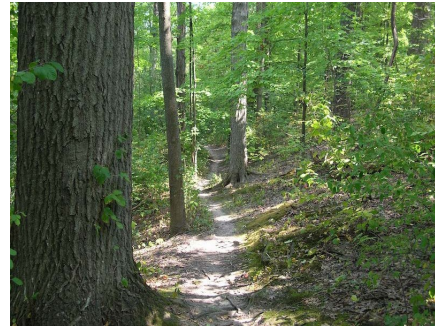
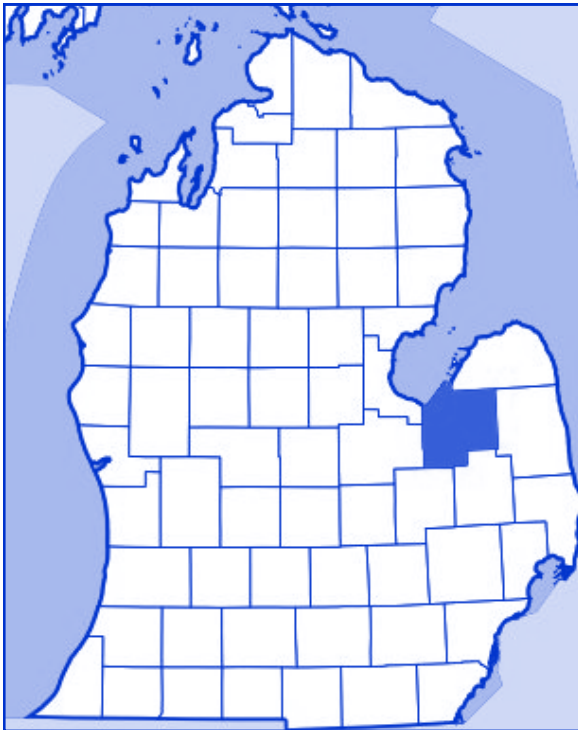


# **Tuscola County Health Department**

## **ANNUAL REPORT - FY 2013-2014**



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Caro, Michigan 48723**

**PH: 989-673-8114**

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**FAX: 989-673-7490**



## Tuscola County Health Department Employee List - 2013/14

NAME	TITLE	HIRE DATE
Amend, Ron	Veteran Affairs Director	10/01/07
Anthes, Beth	PHN II	11/13/00
Bellsky, Sally	PHN II	07/08/92
Brinkman, Marcy	PHN II	02/23/98
Bush, Russell M.D.	Medical Director	01/01/08
Caverly, Doraine	Account Clerk	07/10/78
Cook, Deb	Fiscal Manager	03/12/14
Dickinson, Janelle	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II	07/05/89
Dunham, Patty	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II/H & V Technician	10/27/75
Harrington, Lorraine	Registered Dietitian	05/07/86
Hepfer, Ann	Nursing Administrator	10/31/88
Johnson, Sue	Program Clerk II	01/07/91
Louis, Julie	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II	03/11/13
Luedtke, Sheila	Health Educator - Abstinence	01/17/12
MacGuire, Tip	Environmental Health Director	07/12/93
Middaugh, Kris	Billing Clerk	05/27/09
Montei, Susan	Certified Nurse Practitioner	08/22/05
O'Dell, Kathy	Administrative Services Coordinator	04/05/10
Palmer, Debbie	PHN II	11/13/12
Peters, Lugene	Program Clerk II	08/06/90
Pokorski, Kathy	PHN II/E. P. Department Coordinator	07/21/03
Singer, Kent	Registered Sanitarian III	06/07/95
Suber, Christina	Social Worker (LMSW)	03/11/98
Suber, Jon	MIS Manager	09/20/10
Tenbusch, Gretchen	Health Officer	02/01/88
Urban, Kelly	PHN II/Program Coordinator	05/28/91
VanOchten, Jessica	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II/H & V Technician	02/27/06
Villalobos, Kristi	PHN II/Department Coordinator	09/28/98
White, Jerry	Registered Sanitarian III	05/15/91
Williams, Karen	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II	05/08/00

## **Tuscola County Health Department Mission, Vision Statement and Guiding Principles**

### Mission

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

### Vision

The Tuscola County Health Department will be recognized as a valuable asset to our community.

### Guiding Principles/Value Statement

Quality of Life for our residents.

## **Health Officer Gretchen Tenbusch, R.N., M.S.A.**

Fiscal year 2013-2014 provided new alliances and associations for the Tuscola County Health Department.

The Affordable Care Act brought new partners to the table to help our residents sign-up for Health Care Insurance. We developed alliances with Regional Affordable Care Navigators and new Health Plans to make sure our residents not only could afford health care through the Health Insurance Marketplace but also could have access through new Health Plans coming to the Thumb of Michigan. While Tuscola County was not able to secure Medicaid and Indigent Dental Services in this fiscal year, some of our residents were able to receive dental services through the new Federally Qualified Health Center that opened in Huron County.

During FY13-14, Associations with neighboring Health Departments expanded. The Medical Director shared between Huron, Sanilac, Tuscola, Lapeer and DHD #2, expanded his oversight area to include Saginaw County Health Department. Our Management Information System's Manager began providing services at the Huron County Health Department as well.

Fall of 2013 brought a multi-state outbreak of Salmonella Poona which resulted in working with the State and CDC on the resultant investigations. Partnerships continued with area hospitals, schools, and human service agencies to meet the needs of our residents.

Even though the agency faced funding shortfalls, quality services continued due to the dedicated staff working in the Health Department programs and their innovative ideas. On behalf of the Tuscola County Health Department staff, I am pleased to present the Annual Report which highlights the accomplishments for fiscal year 2013-2014. We hope you find it informative.

## Medical Director Russell L. Bush, M.D., M.P.H.

Despite an economy that has shown progressive governmental funding cuts and early institution of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), public health programs at the State and Federal levels, and the Tuscola County Health Department have demanded changes in our provision of care to clients and the community. We have continued to provide quality care and services to those residents in the department's programs although those programs are feeling the stress of these cuts. The Tuscola County Health Department continues to monitor, provide educational information and services, and intervene whenever issues related to communicable disease, environmental contamination, food-borne illness, and commercial product recalls occur.

As Medical Director, I am responsible for the medical/health oversight of and participation in these programs. Problems arising may be either anticipated or unanticipated and be related to communicable/infectious diseases; all forms of environmental contamination, food/water-borne illnesses, and commercial products posing a threat to human health and wellbeing, and animal health issues that have the potential for negatively impacting human health.



## Office of Veteran Affairs Ron Amend, Director

The County Veteran Affairs Director handles Federal, State and County Programs that are available to veterans, widows and dependent children seeking assistance. Federal Programs are VA benefits either in Compensation, Dependence and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), Pension and Retirement Pay, Education, Vocational Rehabilitation, Hospitalization, Home loans, Insurance and burial benefits. State programs include: Veteran Trust Fund, Employment, Education, two State operated nursing homes and other programs. County Programs include: Veteran Assistance Program, Veteran Burial Assistance Program, The Veteran Affairs Office, food banks, and other agencies such as the Human Development Commission.

<b>TUSCOLA COUNTY VA STATISTICS 2013/14</b>			
Office Visits	720	Written communication received	165
Phone Calls Received	1822	Written communication sent	327
Phone Calls Placed	1257	D.A.V. Van used to transport Vets to V.A. Hospitals	193
Home Visits to Veterans/Widows	10		
Trust Fund Applications (MVTF)	4		
MVTF Amount Granted	<b>\$18,988.56</b>	Hours logged by DAV Van Volunteers	967
Veteran Assistance Program Apps.	83	Hours logged by Volunteers using their own vehicles	261
Vet Assist. Prog. Amount Granted	<b>\$25,859.47</b>	Veteran Burial Assistance Allowance	<b>\$7,800.00</b>



## **Management Information Systems**

### **Jon Suber, MIS Manager**

With the resignation of the MIS Manager for the Huron County Health Department last spring, came an opportunity to consolidate both MIS departments, share services and save both counties around \$75,000 annually.

After the approval of the Boards of Health and the Boards of Commissioners in both counties, the two departments associated and entered into an intergovernmental agreement on March 14, 2014.

Benefits of sharing MIS services have been the ability to have continuity between our electronic medical records and environmental health systems. Both systems are starting to mirror each other in functionality while maintaining their individual identities. This simplifies the administration of these complex systems.

On January 1, 2014 our Maternal Infant Health Department went live with electronic charting during home and office visits. This program has become paperless while overcoming major obstacles in the field. Numerous State forms have been created in our database along with consents that are signed and stored electronically. Tuscola has also chaired a statewide workgroup that works towards a common goal of a paperless system for this program. The dedication from TCHD's administration and program staff has allowed us to be in the forefront of creating a statewide electronic charting system.

Our Immunizations department has established an HL7 interface with the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR). MCIR is a computerized vaccination record for Michigan residents. With this direct connection to the state registry, we are able to securely transfer data directly into a client's State record in real-time. HL7 is the specification or protocol used in healthcare to maintain interoperability between two systems.

Our goal is to stay focused on client security and maintaining efficiencies. This department looks for ways to make the client's visit in the office, in their home or at an offsite clinic a favorable one by decreasing the time it takes to collect and chart data, schedule appointments and checkout.

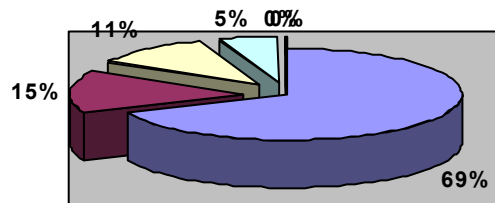


## Fiscal Division Deb Cook, Fiscal Manager

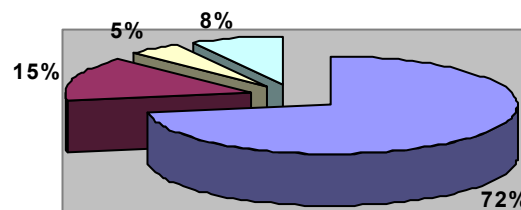
Tuscola County Health Department's Fiscal Division performs all general accounting functions, including accounts receivable, accounts payable, budgeting, payroll, financial reporting and internal control. The accounting policies of the Tuscola County Health Department conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to government units.

### 2013—2014 BUDGET \$2,718,277

Revenues	
Intergovernmental	68.52%
Charges for Services	14.85%
Other Financing Sources	11.12%
Licensing and Permits	5.33%
General Contributions	0.07%
Other	0.11%



Expenses	
Personal Health	72.41%
Environmental Health	14.69%
Administration	4.74%
Other	8.16%



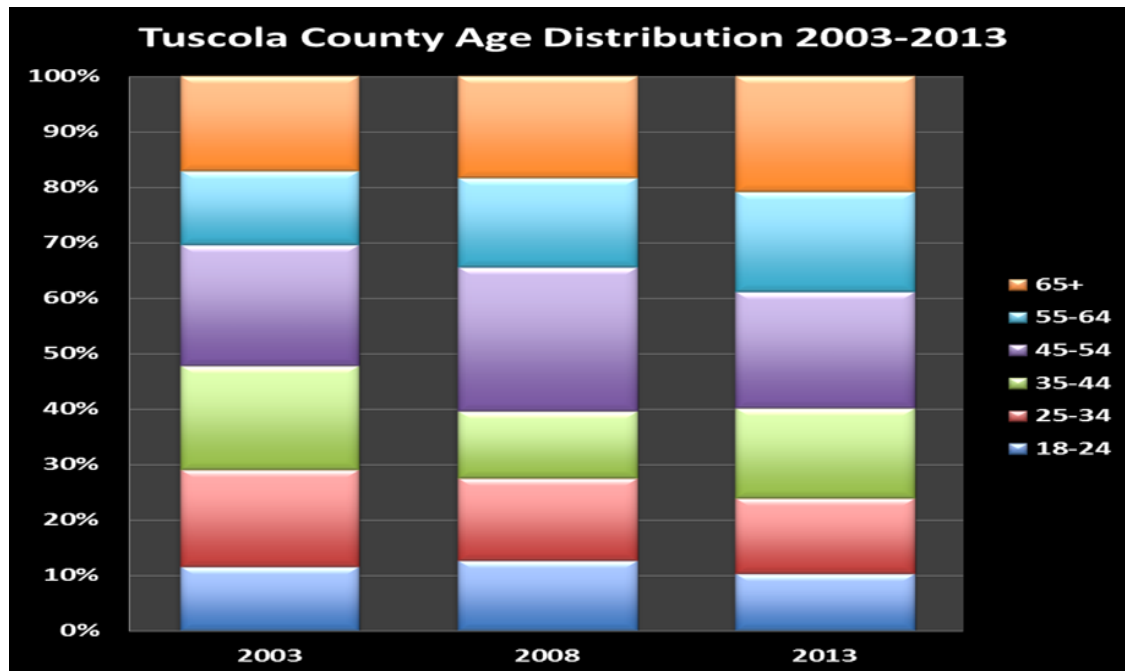


**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## Health Services Division Ann Hepfer, R.N., Nursing Administrator

**Tuscola County Community Health Profile:** Over the past year the health department mentored two Registered Nurses, Samantha Fackler RN, MSN and Eileen Unruh RN, MSN. At the time they were both working on finishing up their Master Degrees in Nursing and their final project was a community health profile. They were able to take the existing community health profile for Tuscola County and they updated it to be in alignment with the Healthy People 2020 objectives. Below is only a *glimpse* of their findings, for the full report, please visit [www.tchd.us](http://www.tchd.us). You will find it under the report tab. The purpose of the CHP is to assess the health status of the community and analyze state and federal research in order to identify the top priority goals to focus future strategic planning, funding and provision of care to address the top health care needs.

**Healthy People 2020:** *Healthy People* are a set of goals and objectives with 10-year targets which are released by the Department of Health and Human Services each decade. They are designed to guide national health promotion and disease prevention efforts to improve the health of all the people in the United States. Below are only examples of the information contained in the full document.



Tuscola County Demographics (a)  
2003 2008 2013

18-24	11.8%	12.7%	10.3%
25-34	17.8%	14.8%	13.7%
35-44	19.1%	12.2%	16.2%
45-54	22.2%	25.9%	21.0%
55-64	13.5%	16.1%	18.0%
65-74	17.4%	18.30%	11.9%
75 +			8.9%

Tuscola County Demographics (b)  
2003 2008 2013

18-24	11.8%	12.7%	10.3%
25-34	17.8%	14.8%	13.7%
35-44	19.1%	12.2%	16.2%
45-54	22.2%	25.9%	21.0%
55-64	13.5%	16.1%	18.0%
65+	17.4%	18.30%	20.8%

a) In 2003 & 2008, the Thumb BRFSS ended its age categories at 65+

b) For 2013, the 65-74 and 75+ age ranges were combined to allow comparison on graphs



## Goal 1: Improve Perinatal Health- Objective B

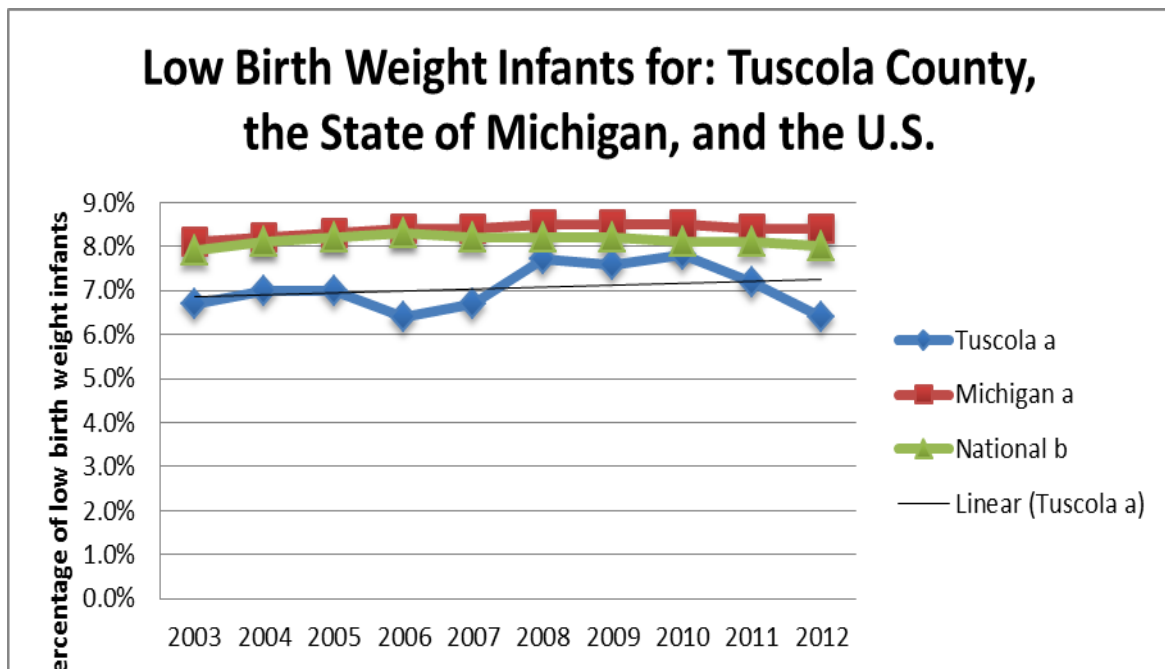
Objective B: Reduce low birth weight*				
	Tuscola a	Michigan a	National b	Target c
2003	6.7%	8.1%	7.9%	
2004	7.0%	8.2%	8.1%	
2005	7.0%	8.3%	8.2%	
2006	6.4%	8.4%	8.3%	
2007	6.7%	8.4%	8.2%	
2008	7.7%	8.5%	8.2%	
2009	7.6%	8.5%	8.2%	
2010	7.8%	8.5%	8.1%	
2011	7.2%	8.4%	8.1%	
2012	6.4%	8.4%	8.0%	
HP 2020 c				7.8%

\* born weighing < 2500 grams

a: Data obtained from: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data - MI/5/0>

b: Data obtained from: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/1657-low-birthweight-babies?loc=24&loct=5 - detailed/5/3775,3822/true/868,867,133,38,35/any/13068>

c: Healthy People 2020 target obtained from: <http://healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/objectiveslist.aspx?topicId=26 - 85899>



Please visit [www.tchd.us](http://www.tchd.us) under the reports tab to see the whole 52 page report.

## **Environmental Health Division**

### **Tip MacGuire, R.S., Director**

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 2013-14.

### **FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM**



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.

Fixed Food Service Establishments	159	Transitory Food Inspections	8
Fixed Food Service Inspections	428	Vending Location Inspections	12
Temporary Food Inspections	134	Foodborne Illness Investigations	2

### **WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT**

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.

On-site Sewage Disposal Permits Issued	90	On-site Sewage Disposal Inspections	164
On-site Sewage Permits (Commercial)	5	On-site Sewage Inspections (Commercial)	6

## SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER CONTROL

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.

Well Permits Issued	101	Well Permit Final Inspections	91
Complaints Investigated	2	Operation/Maintenance Evaluations	46



## 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.

Campground Inspection	12	Adult/Child Care Facility Inspection	38
Public Swimming Pool Inspection	7	Hazardous Waste	0
Solid Waste	3	Animal Control	4
Indoor/Outdoor Air	14	Body Art	11
Ground Water Quality	26	Residential Dwellings/Lead Paint	1
Mosquito/Insect Control	0	Septage Inspections	3
Surface Water	0	Radon	25

## Women's Health Programs

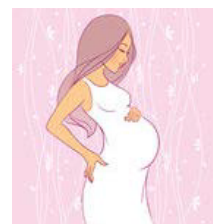
**Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP):** For low to moderate income women ages 40-64 (although limited capacity for those ages 40-49 ). They receive breast and pelvic exams, pap tests, mammograms and follow-up treatment as needed.

**Wise Woman Program:** Available to those women enrolled in the BCCCP. The program provides an accurate assessment of cardiovascular disease risk factors. This includes screening of blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes. There is also a personal and family health history as well as current behaviors related to nutrition, physical activity and smoking.

WOMEN'S HEALTH PROGRAMS—2013/14	
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program	48
Wise Woman	32

## MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS

**Women, Infant and Children (WIC):** Services children from birth to age 5 and pregnant and breastfeeding women who meet the income guidelines. WIC is not only a supplemental food program, it also provides for nutritional information and breastfeeding promotion and support.

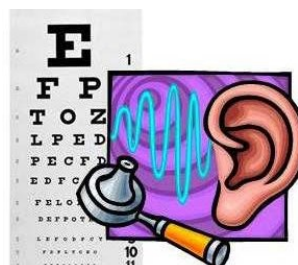


**Maternal/Infant Health Program (MIHP):** Provides home visits and/or office visits to pregnant women and their infants who are on Medicaid. This program is aimed at healthier outcomes for both the pregnant woman and the infant. A team made up of a Registered Nurse, Dietician and Social Worker take a multidisciplinary approach in working with the family.

**Children Special Health Care Services (CSHCS):** Provides financial support and case management services for children ages birth to 21 with chronic health problems or disabilities.

**Hearing and Vision Program:** Provides Hearing and Vision screenings in the schools throughout the year and in the summer at the Health Department by trained technicians.

MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS—2013/14	
Women, Infant and Children Program—Monthly average	1682
Maternal Infant Support Services Unduplicated Services	145
Children Special Health Care Services—Families Enrolled	205
Hearing Services Preschool/School Age	2814
Vision Services Preschool/School Age	4208



## Family Planning Program

The Tuscola County Health Department's Family Planning Program philosophy is consistent with the Michigan Department of Community Health and Title X. Family planning is a preventive health measure which impacts positively on the health and well-being of men, women, children and families. Effective family planning programs are essential health care delivery interventions that correlate with decreased high-risk pregnancy and maternal and infant morbidity and mortality. Services provided through family planning clinics allow men and women to make well informed reproductive health choices. The family planning clinic addresses the unmet family planning needs of women and men at or below, and those slightly above, the poverty level, but still considered low income, and provides access to those with special needs (such as teens and high-risk women). No one is denied services because of an inability to pay.

## Sexually Transmitted Infection Services

The mission of the Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Program is to reduce the number of STIs through diagnosis, treatment and education. The program operates on an "as needed" basis. Authority is given to the Public Health Department according to Public Health Act 368 of 1978 (revised, October 1993). Due to a reduction in State funding over the years, we have curtailed our screening exams. Screening guidelines are in place that serve as a guide to who gets tested. Tuscola County is deemed a "low incidence" area and is allotted only a small number of test kits for free. Once the free kits are depleted we charge for any additional tests. Our rate of STIs has remained relatively consistent over the past 5 years; the majority of our infections are either Chlamydia or Gonorrhea related.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION—3 YEAR COMPARISON			
	2012	2013	2014
Chlamydia	89	118	114
Gonorrhea	6	15	8
Syphilis Primary	1	0	0

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

State of Michigan's Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS) is a Web-based communicable disease reporting and tracking system. The purpose of this system is to facilitate coordination among local, State and Federal Public Health agencies to provide secure transfer and analysis of communicable disease patterns. All area laboratories and hospitals report all allowable and reportable infections to the local health departments via MDSS.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS—3 YEAR COMPARISON			
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
AIDS	0	1	0
Food Borne Illness	16	29	40
Meningitis-Aseptic	0	3	4
Meningitis-Bacterial/other	2	0	1
Pneumoniae Invasive	4	7	3
Cryptococcosis	1	0	1
Flu Like Illness	251	478	544
Guillain-Barre'	0	0	0
Kawasaki	0	0	0
Legionellosis	0	1	0
Rabies-Animal	0	1	0
Chickenpox	7	3	6
Tuberculosis	1	2	2
Hepatitis A	2	1	1
Hepatitis B Chronic	0	1	3
Hepatitis B Perinatal	0	0	0
Hepatitis B Acute	0	0	2
Hepatitis C Acute	0	8	5
Hepatitis C Unknown	0	0	0
Hepatitis C Chronic	18	29	28
Coccidioidomycosis	1	0	0
Encephalitis	0	0	2
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	0
Staphylococcus Aureus Infections	0	1	0
Mumps	0	0	0
Pertussis	2	2	5
Histoplasmosis	1	1	2
Q Fever	0	0	2
Streptococcus, Group A	0	1	4
Influenza—confirmed	2	8	28
Toxic Shock	0	0	0

## IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Immunizations are a very important component of Public Health. The current immunization schedule for adults and children protects against sixteen diseases. Special priority projects included outreach clinics to the Amish community and an outreach clinic in Vassar once a month.



IMMUNIZATIONS	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Vaccines administered	8452	7742	6666
Percent of 19-35 month old children fully immunized in the County	71%	73%	73%
Adult Influenza Vaccine administered	602	592	623
Pneumococcal Vaccine administered	40	46	64



## GERIATRIC HEALTH SERVICES (65+)

Flu Vaccines Administered	256
Pneumonia Vaccines Administered	57



Other Senior Services in 2013/14 included: Senior Ball, Senior Fair and membership in the Senior Alliance Committee.



## Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Kathy Pokorski, Department Coordinator



The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program is the local health department's subject matter expert in public health emergency preparedness and response. The Emergency Preparedness Coordinator (EPC) is responsible for the development and maintenance of emergency response plans, as well as the training of health department staff, and community partners, in those plans and procedures. Emergency response plans are tested during the year by planning



and performing a variety of drills and exercises in collaboration with numerous state, local and regional partners. Additionally, the EPC develops and maintains relationships with local, regional, and state level organizations to ensure a more effective response to an emergency.

The Tuscola County Health Department EPC is responsible for updating the Strategic National

Stockpile (SNS) plan, and several other emergency plans, on an annual basis. The SNS plan, which details the Health Department's response to a mass vaccination or prophylaxis clinic, was submitted to the State of Michigan Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP) for review and received a score of 97%.

The EPC participated in the Region 3 Healthcare Coalition full scale exercise which was held on June 18, 2014. The exercise scenario focused on severe weather and infrastructure failure and the associated effects within the region. The exercise was instrumental in testing communication related to loss of power, the ability of regional partners to share information with internal and external partners, the ability of partner organizations to prepare for and respond to a regional incident, as well as other objectives related to the annual work plan. All exercises and drills maintain a system for continued quality improvement and corrective actions based on After Action Reports (AAR) and Corrective Action Plans (CAP).

The EPC is required to update and revise plans according to the annual work plan requirements set by OPHP, participate in monthly required meetings and conference calls, attend trainings and meet monthly with local partners to protect the public in Tuscola County.

