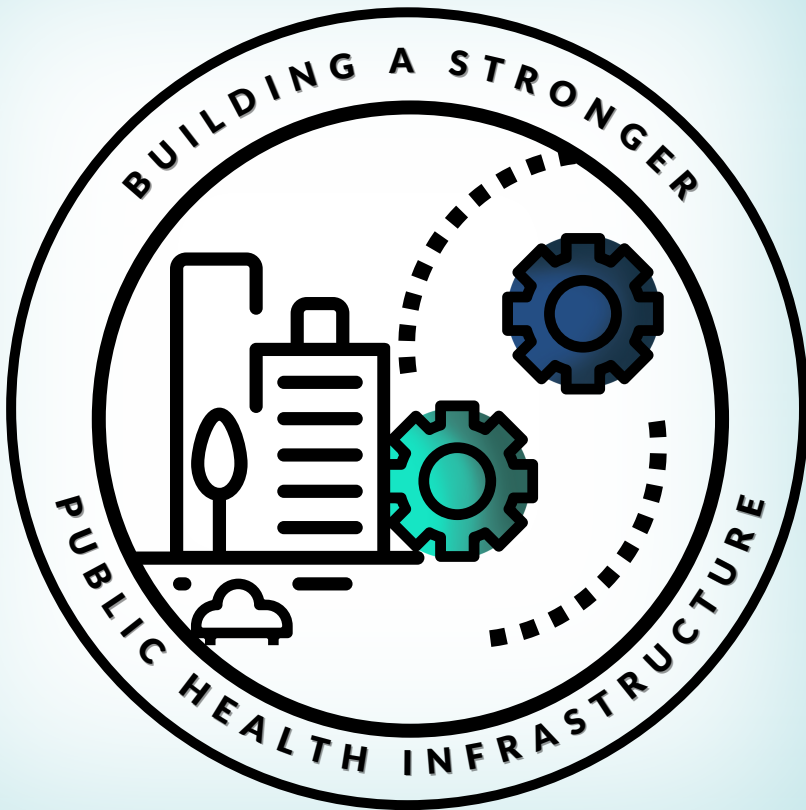




2023 Annual Report





From the Health Officer - Director

I am pleased to present you with the 2023 St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) Annual Report on behalf of the St. Clair County (SCC) Board of Commissioners (BOC) and the Advisory Board of Health (BOH).

The year 2023 was nothing short of amazing and I continue to be inspired and honored to lead a remarkable team of staff and our community towards better health. This year marks the first full year of a traditional public health leadership structure with a full-time Health Officer and a part-time Medical Director since the early 2000's. This allowed time to reflect, engage and develop authentically what that looks like.

Growth was a theme for 2023 – Our footprint is changing! Funding for two additional Child and Adolescent Health Centers, one in Algonac and one in Yale was applied for and granted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). A soft launch was made at both Algonac and Yale School Districts in 2023. By far the most exciting “growth” news of 2023 was securing a new building space for the future home of SCCHD. Many thanks to County Administration and the current Board of Commissioners for also recognizing the need to improve our home and service delivery to St. Clair County residents. Meetings, designs, and walk throughs began in 2023 and will continue to take shape into 2024 with a moving-in goal in 2025.

The year 2023 saw personal growth in our most important asset – staff! Building upon the resilience of our experienced staff, coupled with the enthusiasm and fresh ideas of newer staff, great projects transpired as 2023 proved exceptionally productive. Opportunities were made available and funded for staff to participate in continued education, certifications and advanced public health degrees. Strengthening the public health workforce is not only a strategic goal for SCCHD but a national and statewide initiative.

Additionally, building a more inclusive Advisory Board of Health (BOH) transpired in 2023. By-law edits were approved by the BOH and Board of Commissioners, adding two new “At Large” BOH seats. Adding additional members, who have varying public health knowledge and ideologies, to the existing district model expands input from the community and enhances diversity to our decision making.

Health Officer - Director



Welcome From the Medical Director

By Remington Nevin, MD, MPH, DrPH

There is a saying, “May you live in interesting times,” that can be taken as both a blessing and a curse. These are interesting times in public health.

Where public health once enjoyed broad support, opinion polls now show growing distrust. National candidates talk openly of defunding institutions they accuse of recent overreach. Many question the future and purpose of the profession.

When I served as a doctor in the U.S. Army, the purpose of public health was clear in our motto: “Preserve the fighting strength.” My mission was to keep our men and women in uniform healthy. Although sometimes at great cost to the individual, the ultimate purpose was to secure our constitution, values, and way of life.

In the civilian world, the purpose of public health is less clear. As someone new to Michigan, I’ve come to learn the state Constitution reads that public health is a “matter of primary public concern” and that by law, the state is to “prevent disease, prolong life, and promote the public health.” At what cost do we prevent disease and promote health, and at what cost do we prolong lives?

Before relocating to St. Clair County to be closer to family, I lived in rural Vermont. It was adjacent to an eagle sanctuary. I learned from staff that eagles, kept safely in cages, would often outlive those in the wild, who risked falling victim to wind turbines, disease, and other hazards. Provided with medicines and care, the eagles lived long and seemingly healthy lives in captivity. But did they thrive? The nature of eagles is to soar free, yet the cost of the eagles’ lives and health was this very freedom.

As I begin my work in St. Clair County, I invite us to see these “interesting times” as a blessing, and as an opportunity to rebalance the critical mission of safeguarding public health, while preserving the cherished freedoms that define us.

Advisory Board of Health (BOH)

The St. Clair County Board of Commissioners (BOC) has appointed a five member Advisory Board of Health (BOH), two Members at Large, and a BOC representative. They meet monthly and serve in an advisory capacity and as a review board for department activities and policies.

The Advisory BOH meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 am at the Health Department.



Ken Heuvelman
District 1
(Member since 1/2023)
Term Ends: 12/31/2024



Steven Gura, Secretary
District 2
(Member since 1/2023)
Term Ends: 12/31/2024



Monica Standel, Vice Chair
District 3
(Member since 2/2015)
Term Ends: 12/31/2024



Marie J. Muller
District 4
(Member since 2/1998)
Term Ends: 12/31/2025



John Jones, Chair
(Member since: 6/2010 - Current)
Term Ends: 12/31/2023



Dawn Fulk, Member at Large
(Member since 8/2023)
Term Ends: 12/31/2025



Kevin Watkins
Member at Large
(Member since 6/2023)
Term Ends: 12/31/2025



Lisa Beedon
BOC Member
(Member since 1/2021)

Administrative Staff



Greg Brown, BS, RS
Administrator



Amy Bishop, RN, BSN
Director of Nursing &
Community Health



Steve Demick, BS, RS
Director of
Environmental Health



Brandon Fey, MSA, EMT-P
Data Manager



Diane Lois, BS, RS
Emergency
Preparedness Coordinator



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



Wendy Pierce, BA, PEM
Financial Services Manager

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2023 - 2027



Working together for a healthier tomorrow!



CHIP GOALS & PRIORITY AREAS

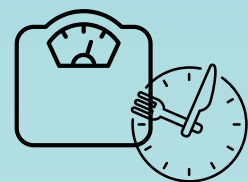
The goal of the 2023-2027 CHIP is to implement a collaborative set of strategies in order to improve the health outcomes prioritized by community stakeholders ensuring equity and inclusion. Three priority areas have been identified.



Mental & Behavioral
Health



Substance Use



Obesity & Associated
Health Behaviors

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2023 - 2027

NEW INITIATIVES



- 1** Public Health Nurses distributed substance use resources and information. The Syringe Services Program (SSP) - “The Exchange” is a free, confidential, clean works program that provides (e.g., new needles, clean works, needle exchange, safe injection education, Narcan® training/kits, and outreach referrals) at community locations including Harbor Impact Day, Odyssey House, and the Soup Kitchen.
- 2** Care coordination and case management for Children’s Special Healthcare Services (CSHCS) allows nurses to create and update plans of care, partnering with families, physicians and health care plans to address obesity and associated health behaviors.
- 3** Partnered with a local school district to provide support on vaping education geared for parents and students.
- 4** Redesigned the St. Clair County Help Card template to also include a digital component, making it more accessible to the community.
- 5** The Teen Health-Port Huron’s Social Worker provided LEADS presentations addressing suicide awareness and prevention.
- 6** The Teen Health-Port Huron’s Social Worker along with other therapists provided summer “mental health check-in” groups with school students from all age groups. Handouts promoting mental health services were distributed.

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2023 - 2027

NEW INITIATIVES



7

Yale Schools-Bulldog Health Center opened in 2023, offering mental health services in addition to medical services to help with things like nutrition and building healthier habits. Staff attended back-to-school open houses to promote clinic services. Vaping presentations were provided. The Community Advisory Council was established and held its first meeting involving the community in clinic operations. Free sports physicals were offered over the summer, with 81 students participating.

8

Algonac Schools Counseling & Medical Services opened in 2023, offering mental health services (also previously provided), in addition to medical services to help with things like nutrition and building healthier habits. Staff attended back-to-school open houses to promote clinic services. Vaping presentations were provided. The Community Advisory Council was established and held its first meeting involving the community in clinic operations. A soft opening was held and over 170 students/staff toured the new clinic space.

9

Capac Counseling Center provided mental health services. The Social Worker promoted the center at back-to-school events. Vaping presentations were provided to different age groups. Free sports physicals were offered to students.

10

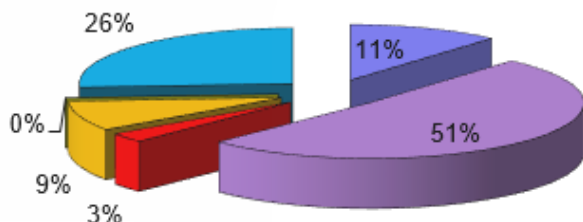
Marysville School Wellness Center's Registered Nurse provided LEADS addressing suicide awareness and prevention, and vaping presentations to students. Free sports physicals were held. Staff attended back-to-school events for promoting the center.

Budget/Financial

SUMMARY

In comparison to 2022, revenues increased from \$9,167,669 to \$9,751,489 (approx. 6.5%) and expenses increased from \$8,506,187 to \$8,733,783 (approx. 2.5%).

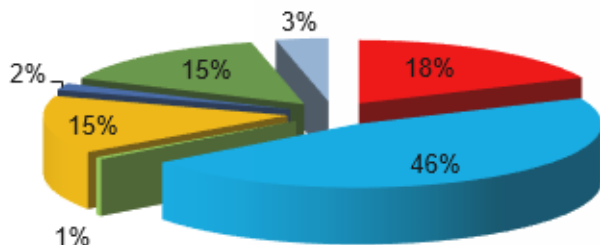
2023 Health Department Expenditures



Total Expenditures: \$8,733,783



2023 Health Department Revenues



Total Revenues: \$9,751,489



HIGHLIGHTS

Billing

- **12,868** Claims processed
- **11,863** Claims paid
- **\$1,050,587** Insurance revenue
- **\$16,533** Patient payments

Community Health Education & Outreach

HIGHLIGHTS



1

Staff supported the launch of the new St. Clair County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), organization of stakeholder meetings, education around the priority areas and tracking activities being performed around each strategy.

2

Worked on branding materials, publications, and other items with a goal to strengthen the identity of the health department.

3

Developed four professional "We Are Public Health" videos that highlighted services; provided a historical review; featured program outcomes; and shared client testimonials. Additionally, multiple video segments were produced internally showcasing work being done across the departments.

4

Social media process improvements were made utilizing new tools for submitting and tracking requests, as well as the development of comprehensive reports displaying post analytics.

5

Health education programming on vaping, substance use, hygiene, Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and communicable disease prevention were requested throughout the year.

Community Health Education & Outreach

OUTREACH



11,049

FACE -TO -FACE INTERACTIONS



1,505

COMMUNITY REFERRALS



366

MEDICAID REFERRALS



205

MEDICAID INSURANCE APPLICATIONS



66

EVENTS ATTENDED

Data, Informatics & Epidemiology

WHAT WE DO

Analyze and interpret public health data to identify patterns and trends.



ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- To identify potential outbreaks of disease and other public health issues
- Develop and implement public health systems to streamline healthcare delivery and improve client outcomes
- Collaborate with community groups and other stakeholders to develop policies and strategies to improve overall health within our community

DATA SUPPORT

- Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)
- Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)
 - Program data support and analysis
 - Public health related data on our population, health, and environment

INFORMATICS/EPIDEMIOLOGY

- Management of COVID-19 outbreaks
- 24 outbreaks with 701 known cases
- Development of a number of data tools across health department divisions
- Creation of the sccLINK referral system for local substance use treatment/recovery services
- Implementation of client and staff feedback tools
 - Over 300 responses

Emergency Preparedness, Planning & Response (EPR)

HIGHLIGHTS



- 1 Implemented the COVID-19 Pandemic Response After Action Report/Improvement Report - Corrective Action Plan.
- 2 Enrolled all health department employees on the Michigan Health Alert System (MIHAN). This redundant system ensures our ability to notify or alert our staff of important information or needed actions.
- 3 Provided and maintained public health emergency preparedness and response orientation and training for 100% of all health department employees. Training included required Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) courses, employee security, health and safety, emergency operations plans and supporting annexes, and local and regional drills and exercises.
- 4 Continued memberships and participation in specialized state and federal programs (e.g., BioWatch, Cities Readiness Initiative) providing our program additional resources such as training, education, information, strengthening regional partnerships and emergency response capabilities.
- 5 Strengthened our community resilience in preparedness and response planning with documented inclusion of the invaluable community partnerships that stand in the forefront with public health against epidemic and pandemic levels of infectious disease threats.



Environmental Health

HIGHLIGHTS



Instrumental in the completion of the China Township King Road municipal sewage disposal project. A low-pressure grinder pump was installed at each residence and connected to the Marine City wastewater system. This eliminates a decades long nuisance condition and corrects the last known cluster of sewage failures in the County.



Processed a total of 518 food service license applications for 2023. Of these, 489 were for fixed food establishments (317 annual, 30 seasonal, 29 special transitory food units , 83 charitable and 59 schools). All non-retail food service facilities are required to obtain a license and meet inspection requirements from the St. Clair County Health Department.



All 18 participating watershed communities and educational institutions recommitted their budget appropriation for Environmental Health stormwater permit services. The St. Clair County Health Department remains the only local health department in Michigan that has administrative responsibility for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permit.

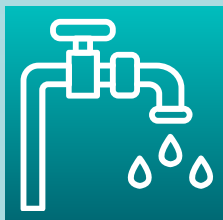


Environmental Health

HIGHLIGHTS



Completed the seasonal monitoring of eight Great Lakes beaches. Overall, the beach water quality results last summer were among the best ever received in over 20 years of sampling.



The Private and Type III (P3) Water Supply Program was audited by Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) for compliance with established minimum program requirements. The evaluation consisted of both field and in-office components. It was determined that all minimum program requirements were met including 41 out of 41 indicators. The report commended the St. Clair County Health Department's P3 program staff for their technical knowledge and strong field presence.



Participated in a State of Michigan vector-borne disease surveillance and prevention program. The summer long surveillance system focused on identifying emerging populations of potentially invasive Aedes species mosquitoes that can transmit arboviruses. In addition, Environmental Health Sanitarians conducted surveillance for ticks capable of transmitting Lyme disease and other pathogens.

Individual & Family Services

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) and Lead Testing Program

CSHCS - HIGHLIGHTS



**AVERAGE MONTHLY
CASELOAD OF 547**



**AVERAGE MONTHLY CASE
COORDINATION OF 19.5**

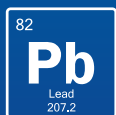


**AVERAGE CASE
MANAGEMENT OF 2.33**



CSHCS had a rebuilding year, with new staff in place. A new nursing coordinator position was established. Staff took the program down to bare bones and rebuilt, including converting most program processes to electronic.

LEAD TESTING - HIGHLIGHTS



**712 CAPILLARY TESTS
COMPLETED**



**10 LEAD CASE MANAGEMENT
HOME VISITS**



**17 OUTREACH EVENTS
ATTENDED WITH 5,000
ENCOUNTERS**



Individual & Family Services

Communicable Disease (CD) and Immunizations

PROGRAM STATISTICS

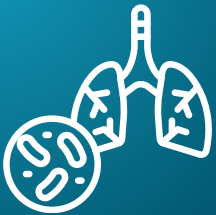


1,451

CD Investigations (non-COVID)

21

Outbreak Investigations (non-COVID)



Tuberculosis (TB) Testing:

Skin

394 - Port Huron (Main)
41 - Teen Health (Port Huron)
1 - Marysville
93 - SC4

Blood

17 - Port Huron (Main)
0 - Teen Health (Port Huron)
0 - Marysville
0 - SC4

1

Active TB Case



Hepatitis C Testing and Prevention:

Rapid

27 - Port Huron (Main)
0 - Teen Health (Port Huron)
8 - Community Events

Conventional

481 - Port Huron (Main)
45 - Teen Health (Port Huron)
0 - Community Events

Individual & Family Services

Communicable Disease (CD) and Immunizations

PROGRAM STATISTICS

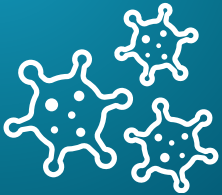


1,227

COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Administered

21

Outbreak Investigations (non-COVID)



COVID-19 Tests Performed:

Antigens

230 - Port Huron (Main)
1 - Teen Health (Port Huron)
2 - Capac
1 - Marysville
21 - SC4

ID NOW

26 - Port Huron (Main)
3 - Teen Health (Port Huron)
0 - Capac
0 - Marysville
4 - SC4

3,607

COVID-19 Cases Reported to SCCHD

3,399

COVID-19 Cases Documented (Probable or Confirmed)*

*Received a PEG survey.

17

COVID-19 Outbreaks

Individual & Family Services

Communicable Disease (CD) and Immunizations



PROGRAM STATISTICS



Vaccines Administered	
2,671	Infants - 18 years (not including COVID-19)
2,910	Infants - 18 years (including COVID-19)
2,357	Adult (not including COVID-19)
3,345	Adults (including COVID-19)
40	Off-Site Clinics
3	Blue Water Immunization Partnership (BWIP) Clinics

Individual & Family Services

Hearing & Vision



HIGHLIGHTS



There were 876 **hearing** screenings conducted for pre-school children. In Kindergarten, 2nd, and 4th grades, 3,744 **hearing** screenings were conducted in St. Clair County.



There were 939 **vision** screenings conducted for pre-school children. In grades 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th, 4,273 **vision** screenings were conducted in St. Clair County.

Individual & Family Services

Maternal & Infant Health Program (MIHP) and Safe Sleep



HIGHLIGHTS



For MIHP, there were 2,214 visits, 319 enrollments, 628 “Diaper Drive” donations, and a \$50 anonymous donation. Additionally, Women's Life Society, Chapter 836, Port Huron raised a total of \$709 for MIHP in their “Battle of the Coolers” raffle fundraiser.



The Safe Sleep Public Health Nurse completed the Safe Sleep Ambassador training and received a certification. The Safe Sleep Education presentation was updated and trainings were scheduled. Twenty-nine Pack ‘n Plays were distributed to households in need of safe sleep environments for their babies.

Individual & Family Services

Personal Health

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Services

Condoms Distributed	16,370
STI Testing Appointments Completed	555
Treatments Provided	548
MDSS Investigations Conducted	410
Vaccines Given	228



Title X Family Planning Services

Total Number of Clients	553
Implants Provided	55
IUDs Provided	8
Appointments Completed	1,054



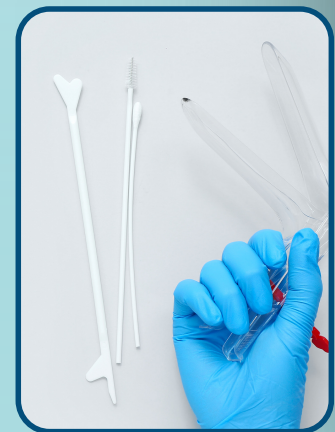
Individual & Family Services

Personal Health

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Tests Conducted by Type

Chlamydia	944
Gonorrhea	939
Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)	316
Trichomoniasis (Trich)	330
HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)	532
Hepatitis C	520
Syphilis	508
Pap Smears (Pap Test)	316
Herpes	330
Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)	38
Pregnancy	295
Urinalysis	21



Individual & Family Services

Personal Health

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Syringe Services Program (SSP) - "The Exchange" Services

Mobile Unit Events	44
Total Clients Served	10,822
Total Individual Encounters at SCCHD	163
Syringes Dispensed	64,170
Sharps Containers	766
Alcohol Swabs	3,741
Narcan®	235
Vaccines Provided	81
Hep C & HIV Tests	22
Fentanyl Test Strips	1,044
Xylazine Test Strips	245
Referrals Provided	4,024
Condoms Distributed	10,017



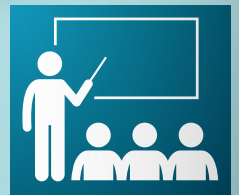
Individual & Family Services

Personal Health

HIGHLIGHTS



Restarted the *Personal & Sexual Health: TALK. TEST. TREAT.* presentations at the St. Clair County Jail in collaboration with the Community Health Education & Outreach Division. This presentation educates inmates on family planning devices, methods, pros/cons, and how to access services including education on Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) signs/symptoms, risks, prevention and testing options.



10,822 total individuals were served through the Syringe Services Program (SSP)-“The Exchange” is a free, confidential, clean works program. Out of the 10,822 served, 163 those were conducted at the main health department location. 64,170 total syringes were provided.



In August 2023, a new Naloxone box was provided by the Port Huron Odyssey House (community partner) offering quick, easy, no-questions-asked access to Naloxone, also called Narcan® - a medication used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose to people in need.



Individual & Family Services

Teen Health

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Port Huron Medical Center

Medical Visits	870
New Visits	623
STI Tests	597
Vaccinations	427
Physical Exams	412
Pregnacy Tests	58
STI Positives	34
STI Treated On-Site	34
Student Education (Presentations: STIs, Vaping, Contraception, LEADS)	1,422
Community Outreach (Individuals) (At community clinics for vaccines, sports physicals, staff education, and open houses)	4,028



Individual & Family Services Teen Health

PROGRAM STATISTICS



Algonac Counseling & Medical Services

Medical Visits

3

Mental Health Visits

413



Capac School Wellness & Counseling Center

Medical /Wellness Visits

270

Mental Health Visits

640



Marysville School Wellness Center

Medical/Wellness Visits

1,400



St. Clair County Community College Campus Health Clinic

Medical Visits

143



Yale Schools-Bulldog Health Center

Mental Health Visits

2

Individual & Family Services

Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider.



CLIENT SERVICES

- 2,661 Average monthly caseload
- 642 Lead screenings
- 189 Fluoride applications
- 436 Vaccinations administered



HIGHLIGHTS

CLIENT PARTICIPATION

- 89% Monthly average client participation
- 75.26% Clients initiated breastfeeding
- 22.47% Breastfed through 6 months

MICHIGAN PROJECT FRESH

- 110 Project Fresh booklets given (contains six-\$5 coupons)
- \$3,300 Worth of coupons given



Mission

The St. Clair County Health Department is the trusted public health expert for **our** community and **our** environment.

Vision

Healthy Community, Healthy Environment



(810) 987-5300



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Port Huron, MI 48060



www.scchealth.co

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