, semi-public and E.P.A. investigations were up over 1990 which indicates 1991 was a good building year in Mahoning County.

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## *Nursing Division*

The Federal Government has set goals for the nation to be reached by the year 2000. To achieve these goals requires that all communities objectively assess the needs of its population and, as a community, find ways to meet these needs. Much emphasis is to be placed on disease prevention. The nursing division with programs like Child Health, Prenatal Services, WIC, Adult Immunizations, Adult Day Care, and School Health has always placed special emphasis on disease prevention.

To provide the highest quality service to the people that we serve, continuing education to maintain and improve the skills of all staff members is very important. The division, in conjunction with MSAHEN, has been able to sponsor an annual Maternal and Child Health Conference with professionals from throughout the state in attendance. Planning such a large conference demands much dedication and hard work from those same staff members who always volunteer to serve on the Planning Committee.

Community based flu immunization clinics for medically at risk persons and the elderly provided immunizations for 4,276 persons. The demand exceeded the time available to provide the services as well as the supply of vaccine.

School and home visits continue to be a priority. The Public Health Nurses visit each school in their assigned areas at least once each month. Screening for scoliosis as well as vision and hearing are done in the schools by



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nursing staff. The staff of the Health Promotion program provides school based programs to children in Kindergarten and seventh grade.

The Senior Day Care Center continues to provide a valuable and much needed service to the elderly and their families. Its primary goal is to provide support services that will allow the frail senior to continue to live at home.

The nursing division prides itself in providing services to people of all ages.

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## ***Program Statistics***

### **Community Health**

School Presentations	210
Communicable Disease Investigations	95

### **Environmental Health and Plumbing**

Animal Bite Investigations	274
Bathing Beaches Inspections/Consultations	49
Campground Park Inspections/Consultations	129
Commercial Septic Inspections/Consultations	83
Day Care/Nursing Home Inspections/Consultations	46
Downspout Inspections	21
Food Service Inspections	1,427
Food Establishment Inspections	319
Food Inspections at the Canfield Fair	339
Food Related Consultations	1,108
Housing/Dwelling Inspections/Consultations	418
Marinas Inspections/Consultations	23
Mobile Home Park Inspections/Consultations	147
New Home Lot Evaluations (on-sites)	572
Plumbing Inspections	1,648
Real Estate Evaluations/Consultations (Wells/Septic)	1,354
School Inspections/Consultations	111
Sewage System Installations/Inspections	1,025
Sewage System Consultations	1,512
Sewers Inspections	30
Subdivisions Inspections/Consultations	44
Swimming Pool/Spa Inspections/Consultations	204
Vector Control Inspections/Consultations	122
Water Well Tests/Consultations	1,323

### **Personal Health**

Prenatal Clinic Visits	953
Well Child Clinic Visits	1,050
Immunizations Provided	1,842
Travel Immunizations	151
Flu Immunizations	4,276
Hepatitis B Immunizations	251
WIC Clients Served	2,205
BCMh Visits	66
Hearing Screening	1,237
Scoliosis Screening	1,194
Speech Screening	73
Vision Screening	1,712
Client Visits to Senior Day Care Center	3,986

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### 1989 BIRTHS

	Live Births	Low Birth-Weight Births	Births To Unwed Mothers
Townships and Villages	1,479	76	190
Canfield	124	2	6
Sebring	55	0	15
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,658</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>211</b>

### 1989 DEATHS

	Infant Deaths	Total Deaths
Townships and Villages	5	1,181
Canfield	1	107
Sebring	0	117
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,405</b>

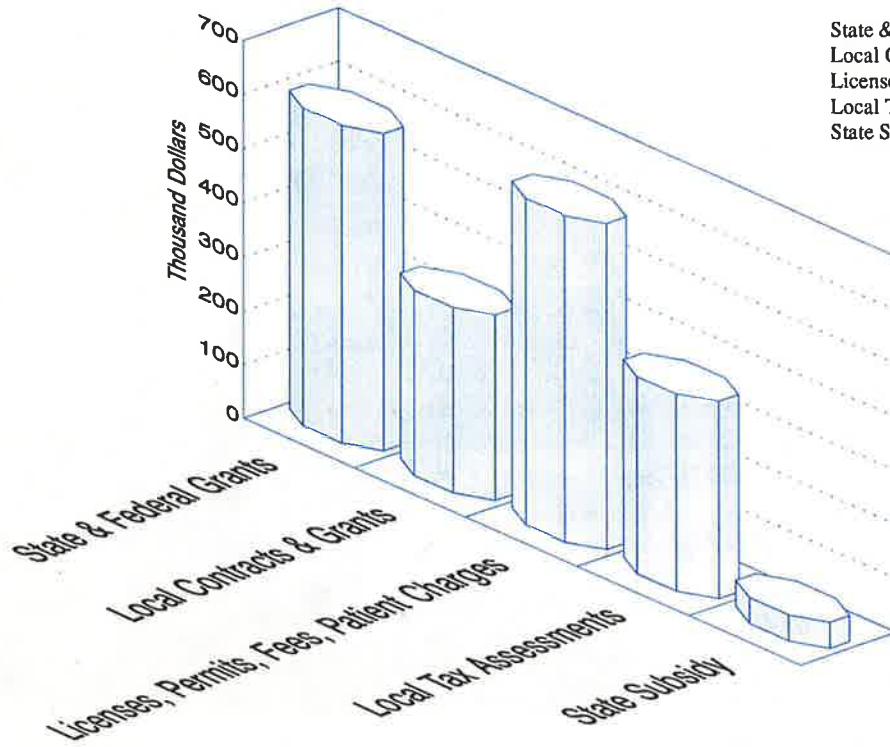
### *Twelve Leading Causes of Deaths in Mahoning County Townships and Villages, Canfield and Sebring*

Causes of Death	1989 Rate	1989 Number	1989 Rate/Ohio	Order of Listing
Heart Disease	339.4	505	328.3	1
Cancer	221.8	330	215.5	2
Stroke	73.2	109	62.2	3
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	47.0	70	40.0	4
Diabetes	34.3	51	25.8	5
Influenza & Pneumonia	30.2	45	29.3	6
Accidents	20.8	31	32.2	7
Atherosclerosis	17.5	26	8.8	8
Liver Disease	12.8	19	8.8	9
Suicide	12.1	18	11.9	10
Septicemia	8.7	13	6.5	11
Perinatal Conditions	3.4	5	7.5	12

### *Birth and Death Rates in Mahoning County Townships, Villages, Canfield and Sebring*

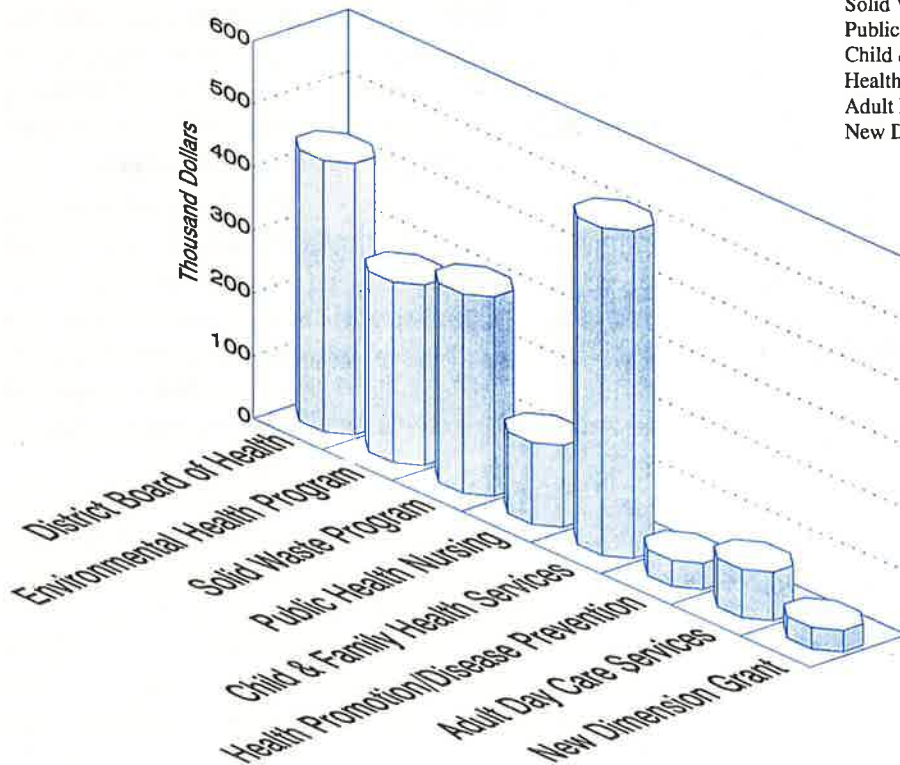
	1989	1988
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	10.7	9.3
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	8.5	8.4
Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	3.4	7.8

**1991 PROVISIONAL REVENUES**



State & Federal Grants	\$589,229
Local Contracts & Grants	\$345,790
License, Permits, Fees, Patient Charges	\$607,304
Local Tax Assessments	\$367,710
State Subsidy	\$48,503

**1991 PROVISIONAL EXPENSES**



District Board of Health	\$430,519
Environmental Health Programs	\$287,648
Solid Waste Program	\$317,954
Public Health Nursing	\$130,743
Child & Family Health Services	\$521,616
Health Promotion/Disease Prevention	\$41,413
Adult Day Care Services	\$76,952
New Dimension Grant	\$33,932