

MAY 2022

Points of Interest...

- The St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) staff organized and collaborated with two local schools; Marysville and Capac in April and held free “sports physicals” for students. Over 100 physicals were provided as well as immunizations. Both Marysville and Capac schools have a school wellness clinic staffed by a SCCHD Registered Nurse (RN) and Community Mental Health (CMH) Therapist.
- Preventive Health & Immunizations have utilized COVID immunization grant dollars to create a sensory clinic room where children with special needs can be vaccinated in a calming environment. This room features tools such as a bubble wall panel, fiber optics and interactive floor tiles that allow children to engage their senses to release energy and anxiety. Kids can relax and associate vaccination with something positive rather than something negative.
- Dr. Mercatante, Medical Health Officer received the *Woman of the Decade* award at the Blue Water Woman of the Year event on May 4. This recognition was the first of its kind and awarded in appreciation for her dedication and tremendous efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as highlighting her 15 years of service at the St. Clair County Health Department.
- Dr. Mercatante and SCCHD staff were awarded the 2022 *Community Service Award* at the Council on Aging breakfast on May 12. This award recognized the great partnership between the two agencies over the past two years and acknowledged the hard work the SCCHD team did in helping protect residents during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The annual Community Resource Fair was held on May 19th. The event is coordinated through multiple agencies that make-up the Housing and Support Workgroup under the Community Services Coordinating Body (CSCB), of which the St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) is an active member. This year’s Fair was a drive-thru event that featured a mobile food pantry, personal care items, and resource bags filled with print materials from local agencies. SCCHD contributed hundreds of print materials to promote various programs, 750 rapid at-home COVID-19 test kits, and staff to help plan and work the event. In total, 560 households were served.
- The Environmental Health Division has started beach monitoring for the summer. Utilizing grant funding, eight beaches (Chrysler, Conger-Lighthouse, Fort Gratiot County Park, Holland, Keewahdin, Lakeport State Park, Lakeside and Marine City) will be analyzed for water quality over a 15-week period. In addition to the standard method, two beaches (Chrysler, Holland) will also be monitored using the experimental rapid testing technology that allows for results within four hours.
- This month, the 2021 St. Clair County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was released. The data collected through the CHNA highlights the overall health of the county, including healthcare access, personal behaviors and built environment. From the CHNA, gaps in health care services and programs, as well as health disparities can be identified. In addition, information derived from this report will be used to craft the next Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). View the full report on our website, www.scchealth.co.