

# ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Accredited by:  
Michigan Public Health  
Accreditation Commission



# 2016

# ANNUAL REPORT

SPOTLIGHT ON HEALTH

# VISION

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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 well-being of residents.



# MISSION

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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.

# GREETINGS FROM OUR MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER

2016 was a transitional year for public health and the St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD). VIP Researcher CEO Dr. Martin Hill was contracted to implement our Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), including a first ever regional Behavioral Risk Factor Survey allowing us to differentiate health issues between our Northeastern, Western, and Southern communities. The use of solid research methods to identify and quantify health issues in our community is an important step in developing a community health improvement plan, making interventions effective and measurable.



Another important transition was the hiring of Lindsay Maunz, Coalition Coordinator for the St. Clair County Prescription Drug Abuse Workgroup and the St. Clair County Smoke-Free Community Team through Region 10 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PHIP) grant funding. This funding emphasizes the strong collaborative relationships we are forming with our community stakeholders and also allowed staffing growth in our Health Education division. Health Education also received funding to provide Naloxone (an opiate overdose rescue medication) to the community. The Second Chance Naloxone Program provides free training and rescue kits to agencies or individuals in St. Clair, Lapeer, Sanilac or Genesee County, designed to reduce stigma and save lives. The training is facilitated by one of our public health nurses, Julie Walding, who has decades of experience with substance abuse treatment and prevention. Our community has been very receptive to the program.

Nursing programs also had a big year. The Title X Family Planning services returned in late 2016 because of the great need in our community. Our expectation is to grow the program back to its full capacity in a financially secure way as we are already seeing great demand at the clinic. The Teen Health Center (THC) hired a new on-site mental health therapist, Laura Whittaker, a Licensed Master Social Worker with considerable expertise with adolescents. This has reduced many barriers for THC clients to receive mental health services and has been successful. The THC continued to offer LEADS: Linking Education and Awareness of Depression and Suicide, a school-based educational program for high school youth, including information on depression and suicide to help students recognize early signs and symptoms, identify risk factors, and what to do about it.

The Environmental Health Division partnered with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on a project to monitor for the phytoplankton that contributes to harmful algae blooms. St. Clair County is the only local health department in Michigan to participate.

With these special interventions the St. County Health Department is responding to the health needs of the community. With our traditional and mandated services we also provide the framework for keeping the community safe and living up to our mission of being the “local trusted experts in population and prevention health practices.”

Yours in Health,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annette Mercatante".

Dr. Annette Mercatante, Medical Health Officer

# ABOUT US

For more information, visit [here](#)

## ADMINISTRATION

**Annette Mercatante, MD, MPH**

Medical Health Officer

**Greg Brown B.S., R.S.**

Administrator

**Liz King, RN, BSN**

Director of Nursing & Community Health

**Steve Demick, B.S., R.S.**

Environmental Health Director

**Jennifer Michaluk, M.Ed., CHES**

Director of Health Education & Planning

**Diane Forsys, B.S., R.S.**

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

**Amy Hart, B.S., C.P.A**

Accountant/Financial Systems Manager



*St. Clair County Health Department Administrative Staff  
Pictured Back Row: Amy Hart, Diane Forsys, Greg Brown,  
Steve Demick. Front Row: Jennifer Michaluk,  
Dr. Annette Mercatante, Liz King.*

## BOARD OF HEALTH



**John Jones, Secretary**

**Marie J. Muller, Chair**

**Scott McPhilimy, D.O.**

**Monica Standel**

**Arnold Koontz**

**Howard Heidemann, Commissioner**

*Board Members as of December 2016*

*Pictured Back row: John Jones, Monica Standel, Pastor Arthur  
Koontz, Dr. Scott McPhilimy. Front row: Marie Muller,  
Dr. Annette Mercatante, Howard Heidemann.*

# 2016 agency highlights

## A YEAR IN REVIEW

Greg Brown B.S., R.S., Administrator (Pictured Left)



### MONTHLY ALL STAFF MEETINGS BEGAN

Topics included: Lead, Food Safety, Vector-borne Illnesses, Million Hearts®: Heart Health, HIPAA Training, Plain Language, and Emergency Preparedness

### LIZ KING ASSUMED CHILD DEATH REVIEW TEAM DUTIES

### HUB TRANSFERRED TO COUNTY SERVER

The project also received \$20,000 from Community Foundation for enhancements.



 **1ST EVER  
"VOTE & VAX"  
EVENT**

**SCCHD & LAMBTON  
COUNTY HEALTH  
SERVICES MET**  
discussed cross-border  
issues & updates

**COVER IT YOU  
MATTER: CONDOM &  
TESTING CAMPAIGN  
LAUNCHED**

### MICHIGAN BREASTFEEDING NETWORK SILVER AWARD: BREASTFEEDING FRIENDLY WORKPLACE



### SHERI FAUST NAMED 2016 BLUE WATER WOMAN GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

### ENTITIES CONTRIBUTED FOR STORM WATER PERMIT SERVICES

12 watershed communities and 6 educational institutions contributed \$27,000+ for permit compliance. We are the only health department in Michigan that has administrative duty for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) storm water permit.



### COUNTY WELLNESS COMMITTEE HOSTED "FLU CHALLENGE"

County departments were split into teams to encourage employee flu vaccination.

### THE COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH CARE NETWORK ESTABLISHED

A group of doctors with various backgrounds working together to combat the opioid epidemic.

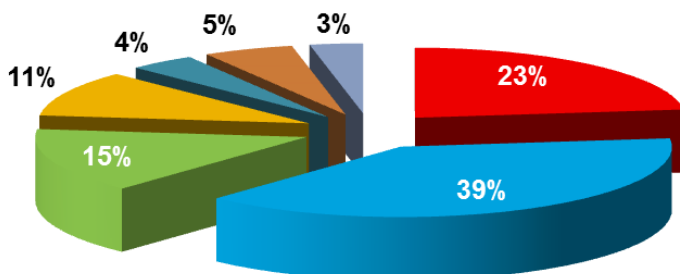
# 2016 at a glance

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Amy Hart, B.S., C.P.A., Accountant/Financial Systems Manager (Pictured Right)



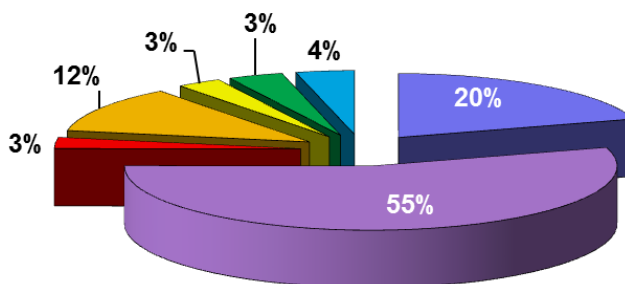
### 2016 Health Department Revenues



**Total Revenues: \$6,928,404**

- County Appropriation
- Charges for Service
- Federal Vaccine (In-Kind)
- Licenses & Permits
- Federal/State Revenue
- Medicaid Full Cost Reimbursement
- Other Grants & Revenues

### 2016 Health Department Expenditures



**Total Expenditures: \$6,614,995**

- Environmental Health
- Nursing
- Emergency Preparedness
- Women, Infants, & Children
- Dental
- Region 10 Pre-paid Inpatient Health Plan
- Other Programs



# 2016 at a glance

## COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION & OUTREACH



**35**  
MEDIA  
releases

**9** community events  
ADDRESSING PRESCRIPTION DRUG  
ABUSE AND TOBACCO PREVENTION



**842**  
social media  
POSTS



page likes by

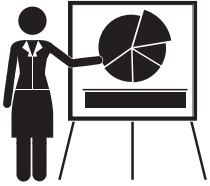
**30%**



**242** health

**PRESENTATIONS**

including Naloxone, Safe Dates, STI's,  
L.E.A.D.S., Million Hearts®, Tobacco  
Prevention, and other topics



**28** community  
outreach

**EVENT PARTICIPATION**

**20** COMMUNITY  
AGENCY  
partnership



**488**  
application  
**ASSISTANT**  
services

**12,199**  
**MEDICAID**  
awareness  
activities



**18,539**  
eligibility &  
**VERIFICATION**  
services

**30** medicaid specific  
**TRAINING**



**24,118**  
**REFERRAL**  
coordination &  
monitoring



**24**  
transportation  
**ARRANGEMENTS**

# 2016 spotlight on COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Jennifer Michaluk, M.Ed, CHES, Director of Health Education & Planning  
(Pictured Right)



Learn more about Health Education [here](#)

## INCREASING HEALTH PROMOTION WITH SOCIAL MEDIA



The Health Education team started an initiative to create more of a social media presence for the health department. Each division submitted 3-5 posts per month promoting their services, a health issue, or a special program highlight. This quality improvement project boosted our Facebook page likes from 569 to 816 by the end of 2016.

## GENDER IDENTITY AND YOUTH TRAINING

Adolescents who identify as LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender) are more likely to use alcohol, drugs, and tobacco, as well as suffer from depression and suicide. Tying in with our Substance Abuse Prevention grant, Health Education planned two trainings on gender roles, current terminology related to transgender youth, and how to become an ally for at-risk youth. Approximately 150 participants attended. Trainings were sponsored by the St. Clair County Community Services Coordinating Body (CSCB), Region 10 PIHP and St. Clair County Community College (SC4). Participant evaluations were very positive and confirmed the need for further education/discussion in our county.

## NALOXONE SAVES LIVES



Second Chance Naloxone Program is a confidential Naloxone training and rescue kit distribution program for individuals at risk of opioid overdose or those who have contact with those at risk of opioid overdose. Other components of the program include substance abuse recovery resources and community training options. Funding has been provided by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and Region 10 PIHP.

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Naloxone moves from injectable to nasal administration
- Local law enforcement trained
- First reversal documented in August 2016
- On-site trainings offered monthly

### PROGRAM STATISTICS

**86** trainings

**518** kits distributed

**1,058**  
individuals  
trained

**8** kits  
used



# 2016 spotlight on

## COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Learn more about Outreach [here](#)

### TECHNOLOGY QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

The use of Dopublicity, a digital signage system, has improved the professional appearance of announcements/current events and keeps the public, as well as the staff, updated. Outreach coordinates this and is responsible for loading and removing ads/designs as most displays are time sensitive.



### HEALTH PROMOTION OUTSIDE OUTREACH

Outreach utilizes health promotion opportunities to link individuals to state, county and local health services and resources. SCCHD has secured various funding to enhance service delivery to Medicaid populations. For example, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded funds to co-locate a primary care medical clinic (Lake Huron Medical Center) at St. Clair County Community Mental Health (CMH), increasing access to comprehensive services for Medicaid clients. Much interagency planning and coordination has been dedicated to partnering with CMH on various components of their Health Integration Project.

### OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW



Community events and presentation numbers have declined due to various funding sources/grants that now support various activities. Special focus areas for 2016 include lead, safe sleep, naloxone training and kit distribution and prevention of underage drinking (Safe Dates curriculum for youth).

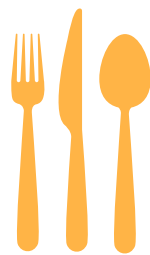
### NEED ELECTRICITY? OUTREACH MATTERS.

*A story by Pattie Bayless, Outreach Clerk*

I received a call from a young man who was down and out. His girlfriend had recently left him and their child, meanwhile his electricity had been shut off because the bill hadn't been paid for months. In order to get the electricity turned back on, he had to pay \$370 and he did not have the funds to do this. After multiple calls to various agencies, his hope was falling short. He began to cry after I told him St. Vincent DePaul Society offered to pay the bill. He kept apologizing for crying and even called me a saint for helping him find a solution. I said, "St. Vincent is the Saint because they were paying the bill." This is just one example of someone we were able to help – and that makes me proud to say I work in Outreach at the health department!

# 2016 at a glance

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



**1,330**  
restaurant  
**INSPECTIONS**



**30**  
**PLAN REVIEW**  
for **new** or **remodeled**  
**FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS**

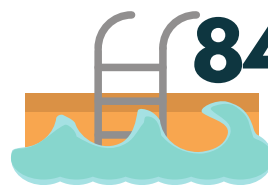



**213**  
temporary  
**FOOD INSPECTIONS**



**40**   
food complaint  
**INVESTIGATIONS**

**1,552**  
bacterial surface  
**WATER TESTS**



**84** public campground  
& **SWIMMING POOL**  
i n s p e c t i o n s



**2,065**  
drinking water  
**ANALYSIS**



**847** on-site  
**WASTEWATER**  
i n s p e c t i o n s

**325**   
well water  
**INSPECTIONS**

**539**  
**SOIL EROSION &**  
sediment control  
**INSPECTIONS**



**106**

lead based paint inspections  
/ **INDOOR AIR QUALITY** /  
asbestos inspections

**800+**  
f r e e d o m  
**OF**  
information  
**REQUESTS**



# 2016 spotlight on ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Steve Demick, B.S., R.S., Environmental Health Director (Pictured Left)

Learn more about our Environmental Health Division [here](#)



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR APPOINTED TO DEQ COUNCIL

Steve Demick was appointed to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division's Air Advisory Council. The 22-member board provides input to the AQD in the areas of public participation, air dispersion modeling and other policy and programmatic issues. Goals include meeting and maintaining air quality standards, limiting emissions of hazardous and toxic pollutants and informing the public about current air conditions. We are the only local public health agency represented on the Air Advisory Council.

## PARTNERSHIP FORMED WITH WATER TREATMENT PLANTS

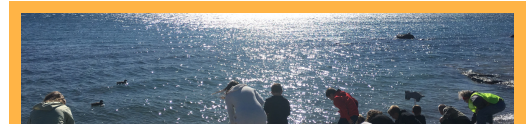


The division partnered with local drinking water treatment plants and Wayne State University on a grant to evaluate the Viability of a Real-time Source Water Early Warning System for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC). The study compared two real-time VOC instruments at the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and Marysville Water Treatment Plant. One of which was found to be inexpensive and low maintenance. Objectives included training drinking water operators to calibrate and perform basic maintenance and service, interpret data, and write a final report on the logistics and economics of the online VOC monitoring. The Erie to Huron Corridor drinking water utilities now have the information needed to make informed decisions regarding real-time monitoring of VOCs.

## BEACH MONITORING FOR OUR GREAT LAKES BEACHES

Bacteriological monitoring of 8 Great Lakes beaches was completed. Over 400 samples were analyzed totaling 8 single day closures, resulting in beaches being open 95% of the time.

We also participated in a grant study of real-time beach monitoring equipment. This advanced technology produces water quality results within hours and can be used to identify specific sources of pollution using genetic markers. In this study, the real-time qPCR technology was consistent with the conventional 18-hour method over 90% of the time.



# 2016 spotlight on ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

## TEACHING WATER POLLUTION IN OUR COMMUNITY

Pollution Solutions was presented to over 1,000 St. Clair County students in various elementary, middle and high school classrooms. Environmental Health Educator, Sheri Faust, brings environmental concepts to life using a table-top model of a town that students pollute. Students watch the effects of a rainstorm on the polluted town and discuss water quality problems and solutions making connections between the health of the environment and everyday actions.



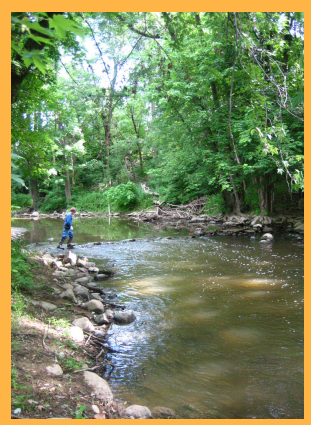
## NATIONAL CREDENTIALS OBTAINED

Linda Stanbridge, Sanitarian, received her Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian (REHS) credential. A premiere National Environmental Health Association professional credential demonstrates competency in a range of environmental health issues; the ability to respond to routine or emergency environmental situations; and to provide education to the community on environmental health concerns.

## STATE CALLED ON FOOD STAFF EXPERTISE

Food Service Standardized Trainers Keri Shinn and Ashley Castello were utilized by the state to train a new Sanilac County employee to become certified in conducting food service establishment inspections. Responsibilities of food service inspections include training new and newly assigned food service inspections sanitarians in the proper application and interpretation of applicable regulations, inspection methodology, communication, and report writing.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH JOINED WATER RESOURCES TASK FORCE



Sheri Faust was appointed as a St. Clair County representative to participate on SEMCOG's Water Resources Task Force, which is charged with updating the Water Resources Plan (WRP) for Southeast Michigan. The Task Force is developing policies and strategies related to the region's water resources and will ultimately produce a new WRP for Southeast Michigan. Topics include infrastructure, stormwater runoff, habitat protection and restoration, invasive species, recreation and access and the blue economy. This is SEMCOG's largest task force to date with participants from SEMCOG members, nonprofit organizations, state agencies, academia and other technical experts.



# 2016 at a glance

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

Diane Forys, B.S.,R.S., Emergency Preparedness Coordinator (Pictured Left)

Learn more about our Emergency Preparedness, Planning, and Response Division [here](#)

### SPECIAL PATHOGENS WORKSHOP

The SCCHD hosted a Special Pathogens Workshop for local medical and healthcare partners. Speakers were experts from MDHHS and the Director of the Midland County Mosquito Control Program. Topics included Zika Virus; Ebola Traveler Monitoring and Other Special Pathogens; Communicable Disease Surveillance System Updates; and Laboratory Guidance. Approximately 30 people attended.



**5** ALERT NOTIFICATIONS to staff for security/safety



**11** exercises

**12** real-life **EVENTS**

**10** ALERTS / advisories / **RECALLS**

**28** communication **DRILLS & TESTS**



# 2016 at a glance

## INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY HEALTH

8,175

IMMUNIZATIONS

includes child, teen, adult, flu & travel



"Cindy was so incredibly kind – she went out of her way to make me feel comfortable/less anxious about my very silly fear of injections. Thank you for your kindness and compassion – these little things mean so much."

-Client

389

tuberculosis

TESTS



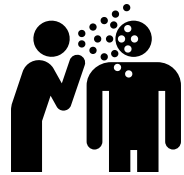
1,921

lead tests



8

HOME  
lead tests



1,131

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

investigations

"Pleasant, helpful staff, clean environment"

-Client

"Great care today."

-Client



1,006

CLIENTS SEEN

FOR STI tests & treatment

563

SEXUALLY  
TRANSMITTED

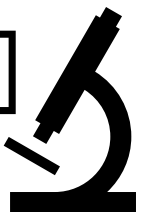
infections

investigations



599

HIV tests



# 2016 at a glance

## INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY HEALTH

successful  
**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
nurse visits

**2,140**



**MIHP**  
**CLIENTS 924**

**Children's Special**

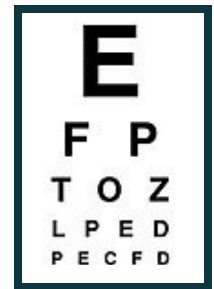


**Health Care Services**

**527**  
average  
**MONTHLY**  
caseload

**VISION**  
screens

**11,655**



“This program is amazing”

-Client

“Treated absolutely wonderfully,  
wonderful program, wonderful  
people”

-Client

**6,832**  
**HEARING**  
screens



### **CSHCS EMPLOYEE WINS AWARD**

Jenny Barrons, RN was awarded the 2016 Special Child Advocate Award given by the St. Clair County Child Abuse/Neglect Council. Jenny is a Public Health Nurse who works in our Children's Special Health Care Services program.



# 2016 spotlight on INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY HEALTH

Liz King, BSN, RN, Director of Nursing & Community Health (Pictured Right)



Learn more about Individual & Family Health [here](#)



## MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH COLLABORATION

Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) partnered with WIC to provide WIC certification to pregnant women during the MIHP enrollment. MIHP partnered with immunizations providing Tdap and Flu vaccine in the home to eligible pregnant women.

## SAFE SLEEP

The rates of infant deaths from unsafe sleep are higher in St. Clair County than the state and most counties in Michigan. Cindy Koepf, RN, MIHP nurse provides needed education, awareness and outreach. In 2016, thousands of community members and partner agencies were reached at 16 events and/or presentations.



## FLU SHOTS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Nursing partnered with Alana's Foundation to provide free flu shots to uninsured and under-insured students attending SC4 as part of the MDHHS College and University Flu Vaccination Challenge.

## FLU VACCINATION CHALLENGE STATS

- 2 day clinic
- 263 total students received their flu shot
- 60 students received a free flu shot

## CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION

Erica Smith, RN, gave several presentations about the dangers of lead poisoning, the importance of lead testing and follow-up, as well as ways to keep children and homes lead free.



RESULTS IN  
**20**  
MINUTES

## RAPID HIV TESTING NOW OFFERED

Rapid HIV testing began in August 2016. Rapid testing means that those tested get preliminary results within minutes as opposed to multiple days later. Since testing began, 178 Rapid HIV tests have been performed.



# 2016 at a glance

## TEEN HEALTH CENTER

Learn more about our Teen Health Center [here](#)

Providing care to  
teens for over 30 years



**698**  
MEDICAL  
visits  
including sick

**2,004**  
immunizations

**417**  
mental  
health  
VISITS

**463**  
physical  
EXAMS

**435**  
sexually  
transmitted  
infections  
**DIAGNOSIS &  
TREATMENT**

**33**  
family planning  
**REFERRALS**

**11**  
substance  
abuse  
**REFERRALS**

## 2016 spotlight on TEEN HEALTH CENTER

### HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY!

Teen Health Center celebrated 30 years of adolescent focused medical care. The clinic held an open house on October 6 to acknowledge the humble beginnings in a modular trailer and the growth to the building where clients are being served now. Students participated in an art contest and distracted driving demonstrations. Teen Health Center looks forward to offering tele-medicine services in the near future. Stay tuned for services to grow and expand to meet the needs of the community.



# 2016 at a glance

## WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN

“The best part about WIC so far is how they have been helpful with breastfeeding”

-Client



**4.48%**  
breastfeeding  
INITIATION RATE



average  
monthly  
enrollment:

**3,617**  
CLIENTS



average client  
participation  
rate: **89.08%**



**439**  
FLUORIDE/  
oral health  
ASSESSMENTS

“You guys are great! I am so thankful to have all the help, benefits and support from this program! Great job!”

-Client

**\$ 2,187,269.46**  
WIC food dollars  
SPENT IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY



**1,121**   
**PROJECT FRESH**  
coupons distributed

**68.9%** redemption

# 2016 spotlight on WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN

Learn more about WIC [here](#)

## POP UP FARMERS MARKET OFFERED



WIC collaborated with the Community Foundation of St. Clair County and facilitated a Pop Up Farmers Market in the health department parking lot. WIC clients using the Farmers Market to purchase fresh produce were provided entry into a raffle that had approximately \$2,500.00 in prizes gifted through the Community Foundation.

## ANNUAL BREASTFEEDING STROLL ANOTHER SUCCESS

The 2nd Annual Breastfeeding Stroll at Desmond Landing proved to be a success. 19 community vendors were on site along with three health department programs. Approximately 75 participants supported and promoted the benefits of breastfeeding.



## MCLAREN HOSPITAL COLLABORATION

WIC approached McLaren Port Huron Hospital in order to help new moms and babies enroll in WIC. This partnership allows eligible moms to make their WIC appointment, get answers to their breastfeeding questions and get referrals to the WIC breastfeeding peer counselor all before they leave the hospital.

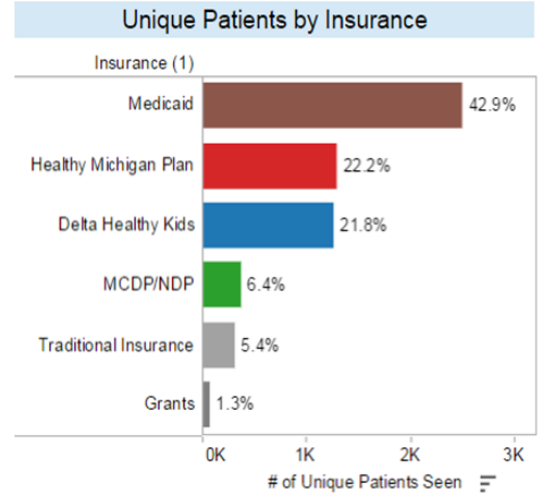
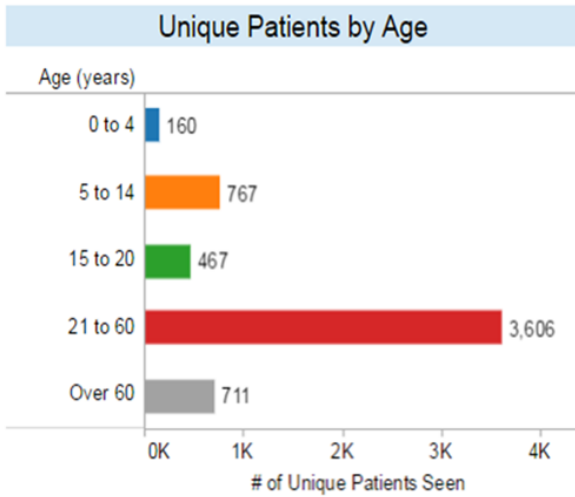


# 2016 at a glance

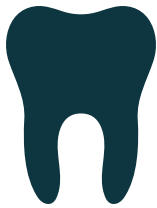
## MY COMMUNITY DENTAL CENTER

*"Improving lives, one smile at a time"*

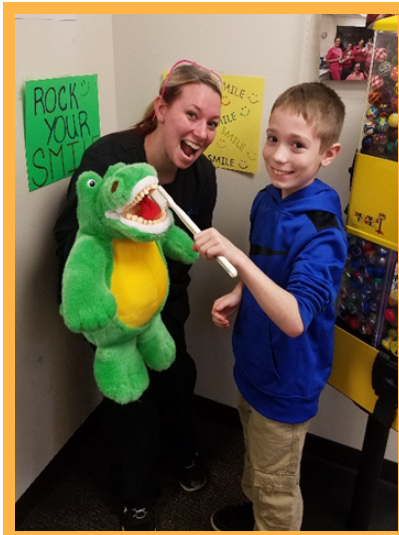
My Community Dental Center (MCDC) operates the Lonnie J. Stevens Dental Clinic in Port Huron on behalf of the St. Clair County Health Department. MCDC is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation dedicated to providing dental services to Medicaid enrollees, low-income, uninsured and those with private insurance seeking a dental home. It is our mission to "improve the lives of our patients and enhance community health by setting the highest standard of oral health care". The care provided is customized to meet the individual needs of each patient and is offered in a patient-centered atmosphere with exceptional customer service. The center utilizes electronic patient records, digital radiography, and state-of-the-art dental equipment.



**16,291**  
office  
VISITS



**5,712**  
UNIQUE  
patients



"Everyone was very friendly and punctual. It was a wonderful experience and I am very glad I decided to try this clinic for my dental care. Awesome staff!"

-Client

"They are great! On time! Best dentists I have ever been too!"

-Client

# 2016



**ST. CLAIR COUNTY**  
**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
*Our Community. Our Environment.*

[www.sccchealth.co](http://www.sccchealth.co) |  /scchdmi |  @scchdmi

created by the Health Education Division | made in Canva

Canva