

# 2009 Annual Report



## Seneca County General Health District



### Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Office Hours:**  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

**WIC Hours:**  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Wednesday  
8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Friday

#### Administration

Marjorie S. Broadhead,  
MBA, RN, RS  
Health Commissioner  
\*\*\*

Jenifer Bayer, RN  
Director of Nursing  
\*\*\*

Kolette Chlodewitsch  
Registrar  
\*\*\*

Anita Gaietto, BSBA  
Fiscal Director  
\*\*\*

Jill Griffin, M.Ed  
Human Resource Director  
\*\*\*

Nancy Howe, MS, RD, LD,  
IBCLC  
WIC Director  
\*\*\*

Laura Wallrabenstein,  
MA, RS  
Environmental Health  
Director  
\*\*\*



## President's Message

The staff of the health district worked extremely hard and remained busy throughout 2009, as you will note in this report.

You may recall, this was the year of the H1N1 influenza. Our agency led the way in educating and protecting residents with vaccine immunizations.

Other activities continued as well, including health and wellness programs. Some of the programs included the following:

- A walking program for County employees

- Smoking cessation education
- Word of Mouth
- Reducing childhood obesity
- Lead and radon clinics
- W.I.C
- Senior clinics
- Homemaker/aide services for personal care
- Pediatric specialty clinics
- Health Options for Teens
- Family planning
- Children with medical handicaps
- Prenatal health care
- Car seats for children
- Issuing and inspections of household

sewage, wells, nuisance complaints investigation (including health hazards)

- Environmental health education
- Food service license and inspection
- Investigation of food borne illness outbreaks
- Issuing birth and death certificates
- Immunizations, including those for H1N1 influenza

Please visit our website or contact us at anytime with questions.

- Carol Lynch, Board President

## From the Health Commissioner

The Public Health System across the United States and around the world took on even more responsibility this year than in years past. In spite of earthquakes, floods, drought, tidal waves, economic depression, and the H1N1 flu pandemic looming over our heads, we managed to get through this year. In 2009, Seneca County had the highest H1N1 immunization rates for the designated risk groups of any county in the State of Ohio. That speaks volumes about our local public health system and the cooperation of our residents and community.

Public health will always play a critical role in our society as a watch guard and protector. Our mandates in public health are to prevent, promote, and protect.

Our natural environment continues to be threatened at every front. And our ability to function as a society will be in direct proportion to our ability to manage and prevent public health threats.

New diseases are constantly emerging, while others re-emerge in drug-resistant or other forms to threaten human life and the quality of our lives. Pollution, extended heat waves, drought, severe snow and ice storms, floods, and tornadoes are on the increase in severity and frequency.

We owe so much to the basic principles and practice of public health. If we do not have a basic, quality public health system in place--history has shown us the sad fact that it will lead to disaster. There are cities and states that still struggle to

recover because they did not have nor do they have a strong coordinated public health system in place.

The cornerstone of effective preparedness and response consists of skilled personnel with the right expertise and in sufficient numbers. In these difficult economic conditions, public health districts across the state and nation strain to provide the critically needed basic core public health services and maintain the needed qualified personnel to get the job done.

The dangers and threats we face in public health are very real. In an effort to fulfill our mandated responsibilities, we will continue to reach out to individuals, families, and our community

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71 S. Washington St., Suite 1102  
Tiffin, Ohio

Contact us at:  
419/447-3691 Tiffin; 419/937-2812 or 419/435-3024 (Fostoria)

Or fax us at 419/448-5782

Visit us on the web:  
[www.senecacountyhealthdept.org](http://www.senecacountyhealthdept.org)

### Special points of interest:

- Serving the Cities of Fostoria and Tiffin and all of Seneca County



#### Board of Health

Carol Lynch, President  
Chris Willman, V. President  
Jerry Dick  
Mary Faeth  
Dr. Eric Griffin  
Michelle Kramer  
Dennis Nye  
Dr. John Ross  
Ken Shellhouse  
Rick Swartz  
Michael Scherer, D.O., Medical Director

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## Our Staff

**Bioterrorism Readiness Coord.**  
Steve Coffman

### Environmental Health Division

Phyllis Bosler, Clerical  
Matt Beckman, RS  
Judith Kisaberth, Clerical  
Nichole Rumschlag, RS  
James Mohrman, RS  
Ryan Sendelbach, SIT

### Fiscal Division

Kelly Thom, Bookkeeper  
Teresa Weis, Bookkeeper

### Nursing Division

Laura Bogard, RN  
Debbie Brady, RN  
Shari Burkholder, RN  
Debra Burt, RN  
Patti Carlisle, RN  
Andrea Cook, RN  
Barbara Faeth, RN  
Joann Florence, Clerical  
Nancy Frankart, RN  
Lois McDonald, Clerical  
Sue Murphy, Clerical  
Heather Panuto, HHA  
Sharon Pethe, HHA  
Mary Reimer, RN  
Mildred Ritchie, HHA  
Rita Schank, RN  
Cynthia Voorhees, RN

### Epidemiologist

Nicole Meagher

### Vital Statistics

Linda Hinckley, BS, Clerical, Deputy Registrar

### W.I.C.

Tina Hufford, Clerical  
Jackie Mendoza, LD  
Sherry Pryor, DTR  
Angela Ruth, DTR  
Teresa Reinhart, Clerical

## Human Resource Division

The Human Resource Division directed a variety of activities during 2009, including but not limited to, determining and fulfilling staffing needs, recruiting and training the best employees, dealing with performance issues, ensuring personnel and management practices conform to various regulations, managing of benefits and compensation, employee records, and personnel policy changes/additions.

### 2009 Staff Totals

Total FTE's: 35.70

Full time employees: 33  
Part time employees: 4  
Intermittent employees: 1  
Resignations (FTE): 2.00  
Terminations: 0  
New Hires (FTE): .60  
Retirement: .60

### 2009 Training Opportunities

- Monthly staff meetings
- Personnel policy review
- Incident command training
- Workplace Ethics/Cultural Competency
- Employee recognition
- Staff CPR
- Drug free workplace
- OSHA training
- Diversity Training
- Harassment training
- Fire extinguisher training
- Nationwide tornado drill
- Insurance/wellness
- Budget review
- New Server/Accounting Software
- PHI/PHEP & Focus Areas
- Other leadership training

## Vital Statistics

Birth and Death records from 1909 to the present are located in the Vital Statistics Department. These include all Seneca County and all Fostoria City Birth and Deaths. Birth and Death Records prior to 1908 are located at the Probate Court.

To obtain a birth certificate, the birth name, date of birth, father's name and mother's maiden name are required. For a death certificate, the name on the certificate and date of death are required. If you wish to receive a birth or death record by mail, please send the above information, a check or money order for \$25 and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Seneca County General Health District County Health Department, 71 S. Washington Street, Suite 1102, Tiffin, OH 44883. To order a record via the internet, log on to [www.vitalchek.com](http://www.vitalchek.com) and follow the prompts for Seneca County. The Vital Statistics Division has a 24-hour

turnaround time for all mail/web order birth certificates.

	2009	5 YR AVG
Birth certificates issued	2530	3299
Death certificates issued	1821	2161
Total births	578	602
Births to unwed mothers	263	286
Teenage births (ages 14-19)	72	79
Births to unwed teen mothers	65	73
Total deaths	455	494
<b>Leading causes of death:</b>		
Diseases of the heart	155	172
Malignant Neoplasm	66	73
Nephritis (kidney disorders)	10	20
Pneumonia & influenza	11	21
Cerebrovascular disease	27	25
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	9	13
Accidents & adverse effects	11	15
Suicide	3	5
Chronic liver disease	4	3
Atherosclerosis	2	0.4
Other	156	142

## Nursing Division

2009 was a very busy and challenging year for the Community Health Division of the Seneca County General Health District. We faced an outbreak of pertussis and then moved into an influenza campaign for not only seasonal influenza but the H1N1 strain also. The H1N1 influenza appeared in April and remained with us throughout the rest of the year. As H1N1 evolved, it turned out to be a novel virus that exhibited here in the U.S. as a mild illness causing less hospitalization and death than was feared. This was a very good test of our pandemic plans and also our mass immuniza-

tion plan for our county. We provided H1N1 vaccine at public clinics in Tiffin and Fostoria, as well as in every one of the schools located in Seneca County. This was the biggest immunization campaign we have ever undertaken and while we started with immunizing the high risk priority groups, we were able to quickly move into the open public clinics. This was done due to the long hours worked and the flexibility of the Nursing Division. We found partners in our community that helped with this endeavor and worked for the common good for all our citizens. To be well prepared to

protect our community, it is vital that we continue to build relationships so that in time of need, we are comfortable with these partners and are ready to face whatever challenge arises.

The BCMH program continued to serve 261 children and families with the diagnostic and treatment programs. We have continued to offer the Pediatric Cardiac Clinic which served 111 children in 2009, and the Vision Specialty Clinic which saw 81 children for both refractive and medical conditions of the eye.

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Andrea Cook, RN prepares to do a lead check on one year old, Will.

# Environmental Division

The SCGHD Household Sewage Treatment System (HSTS) Rules became effective on January 1, 2008. Detailed information on these rules is available on the SCGHD web site at <http://www.senecahealthdept.org>. New statewide rules are anticipated to become effective on January 1, 2012.

### Other Program Information

**HSTS** – There are various options for any HSTS, and it is up to the property owner and the HSTS designer to research the options available. In 2009 our department permitted 14 leaching tile fields, 2 mounds, 8 off-lot discharging systems (under EPA permit) and 8 systems that utilize low pressure pipe. Clearly, leaching tile fields remain as the majority of systems installed in Seneca County. In 2009 the EH division continued to actively

oversee an operation and maintenance program for newly installed HSTS in the county. There is no charge for this program as long as the required maintenance is completed and on file with our division.

**Radon Testing**– The Environmental Health Division has three licensed radon testers on staff and can provide FREE radon testing in any home upon request of the homeowner. This grant-funded service has been available for over a decade to all residents of Seneca County.

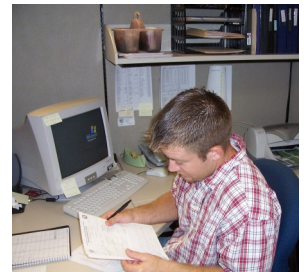
**Smoking Compliance** - All smoking compliance complaints called into the 1-800 Hotline from Seneca County are referred to the Environmental Division for investigation. The sanitarian that does these investigations spent over 157 hours in 2009 investigating and documenting these complaints. Forty six smoking complaints were investigated in 2009 and

about half of these were dismissed, the rest required formal warnings that may then progress into various fines charged for repeat offenses. The investigating sanitarian has had to attend numerous administrative hearings.

**Housing Nuisances**—The Environmental staff has worked closely with the cities, villages, and townships within the health district. In the city of Fostoria, we have worked closely with officials to accomplish demolition of vacant housing that had little chance of rehabilitation. The Seneca County Board of Health condemned the homes, and then Fostoria was able to utilize grant money to do the demolition of these homes. Currently, there are approximately 90 condemned homes in Seneca County. The EH division maintains a listing of all condemned homes.

### 2009 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATISTICS

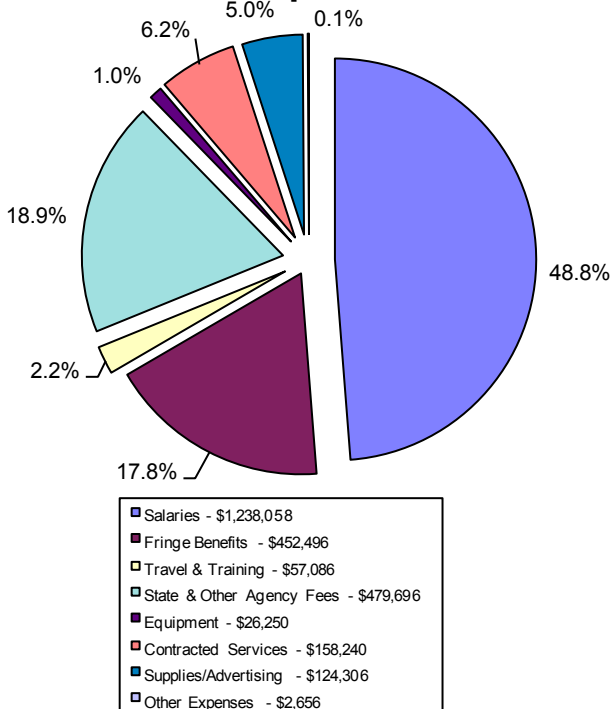
188 Food Service Operations	5 Recreational Camps	23 Household Septic System Installers
82 Retail Food Establishments	5 Resident Camps	75 Well Permits Issued
46 Mobile Food Establishments	5 Bathing Beaches	42 Septic Permits Issued
66 Vending Food Establishments	16 School Districts	254 Nuisance Complaints Investigated
101 Temporary Foods	2 Tattoo Establishments	110 Animal Bites Reported
37 Swimming Pools	13 Scavengers	4 Jails
17 MHP	0 Refuse Haulers	



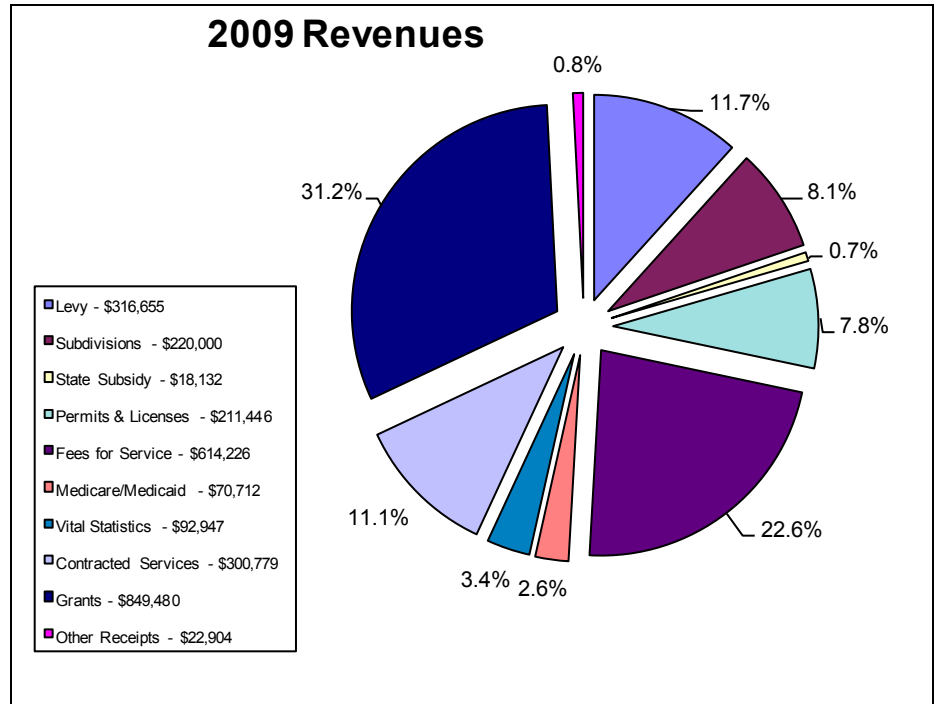
Ryan Sendelbach, SIT

# Fiscal Division

## 2009 Expenditures



## 2009 Revenues





## Health Commissioner Cont. from page 1

in order to work together for the mutual benefit of our residents within the Health District's jurisdiction.

Thank you for your patience and assistance this year. Thank you for your financial support through your tax dollars and contributions. We will continue to watch guard our community and operate as efficiently as possible in an effort to maxim-

ize our resources for the benefit of the public health of our community.

- Marjorie S. Broadhead, MBA, RN, RS



## Nursing Division Cont. from page 2

Senior citizens were given the opportunity to receive health assessments once a month in both Tiffin and Fostoria as well as bi-annually in New Riegel. Services included urinalysis, blood pressure check, lung assessment, hemoglobin and blood sugar checks. Medication education is offered as well as an overall physical assessment. The nurse works in cooperation with the client's personal physician and provides monitoring between office visits. In 2009, 224 assessments were conducted on 72 clients.

Communicable disease is reported to the Health District by physicians, hospitals and laboratories. Each case is recorded into the state reporting system and followed up by a nurse to assure that potential outbreak risks are reduced. In 2009, 177 confirmed cases of a communicable disease were reported and case investigation completed. Many other cases were reported but after investigation, were found not to be a confirmed case or were transferred to another county where the case resided.

The Newborn Home Visiting Program

worked under reduced funding this year. In spite of that, 127 families were visited with our focus being on first time and teen mothers. Visits included physical assessment of the baby and mother, education, referral and follow-up.

Lead poisoning continues to be an issue in Seneca County. Lead testing is offered to any Seneca county resident with an emphasis on children ages 6 months thru 6 years of age. The Lead Clinic is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month in the Tiffin office. Other appointments are scheduled as needed. 41 tests were performed and elevated level children received case management. Home visits and ongoing follow-up are provided to assist with education on getting the child's lead level lowered. Instructions are given on cleaning, diet, follow-up testing, home renovation and more.

School nurses had 7,883 contacts with students during the 2009 school year. We provide school nursing services in the Bettsville, Old Fort, Hopewell-Loudon, New Riegel, Mohawk, Seneca East, St. Wendelin, Calvert,

and Bridges Academy schools.

The Nursing Division has continued to fulfill contracts with CROSSWAEH, and the Youth Center for medical services. The Immunization program continues to be a large part of our focus. We have immunization programs for children, adolescents, adults, and world travelers. In 2009, we gave over 11,000 doses of vaccine not including influenza. We have 12,462 children under the age of 19 in our database that have received immunizations here at the Health District. We offer immunization clinics weekly in Tiffin and Fostoria. We visit Attica and New Riegel every other month to offer immunizations in those communities. Seasonal influenza and H1N1 vaccine showed us giving an additional 15,000 doses of vaccine.

This is a small picture of what went on in the Nursing Division during 2009. Public health continues to be an interesting, exciting, and challenging field. We can never predict what the next year will bring and we continue to work diligently to keep our communities safe, educated, and informed.

## WIC Division

### Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants and Children

Nancy A. Howe, MS, RD, LD, IBCLC—WIC Director

**WIC works** by providing nutrition education and specific foods to pregnant women, post-partum women and children to age five. Breastfeeding is encouraged as the normal and healthiest feeding method for all babies. In 2009, an average of 2055 Seneca County residents were receiving WIC benefits each month. This is a record number for our county.

### WIC is funded through the US Department of Agriculture:

Approximately \$1.5 Million in federal tax dollars were returned to Seneca County in food

and assistance to WIC Participants during 2009.

Participants redeemed \$1,149,800 worth of coupons at Seneca County grocers. \$3,290.00 in WIC coupons were redeemed at eligible Seneca County farm stands. USDA, through ODH, provided \$313,847 in grant funds to meet the expenses of providing this program to Seneca County residents. Seneca County's administrative costs are lower than the state average which is \$14.60 per participant. Ohio's cost per participant is the seventh lowest in the nation and is \$2.58 less than the national average.

### Additional services provided to Seneca County WIC participants:

Farmer's Market Nutrition Program—providing Ohio produce to our participants

## Dental Clinic

The Seneca County Dental Clinic provides limited dental services to Seneca County residents who do not have a dentist, and who do not have dental insurance.

Medicaid is accepted; and for those who are self-pay, patients need to provide proof of "combined household income" to be placed on the sliding fee scale established by the State. Treatment procedures that are per-

formed at the Seneca County Dental Clinic include: exams, x-rays, fillings, sealants, and extractions.

In 2009, our dentists held 13 clinics, and 109 client visits.

The 2009 Seneca County Dental Clinic staff included:

- Dr. Colavincenzo, Dentist
- Jane Dow, Dental Assistant
- Teresa Weis, Bookkeeper

