
CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2023
ANNUAL
REPORT

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2023

Health Officer's Message:

On behalf of the Chippewa County Health Department, I am pleased to present the 2023 Annual Report. This report contains program highlights, statistics, data, and success stories regarding the services staff have provided to the residents of Chippewa County.

The staff at the Chippewa County Health Department provide services that promote the health of all residents through preventative care and education. As is evident in this report, these services are provided in a variety of ways, through a variety of clinics and methods. Staff strive to meet our clients where they are to provide prompt, convenient, quality care.

CCHD has been fortunate to receive supplemental funding to promote public health services so that the mission of public health, creating a healthier community, can be broadly shared. I am proud to be part of an organization with such dedicated employees, working daily to create a safer, healthier community.



The power of community to create health is far greater than any physician, clinic or hospital-

Mark Hyman

TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRESENT
AND FUTURE HEALTH OF PERSONS
RESIDING, VISITING, OR WORKING
IN OUR SERVICE AREAS BY DIRECT
PROVISION OF SERVICES; BY
FACILITATING THE DELIVERY OF
SERVICES PROVIDED BY OTHERS;
AND BY MONITORING AND
REGULATING ACTIVITIES THAT MAY
HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE HEALTH
OF THESE COMMUNITIES.

CHIPPEWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JIM MARTIN, CHAIR
SCOTT SHACKLETON
ROBERT SAVOIE
DAMON LIEURANCE
JAMES TRAYNOR

CHIPPEWA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

KELLY CHURCH, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
CADY BAUERS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

KAREN SENKUS, HEALTH OFFICER
DR. CATHERINE WILKERSON, MEDICAL DIRECTOR
DJ WELTON, FINANCE DIRECTOR
DOLORES CARRUTHERS, HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE
SUPERVISOR
SUZANNE LIEURANCE, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
SUPERVISOR
CHARITY ZIMMERMAN, PERSONAL & FAMILY HEALTH
SUPERVISOR
JILL SCHAEFER, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



THIS YEAR PRESENTED MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES. THERE WERE TWO DRIVE THRU CLINICS HELD TO PREPARE STAFF FOR A MASS VACCINATION EVENT, ONE WAS HELD IN THE CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE, AND A CLINIC WAS HELD IN KINROSS. IT NOT ONLY ASSISTS STAFF FROM ALL DIVISIONS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PREPARE, BUT IT ALSO PROVIDES VACCINATIONS TO RESIDENTS QUICKLY AND CONVENIENTLY.



The weather was not perfect, but our staff were able to provide immunizations to community members efficiently and conveniently



STEVE CAREY, CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR (EPC) PARTICIPATED IN THE US OIL & USCG FULL SCALE FROG POND EXERCISE AND THE REGION 8 INTEGRATED PREPAREDNESS PLANNING WORKSHOP WHICH INCLUDED AN ANTHRAX TABLETOP EXERCISE. STEVE WAS ALSO AN EVALUATOR FOR THE CIU FULL SCALE EXERCISE.

FROG POND FULL-SCALE EXERCISE WAS A WORST-CASE SCENARIO OIL SPILL EXERCISE IN ROGERS CITY HOSTED BY US OIL AND THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD. INCLUDED PARTICIPANTS FROM ACROSS MICHIGAN EXERCISING EQUIPMENT DEPLOYMENT, STANDING UP A FULL ICS RESPONSE AND DEVELOPING AN INCIDENT ACTION PLAN. REGION 8 INTEGRATED PREPAREDNESS PLANNING WORKSHOP WAS A PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR REGION 8 PUBLIC HEALTH EPCS AND COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGERS TO DEVELOP COLLABORATIVE MULTI-YEAR TRAINING AND EXERCISE PLANS TO PREPARED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WORKSHOP REGION 8 EPCS CONDUCTED A MASS-DISPENSING TABLETOP EXERCISE INVOLVING AN ANTHRAX RELEASE SCENARIO WITH THE EMS AND OTHER MEETING PARTICIPANTS.

THE CIU FULL SCALE WAS AN EXERCISE SIMULATING A PLANE / DRONE COLLISION AND EMERGENCY LANDING AT CHIPPEWA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE FIRE, EMS, AND POLICE FROM ACROSS CHIPPEWA COUNTY.



THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN KEEPING BOTH RESIDENTS AND VISITORS SAFE. STAFF NOT ONLY MONITOR AND INSPECT, BUT THEY ALSO PROVIDE EDUCATION. COMPLAINTS ARE INVESTIGATED, AND WHEN NECESSARY, REGULATIONS ARE ENFORCED. WORK IS PERFORMED IN THE FIELD, IN ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS. INFORMATION CONCERNING LOCATIONS OF WELLS AND SEPTIC SYSTEMS ON SPECIFIC PROPERTIES IS PROVIDED TO HOMEOWNERS ON A REGULAR BASIS.

- FOSTER CARE/DAYCARE INSPECTIONS: 21
 - PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS/SPA INSPECTIONS: 13 (2 ENFORCEMENTS)
 - CAMPGROUND INSPECTIONS: 35 (1 ENFORCEMENT: 1 COMPLAINT)
 - BODY ART INSPECTIONS: 8 (1 PLAN RECEIVED)
 - WATER SUPPLIES: (2 ENFORCEMENTS)
 - APPLICATIONS: 122
 - SITE VISITS: 158
 - PERMITS ISSUED: 110
 - BEACH SAMPLES: 159 (3 WARNINGS)
 - CITY BACTI WATER SAMPLES: 804 (63 POSITIVE SAMPLES)
 - FOOD INSPECTIONS:
 - TEMPORARY: 29
 - FIXED FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS: 308 (5 ENFORCEMENTS, 19 COMPLAINTS, 8 PLANS RECEIVED)
 - MOBILE: 3
 - OTHER/STFU: 15 (3 PLANS RECEIVED)
 - PRIVATE/COMMERCIAL SEWAGE:
 - APPLICATIONS: 134
 - SITE VISITS: 295
 - PERMITS ISSUED: 115
 - ENFORCEMENTS: 13
 - COMPLAINTS: 6
 - SEPTIC TRUCK & LAND APPLICATIONS: 17
-



Clockwise, starting on top left:
Old style well cap with disconnected wires,
Open well.
Open sewer.



JUST LIKE THE MAIL, OUR HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE STAFF RESPOND NO MATTER THE WEATHER. CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF ALSO RESPOND NO MATTER THE TIME, EVENINGS, WEEKENDS, HOLIDAY, WE TRULY APPRECIATE THE DEDICATION OF OUR STAFF TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY. CHIPPEWA COUNTY RESIDENTS ARE ABLE TO OBTAIN QUALITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IN THEIR OWN HOME.





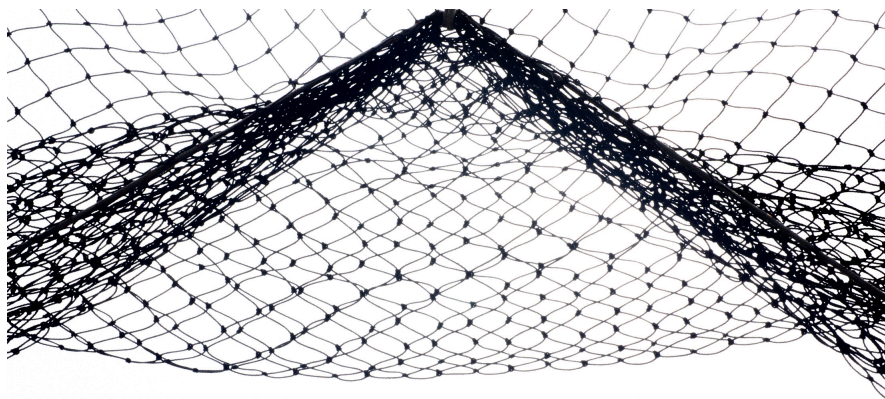
THE PERSONAL AND FAMILY HEALTH DIVISION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND OVERSIGHT OF A LARGE NUMBER OF PROGRAMS, DEMONSTRATED BY THE STATISTICS.

- FAMILY PLANNING CLIENTS: 405
- BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER CLIENTS: 7
- MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH PROGRAM
 - MATERNAL VISITS: 182
 - INFANT VISITS: 441
- WOMAN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN: 635 (AVERAGE CASELOAD PER MONTH)
- WIC FOOD DOLLARS SPENT IN CHIPPEWA COUNTY: \$466, 400.78
- HEARING SCREENINGS: 523
- VISION SCREENINGS: 827
- IMMUNIZATIONS: 5151
- CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE: 160 (AVERAGE CASELOAD PER MONTH)
- HEPATITIS C TESTS: 141
- HIV TESTS: 160
- SYPHILLIS TESTS: 150

THE NUMBERS QUANTIFY THE SERVICES PROVIDED, BUT THE QUALITATIVE DATA IS A TRUE REFLECTION OF THE VALUE OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO CHIPPEWA COUNTY. THE AMOUNT OF EDUCATION PROVIDED TO CLIENTS IS IMMEASURABLE, FROM FRONT OFFICE STAFF ASSISTING CLIENTS TO FIND SERVICES THEY NEED, TO THE BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELOR HELPING A NEW MOTHER FEED HER CHILD, TO NURSES TEACHING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF IMMUNIZATIONS. THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS ATTEND EVENTS TO HELP RAISE AWARENESS OF WHAT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS TO OFFER, AND AS TRAINED MEDICAID NAVIGATORS THEY CAN ASSIST CLIENTS TO APPLY FOR INSURANCE.



WE MEET CLIENTS WHERE THEY ARE TO FULFILL THEIR NEEDS. THIS IS WHAT MAKES THE CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND OUR EMPLOYEES AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE COMMUNITY WE SERVE. MANY OF OUR CLIENTS RECEIVE SERVICES FROM A NUMBER OF PROGRAMS, AND THE PROGRAMS FEATURED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE AN ADDITIONAL SAFETY NET TO ENSURE THE NEEDS OF ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE MET.



HARM REDUCTION PROVIDES EDUCATION AND SUPPORT TO THOSE SUFFERING FROM SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER. PARTICIPANTS ARE PROVIDED WITH CLEAN SUPPLIES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES. USED SUPPLIES ARE TURNED IN AND ARE DISPOSED OF SAFELY.

- TOTAL CLIENTS: 399
- SYRINGES DISPENSED: 26, 170
- SYRINGES RETURNED: 18, 190
- NARCAN DISTRIBUTED: 252
 - SUCCESSFUL NARCAN ADMINISTRATION REPORTED: 4



UPPER PENINSULA M.O.M. PROGRAM IS A PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR WOMEN WHO ARE PREGNANT AND UP TO 12 MONTHS POST-PARTUM WHO HAVE A HISTORY OR ARE CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER. THE MOMS SUPPORT WORKER ASSISTS THE CLIENT IN SECURING BASIC NEEDS, FROM FOOD TO HOUSING TO CARE COORDINATION. THE CASELOAD FOR THE UP MOMS SUPPORT WORKER VARIES, AVERAGING 8 TO 10 CLIENTS. OUR SUPPORT WORKER IS ALSO A CERTIFIED CAR SEAT TECHNICIAN.

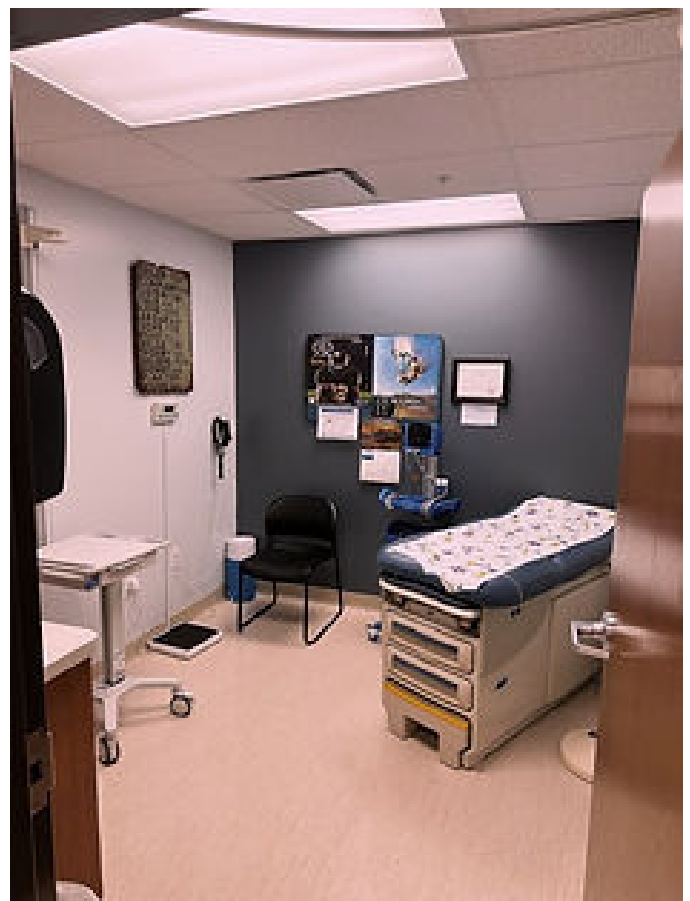


KINDERGARTEN ORAL HEALTH SCREENINGS ARE PROVIDED TO COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 261 OF 2020, WHICH ENSURES THAT CHILDREN ENTERING KINDERGARTEN OR FIRST GRADE HAVE A DENTAL ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT. A LICENSED DENTAL HYGIENIST PROVIDED SCREENINGS TO 293 CHILDREN IN 2023.



THE SAULT HEALTH ADOLESCENT CARE CENTER PROVIDES NOT ONLY DIRECT CARE TO STUDENTS, BUT ALSO PEACE OF MIND TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS, WHO KNOW THAT THEIR CHILDREN ARE ABLE TO ACCESS HEALTH CARE AT SCHOOL IF IT IS NEEDED. OUR TEAM INCLUDES A NURSE PRACTITIONER, A MEDICAL ASSISTANT, THERAPISTS AND SUPPORT STAFF IN ORDER TO ENSURE STUDENTS HAVE THE CARE THEY NEED TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL.

- EDUCATION REFERRALS:
 - VAPE: 37
 - CIGARETTE TOBACCO: 4
 - ALCOHOL: 5
 - MARIJUANA: 13
 - SERVICES:
 - CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT: 124
 - HEALTH PROMO/RISK RED: 6050
 - IMMUNIZATIONS: 287
 - MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE/CNSLG: 742
 - SUBSTANCE ABUSE AX/DX/TX: 174
 - GENERAL MEDICAL: 879
 - HEARING AND VISION: 202
 - MISC CLIENT SERVICES: 358
 - IMPACT TESTING BASELINE: 171
 - IMPACT TESTING POST CONCUSSION: 46
 - TOTAL VISITS: 1397
 - UNDUPLICATED CLIENTS: 310
-



“AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE”-BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, 1736
THIS STILL HOLDS TRUE TODAY AS YOUTH ARE FACED WITH MULTIPLE OBSTACLES THAT CAN INTERFERE WITH THEIR ABILITY TO FULFILL THEIR HOPES AND DREAMS. CLASSES TAUGHT BY OUR HEALTH EDUCATORS ASSIST WHEN HELP IS NEEDED. OUR HEALTH EDUCATORS ALSO LEAD EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING THE SUICIDE PREVENTION WALK AND DEA DRUG TAKEBACK EVENTS.

- COMMUNITIES THAT CARE
- CATCH MY BREATH (460 PARTICIPANTS)
- GUIDING GOOD CHOICES (4 PARTICIPANTS)
- PRIME FOR LIFE (18 PARTICIPANTS)
- INDEPTH (41 PARTICIPANTS)

EDUCATION:

- VAPE: 37 STUDENTS
 - TOBACCO: 4 STUDENTS
 - MARIJUANA: 13 STUDENTS
 - ALCOHOL: 5 STUDENTS
-

SUICIDE PREVENTION
AWARENESS WALK SAULT STE
MARIE AND BRIMLEY
(SEPTEMBER)
NATIVE ELDER'S CONFERENCE
(OCTOBER)
NATIONAL DRUG AND
ALCOHOL FACT WEEK (MARCH)
DEA TAKE BACK DAYS (APRIL
AND OCTOBER)
TEEN HEALTH FAIR (APRIL)
NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK
(MAY)



CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A GRANT IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE SERVICES HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFERED POST-COVID. CHIPPEWA COUNTY JOINED FORCES WITH OTHER HEALTH DEPARTMENTS IN THE UPPER PENINSULA AND FORMED A TEAM TO CREATE COMMERCIALS AND EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE WIDE VARIETY OF SERVICES AVAILABLE. OUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT ALSO USED PART OF THE FUNDING TO ADVERTISE ON LOCAL TRANSIT BUSES, WHICH HELPED SPREAD THE WORD AND SUBSIDIZE PUBLIC TRANSIT.



DUE TO THE COLLABORATION WITH THE OTHER HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND THE POOLING OF FUNDS, THERE WERE ALSO TWO BILLBOARDS.



THE ANNUAL RURAL & READY SYMPOSIUM WAS HELD IN AUGUST AT KEWADIN CASINOS. THE PURPOSE OF THE GATHERING IS EDUCATION AND NETWORKING, SO AGENCIES IN RURAL AREAS KNOW WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY. THERE WERE 100 PARTICIPANTS ON DAY ONE AND 115 ON DAY TWO.

The poster features a dark background with a collage of emergency-related images on the right side, including a yellow 'CRISIS ahead' sign, a fire truck, and a fire hydrant. The title 'Rural & Ready Conference Agenda' is prominently displayed in yellow and white text at the top left. The agenda is organized into two sections: 'Day 1, August 2nd' and 'Day 2, August 3rd', each listing various sessions with their respective times and topics.

Rural & Ready Conference Agenda

Day 1, August 2nd

12:00- 1:00pm — **REGISTRATION & WELCOME**

1:00- 5:00pm — **COLLABORATIVE RESPONSE TO ACTIVE VIOLENCE: Simultaneously Stopping the Killing, Dying and Crying**
Jim Etzin

Day 2, August 3rd

7:00- 8:00am — **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**

8:00- 9:10am — **EVIDENCE RESPONSE & HUMAN TRAFFICKING**
Special Agent Nathaniel Han - Federal Bureau of Investigations

9:10- 10:20am — **WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION & HAZMAT RESPONSE**
Special Agent Chelsea Williams - Federal Bureau of Investigations

10:20- 11:30am — **ADULT INTENSIVE CRISIS STABILIZATION**
Maria Nerat, Suzy Brzykcy & Christina Kakuk - Northpointe Behavioral Health

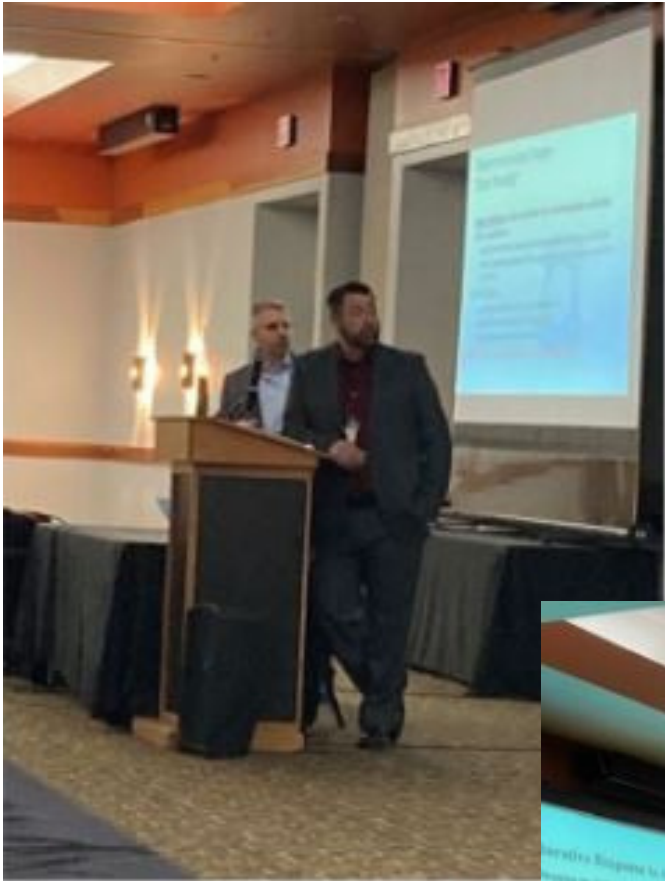
11:30- 1:00pm — **LUNCH & NETWORKING**

1:00- 2:10pm — **FENTANYL RESPONSE & CURRENT DRUG TRENDS**
Sheriff Mike Bitnar - Chippewa County Sheriff's Dept.

2:10- 3:20pm — **800 MHZ RADIO SYSTEM USE & CAPABILITIES**
Chief Ed Miller - Sault Ste Marie Fire & Greg Postma - Chippewa Co. EM

3:20- 4:30pm — **GAYLORD TORNADO RESPONSE & LESSONS LEARNED**
Jon Deming - Ostego Co. EM & Chief Frank Claeys - Gaylord PD

Funding for this conference was made possible (in part) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.



Chippewa County Health Department Communicable Disease Report 2019-2023

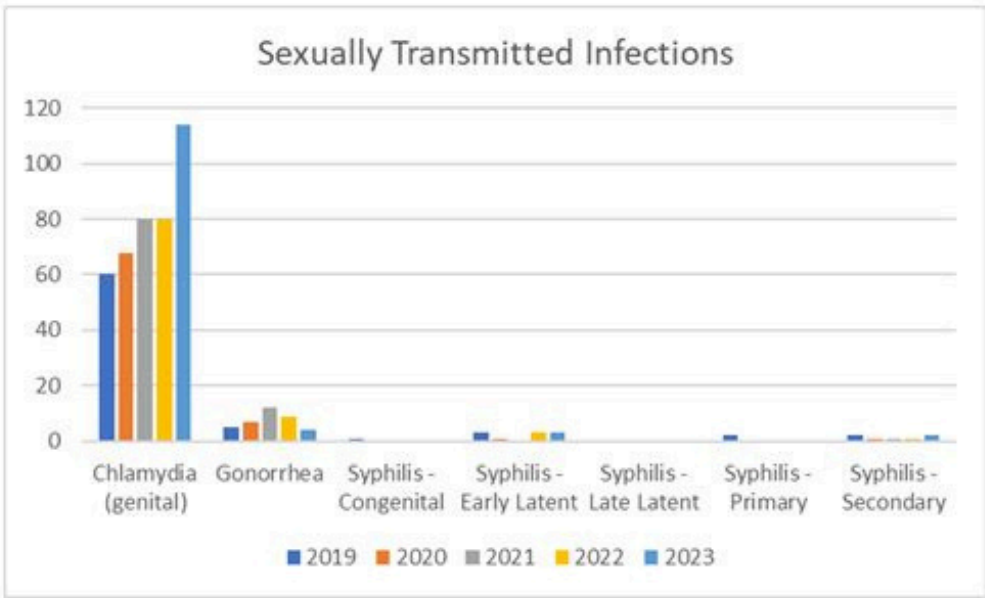
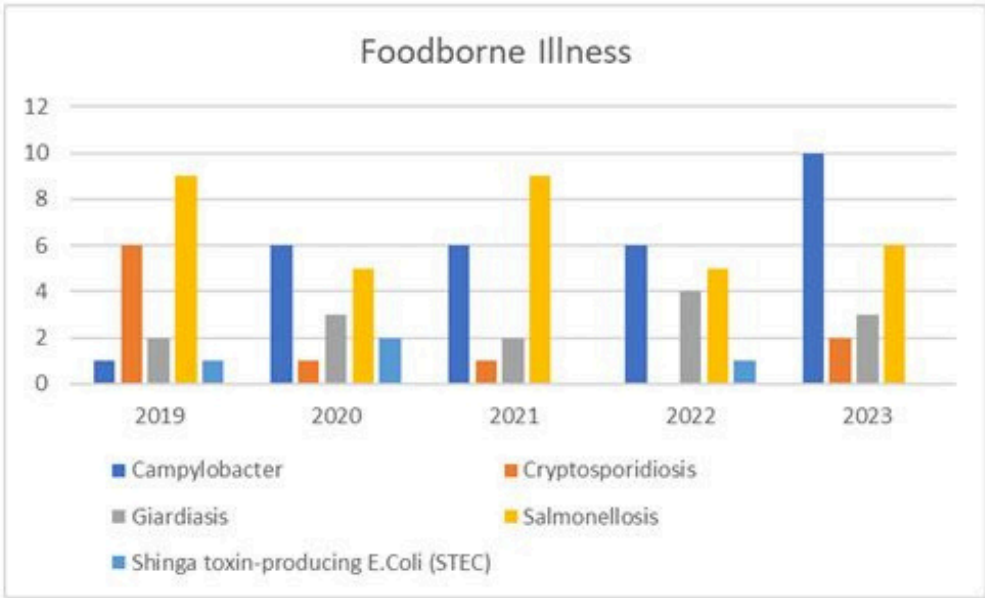
The Communicable Disease staff at Chippewa County Health Department (CCHD) works daily to monitor and follow up on any reportable diseases throughout Chippewa County. The main purpose of communicable disease surveillance is to identify potential threats to public health due to communicable disease, identify outbreaks quickly, and provide prevention and control guidance. Throughout 2023, there has been a fluctuation in the number of cases of several reportable diseases.

The Communicable Disease staff works jointly with Environmental Health staff to investigate any foodborne and waterborne illness cases reported. Cases of note include a slight increase of salmonellosis cases from five (5) cases in 2022, to six (6) cases in 2023 as well as an increase in campylobacter cases from six (6) in 2022, to 10 cases in 2023.

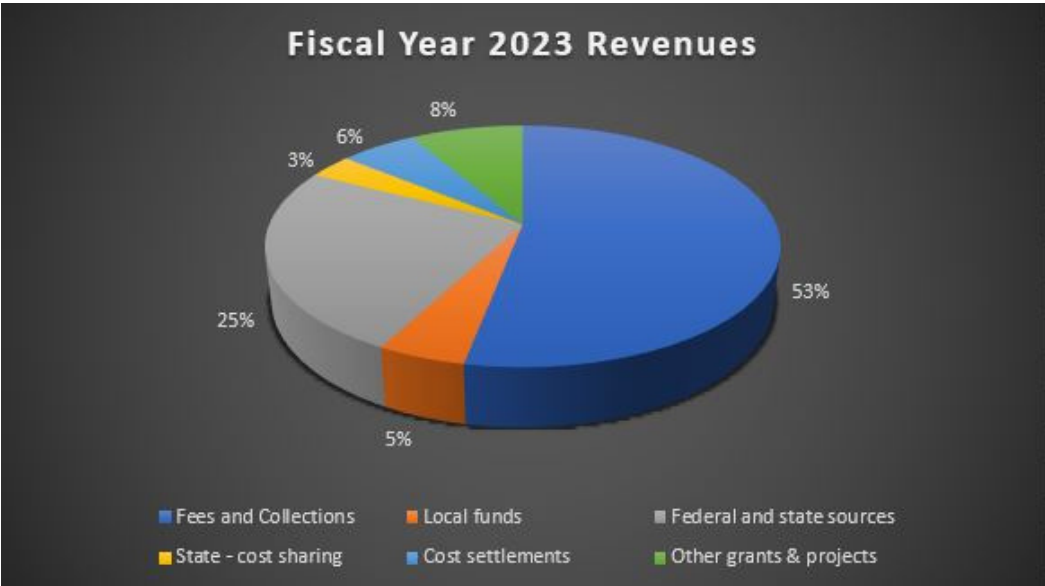
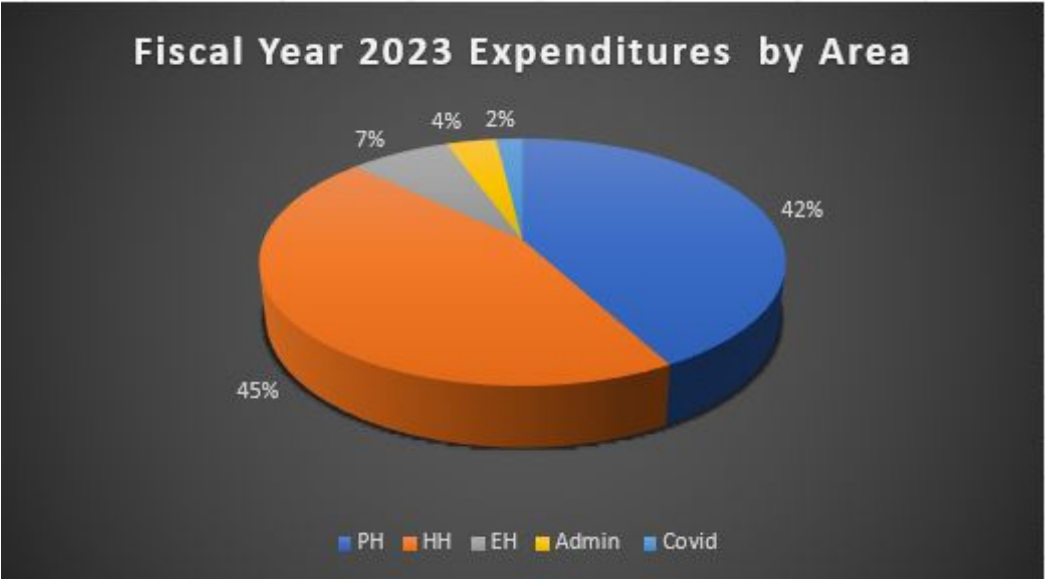
Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) cases in Chippewa County have varied in 2023. There were four (4) cases of gonorrhea reported in 2023, which is down for the nine (9) cases reported in 2022. However, chlamydia cases did increase. Eighty (80) cases of chlamydia were reported in 2022 as compared to 114 cases reported in 2023. Syphilis cases have remained relatively steady in Chippewa County, from four (4) cases reported in 2022 to five (5) cases reported in 2023. While congenital syphilis counts have been on the rise throughout the state of Michigan, there were zero (0) cases of congenital syphilis reported in Chippewa County in 2023.

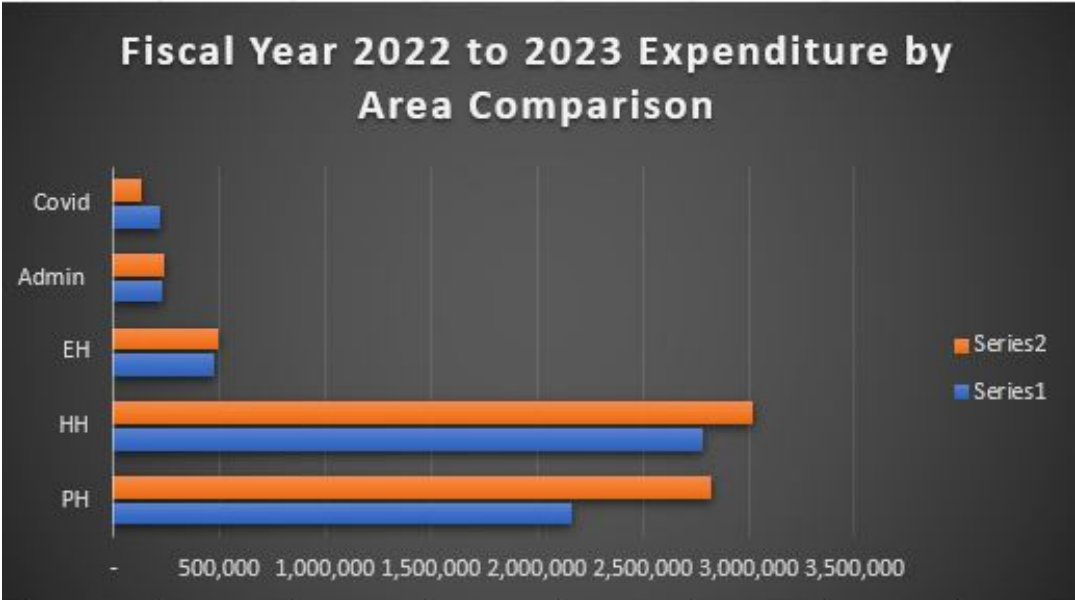
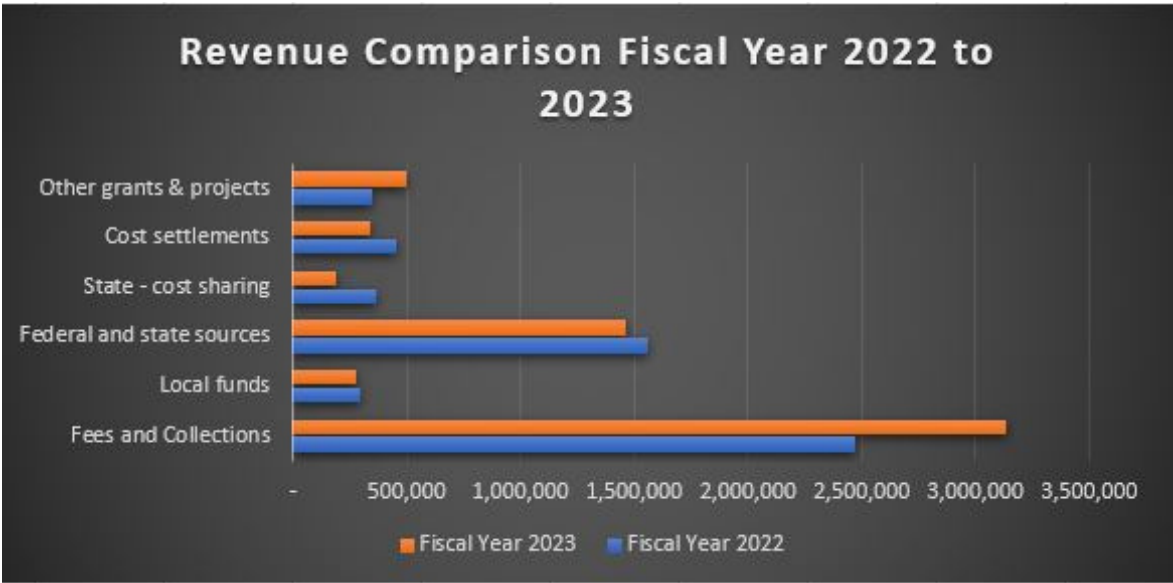
Vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) continue to be monitored by communicable disease staff. Chippewa County did see an increase in varicella (chickenpox) cases, four (4) cases reported in 2023 as compared to zero (0) cases reported in 2022. While measles cases have increased throughout the country, Chippewa County continued to see zero (0) cases reported in 2023.

In response to the nationwide increase of VPDs, Chippewa County Health Department continues to offer all recommended vaccines for clients of all ages, from birth to adulthood. In addition, CCHD continues to attend community events and provide information and answer questions related to vaccines.



Disease Group	Disease	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
AIDS/HIV	HIV/AIDS, Adult	0	0	0	1	1
Foodborne	Campylobacter	1	6	6	6	10
	Cryptosporidiosis	6	1	1	3	2
	Giardiasis	2	3	2	4	3
	Salmonellosis	9	5	9	5	6
	Shiga toxin-producing E.Coli (STEC)	1	2	0	1	0
COVID 19	Novel Coronavirus Covid-19	0	1973	4241	5285	1110
Influenza	Influenza	7	16	29	566	116
	Flu Like Disease*	517	1495	1	235	210
Meningitis	Meningitis- Aseptic	1	0	1	0	1
	Meningitis- Bacterial Other	0	0	1	0	0
	Meningococcal Disease	0	0	0	0	0
Other	CPO	0	3	1	5	3
	CP-CRE (pre-2020)	3	0	0	0	0
	Guillain-Barre Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0
	Legionellosis	2	2	2	1	2
STI	Chlamydia (genital)	60	68	80	80	114
	Gonorrhea	5	7	12	9	4
	Syphilis -Congenital	1	0	0	0	0
	Syphilis -Early Latent	3	1	0	3	3
	Syphilis -Late Latent	0	0	0	0	0
	Syphilis -Primary	2	0	0	0	0
Vaccine Preventable Diseases	Syphilis -Secondary	2	1	1	1	2
	Chickenpox	0	1	0	0	4
	H. influenzae Disease -Inv.	0	0	0	0	1
	Measles	0	0	0	0	0
	Mumps	0	0	0	0	0
	Pertussis	2	0	0	0	0
	Polio	0	0	0	0	0
Vectorborne	Rubella	0	0	0	0	0
	Lyme Disease	1	0	1	0	5
	Malaria	0	0	0	0	0
	West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	0
Viral Hepatitis	Hepatitis A	0	0	0	0	1
	Hepatitis B, Acute	0	0	0	0	0
	Hepatitis B, Chronic	1	0	0	0	0
	Hepatitis C, Acute	1	0	0	2	4
	Hepatitis C, Chronic	29	30	24	40	17
	Hepatitis C, Perinatal	0	0	0	0	0





**A LARGE PROJECT INVOLVED THE
DESTRUCTION OF MEDICAL RECORDS THAT
WERE PAST THEIR RETENTION DATE. 14, 480
POUNDS WERE SHREDDED AND RECYCLED.**



**WE WERE HAPPY TO HAVE NURSING STUDENTS FROM
LAKE STATE DURING THEIR CLINICAL ROTATIONS.**



THROUGHOUT THE YEAR STAFF PARTICPATED
IN DRESS DOWN DAYS, THE MONEY RAISED
WAS DONATED TO CHARITIES IN THE
COMMUNITY.



