

TUSCOLA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT FY 2019-2020

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The Tuscola County Health Department actively strives to enhance our community's quality of life by disease prevention, health protection and healthy lifestyle promotion.

www.tchd.us

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PROGRAMS OFFERED

ABSTINENCE

CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

FAMILY PLANNING

GERIATRICS

HEARING/VISION

IMMUNIZATIONS

LEAD

MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH SERVICES

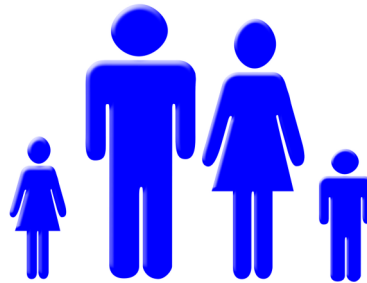
MEDICAID OUTREACH

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS/HIV

TUBERCULOSIS

VETERAN AFFAIRS

WOMEN/INFANT/CHILDREN (WIC)



Health Officer's Report FY 2019/2020

Greetings,

Public Health is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting human health through organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private, communities and individuals. Public Health duties include ensuring health equity, research, evaluation, and data to assure availability of resources for those populations most at need. Public Health does not work in a silo, we work together with our community partners to best achieve our goals for a healthier community.

Highlights over the past year:

This past year has certainly been a challenge for many of us as we battled COVID-19; a virus that we could not see with our eyes, but we felt in so many other ways. There is not one person who was not touched by the impact of this virus over the past year and a half. Even if you did not get infected directly with the virus; the virus had other ways that it impacted each one of us economically, personally, financially, mentally, grieving from the loss of loved one/ones, isolation from others, students and parents maneuvering through virtual education, and fear of the contagion itself. We as Americans are stronger than a virus. We are resilient and we will recover as our lives return to normalcy.

Public Health was significantly challenged rather abruptly from the start of the pandemic. Quickly shifting gears from our normal public health duties to our pandemic responsibilities of stopping something we could not see. The Health Department was only one of the entities that had to figure out how to control an infection of a total population. It was apparent from the beginning that we could not manage this pandemic alone. It took all of us together to get control of this virus. There were so many working behind the scenes together that need to be recognized for their efforts: School Administrators, long term care facilities including nursing homes and assisted living, County Emergency Management, non-profits, mental health services, our local hospitals, local governments, local businesses, and so many volunteers who held food pantries and made us masks.

The next steps in the public health recovery are to use the lessons learned to move forward in our preparedness, to get back to the business of protecting and promoting the health of our community.

Sincerely,

Ann Hepfer
Health Officer
Huron and Tuscola Counties

HEALTH SERVICES

The Nursing Division of the Tuscola County Health Department continued to provide a variety of services both within our office as well as throughout our community for the first half of the fiscal year. Unfortunately, during the 2nd half of the fiscal year we were faced with an overwhelming pandemic of COVID-19. Our personal and preventative health programs quickly pivoted by providing services by alternate methods and in some cases pausing or reducing some services. All staff took on roles of providing preventative education and support to the community at an extremely difficult time.

Our **Immunization** program provided immunization across the life span at TCHD and offsite in Vassar and Cass City. Due to the pandemic we suspended our offsite clinics and had to reduce clinics at the health department to maintain social distancing. We continue working with the schools to ensure they met coverage rates required.

Our **Communicable Disease** staff continue to work with area providers and hospitals to conduct timely, detailed case investigation to limit spread of disease. We also continue to partner with the area schools on weekly school reports to keep us abreast of any potential outbreak situation within a school. By late March Tuscola County had it's first cases of COVID-19 and as cases climbed, especially within Long Term Care facilities, staff coverage was necessary seven days a week.

Schools suspended in person learning by mid-March which affected our **Hearing and Vision** program screenings. We were able to offer appointments for screening at the health department for kindergarten entry, for others that chose to be screened or those that may be experiencing an issue.

The **Empowering Youth Today** program was able to provide in school programming in the first half of the year but also had to stop due to the suspension of school in person learning. Our programmer was able to work with groups of students as a service-learning project to hand out masks and COVID education materials at community food distribution sites.

WIC programming did provide services in person at TCHD and offsite in Vassar for the first six months then had to revert to telephone visits. We were able to conduct drive-thru project Fresh distribution. Project Fresh redemption rates did drop this year. Breast Feeding support services were offered via one-on-one, group support and classes until the pandemic at which time virtual options were available. We offered lead testing to WIC clients and provided nurse case management for elevated lead levels.

Personal/Preventative Health

- 1036 Communicable disease completed cases
- 9 Tests for HIV/AIDS
- 141 Sexually transmitted disease cases
- 264 Unduplicated Family Planning Clients
- 289 Tuberculin skin tests
- 215 Avg. monthly enrollment in Children's Special Health Care Services
- 2111 Hearing screenings
- 2907 Vision screenings
- 5140 Vaccines administered
- 1345 Average monthly WIC client caseload
- 113 Maternal Infant Health Program Enrollments
- 610 Maternal Infant Health Program professional visits conducted
- 9 Pack & Plays were distributed
- 84 Women received extended MIHP visits providing infant safe sleep Intervention
- 41 Women received extended MIHP visits to address complex perinatal mood issues

HEALTH SERVICES

(continued)

We provide a variety of **Family Planning** services including contraception, pregnancy testing, and STI testing. We did provide some telehealth services during times of high COVID-19 community spread. Our **STI** program also provides testing, education, treatment. We utilize Alere Rapid **HIV** tests for client testing with same day results.

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) staff provide case management and community resources to participating clients/ families. Examples include access to durable medical equipment, transportation and lodging needs, assistance with resolution of billing issues and information on upcoming events, camps and workshops. CSHCS did halt home and in-person visits and conducted services via telehealth.

Our **Maternal Child Health** programs continue to provide relevant services based on trends and data that impact this population. As our Parent-to-Parent classes ended, we transitioned our Local Maternal Child Health Grant to providing additional education, support and resources in the areas of infant safe sleep and mood and anxiety disorders to those we serve.

Our **Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP)** is the largest home visiting program in Tuscola County. MIHP uses a population health model providing evidence-based interventions to Medicaid eligible pregnant women and infants through a team approach utilizing a nurse, social worker and dietician. In the summer of 2020, we were involved in the Thumb Home Visiting Needs Assessment which was part of the statewide assessment for the Michigan Home Visiting Initiative. We received positive feedback regarding our MIHP through a series of facilitated focus groups.

We continue to collaborate with Great Start Tuscola distributing Welcome Baby bags to parents of babies born in Tuscola County to provide education on available resources for children and families.

Through our relationship with the Child Advocacy Center and our local Child Abuse and Neglect prevention council we provide community wide infant safe sleep education and new pack & plays, crib sheets and sleep sacks to under resourced families.

Tuscola County Health Department remains the leadership team for the Region 6 Perinatal Quality Collaborative focusing on the statewide effort of eliminating all preventable maternal and infant deaths through the Maternal Infant Health and Equity Improvement Plan. We continue to work with regional partners to offer universal substance use and emotional health screening to pregnant women to assist them in making positive choices toward a healthy pregnancy with better birth outcomes.

Through our Medicaid Outreach program, we continue to assist the community with MI Bridges Navigation application assistance and we are now a direct Referral partner. Our Medicaid outreach program was impacted by Covid-19 and the types of outreach we were able to do. TCHD remained an available and accessible resource to those that needed MIBridges assistance. A new outreach project was added this past year as we safely delivered Medicaid Outreach packets to residents in apartment complexes in Tuscola County.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/2020
HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	2	0
Food Borne Illness	32	24	41	29	15
Meningitis-Aseptic*	3	0	9	2	1
Meningitis-Bacterial/other*	4	1	2	0	0
Pneumoniae Invasive	8	11	5	9	3
Cryptococcosis	2	0	0	0	0
Flu Like Illness	1057	214	2364	1685	1862
Guillain-Barre'	1	0	0	0	2
Kawasaki	0	0	0	0	1
Legionellosis	1	2	1	5	1
Rabies-Animal	0	0	0	1	0
Chickenpox*	3	1	4	3	0
Tuberculosis	0	1	0	0	1
Hepatitis A	1	0	0	1	1
Hepatitis B Chronic	4	6	4	2	1
Hepatitis Perinatal	0	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis B Acute	3	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis C Acute	3	3	0	1	1
Hepatitis C Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis C Chronic*	26	20	35	13	14
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	0	1	2
Encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0
Staphylococcus Aureus Infections	0	1	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	2	3	0	4	0
Histoplasmosis*	5	3	1	0	2
Q Fever	0	0	0	0	1
Streptococcus, Group A	0	2	4	2	2
Influenza-confirmed	83	135	194	69	185
Toxic Shock	0	0	0	0	0
Novel Coronavirus COVID 19	0	0	0	0	571
MIS-C	0	0	0	0	1

HEALTH SERVICES

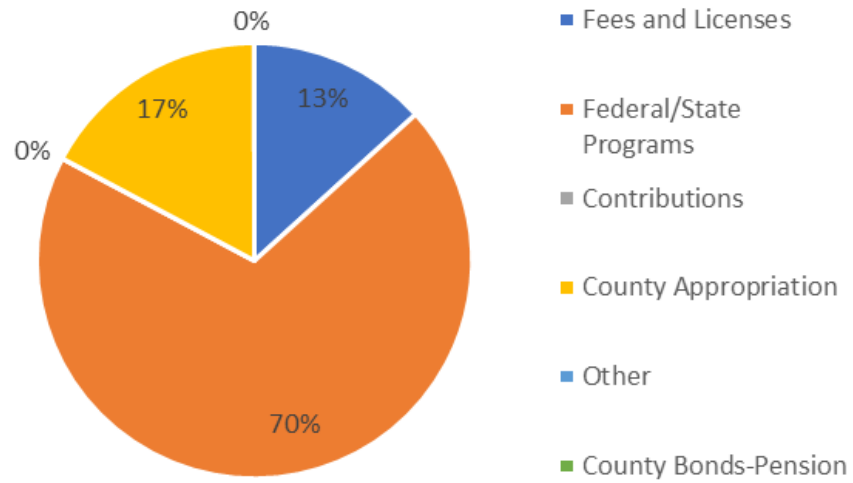
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Note: * Indicates that total includes confirmed and probable

Financial Overview

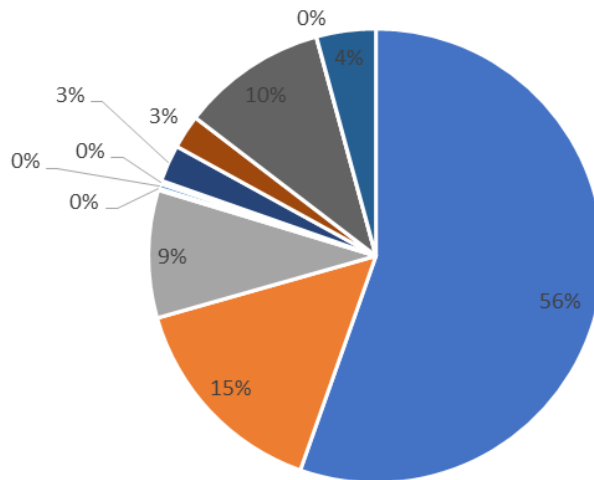
2019-2020

Revenue by Source



Expenses

- Salary/Fringe Benefits
- Supplies & Materials
- Contractual
- Legal & Health Services
- Communications
- Travel
- Advertising/Insur/Equip Maint
- Co Central Service/Rent
- Other/Capital Outlay
- Pension Bonds
- Debt Service



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

Adverse environmental factors have a direct influence on humans. Impacts can be disease transmission through exposure to pathogenic organisms, or by exposure to toxins having a physiological effect on humans. Lesser environmental factors such as living conditions in a home can effect the overall well-being of the persons subjected to the given environment. As a member of the public health team, Environmental Health advocates and promotes disease prevention. Goals are met through enforcement of regulations and programs developed to not only protect public health, but to also control adverse environmental factors. Programs and regulations are grouped into categories of: Water, Shelter, Food, Waste and Community Health. The following statistics falling under these categories reflect the services provided in fiscal year 2019/2020.

FOOD: Regular inspections are conducted in all food service establishments in Tuscola County. Efforts in this program are key elements in assuring that meals consumed outside of the home are safe.

- ◆ 134 Fixed Food Service Establishments
- ◆ 13 Transitory Food Inspections
- ◆ 321 Fixed Food Service Inspections
- ◆ 0 Foodborne Illness Investigations
- ◆ 115 Temporary Food Inspections

WASTEWATER: Contact with raw or improperly treated sewage is the major method by which diseases are spread. Proper disposal and treatment of sewage is a critical aspect of protecting public health. Under State and Local Code Enforcement, this division evaluates and issues permits for the installation of all on-site sewage systems in Tuscola County.

- ◆ 146 Onsite Sewage Disposal Permits Issued
- ◆ 248 Onsite Sewage Disposal Inspections
- ◆ 9 Onsite Sewage Permits (Commercial)
- ◆ 17 Onsite Sewage Inspections (Commercial)
- ◆ 40 Operation/Maintenance Evaluations
- ◆ 18 Complaints Investigated

SURFACE/GROUNDWATER: The basics to human life and public health philosophy is the provision that a safe and adequate water supply is available to the individual and public. To this end, all wells in Tuscola County are installed under permit with well locations being reviewed, proper isolations required, final inspections conducted and water sampling performed to determine water quality.

- ◆ 124 Well Permits Issued
- ◆ 2 Complaints Investigated
- ◆ 102 Well Permit Final Inspections
- ◆ 40 Operation/Maint. Evaluations

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

(CONTINUED)

- ◆ 10 Campground Inspections
- ◆ 6 Public Swimming Pool Inspections
- ◆ 1 Solid Waste
- ◆ 19 Indoor/Outdoor Air
- ◆ 1 Ground Water Quality
- ◆ 0 Mosquito/Insect Control
- ◆ 0 Surface Water
- ◆ 62 Adult/Child Care Facility Inspections
- ◆ 1 Hazardous Waste
- ◆ 0 Animal Control
- ◆ 9 Body Art
- ◆ 0 Residential Dwellings/Lead Paint
- ◆ 6 Septage Inspections
- ◆ 6 Radon

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY: Additional activities important to health protection cover a range of programs such as: Shelter, Public Swimming Pools, Mobile Home Parks, Hazardous Waste, Solid Waste, Indoor and Outdoor Air, and Campgrounds.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

The County Veterans Affairs handles federal, state, and county programs that are available to veterans, widows, and dependent children seeking assistance. Federal programs from the Department of Veterans Affairs include: compensation, pension, survivors benefits, education benefits for veteran and dependents, medical coverage, home loans, life insurance, and burial benefits. State programs include: Michigan Veteran Trust Fund, employment, education benefits, nursing home care, as well as other benefits. County level programs include: Veterans Relief Fund/Soldier Sailor Relief Fund (SSRF), burial benefits, Tuscola County Veterans Affairs Office, food banks, transition housing, and other agencies such as Department of Health & Human Services and Human Development Commission.

Statistics – FY 2019/2020

<u>Office:</u>	
Office Visits	1,255
Home Visits	9
Claims Submitted	1,181
<u>DAV Van:</u>	
Veterans Transported	208
Miles Logged (Volunteer)	27,021
Hours Logged (Volunteer)	1,026

<u>Assistance:</u>	
MVTF – Applications	0
MVTF – Granted	\$0
SSRF – Applications	23
SSRF – Granted	\$24,753
Burial – Applications	119
Burial—Granted	\$14,700

Department of Veterans Affairs County Statistics FY 2018/19 vs FY 2019/20

FY 19 County Veteran Population.....	3,710	
FY 20 County Veteran Population	3,719	<u>Increase of 9</u>
FY 19 VA Total Expenditure.....	\$35,692,000	
FY 20 VA Total Expenditure	\$41,071,000	<u>Increase of \$5,379,000</u>
FY 19 VA Compensation & Pension	\$19,489,000	
FY 20 VA Compensation & Pension	\$22,362,000	<u>Increase of \$2,873,000</u>
FY 19 Vets Enrolled in VA Medical	1,357	
FY 20 Vets Enrolled in VA Medical	1,315	<u>Decrease of 42</u>
FY 19 Insurance & Indemnities	\$181,000	
FY 20 Insurance & Indemnities	\$96,000	<u>Decrease of \$85,000</u>
FY 19 Medical Care.....	\$15,422,000	
FY 20 Medical Care.....	\$17,768,000	<u>Increase of \$2,346,000</u>