



Putnam County Health Department

Working Towards a Healthy and Safe Putnam County

Building New Public Health Partnerships

Many people think public health includes just the services that are offered on-site at the health department. However, public health includes so much more, especially when you consider how physical health is related to mental health, chronic disease, safety, and abuse. Public health is about the health of the whole community, and the health department can't do it alone. The health department is fortunate to have many partners that help us work towards a healthy and safe Putnam County.

The car seat program, offered by the health department, receives convertible car seats from ODH for eligible children. The *Baby Needs Program* saw a need for infant car seats, so they contacted the health department to develop a program to provide infant seats that meet safety standards. It is a perfect partnership! The Ottawa Chevrolet dealership also partnered with our car seat program to host a Car Seat Check at their facility. Our technicians checked seats for safety and correct installation. It was another great partnership for both entities by helping to ensure the safety of our youngest residents.

Mental health has been a priority issue in public health for many years. PCHD recently partnered with Pathways Counseling Center to provide nursing services to their clients with medication administration needs. This aligns perfectly with our Community Health Improvement Plan efforts to increase awareness and increase access to mental health services.

The health department is always looking for innovative ideas for new programs and services to improve the health of all residents. We look forward to serving the community for years to come.

By The Numbers Nursing Jan 1–Sept 30, 2017	
Immunizations (including TB tests)	4649
School Vision Screenings	2049
School Scoliosis Screenings	747
BCMh Visits	57
Car Seats Distributed	46
Car Seat Checks	22
Reportable Diseases	131

By The Numbers Environmental Health Jan 1–Sept 30, 2017	
Food Service/Retail Food Licenses Issued	169
Mobile Licenses Issued	49
Temporary Food Licenses	68
Pools and Spas	9
Campgrounds	2
Sewage Treatment System Permits	40
Site Evaluations	38
Operational Permits	36
12 Month Inspections	44
Private Water System Permits	40
Water Samples	134
Animal Bite Investigations	39

Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Benefitting Many Households in Putnam County

The Putnam County Health Department (PCHD) had applied for and was awarded \$400,000 for the repair or replacement of Household Sewage Treatment Systems (HSTS) in 2015 and 2016. Our office has been able to assist 23 households in replacing their systems, utilizing over \$350,000 of the funding. All applicants must meet income guidelines to qualify for the funding. Applicants that meet the income guidelines can receive 50%, 85% or 100% of funding to pay for costs related to the HSTS. This program has been a huge asset to the residents of this county to provide a service that is not available in all counties across the state.

The Putnam County Health Department has applied for an additional \$200,000 for 2018! Please be sure to mention this great program and opportunity to the citizens of the county that may be in need of a replacement system. For additional questions, please contact Brandi Schrader at 419-523-5608 ext. 240.

Environmental Health Division has Successful Surveys from ODH and ODA

The Environmental Health staff has been busy in 2017 working with Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA). As required by law, programs are surveyed by the state agency to ensure consistent application of the rules at each local health department. This past year, ODH surveyed our Food Service Operations (Food) program and Public Swimming Pools program. Additionally, ODA was here to survey the Retail Food Establishment (Food) program. It is with great pride that PCHD has met the requirements and passed all surveys. Our staff is now preparing for the survey of our Household Sewage Treatment System program, which is scheduled for December, 2017. This survey includes review of our newly adopted Operation and Maintenance program.

PCHD Promotes Healthy Eating

In an effort to encourage children and adults to eat more fruits and vegetables, the Putnam County Health Department received a grant through the Health Path Foundation to provide several programs in Leipsic. The grant includes initiatives and programs to help make fruits and vegetables the healthy and easy choice:

- Plant an Extra Row: Fruit and Vegetable Exchange
- Cooking Matters
- Fruit and Vegetable Taste Testing at the Leipsic Pool

Plant an Extra Row:

Access to fresh fruits and vegetables is often a problem for families. To help address this issue, the PCHD partnered with the Leipsic Community Center to offer a produce exchange program at the new center. Area gardeners and farmers were asked to donate extra produce so that it could then be distributed to those in need. The community responded, and for several weeks, fresh fruits and vegetables were provided. Now that the growing season is over, the program is on hold, but we plan to offer it again next year! When you get ready to plant your garden, please consider “planting an extra row” and donate the proceeds to people in your community in need. It’s a wonderful way to make a difference!



Cooking Matters:

Through the grant, the PCHD is able to supply the equipment, food and other items needed for a Cooking Matters class at the Leipsic Community Center, provided by OSU Extension, Putnam County. During this class, the participants learn about proper nutrition and how to prepare healthy meals for their families. One class has been held to date, and more are coming soon.

Fruit and Vegetable Taste Testing:

PCHD staff visited the Leipsic Pool several times this past summer to encourage healthy snacks with the children at the pool. The children were encouraged to try fruits and vegetables like kiwi, blueberries, peppers (red, green, orange), broccoli and cucumbers. The response was awesome! They loved it! Don’t assume that your child won’t like fruits and vegetables. Let them try...you might be surprised!

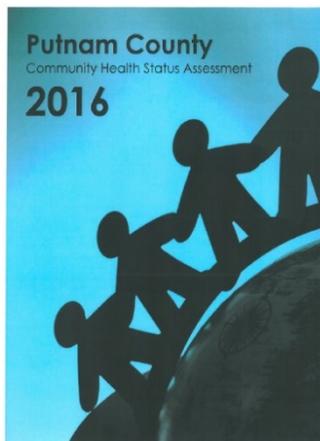
Community Health Assessment Released

On April 25, the Putnam County Community Health Assessment was released to the community. This report was the end result of months of data collection including a community survey, focus groups, key leader interviews and an assessment of our Local Public Health System. The results of the assessment and the powerpoint presentation highlighting important data from the assessment can be found on our website at www.putnamhealth.com.

In May, community partners met to review the information and prioritize the topics to be included in the Community Health Improvement Plan. This 3 year plan will highlight strategies and action steps to address the following priorities: Preventable/Chronic Disease, Mental Health and Addiction, Abuse and Safety.

Community Partners are currently meeting to develop the plan and implementation will begin in January, 2018.

Watch for the release of the Community Health Improvement Plan in December, 2017!



The Putnam County Health Department and agency partners completed Community Health Assessments in 2004, 2010, 2013 and 2016. Our first Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) was adopted in 2015.

Breast and Cervical Cancer Project

Breast cancer is a public health crisis, particularly since Ohio has the third highest mortality rate of any state. In 2017, the Ohio legislature passed and Governor Kasich signed a new law expanding eligibility for a program that could potentially save thousands of lives. Now, more Putnam County women are eligible for breast cancer screening and diagnostic assistance through the Northwest Ohio Regional Breast and Cervical Cancer Project (BCCP). Services offered at no cost include: pelvic exams, Pap tests, clinical breast exams, mammograms, and biopsy/ultrasound, if needed. The BCCP expansion includes:

- Increases eligibility up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Allows women ages 21-64 access to the program
- Helps women with insurance but with high out-of-pocket costs
- Allows high risk women 25-39 to receive a screening mammogram

For more information, call 1-800-929-6626