

St. Clair County Health Department

3415 28th Street

Port Huron, MI 48060

Tel: (810) 987-5300 Fax: (810) 985-2150



Fort Gratiot County Park



Fort Gratiot Lighthouse

*Good health and good sense
are two of life's greatest blessings.*

- Publilius Syrus



Harsens Island

2011 Annual Report

vision

St. Clair County will be a healthy community that is self reliant and prepared for the future, allowing it to achieve the highest potential and wellbeing of its' residents.

mission

St. Clair County Health Department will be the trusted local expert in population and preventive health practices; encouraging effective community partnerships, eliminating barriers to health resources, protecting the community from health threats, and encouraging stewardship of the environment.



Top row: (L-R) Terry London, Jon B. Parsons, Dr. Scott McPhilimy, D.O., John Jones

Bottom row: (L-R) Dr. Annette Mercatante, M.D., Marie J. Muller, Barbara Britz

2011 Board of Health members:

Marie J. Muller.....Chairperson
John Jones.....Vice-Chairperson
Barbara Britz.....Secretary
Scott McPhilimy, D.O.Member
Jon B. Parsons.....Member
Terry London.....B.O.C. Representative



medical health officer

2011 ushered in a coordinated effort to promote a healthier lifestyle for our county. With a greater awareness of obesity being a real emerging public health threat, we have partnered with other interested community groups to develop stronger advocacy, strategies, and resources towards making improvements. The **Healthy Lifestyles** Workgroup's mission is "to create a culture where residents are empowered by community resources that facilitate healthy lifestyles." With many dynamic participants, this workgroup has produced quarterly newsletters and supported many other exciting programs. I'm optimistic that in the coming years this group will provide and support many healthy options for our citizens!

The Health Department responded to concerns of an unusually high occurrence of a pediatric kidney cancer called Wilms tumor. Reports of several families that experienced this rare condition started back in 2009, but when another was reported in 2011, the state was petitioned to formally evaluate the situation. This process included a comprehensive search through the vital statistics registry at the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to confirm the diagnosis and the number of cases. This rate was then compared to other rates throughout the state. With MDCH support we were able to determine that the incidence of this cancer from 2000-2009 was almost 3 times higher than other counties in Michigan. This statistical analysis means that if we looked at 100 counties that had similar rates of this cancer occurrence, less than 5 would have an elevated number similar to ours purely by chance. This does not prove that there is a link between living in St Clair County and developing this tumor, but we did feel it was worthy of taking a closer look. The St. Clair County Board of Commissioners provided us with extra money to support further investigation of this event. We obtained support through students at Michigan State University's School of Public Health and utilized graduate students to develop and administer questionnaires that reviewed factors that could be related to an increased cancer rate. Very little is known about this cancer and what types of events can cause it, so this type of case review can potentially reveal useful ideas for future study. There remains a great deal we do not understand about Wilms and the potential causes of this and other cancers. We remain confident that our county is a safe place to live, work and play, and will continue to work towards better understanding this cancer cluster.

Finally, we want to express our sincere gratitude for all the great employees, health care providers, elected officials, and clients that have made our health department a dynamic resource for better health. We look forward to serving you and responding to whatever health issues or threats may arise.

Accredited by the Michigan Public
Health Accreditation Commission

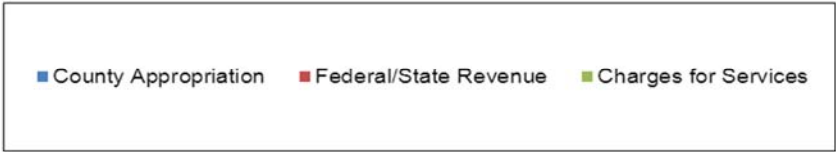
Annette M. Mercatante, MD. MPH
Medical Health Officer
St. Clair County Health Department

financial

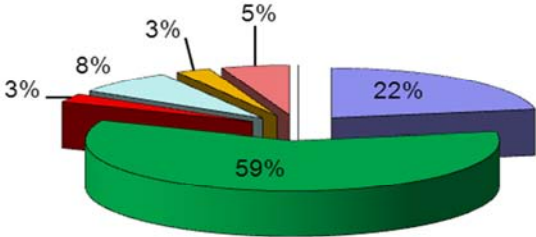
2011 Health Department Revenues



Total Revenues: \$7,540,127

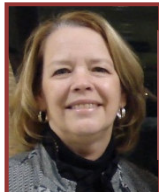


2011 Health Department Expenditures



Total Expenditures: \$7,747,397





Elaine Kempf, Administrator

2011 agency highlights

2011 was the year of change at the St. Clair County Health Department. The Advisory Board of Health welcomed new members Jon Parsons and Terry London. Jon Parsons replaced Board of Health member Janice Littlefield who passed away in January. Her dedication to the St. Clair County community will be fondly remembered. Terry London replaced Pamela Wall as the Board of Commissioner's representative on the board.

After 34 years of service at the St. Clair County Health Department, Administrator Elaine Kempf retired December 30th. Elaine's dedication to public health will forever be instilled in the hearts and minds of the Health Department family. Greg Brown, Environmental Health Director, was hired as Elaine's replacement. His responsibilities will take effect January 1, 2012. We are certain Greg will be successful in his new administrative role with the Department.

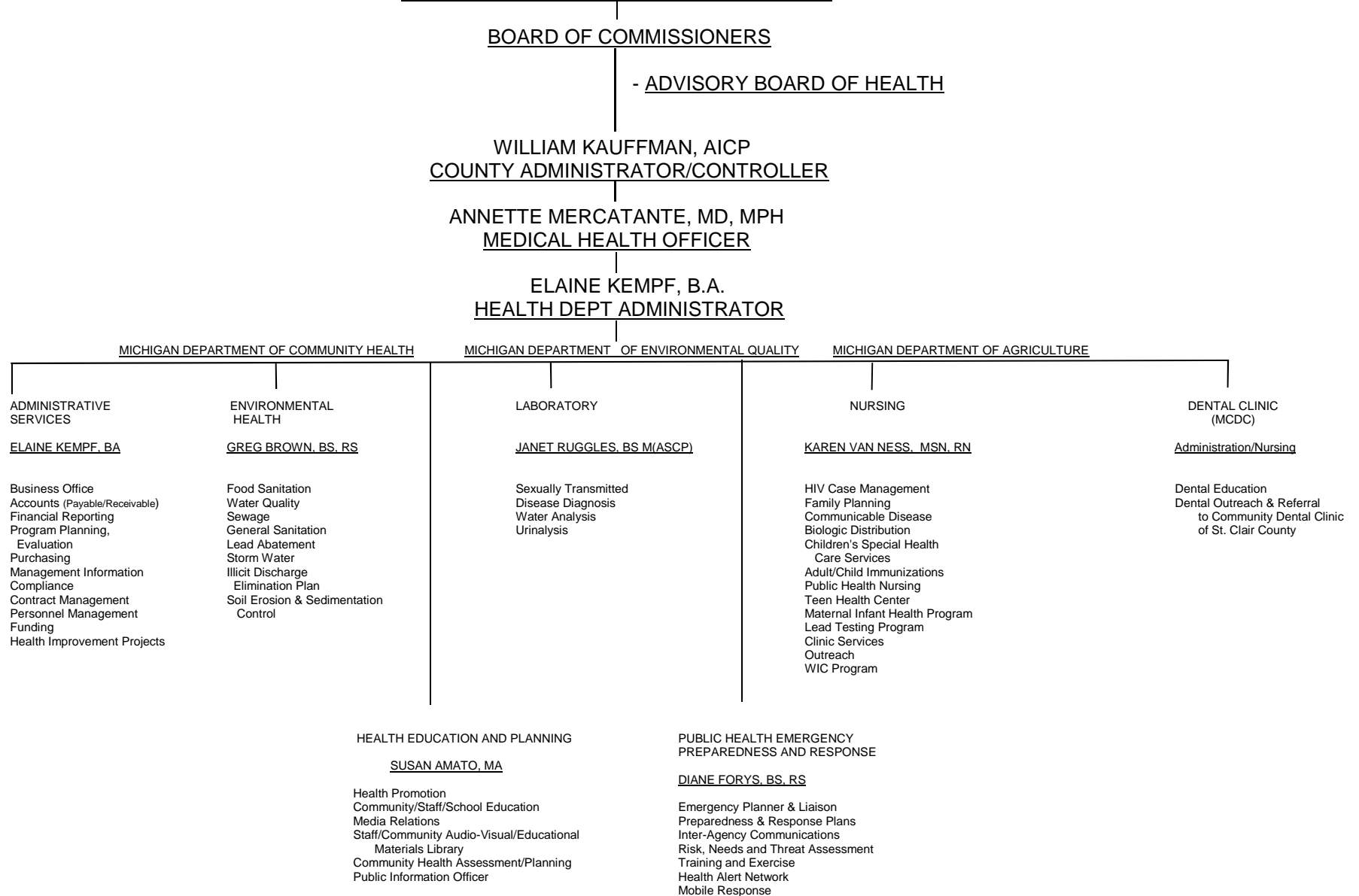
The Health Department also experienced 6 additional retirements in 2011. Team members included nursing staff Elaine Coughlin, RN; Nancy Gilan, RN; Peggy Nunn, RN; and Cheryl Smith, RN, Nursing Supervisor. Other staff included Sally Parcell, Financial Data Systems Coordinator and Brenda Smarch, Outreach Coordinator. Filling the void from losing these dedicated and experienced individuals will likely prove to be a difficult task in these leaner economic times. We are confident however, that as we move forward, the department can meet the public health challenges faced within our community.

After several months of preparation and training, complete conversion from our existing public health nursing software to our Netsmart Insight software began in October. Almost immediately, staff and clients began to see the benefit from the features in the new software. The health department is well on its way to meeting the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Meaningful Use requirements and transitioning to electronic medical records.

As county resources dwindled, a grant resources workgroup was established and chaired by Elaine Kempf. Its purpose was to increase county department's participation in identifying grant opportunities, grant writing resources, establishing a grant writing database, establish a point of contact for county offices and encourage participation from other county offices.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2011 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

**2011 Annual Report
St. Clair County**





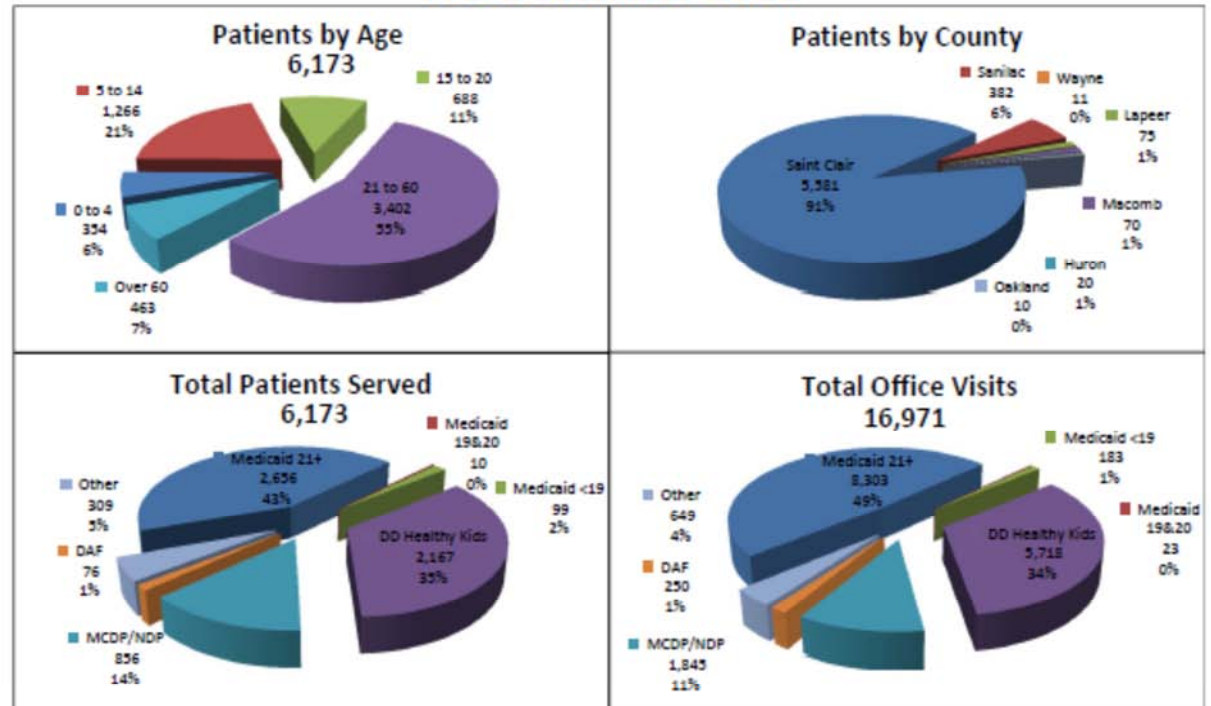
3037 Electric Avenue, Port Huron, MI

community dental clinic

Practice Statistics Port Huron YTD December 2011

The St. Clair County Health Department provides dental services for county residents at the Community Dental Clinic through a contract with Michigan Community Dental Clinics, Inc., (MCDC). Discounted dental services are available to non-Medicaid, low-income individuals and families through membership in the Michigan Community Dental Plan (MCDP). There are two membership levels. The MCDP includes an exam, x-rays and treatment plan at reduced rates, while MCDP Plus includes a cleaning at the initial visit in addition to other services. The cost of a lifetime membership is either \$50 or \$75 per person.

MCDC also offers services to individuals who have Medicaid (adult and children), Delta Dental Healthy Kids and MICHild insurance.





emergency preparedness division

The Emergency Preparedness Division is directed:

- To develop the health department's capacity and capability to effectively recognize and respond to (potential) public health threats;
- Address events of public health concern that may be naturally occurring, criminal or terrorism, disease outbreaks, and/or biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological emergencies.
- Plan, exercise and coordinate preparedness and response activities with external partner agencies and stakeholders.



The health department's plans are constructed to meet the demands of constant change in the nature and severity of public health threats to this community, with the ability to coordinate effective and efficient response across political and jurisdictional boundaries.

St. Clair County Health Department is a part of a federal program entitled "**Cities Readiness Initiative**" or CRI, with 6 other Southeast Michigan public health jurisdictions. This group is tasked with developing plans for quick distribution of medications to the entire population of the county *within hours of the decision to do so*. SCCHD has consistently earned some of the highest plan review scores in the State of Michigan, **the most recent being 99%!**

The health department's "**Emergency Operation Plan**" (**EOP**) is annually reviewed, exercised and revised as needed to meet stringent requirements from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and the Michigan Department of Community Health's Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP). EOP annexes include:

- Rapidly Emergent and/or Pandemic Event
- Control of Communicable Disease Outbreak
- Mass Shelter Operations
- Crisis - Emergency and Risk Communications
- Medical Countermeasures Management
- Environmental Health and Natural Disasters
- Request, Receipt and Dispensing of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)
- Mass Casualty and Hospital Surge



environmental health division

The Environmental Health Division continues to protect health and promote quality of life through many traditional Environmental Health programs including food service inspections, public and private on-site water supply, lead abatement, public and private on-site sewage disposal, public swimming pools, campgrounds, and public bathing beaches. The Environmental Health Division in St. Clair County is also responsible for two non-traditional programs including enforcement of Michigan Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Rules, and implementation of the St. Clair County Phase II Storm Water Permit.

Division Highlights

- Continued identification and correction of failing septic systems; 33 corrections = removing approximately 19 million gallons of sewage from waterways
- Provided environmental inspections for child care centers, foster care facilities, pre-school programs and camps
- Monitored and investigated food borne illness alerts, outbreaks and trends with nursing's Communicable Disease Division
- Provided Serv Safe Certification training courses for food service establishment employees
- Provided service training at food service establishments instructing proper sanitizing procedures, safe food temperatures, hand washing techniques, glove usage and consultations for new and remodeled food service facilities
- Assisted local municipalities with complaints, codes and building permit requirements
- Implementation of an EPA grant that resulted in 1) Continued monitoring for *E. coli* and sanitary surveys at 15 Great Lakes beaches, 2) Monitoring for *E. coli* in the Pine River, Black River and Lake Huron watersheds, 3) Implementation of goose round-up at Chrysler Beach and 4) Work with Marysville to develop landscaping and storm water retrofit plans to improve water quality conditions at Chrysler Beach
- Participated in a pilot project with USGS for the IMS/ATP rapid sampling method, hosted training from USGS on the IMS/ATP method, and created and distributed throughout Michigan an educational training DVD in the IMS/ATP rapid method
- Maintained 24 hour water quality hotline with up-to-date beach closure information
- Completed an MDEQ grant by conducting in-depth surveys and monitoring for *E. coli* in the Anchor Bay Watershed and completing the report "Anchor Bay *E. coli* Reduction Plan," that prioritizes activities needed to decrease *E. coli* levels in the area
- Received a two-year Belle River Watershed Planning Project grant
- Provided assistance with storm water activities needed for compliance with federal and state storm water regulations to St. Clair County departments, 3 school districts, 11 local municipalities and 1 community college
- Provided presentations on water quality topics to 1,086 people, including governing boards and civic groups and middle school students
- Coordinated Earth Fair and River Day, which engaged over 10,000 people in environmental education and water recreation activities



Program Statistics

• Restaurant inspections	1,299
• Temporary food inspections	248
• Plan review for new/remodeled food establishments	22
• Food complaint investigations	112
• Bacterial surface water testing samples	1,973
• On-site wastewater services	775
• Drinking water analysis	2,178
• Water well services	360
• Soil Erosion/Sedimentation Control inspections	383
• Freedom of Information requests processed	400+
• Public campground and swimming pool inspections	105
• Lead based paint inspections/abatement Indoor air consultation/Asbestos inspections	66

health education & planning division

The Health Education Division promotes healthy lifestyle behaviors among St. Clair County residents through programs, presentations, community assessment activities and the provision of resources. Nearly **175** presentations were provided to **4,462** participants during 2011 on health promotion and communicable disease prevention topics.

Health Education 2011 Highlights:

- As the Dr. Ron Davis MI Smoke Free Air Law entered into its first year, the Health Education & Environmental Health Divisions remained busy answering/following up complaints and educating business owners and the public about the law.
- Health Education continued to receive funding from the Michigan Department of Community Health's Tobacco section. The 2011/12 fiscal year's tobacco work plan shifted focus. Smoke-free beaches and parks advocacy promises to be an exciting avenue for 2012.
- A bi-monthly, onsite community bloodborne pathogen class began in 2011. This training is offered to any employee who needs basic information on how to protect themselves from unexpected exposure to blood or body fluids.
- Health Education worked with St. Clair County RESA staff to produce healthy eating and physical activity PSAs which were publicized on local cable.
- Health Education and Partners at Heart continued providing its *Healthy You* program at Birchwood Mall, Great Lakes Maritime Center/Vantage Point and the YMCA's Body Recall classes. Free, monthly BP/BMI screenings and education on physical activity and nutrition were offered. In 2011, **25** screenings were held serving **877** participants.
- Continued leadership of and/or participation in numerous coalitions with our community partners such as the St. Clair County Smoke-free Team, the Healthy Lifestyles Coalition, Parent University Workgroup, Port Huron Hospital's Helmet Safety Committee, St. Clair County Suicide Prevention Committee and Marysville & East China School District's Sex Education Advisory Boards.
- Health Ed participated in several county wide health fairs promoting healthy eating, physical activity and smoking cessation. "Fit stops" provided at several of the events allowed **389** children the chance to experience physical fitness stations.



"Fit stops" participant



Health promotion activity

laboratory

The laboratory serves as support for the various clinics of the Health Department, including the Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Clinic, Family Planning Program, Preventive Health Services, Environmental Health and Teen Health Center.

Having an on-site laboratory is a valuable service to the community, as it enables the clinics to have immediate diagnoses for treating their patients. Water sample testing ensures safe water throughout the county.

Laboratory tests performed in 2011

STI testing	12,801
Water samples (wells, pools, spas, beaches and other surface waters)	3,991
Nitrate testing for wells	160



Janet Ruggles, conducting Nitrate testing in the lab

- Other laboratory services include:**
- Selected chemistries for intra-department support service
 - Pregnancy testing (serum)
 - Throat – Strep A
 - Urinalysis
 - Tick identification (Department of Agriculture)
 - Hepatitis, HIV and other specialized testing (Michigan Department of Community Health in Lansing)

nursing division

The Nursing Division provides community prevention services like Immunizations, Vision and Hearing screening, Lead testing, Family Planning services, TB screening, home visits for pregnant women and their newborns, and insurance enrollment assistance for uninsured children eligible for Medicaid and MICHild insurances. Additionally, the Nursing Division provides Communicable Disease Prevention and Disease monitoring, primary care services for the adolescent population, HIV Case Management for individuals diagnosed with HIV and living with AIDS, and community outreach by attending health fairs and other community events.



"Go Live" staff



Public Health Nurse providing maternal infant health education

Nursing Division 2011 Highlights

Five nurses and one support staff retired from the Nursing Division in the last quarter of 2011. The vacancies created opportunities for experienced nurses to move into leadership positions. A total of four part time nurses were also hired. While we celebrated with staff who retired, we also welcomed innovative ideas and energy from staff in new positions.

In addition to the challenge of departing staff and the learning curve involved with new assignments, Nursing transitioned to a new software system in October of 2011. By year end, two programs were paperless. More Nursing programs will become efficient with charting and billing, reducing the need to maintain a paper system.

In the last quarter of 2011, the WIC program came under the Nursing Division umbrella. This significant change provided opportunity to deliver needed services to WIC clients. Children at-risk for lead poisoning can now be tested during the WIC encounter. Pregnant women who need education beyond nutrition can learn about their pregnancy and develop knowledge and skills to care for their infants. Immunizations will be incorporated to the WIC encounter in 2012, ensuring that children are brought up to date on missing immunizations. Lead tests also increased by 38% in 2011 by capturing the at-risk population in WIC.

2011 Nursing Division Statistics

Adolescent Health clients	1,553
Children's Special Health Care clients	514
Communicable Disease investigations	283
Family Planning clients	1,337
HIV Case Management clients	60
HIV tests	306
Hearing & Vision screens	19,304
Immunizations (Child, Adult, Flu & Travel)	8,410
Lead tests	692
Maternal Infant Health clients	1,114
Outreach Services	3,185
Public Health Nurse visits	2,651
STI tests & treatment	2,051
TB skin tests	464

TEEN HEALTH CENTER



THC staff

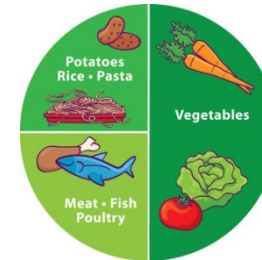
For the past 26 years, Teen Health Center (THC) has provided friendly, adolescent-focused services for client's ages 10-21. THC services include acute and chronic medical care, well-child physicals, STI diagnosis and treatment, HIV testing, counseling and referral, mental health counseling and referral, pregnancy testing and related care, and immunizations. Services are provided by a full time Nurse Practitioner, a Physician (primary care provider for Health Plan of Michigan), and Registered Nurses.

THC provides enrollment assistance for Healthy Kids and MICHild state health insurance programs.

2,522 visits were provided for 1,553 adolescents. The following numbers of services were provided by THC in 2011:

Immunizations	1,181
General medical (including sick visits)	1,105
Mental health referrals	55
Physical exams	470
STI diagnosis and treatment	650
Family Planning referrals	231
Substance abuse referrals	10

Lifestyles Program



A nutrition and exercise program designed specifically for teens, targeting behavioral changes that may result in a lifetime of improved health. This program includes medical management, dietary counseling and interactive exercise and nutrition classes.

Lifestyles empowers today's teens to make healthier choices by providing interactive, youth friendly learning environments, and features community guest speakers, YMCA exercise specialists, and other incentives.

153 adolescents signed up for the *Lifestyles* after school programming in 2011 with, 48 adolescents completing all scheduled sessions.

WIC (women, infants & children)



WIC Nutritionist checking head circumference

The WIC Program offers nutrition counseling, education and food benefits to income eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, and infants and children under age 5 who have a medical or nutritional need.



WIC Tech performing hemoglobin and lead testing



WIC staff

- In 2011, the WIC program provided for the purchase of over **\$2,649,929.01** worth of nutritious food and dairy products by St. Clair County WIC program enrollees.
- From January through December of 2011, the average WIC monthly enrollment was **4,048 clients**.
- Coordination of WIC and Maternal Infant Health Program services resulted in **462** pregnant women being enrolled in both programs during one appointment and **212** home visits that included WIC services.
- In 2011, the WIC program enrolled **557** pregnant and breastfeeding women, **1,937** infants and **2,536** children 1-5 years of age.
- Collaborative efforts with MSU Extension, the Breastfeeding Initiative Program and MSUE Peer Counselor provided nutrition education at the WIC office and enrolled pregnant and breastfeeding women for home services.
- Breastfeeding promotion and support efforts resulted in **86%** of women who participated in WIC during pregnancy breastfed after delivery.
- From August through December, **560** children were lead tested during the WIC encounter.
- WIC staff reviewed **7,080** records assessing the immunization status of infant and child participants.

Elaine M. Kempf

Loved

Extraordinary

Smiling

Supportive

Elegant

Woman

Understanding

Motherly



Inspirational

Refuge

Dedicated

Trustworthy

Exquisite

Braveheart

Strength

Compassionate

6/19/1952 - 7/20/2012