

## Seneca County General Health District 2005 Annual Report

71 S. Washington Street, Suite 1102, Tiffin, Ohio  
 Contact us at: 419/447-3691 (Tiffin); 419/937-2812 or 419/435-3024 (Fostoria)  
 Or via fax at 419/448-5782; Visit us on the web at [www.senecahealthdept.org](http://www.senecahealthdept.org)  
 Serving the Cities of Fostoria and Tiffin and all of Seneca County



### MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

*Carol M. Lynch, LPN*

Again this year, our health district staff have actively been fulfilling our mission to promote health and prevent disease.

Be assured your health district has a plan and held a drill in the event we have to deal with an avian influenza outbreak.

Our Nursing Division offers many programs to promote healthy lifestyle. They provide the majority of immunizations to the population of the county. Teen clinics are offered in both Tiffin and Fostoria.

New household sewage rules become effective January 1, 2007. The Environmental Division is prepared to answer questions regarding those. Orders for clean up of run down properties and other nuisances complaints are monitored.

We are proud of the staff and the Board of Health Members thank them for the great work they do.

To you the community, thank you for your support.

### Inside this issue:

Staff/Vital Statistics	2
HR Division/BTR	3
Fiscal Division	4
Environmental Division	5
Nursing Division	6-7
W.I.C. Division/Dental	8



### BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Carol Lynch, LPN, President	Dr. Eric Griffin
Bonnie Boroff	Dennis Nye
James Burns	Dr. John Ross
Jerry Dick	Ken Shellhouse
Joella Feasel, Vice President	Chris Willman
Medical Director, Michael Scherer, D.O.	

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The Seneca County General Health District in collaboration with its citizens, promotes wellness, prevents disease, protects the environment, and assures access to quality health care.

#### VISION STATEMENT

The Seneca County General Health District will strive to provide to all, regardless of age or economic status, quality, competent, caring health services.

- Being responsive to changing environmental and community needs, our diverse staff and interrelated programs will carry out this duty in an honest, sincere manner, utilizing all available resources and creating programs to meet the community's needs.
- We accept the responsibility to keep up-to-date with both continuing education and with technological changes. As investors in the future, a competent staff, in collaboration with the community, will continue to promote a healthy lifestyle and prevent premature death.

### HEALTH COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE

*Marjorie S. Broadhead, MBA, RN, RS*

The Seneca County General Health District is pleased to offer the 2005 Annual Report. This year has been a busy year for the Health District. Pandemic Flu Preparedness and Public Health Emergency Preparedness have been in the forefront of our agenda and we will continue to reach out to the public in an effort to prepare our community and families for potential public health threats in the months and years ahead.

As you read our annual report, we hope you will see the many important services the Health District offers our community.

Once again we express gratitude and appreciation to our residents, community leaders, and area businesses for your support, assistance and cooperation in helping fulfill our obligations and commitments to prevent and monitor disease, promote health, and guard our community against public health threats.

**HEALTH DISTRICT STAFF**

**Administration**

Marjorie Broadhead, MBA, RN, RS—Health Commissioner  
 Jenifer Bayer, RN—Director of Nursing  
 Anita Gaietto, BBA—Fiscal Division Director  
 Jill Griffin, BS—Human Resource Director  
 Nancy Howe, MS, RD, LD, IBCLC—WIC Director  
 Rachel Bakies—Registrar/Vital Stats.  
 Laura Wallrabenstein, MA, RS—Environmental Health Director

**Bioterrorism Readiness Coordinator**

Skip Payne, MSPH

**Environmental Health**

Phyllis Bosler, Clerical  
 Dustin Kent, S-I-T  
 Judith Kisaberth, Clerical  
 Nichole Lucius, RS  
 Deborah Magers, RS  
 James Mohrman, S-I-T  
 Ryan Sendelbach, S-I-T  
 Greg Weber, RS

**Fiscal Division**

Kelly Moehrman, Clerical  
 Teresa Weis, Clerical

**Medical Director**

Michael Scherer, D.O.

**Nursing Division**

Laura Bogard, RN  
 Debra Burt, RN  
 Jennifer Buskirk, RN  
 Patti Carlisle, RN  
 Andrea Cook, RN  
 Marilyn Dubielak, RN  
 Karen Eatmon, BS, RN  
 Barbara Faeth, RN  
 Joann Florence, Clerical  
 Nancy Frankart, BSN, RN  
 Judith Huffman, Clerical  
 Heather Panuto, HHA  
 Mary Reimer, RN

Teresa Reinhart, Clerical  
 Mildred Ritchie, HHA  
 Rita Schank, RN  
 Cynthia Voorhees, RN  
 Bonnie Ziegler, HHA

**Vital Statistics**

Linda Hinckley, Clerical  
 Suzanne Myers, Clerical

**W.I.C. Division**

Tina Hufford, Clerical  
 Jackie Mendoza, LD  
 Joyce Nolen, DTR  
 Angela Ruth, DTR  
 Judith Schreck, DTR  
 Michelle Vaughn, Clerical

**VITAL STATISTICS**

**Rachel Bakies, Registrar**

**BIRTH AND DEATH**

All of the birth records from 1908 to present for Seneca County, including Tiffin City and Fostoria City, have been entered into a computer software program. Our department is currently entering the death records for Seneca County into the computer software program as well. This process has helped the Vital Statistics Division to be more efficient in our service to the public. The birth name, date of birth, father's and mother's names are required to find the birth certificates. Birth and death records prior to 1908 are located at the Probate Court.

Staff issued 3,442 certified birth certificates and 2,293 certified death certificates in 2005. The Vital Statistics Division has a 24-hour turnaround time for all mail order birth certificates.

**BIRTHS:**

Total Births	569
Births to Unwed Mothers	280

Teenage Births (Age 14-19)	89
Births to Unwed Teen Mothers	79

**DEATHS:**

Total Deaths	485
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**LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH:**

Diseases of the Heart	170
Malignant Neoplasm	70
Cerebrovascular Disease	20
Pneumonia & Influenza	26
Accidents & Adverse Effects	12
Nephritis	17
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	9

## HUMAN RESOURCE DIVISION

Director: Jill Griffin, BS

The Human Resource Division directed a variety of activities during 2005, 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 policies.

### 2005 Health District Staff Totals

Full time employees	38	Resignations	2
Part time employees	6	Terminations	1
Intermittent employees	1	New hires	3
Seasonal employees	2	Retirement	0

### 2005 Training Opportunities

04/27-28/2005	Fire Extinguisher Training
04/29/2005	Sexual Harassment Training
05/11/2005	Fair Committee Formed/2005 Fair Designed
06/25/2005	Dress Code Committee Revised Policy 4.19
07/25/2005	2005 Fair 7/25-29/2005
09/23/2005	OSHA Workplace Violence/Ergonomics Training
10/28/2005	OSHA Safety and Tuberculosis Training
11/18/2005	OSHA General & Bloodborne Pathogens Training
12/9/2005	Employee Recognition/Holiday Brunch
	Staff CPR

## EMERGENCY/BIOTERRORISM READINESS

Skip Payne, MSPH

The Seneca County General Health District (SCGHD) takes the lead in the County for directing and coordinating the response for public health emergencies. Since last year the Seneca County General Health District Emergency/Bioterrorism Readiness Team has reviewed and updated the emergency response plans for SCGHD involving biological, chemical, radiological, and natural emergencies. The district has been working closely with medical providers (hospitals, clinics, physicians) and First Responders (emergency medical services, fire/rescue, and law enforcement) to ensure that joint response plans are developed and practiced.

Throughout the year, SCGHD employees have represented the County on various local, regional, and State anti-bioterrorism planning committees. We are assisting in building the foundation for a regional public health incident strike team comprised of regionally accessible subject matter experts. We are helping to write regional protocols for communication, governance, and epidemiological response to outbreaks and disasters. We have had the opportunity to offer the National Incident Management System training, and Public Information Officer Training to our community partners. We look forward to continuing the relationships we have forged with our community partners and assisting the citizens of Seneca County to be prepared for public health emergencies.

## Staff Photos



Ryan S., S.I.T., Environmental Health Division



Linda H. & Suzanne M., Clerks, Vital Statistics Division, wait on Carolyn H.



Jenny B., R.N., takes Nick Bollinger's blood pressure in the Health Options for Teens Clinic.



Heather P., H.H.A., Nursing Division, hands Sonja C. groceries after shopping for her as part of our Personal Care/Homemaker Program



Andrea C., R.N., Nursing Division, preparing to do a lead test on one year old, Will.

*The sovereign invigorator of the body is exercise,  
and of all the exercises walking is the best.*

*- Thomas Jefferson*



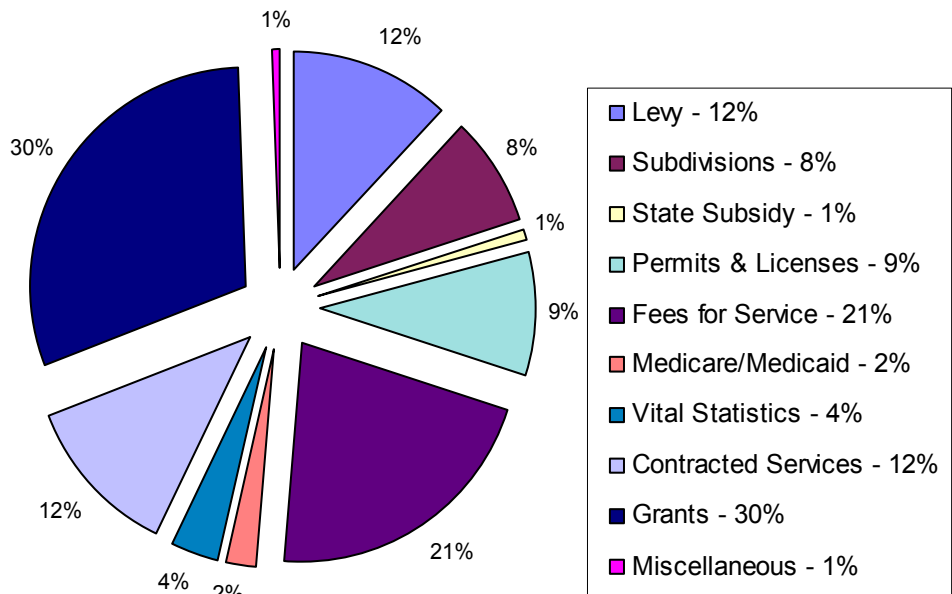
**FISCAL DIVISION**  
**Director: Anita Gaietto, BBA**

The Fiscal Division administers all state, federal, and local grants; oversees collection of revenues and monitors expenses, payroll and purchasing. Twice per year the Fiscal Division, along with the Audit Committee meet to discuss quality assurance and internal control policies. Once again, as in years past, the Health District received a clean audit from the State of Ohio.

**REVENUES 2005**

Levy	285,979.80
Subdivisions	190,000.00
State Subsidy	18,685.55
Permits & Licenses	219,159.82
Fees for Service	505,228.53
Medicare/Medicaid	52,178.98
Vital Statistics	90,008.40
Contracted Services	277,720.82
Grants	718,400.81
Miscellaneous	16,231.24
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>2,373,593.95</b>

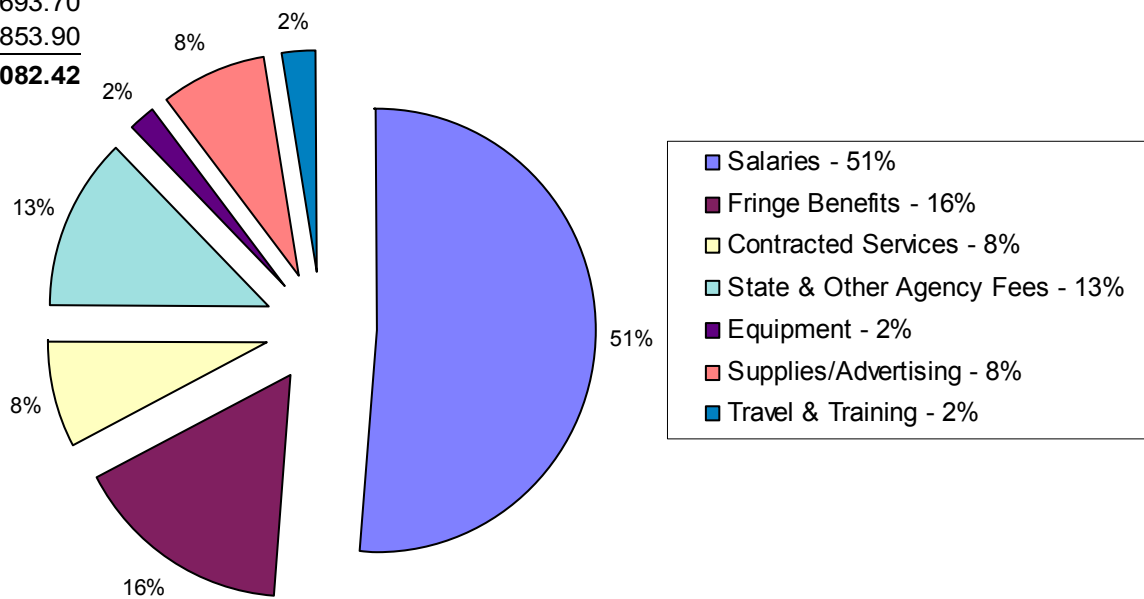
**2005 Revenues**



**EXPENDITURES 2005**

Salaries	1,166,138.14
Fringe Benefits	367,907.89
Contracted Services	175,980.46
State & Other Agency Fees	294,378.89
Equipment	43,129.44
Supplies/Advertising	177,693.70
Travel & Training	56,853.90
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>2,282,082.42</b>

**2005 Expenditures**



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

**Director: Laura Wallrabenstein, MA, RS**

The Environmental Health Division operates many programs that increase the quality of life and protect the health of our residents. The types of programs the sanitarians work at are listed below in the statistics section. One of the biggest challenges to face our division and the rural residents of Seneca County in the coming years is the implementation of new Sewage Treatment Rules. The Ohio Legislature passed House Bill 231 over a year ago mandating the adoption of the new rules. Now these new rules have been finalized and are expected to take effect January 1, 2007. These new rules will change the type of household sewage treatment systems that can be installed in Seneca County. Most systems will require more mechanical parts and have greater maintenance requirements.

Currently the SCGHD is in the second year of an Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) 319 grant administered through WSOS Community Action Commission Inc. with the participation of five (5) local health departments including: Crawford, Erie, Sandusky, Seneca and Wyandot County. This grant is focused on replacing/repairing 169 failing home sewage treatment systems over a three (3) year period. Seneca County will be replacing 33 systems over the course of this grant. To date, nineteen (19) homeowners in Seneca County have taken part in this grant. The target area for replacement in Seneca County is the Morrison Creek, Willow Creek and Rock Creek sub watersheds. Both traditional and experimental systems are eligible for reimbursements through this program. There will be no off lot discharge from the replacement systems. Cost share payments for a conventional system of 50% up to \$4,000.00 and 50% up to \$6,000.00 for an experimental system will be made to help cover the expense of replacing/repairing systems. Those applicants who wish to provide income information may be eligible for additional funding based on income level vs. the county median income as well as the type of system to be installed. Interested applicants should contact the SCGHD or WSOS Community Action Commission Inc. for eligibility requirements.

Participating in this grant this year would still allow for installation of septic systems under the "old" rules.

### INJURY PREVENTION GRANT

The Seneca County General Health District received a grant from the Ohio Department of Health for the 2005 fiscal year. This Injury Prevention Grant focuses on Bike Helmet Safety and is aimed towards school aged children and their families. The program coordinator for this grant is Ryan Sendelbach, S-I-T, who was hired in March of 2005. This grant concentrates on different areas such as kindergarten education, bike rodeos, low-income picnics

and handing out helmets to the public.

The Seneca County General Health District works in collaboration with Tiffin Mercy Hospital on kindergarten education. With every kindergarten class in Tiffin participating, it makes for a time consuming part of this program. The children watch a 20-minute video then are involved in a question answer session. These questions cover issues that were brought up in the video. Following the Q&A session each child is fitted with a new bike helmet.

In the summer of 2005 SCGHD took part in three bike rodeos. The first rodeo was held at the Fostoria Townhouses in conjunction with Help Me Grow. The second rodeo was held at the Tiffin YMCA for the general public. The third and final rodeo was held at the Fostoria Safety Festival, which was also held for the general public. Each of these rodeos consisted of five stations that tested the children's ability to control their bike and knowledge of traffic rules.

Helmets are also available to the general public at the Seneca County Fair as well as in our office. Anyone interested in a bicycle helmet can call the health department and schedule a time to be fitted.

The Injury Prevention program also took part in Safety Town, which is put on by Theresa Shultz of Fostoria. Each child was fitted with a bike helmet before they could participate in this two-week program. Safety Town teaches children an assortment of traffic rules and playground safety.

Since the start of this program a year and half ago, an increase of helmets worn by children in town has been noticed by several employees of the health department. This is an encouraging sign in helping prevent head injuries to the children of this community.

### INDOOR RADON GRANT

Radon is a naturally occurring gas produced by the breakdown of uranium in soil, rock, and water. Air pressure inside your home is usually lower than pressure in the soil around your home's foundation. Because of this difference in pressure, your house acts like a vacuum, drawing radon in through foundation cracks and other openings.

Radon is estimated to cause many thousands of lung cancer deaths each year. In fact, the Surgeon General has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. If you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is especially high.

Unfortunately, Seneca County is in a geographic area of high radon. The U.S. Congress has set a long-term goal that indoor radon levels be no more than outdoor levels; about 0.4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter of air). EPA recommends fixing your home if the results of one long-term test or the average of two short-term tests taken in the lowest lived in level of the home show radon levels of 4 pCi/L. A short term test remains in your home for 4-7 days, and a long term test remains in your home for more than 90 days. The test kits themselves are small and unobtrusive.

**The Seneca County General Health District has several licensed radon testers that can provide radon testing for your home free of charge through the State Indoor Radon Grant.** If the radon levels are found to be high in your home, radon reduction measures will be recommended, but are not required. Health District staff can assist homeowners in selecting a qualified contractor to install radon reduction systems if necessary and desired.

### 2004 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATISTICS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 232 Food Service Operations</li> <li>• 111 Retail Food Establishments</li> <li>• 33 Mobile Food Establishments</li> <li>• 94 Vending Food Establishments</li> <li>• 36 Swimming Pools</li> <li>• 18 Mobile Home Parks</li> <li>• 6 Recreational Camps</li> <li>• 5 Bathing Beaches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 School Districts</li> <li>• 3 Tattoo Establishments</li> <li>• 302 Nuisance Complaints Investigated</li> <li>• 132 Animal Bites Reported</li> <li>• 137 Well Permits Issued</li> <li>• 13 Scavengers</li> <li>• 48 Household Septic System Installers</li> </ul>
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## COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING

Jenifer Bayer, R.N., Nursing Director

The primary role of the Nursing Division is to promote health and prevent disease for all persons living in our community. Utilizing data from the recent Community Health Assessment, we are able to take a look at the health of our community and plan programs to directly impact the health and well being of our citizens.

As the world of health care changes and new issues emerge, the public health nursing role in the health care system must adapt and change. This challenges us to create innovative programs while continuing to offer the essential services still needed in Seneca County. At the same time, we must continue to focus on the core public health functions of assessment, policy development, and assurance. These core functions can be found in the local and regional collaborations in which we are involved and in the diverse population based programs we provide. The ultimate goal of all core functions is to promote individual wellness and to establish a healthy community for all residents of Seneca County. This continues to be the foundation for the programs provided in 2005 and for the future.

### NURSING DIVISION PROGRAMS

#### SCHOOL NURSING—Mary Reimer, R.N., & Marilyn Dubielak, R.N.

The Health District has nurses which continue to provide services to 14-county and 2-parochial schools. Among the programs and services offered were vision, hearing, scoliosis screenings, growth and development, personal hygiene classes, and dental information.



More time is being spent on nutrition and obesity awareness. School staff were provided with TB testing, OSHA Blood Borne Pathogens in-services, and Hepatitis B immunizations.

#### SENIOR CARE PROGRAMS—Cindy Voorhees, R.N.

##### TITLE III PERSONAL CARE PROGRAM

The Area Agency on Aging Title III Alzheimer's respite, personal care, and homemaker programs are funded by grants from the Ohio Department of Aging and the Allen Eiry Foundation, through the Seneca County General Health District, and with donations from the consumer. The purpose of these programs is to provide personal care and/or homemaker services in the home. The Alzheimer's respite program also provides respite for the in-home care caregiver.

The Passport program is a Medicaid funded program through the Ohio Department of Aging. Some of the services given include personal care, home cleaning, and running errands for groceries or medication. This program is dependant on income. Eligibility requirements are handled through the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging.

These programs allow the consumer to remain in their home and serve the 60+ population.

#### HELP ME GROW-NEWBORN VISITS—Deb Burt, R.N.

The Newborn Home Visit component of the Help Me Grow program is a free voluntary home visitation program for new parents in Seneca County. A specially trained Registered Nurse will answer questions about the health of the new baby and the Mom. It is funded through a grant from the State of Ohio.

Ohio wants all children to start school healthy and ready to learn. Research has shown the benefits of home visitation in improving the health of young children and families. Newborn visitation offers the earliest opportunity to provide families with the information and support they need to maximize the health and development of their children.



Our Newborn Home Visit program targets first time and teen moms. In 2005 we contacted 441 families and our Registered Nurses visited 183 families.



#### LEAD TESTING—Andrea Cook, R.N.

Lead testing is offered to any Seneca County resident with an emphasis on children ages 6-months through 6-years old. Appointments are scheduled as needed. A total of 29 blood lead level were done in 2005. There were two (2) elevated blood lead levels of those tested at the Seneca County General Health District that required case management. A total of six (6) lead home visits were conducted.

#### NORTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER —Andrea Cook, R.N.

The Northwest Ohio Regional Resource Center (NWORRC) is a grant funded program thru the Ohio Department of Health providing services to thirty-three (33) counties in Northwest Ohio. The services offered are public and professional lead poisoning awareness education, community outreach and assistance with case management of elevated lead levels.

In 2005, twenty-eight (28) health department site visits and forty-one (41) educational presentations were completed throughout Northwest Ohio. We provided 40,000 pieces of lead awareness brochures, participated in 10 health fairs and 17 outreach activities, distributed 600 NWORRC newsletters, LEADLETTER, quarterly to 600 healthcare professionals and 12 Pediatric Lead Assessment Network Educational Training (PLANET) presentations with a total of 162 healthcare professionals trained.

#### IMMUNIZATIONS—Rita Schank, R.N.

The immunization program at the Seneca County General Health District has continued to prosper with increased numbers of people obtaining vaccines at the health district along with increased percentage of compliance rates for children. The state of Ohio has also seen an increase in the number of two-year old children that have completed the primary series of vaccines to approximately 82%, getting closer to the 90% goal that the Ohio Department of Health has set for 2010. Currently there are immunization clinics offered in Tiffin, Fostoria, Attica and New Riegel.

The health district continues the "monthly prize drawing" where all the names of the children that have completed the primary series of vaccines before the age of 18 months are put together and one lucky name is drawn. This reward of course has been well received for the winners!

Public education about immunizations has also increased. Posters, signs, pamphlets and other information have been available throughout the county, including Fostoria, Tiffin, Attica, Bloomville and Bettsville. Increased public education is directly related to the increase in the vac-

cine coverage rates in the children. Vaccine programs have also been given to the physician offices that administer vaccines in order to keep these professionals up to date on the latest information.

The adult vaccine program also noted an increase in the number and types of immunizations administered. This shows that the public is becoming more aware of the benefits of acquiring immunity and that it is "not just for kids". The flu season was especially difficult this past season due to the vaccine shortage and the addition of children under the age of two as an additional high risk category.

During the 2005 calendar year, more than 10,000 vaccines were administered to children and adults in this county. Public awareness has increased regarding vaccines, which is reflected in the vaccines that are administered to infants, children and adults.

If there are any questions, feel free to contact the nursing staff at the Seneca County General Health District.

#### **YOUTH CENTER / CROSSWAEH—Rita Schank, R.N.**

The Seneca County General Health District Public Health Nurses have been providing nursing services to the residents of the Seneca County Youth Center and CROSSWAEH for years. During this past year the nurses have completed 263 assessments on children at the Youth Center and the daily census at CROSSWAEH

ranges between 50 to 60 men. Some of the services that are provided are physical assessments, client advocacy, obtaining approval and setting up medications for the residents, providing first aid and triage assessments and as a liaison between the client and physician, and also between the client and supervisory staff. The major role that the nurses provide for these institutionalized residents is health education, focusing on avoidant type behaviors to establish and maintain optimum level of health and well-being. Some of the topics that are covered, but not limited to, are: smoking and its effects, adverse effects of illegal drugs and alcohol, promiscuity and sexually transmitted diseases and other self destructive behaviors, and proper use and indications for prescribed medications. Another main area of focus for these residents is to provide information on referral programs that may assist in their overall health / well-being and successful integration into society.



#### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE—Barb Faeth, R.N.**

There were 675 Tuberculosis tests given at the Health Department with no active cases detected. No Tuberculosis cases were reported within our county.



Chlamydia and Gonorrhea continue to be the most frequently reported diseases. The average age of the reported cases was 21.4 years. The youngest reported case was 13 with the oldest being 41. Each case is followed up to offer education and testing of partners when indicated.

#### **TOBACCO**

The Health Department is part of the S.T.O.P. (Seneca County Tobacco Opposition and Prevention) Coalition. We were responsible for teaching the Word of Mouth anti-tobacco program to 4<sup>th</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup> grades in county schools. 7 schools participated, they include Attica, Hopewell Loudon, Melmore, New Riegel, Old Fort, Republic and Seneca Huron. 1832 student contacts were made over the school year with positive feedback from both the teachers and the students.

#### **SENIOR CLINIC**

299 client visits were made between the Fostoria, Tiffin and New Riegel clinics. Some of the medical problems identified were diabetes, low hemoglobin, urinary tract infections, respiratory infections and skin infections. These clients were referred to their local physician for medication and further testing as indicated.

Any Seneca County resident over the age of 60 is eligible for services. Please call the Health Department for details.

#### **OBESITY PROGRAM—Patti Carlisle, R.N.**

The latest research indicates that 37.7% of the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who participated in the Dental Program in Seneca County were at or at risk for overweight or were overweight. The Obesity program is funded through a grant from the State of Ohio Child and Family Health Services. The grant is aimed at preventing obesity in children from 3-18 years old. This year has been spent conducting surveys and building contacts. Schools in Seneca County have been contacted for interest in decreasing the rate of obesity in their students. Booster organizations and PTO's have also been contacted about offering healthier snacks and foods for fundraisers. A Fitness Resource guide for Seneca County has been compiled and will be distributed throughout the county. There have been public service announcements and radio interviews conducted both in Tiffin and Fostoria.

#### **HEALTH OPTIONS FOR TEENS CLINIC—Laura Bogard, R.N.**

The Health Options for Teens clinic has been in operation in Tiffin since 1999. In April 2005, a satellite office in Fostoria was opened with good response. The clinic is grant funded and is offered twice a month in Tiffin and once a month in Fostoria. This clinic is designed for male and female adolescents age 12 thru 19 years. 204 total visits were made to the clinics in 2005 for services offered such as comprehensive health assessments, sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment; pregnancy prevention education; pregnancy testing; immunizations and minor illnesses. Services are provided to all including those who are uninsured, underinsured or Medicaid persons.

#### **BUREAU FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL HANDICAPS**

—Nancy Frankart, RN

The Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps {BCMh} is a tax-supported, state-administered program in the Ohio Department of Health. It is designed to help parents of children with certain medical needs. It is set up to be a secondary payer, but it can become the primary source of payment if no other source is available. Previously the program had endured a series of cuts that changed the financial eligibility and coverage of services. The result was many families were no longer eligible to receive services. Thanks to the hard work of the Parent Advisory Committee, parents and state legislators there has been money reinstated into the program and a committee has been formed to seek funding for the future. Locally their efforts can be seen in the increase in numbers of children currently active on the BCMh program. Today there are 122 active on the Treatment Program compared with approximately 100 children last year. Each local health department follows the children in their area. The role of the public health nurse is to help identify children with special health care needs, assist with referrals to appropriate services and work with the families to help them understand the program.

Starting in July, the BCMh nurses will also work in collaboration with the Help Me Grow program as nurse consultants for children age 0-3 with certain conditions. The nurse and a member of Early Intervention/Help Me Grow staff will do a home visit to complete an

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initial comprehensive assessment to determine the child's needs. A yearly home visit will be made to assess the effectiveness of the strategies implemented.

The Seneca County General Health District along with the Bureau of Child and Family Health Services Field Services continue to sponsor Specialty Clinics. The clinics are held in rural areas to make access to pediatric specialists easier. Dr. Nevada Reed from Akron Children's Hospital comes to the Seneca Co. Health District 5 times a year for Neurology clinic. Dr. Young and Dr. Meade come 3 times a year to the vision clinic. The Specialty Clinics are free to attend for children age 0-21 with suspected health problems. Last year 55 children were seen in the Neurology clinic and 84 were seen in the vision clinic. Even though the cardiac clinics are no longer funded as specialty clinics, Dr. Suarez does continue to come to Tiffin Mercy Hospital once a month to see pediatric patients with heart conditions. There is a fee to attend this clinic.



### DENTAL CLINIC

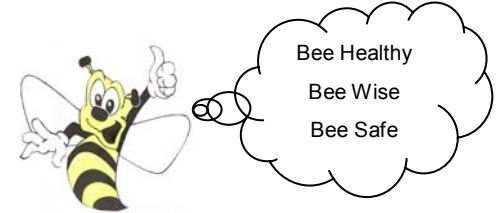
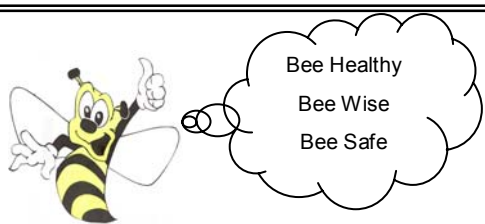


The Seneca County Dental Clinic provides limited dental services to Seneca County residents who do not have a dentist, and who do not have dental insurance. Medicaid is accepted; and for those who are self-pay, patients need to provide proof of "combined household income" to be placed on the sliding fee scale established by the State. Treatment procedures that are performed at the Seneca County Dental Clinic include: exams, x-rays, fillings, sealants, and extractions.

In 2005, our dentists held 12-clinics, and 76 client visits.

**The 2005 Seneca County Dental Clinic staff included:**

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



### Staff Photos



Mary R., R.N., on a newborn home visit—part of Help Me Grow Program.



Angie R., D.T.R., WIC Division



Dustin K., S.I.T., Environmental Health Division

### W.I.C.

**Director: Nancy Howe, MS, RD, LD, IBCLC**

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN

WIC works by providing nutrition education and foods to pregnant women, postpartum women and children to age five. Breastfeeding is encouraged as the normal and healthiest feeding method for baby. An average of 2013 WIC participants were served in Seneca County in 2005.

Seneca County WIC participates in the Farmer's Market Nutrition Program providing Ohio produce to our participants. This results in increased business for the farm stands and healthier diets for our families.

The WIC Program was conceived more than 30 years ago, with the first clinic opening in Kentucky. Seneca County WIC has been recognized by the Ohio WIC Program for excellence in administration, outreach, and breastfeeding support. WIC is funded through the US Department of Agriculture. Over \$1.25 Million are returned to Seneca County in food and assistance to WIC Participants.

WIC services are available full time in both Tiffin and Fostoria. Evening hours are available by appointment. While there are upper income limits for the WIC program, these limits are generous and vary with family size. We are funded to serve all eligible families. WIC serves traditional as well as non-traditional families.

Examples of upper income limits before taxes for 2006 are:

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
3	30,710	2,560	591
4	37,000	3,084	712
5	43,290	3,608	833

If you have any questions about WIC call 419-448-5742 or 1-800-698-3691.