



JUNE 2022

Points of Interest...

ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

- St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) WIC staff completed the fiscal year 2021/22 Management Evaluation by MDHHS June 7-10, 2022. A Management Evaluation covers several areas including administration, certification/evaluation observations, nutrition education including high risk clients, outreach, referrals and civil rights, as well as Project FRESH, recordkeeping, accountability of food instruments and a chart review. An outstanding report was received indicating 96% (98 of 102 evaluated measures) of measures were met in all twelve categories. Staff and program also received special recognition for organization of the annual Breastfeeding Stroll, outstanding teamwork, and meeting client needs above and beyond WIC.
- Health Department staff, Mary Kushion, Consultant and other community stakeholders met to discuss wrapping up the current St. Clair County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), summarized key findings from the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), and began planning for the next, 5 year CHIP (county community plan). An Executive Committee was also established to discuss data and present recommendations to the larger stakeholder group. Next steps will be to select priority areas. Meetings will continue regularly.
- A meeting was recently held with State, County, and China Township officials to discuss the status of the King Road sewage disposal project. Current State grants to partially fund the project are set to expire in May of 2023. A low pressure grinder pump system has been designed but not submitted for approval because of concerns about maintenance. Township officials inquired about getting an extension to explore other options. The Health Department does not support any further delays. At the end of the meeting a consensus to complete the project as required was reached.
- During the month of June, Outreach and other staff attended 2 large community events promoting Health Department services. Interviews are also underway to hire an Outreach Clerk. Once that person is hired and trained, the capacity for Outreach to provide referrals and Medicaid application assistance will greatly increase.
- A very special and heartfelt thank you to Dr. Mercatante, Medical Health Officer for her 15 years of service, leadership and dedication to the St. Clair County Health Department. Staff were invited to say goodbye at an internal open house on Dr. Mercatante's last day. On 7-1-22, the SCCHD starts a new chapter when Liz King, RN, BSN, begins as the new Health Officer and Dr. Najibah Rehmen, MD, MPH, as the Interim Medical Director.