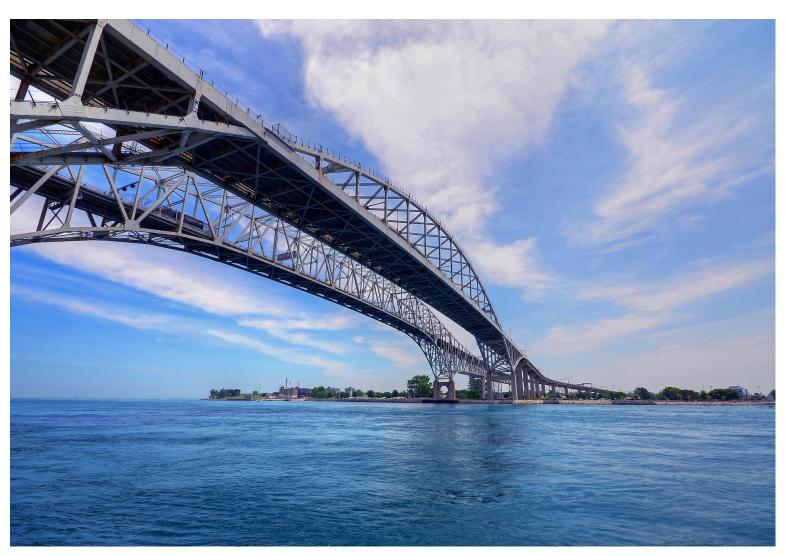
ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Accredited by Michigan Public Health Accreditation Commission



3415 28th Street Port Huron, MI 48060 (810) 987-5300

OUR VISION:

St. Clair County Health Department is the trusted local public health expert.

OUR MISSION:

To promote and protect public health through assessment, planning, and response so that the public can achieve optimal wellbeing.

MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER



2019 was a year of growth and outreach for the St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD). As our resources grow, so does our ability to facilitate and support the needs of the community and the public health system as a whole. This system is much more than just our local governmental agency. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it includes all the "public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of essential public health services in a jurisdictions, agencies, services and programs that impact a person's life." This concept ensures that all entities' contributions to the health and wellbeing of the community or state are recognized in assessing the provision of public health services.

This concept was clearly operationalized this year with the completion and distribution of the St. Clair County's first Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). An evidence based community wide strategic planning process called "MAPP" (Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships) was utilized to collect data, community input and develop priorities and measurable outcomes from a broad range of community stakeholders. The CHIP is intended for ALL community agencies and programs to align their goals and objectives to the issues prioritized in the Plan, and our hope is that everyone finds it a useful compass for the next 5 years.

SCCHD also reviewed and updated our own strategic plan and revised our vision and mission statements to reflect this integrative approach.

We are grateful for the support of our Board of Health, the County Administration Controller, Karry Hepting, and our elected local and state officials. Additionally, the interactions with both traditional and non-traditional partners has provided a broad framework to find solutions to our health issues. Together we are making St. Clair County a great place to live, work and play!

Yours in health,

Annette Mercatante, MD, MPH

into Prucil

ADMINISTRATION



Pictured Back Row: Amy Hart, Diane Lois, Greg Brown, Steve Demick Front Row: Jennifer Michaluk. Dr. Annette Mercatante, Liz King

Annette Mercatante, MD, MPH Medical Health Officer

Greg Brown, BS, RS Administrator

Liz King, RN, BSN Director of Nursing & Community Health

Steve Demick, BS, RS Environmental Health Director

Jennifer Michaluk, M.Ed, CHES Director of Health Education & Planning

Diane Lois, BS, RS Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Amy Hart, BS, CPA Financial Services Manager

BOARD OF HEALTH

Marie J. Muller Chair (member since 02/98)

John Jones Vice Chair (member since 06/10)

> **Cheryl Smith, RN** (member since 03/17)

> **Monica Standel** (member since 02/15)

Pastor Arnold Koontz Secretary (member since 07/16)

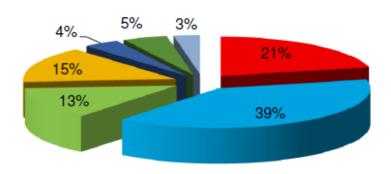
Howard Heidemann, Commissioner BOC Member (member since 01/13)



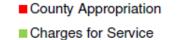
Pictured Back Row: John Jones. Arnold Koontz, Howard Heidemann Middle Row: Monica Standel. Marie Muller, Cheryl Smith Front Row: Dr. Annette Mercatante

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2019 Health Department Revenues



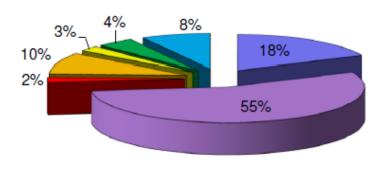
Total Revenues: \$7,969,400



- Federal Vaccine (In-Kind)
- Licenses & Permits

- Federal/State Revenue
- Medicaid Full Cost Reimbursement
- ■Other Grants & Revenues

2019 Health Department Expenditures



Total Expenditures: \$7,742,815



10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The 10 Essential Public Health Services describe the public health activities that all community should undertake:

- 1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems
- 2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community
- 3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues
- 4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems

ASSURANCE,

Enforce

- 5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts
- **6.** Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
- Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable
- 8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce
- **9.** Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services
- 10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

ASSESSMEN

TNEWEAT

Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems

Smoking Cessation and Reduction in Pregnancy Treatment (SCRIPT)

According to the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), nearly 30% of pregnant women smoke in St. Clair County. This is a higher rate than the state of Michigan. In October 2019, the Maternal Infant Health Program implemented a program to help women stop smoking and have healthier pregnancies. Clients have been open and welcoming to the one-on-one support and educational material they receive from their nurse. SCRIPT is already having an impact on St. Clair County mothers and their families.



Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

From 2018 - 2019 various stakeholders met to discuss community health and problems. Stakeholders went through a strategic planning process to develop our county's first CHIP. The CHIP outlines how partners intend to improve health of all residents over the next five years. There are strategies to address: chronic disease prevention and management, access to health care, substance abuse, mental health, well-being of children and adolescents, economic opportunity, and environmental health. Learn more here.

Harm Reduction

St. Clair County has seen rapidly rising hepatitis C rates in the young adult population, related mostly to intravenous drug use. In 2019, harm reduction interventions were implemented to reduce hepatitis C and HIV. Harm reduction is a set of strategies to reduce the negative consequences associated with drug use.

The Health Department started offering:

- Rapid hepatitis C testing on and offsite
- Syringe services program (SSP) called The ExChange
- Linkage to care program to connect those with hepatitis C to medical providers, education, support and more
- Opioid overdose recognition and response training, including Narcan® distribution



Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Measles, Mumps, Rubella...Oh, My!

Communicable disease outbreaks require Health Department staff to stop routine services to investigate and respond.

When there are suspect, probable, or confirmed cases of diseases or infections, the nursing staff are the first to know. After notification, a communicable disease investigation is conducted to determine (if possible) where/how the individual contracted the disease and communicate with their close family and friends to recommend appropriate post-exposure prophylaxis and implement control measures. Nursing leadership works with Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to coordinate specimens for confirmatory testing.

Health education staff are responsible for alerting the public and the media when necessary about diseases and outbreaks. Often times this team writes media releases, updates the website, and creates social media posts to inform about the disease and if the public should take any action (such as getting vaccinated).

In March 2019, St. Clair County saw three probable cases of mumps. Mumps is a vaccine-preventable disease but can be contagious and is spread through saliva or mucus. Also in spring / early summer, southeast Michigan was experiencing a measles outbreak and St. Clair County was impacted. There was one case of confirmed measles in our community. Measles is another vaccine-preventable disease and is easily spread through the air.

Monitoring and stopping the spread of diseases is important for a healthy community.







Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues



WIC's 5th Annual Breastfeeding Stroll

WIC hosted the 5th annual Breastfeeding Stroll in August 2019 at the Blue Water River Walk. This year's stroll was attended by 19 vendors and approximately participants. The purpose of the stroll is to honor breastfeeding month by empowering women to breastfeed breastfeeding provide and to information and resources.



Hepatitis A Outbreak

St. Clair County continued to be a part of the larger Michigan outbreak in 2019 and received additional grant funding for to promote the importance of hepatitis A prevention measures, such as handwashing and vaccination.

This campaign included another bus wrap and video, both highlighting handwashing, especially at public festivals and after using a porta-potty.







Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems

St. Clair County SPEAK

St. Clair County Substance Prevention through Early Action and Knowledge (SPEAK) is a newly formed substance use prevention coalition. Community stakeholders gathered at three day-long, intensive planning sessions to review Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) data regarding youth substance use and create a five-year strategic plan. This group identified underage drinking, youth marijuana use, youth vaping, and adult opioid use as its four priority areas. Once the plan was completed, SPEAK officially kicked off in September 2019. Learn more about SPEAK here.



SPEAK Kick-Off Meeting September 26, 2019



Funding provided by Region 10 PIHP and MDHHS.

St. Clair County Immunization Coalition



To address St. Clair County's poor immunization rates and high vaccine waiver rates, SCCHD is coordinating efforts to transition the current Adult Immunization Coalition to a broader community led coalition focusing on immunizations at all ages.

South East Michigan Women, Infant, and Children Engagement Project (SEMWICEP)

St. Clair County WIC is participating in a cross-jurisdictional collaborative project. This 3-5 year regional project aims to identify root causes for regional and statewide decrease WIC engagement, build community relationships, and define what "engagement" means for WIC participants. Strategic priorities for this group include:

- Shopping Experience-Vendor (store) collaboration
- Technology-Ease of problem access and participation
- Marketing and Awareness Enrolling WIC participants



Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)

CSHCS helps children (and some adults) with chronic, disabling or terminal medical conditions by providing coverage and referrals for specialty services. A Registered Nurse (RN) works with the family to identify clients' needs and barriers to care and to develop a Comprehensive Plan of Care.



HIV Prevention with PrEP



Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a once daily HIV prevention pill for those who do not currently have HIV but are at a high risk of getting it through sex or injection drug use. Nursing leadership extensively research and planned for the implementation of PrEP distribution at SCCHD.

Expanded Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) Access

Intrauterine devices (IUDs) and implants are examples of effective LARC methods. These are the most effective reversible methods of contraception but have additional advantages of being long lasting (3+ years), liked by users, and cost effective.

Over 50% of pregnancies are unplanned. Stress, poverty, and health status can impact the pregnancy leading to premature delivery and/or infant and maternal mortality.



SCCHD prepared to expand LARC options available in the Personal Health Clinic. After policy development and extensive training for the Nurse Practitioner (NP), IUD and implant (Nexplanon®) insertion and removal is now offered.

Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Varicella "Chickenpox" Outbreak

In September 2019, there was a chickenpox (varicella) outbreak at a local high school. According to MDHHS guidelines, "Varicella outbreaks consist of 2 or more cases in a group activity setting (school, daycare, camp, etc.)."

SCCHD nursing staff implemented the proper outbreak protocol. The school district officials identified 37 susceptible, unvaccinated students. According to the Public Health Code, these students needed to be excluded from school and extracurricular activities for at least 21 days after the last identified case.

SCCHD and the school district worked together to protect the health of the community by stopping the spread of disease.

Beach Testing Program



From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the St. Clair County Health Department successfully completed another season of water quality monitoring at eight beaches on Lake Huron and the St. Clair River. Fifteen weeks of continuous water quality collection and analysis resulted in just three days of closure, making it one of St. Clair County's healthiest beach seasons on record.

St. Clair County beach samples submitted to the lab this summer will be analyzed over the winter to track the bacterial contamination source to humans or animals.

Improved water quality has been made possible by reducing pathogen sources through sewer separation projects, elimination of illicit discharges, and installation of green infrastructure along shorelines.

Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable



Anna Tice, New Outreach Clerk

Not Just a Number

Outreach staff are happy to help relieve the stress of finding resources for clients' needs, particularly when people have immediate needs that are coupled with a sense of urgency and desperation.

In 2019, Outreach helped several clients who had the very serious and frightening diagnosis of cancer to get the health insurance they needed to move forward with further testing and treatment as quickly as possible. Outreach also helped several families apply for emergency funds to avoid eviction and keep their heat on in the cold weather.

Many applicants are embarrassed that they have to ask for help, but they appreciate that when they come to SCCHD they are treated with dignity and compassion. Applicants appreciate that they are not just a number or name here; they matter.



Off Site Clinics

Nursing division has partnered with community agencies to offer immunizations, ExChange Kits, and hepatitis C testing at off site clinics. Staff attend annual events, like Senior Power Day and the Community Resource Fair. Clinics are also offered on a recurring basis at Harbor Impact Ministry and Mid City Nutrition.



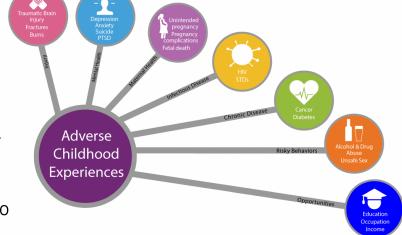
Assure competent public and personal health care workforce

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

ACEs are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood (before age 18) such as experiencing violence, abuse, or neglect; witnessing violence in the home; and having a family member attempt or die by suicide; growing up in a household with substance misuse, mental health problems, or instability due to parental separation or incarceration of a parent, sibling, or other household member. ACEs have been linked to risky health behaviors, chronic health conditions, low life potential, and early death.

Learn more about ACEs here.

In March, Annette Mercatante, MD, MPH, Medical Health Officer became an ACF Master Training through a grant offered by the Michigan Association of Health Plans Foundation and the Michigan ACE Initiative. This allows her to educate others so that they may also give presentations on ACEs. Currently, key staff are being trained to also provide ACEs education. Childhood trauma



was focused on during a monthly Health Department Staff Training so all employees can understand and recognize ACEs. Many other St. Clair County agencies have also been educated on this topic.

Source: CDC

CHES Credential Earned

Health Educator, Lauryn Muma, MPH, took and passed the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam in spring 2019. This is offered by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC). The CHES credential shows that Health Educators have met or exceeded standards for the field.



Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services

Client Evaluations

The Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) Coordinator reviews all nurse and social worker documentation following Initial Assessments and Discharge. The Coordinator chooses a random sample for the monthly peer chart review. Routinely throughout care, staff checks in with the client/caregiver if their needs are being met and documents the conversation and response on the Professional Visit Progress Note. At the discharge visit, client/caregiver receives a Client Evaluation Form to complete by the end of the client visit. All evaluations are reviewed by supervision and if indicated follow-up is implemented.

South East Michigan WIC Engagement Project (SEMWICEP)

The St. Clair County Health Department WIC hosted two regional collaborative meetings of the SEMIWICEP whose membership developed two separate surveys distributed to WIC clients asking them to evaluate their WIC services and their shopping experience. These survey results will inform strategies the collaborate will employ to enhance WIC service moving forward. The effectiveness of the strategies will be evaluated in the future.



Quality Improvement (QI) Initiative

One main goal for 2019 was to start quality improvement projects that involved all Health Department staff. In early 2019, a staff survey was sent out to identify areas of improvement. Survey results were used to start quality improvement projects within each division at the Health Department. QI meetings focus on improving different facets of the entire department to serve clients in a more efficient and effective manner.

Research for new insights and innovation solutions to health problems

CADCA Mid-Year Training Institute



Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) is a national organization that provides support, resources, and training to local substance use prevention coalitions. The 2019 CADCA Mid-Year Training Institute was held in Dallas, Texas and taught prevention specialists new tools and solutions to help coalitions succeed. Lisa Ruddy, BS, CHES®, St. Clair County SPEAK Coalition Coordinator was able to attend and learn practical tips to bring back to our community.

Cribs for Kids Conference

Liz King, BSN, RN, Nursing and Community Health Director, and Lauryn Muma, MPH, CHES®, Health Educator, attended the semi-annual Cribs for Kids Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Cribs for Kids is a nonprofit organization based in Pennsylvania. The conference focused on data surrounding sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and infant safe



sleep fatalities. Staff were able to connect with national organizations and get ideas on how to promote safe sleep in St. Clair County. After the conference, SCCHD became a Cribs for Kids partner and is now able to distribute pack'n'plays to families in need.

Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) Training

Kristen Skoney, NP, traveled to Reno, Nevada to attend a LARC training. During this training, Kristen was trained in proper Intrauterine Device (IUD) insertion and removal. Due to this additional training, SCCHD is able to offer this service onsite in the Personal Health Clinic.

Barrier Analysis Report Released

St. Clair County SPEAK (formally known as the Prescription Drug Abuse Workgroup) completed a Barrier Analysis Report. Focus groups were conducted in 2018 to identify what barriers to prenatal and substance use disorder treatment exist in St. Clair County for pregnant women who are addicted to opioids. The group analyzed the information gathered and released the Barrier Analysis Report in 2019. Read the report here.

COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION & OUTREACH

HEALTH Presentations



97 presentations & events

3,300 reached

6 3 1 Community Resource Referrals



M E D I C A I D Applications

assisted **381** residents with their application





26 media releases



785Facebook posts

73 Instagram posts











ST. CLAIR COUNTY SPEAK Formed



Over **60** community agencies & members met to develop a

5-year strategic plan

S E C O N D C H A N C E Naloxone Program

"It's so nice to have a place to come without judgement."

-Program Participant

1.360 trained



782 kits distributed

22 documented overdose reversals

SUBSTANCE USE Prevention Programming

programs

235 sessions

330 youth reached

"I liked how the program was fun and interactive."

-Program Participant

Funding provided by Region 10 PIHP and MDHHS. Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Data

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

FOOD PROGRAM

1,056 restaurant inspections

192 temporary food inspections

n food complaint **Z** investigations

new/remodeled establishment plan reviews



WATER INSPECTIONS & SAMPLES

Inspected

water wells

450 bacterial surface water samples

106 public campground & swimming pool inspections

Analyzed **2,500** drinking water samples

SEPTIC System Inspections

1,103

inspections and/or services

FREEDOM OF Information Act (FOIA)

Processed over

FOIA requests

REDUCING Lead Exposure



homes & child care centers inspected for lead-based paint hazards



675 onsite soil erosion inspections

150 radon test kits distributed





EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

STAFF Training

- FEMA-based courses for select staff
 - All-Staff Emergency Preparedness Trainings

COMMUNICATION

drills with local, regional, & state partners



MICHIGAN HEALTH Alert Network (MIHAN)

R1 alerts



PLANNING & **Response Meetings**

meetings with local, regional, & state partners

DRILLS & EXERCISES

- Ebola with Lake Huron **Medical Center**
- Inventory Management & Tracking System
- MI Volunteer Network
- MI Critical Incident Management System





LIFE

- safety, security or health alerts sent to staff
- recalls & alerts sent to partner agencies

Ongoing Support

EOC support, fact sheets. & risk communications for high water & flood event



extreme weather (hot or cold) monitoring & information for staff & community

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY HEALTH

VACCINATIONS

11,394

vaccinations to infants, children, teens, and adults

100 hepatitis A vaccine clinics

COMMUNICABLE **Disease Investigations**

1,060 communicable disease investigations

10 outbreak investigations

TUBERCULOSIS **Testing**

436 TB skin tests

74 TB blood tests

HEPATITIS C **Testing & Prevention**

TESTING

The Health Department began offering hepatitis C testing in March 2019. Rapid testing results come back in 20 minutes and conventional testing results come back in 3 days. In May, staff began rapid hepatitis C testing offsite at community events, such as Community Resource Fair, Harbor Impact Days, Mid-City Nutrition, and Senior Power Day.



394 conventional tests

211 rapid tests (offsite)

33 rapid tests (onsite)

PREVENTION

The Health Department opened a Syringe Services Program (SSP) called The Exchange in March 2019. SSPs are evidence-based ways to reduce hepatitis C and HIV rates by providing sterile syringes and equipment to people who inject drugs (PWID). SSPs also help PWID get other needed services, such as Narcan®, sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing, and other resources.

49 individuals served over the course of 78 encounters with **2,570** syringes given out.



INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY HEALTH

COVER IT YOU MATTER



Cover !T You Matter is a condom distribution campaign. Partner agencies distribute free condom kits for community members. This helps to eliminate barriers such as cost or embarrassment.

2,422 condom kits

community partners

Just under 10,000 condoms



PERSONAL HEALTH

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

STI testing appointments 1,733

636 STI treatments

486 STI investigations

Title X Family Planning Services

476 female clients 128 male clients total clients

16 intrauterine devices (IUDs)

44 implants

CHILDHOOD LEAD Poisoning & Prevention Program

WIC clients under age 5 are screened for elevated lead levels. If screening is high, they are referred for a confirmatory blood draw. Clients with confirmed elevated lead levels receive an environmental scan of their homes for sources of lead.

1,700 capillary lead tests

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY HEALTH

MATERNAL INFANT Health Program (MIHP)

enrollments

nurse visits

social worker visits



"I love all the information I get on my baby and being able to ask questions."

-Client

SCRIPT

All women enrolling in MIHP are now screened for Carbon Monoxide (CO) exposure, indicating cigarette smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke. Those with a high CO level are offered SCRIPT.

21 elevated CO levels

12 enrolled

women quit!







CHILDREN'S SPECIAL Health Care Services

Average caseload of

599 clients

"She was very helpful and considerate. Answered all my questions and very kind."

-Client



HEARING & VISION Screening Program

preschool (ages 3-5) hearing screenings

5,443 school age (grades K, 2, & 4) hearing screenings

preschool (ages 3-5) vision screenings



9,412 school age (grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9) vision screenings

TEEN HEALTH



MEDICAL SERVICES

1,166 medical visits

342 physical exams

366 STI tests with **30** positives and 29 treated onsite.

EXPANDED MENTAL **Health Services**

TEEN HEALTH **Port Huron**

Due to increasing demand for mental health services, the social worker position grew to full-time status. Now students are able to receive services in an office within the school building.

734 mental health visits

TEEN HEALTH **Algonac**

Opened in August 2019 at Algonac Jr./Sr. High School. This site currently only provides mental health services, which are available to all community members aged 10 - 21.

1114 mental health visits

PREVENTION EDUCATION

Teen Health offers youth focused education on a variety of health topics including STIs, Contraception 101, Hygiene, and much more.

Linking Education & Awareness of Depression & Suicide (LEADS) and Signs of Suicide (SOS) are evidence-based programs for middle and high school students to prevent suicide deaths.

sessions of LEADS at $oldsymbol{6}$ schools with $oldsymbol{951}$ students

session of SOS 129 students





WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN (WIC)

MONTHLY AVERAGES

3,122 average monthly enrollments

97.62% average monthly client participation rate

ADDITIONAL WIC

1,668

lead screenings fluoride applications

1,051 vaccines administered in WIC

PROJECT FRESH



660 coupons distributed

\$3,300 Project Fresh coupon dollar value

"Your Peer Counselor is so great! I wish I would've been in contact with her when I was trying to breastfeed my oldest."





"Thank you so much WIC!"

-Client





C CONNECT Mobile App

WIC Connect is a mobile app that potential and current WIC clients can use to track benefits, check eligibility, schedule an appointment, and more! The app is available for free in the App Store™ or Google Play™.

BREASTFEEDING Support

17% highest 6 month duration rate



Breastfeeding Peer Counselors (Carley Elliott, Peer Counselor, pictured left) are moms who breastfed their children. They are trained to answer common

breastfeeding questions. Peer counselors have an important role in educating, supporting and encouraging WIC mothers to reach their breastfeeding goals. Learn more here.

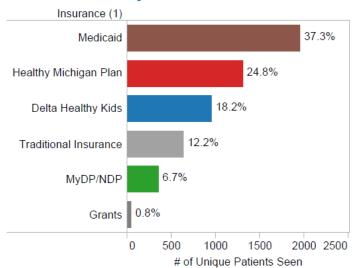
MY COMMUNITY DENTAL CENTER (MCDC)



13,187 office visits

5,120 unique patients

UNIQUE PATIENTS



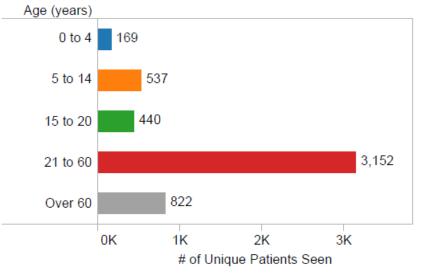
"Employees are very nice and very caring, always polite and treat people with respect. They make me feel like I've know them for years and we are like family or friends. Very nice and comfortable place of business."

-Client



UNIQUE PATIENTS by Age







www.scchealth.co | []/scchdmi | e@scchdmi



