

## Clermont County Board of Health

**\* James Hansbauer, President**

Term: 2005 - 2010

**\*\* Andrew Crum, Vice-President**

Term: 2007 - 2012

**\*Dr. William Miller, Member**

Term: 2006 - 2011

**\*Larry Cadwallader, Member**

Term: 2004 - 2009

**\*Janet Rickabaugh, Member**

Term: 2008 - 2013

**\* Appointed by District Advisory Council**

**\*\* Appointed by Licensing Council**

## 2008 District Advisory Council

### Township Trustee Chairpersons

Batavia: Lee Cornett  
Franklin: Craig Ridgon  
Goshen: T.J. Corcoran  
Jackson: Joe Speeg  
Miami: Ed Humphrey  
Monroe: David Kunz  
Ohio: Rick Hinson  
Pierce: Gregg Conrad  
Stonelick: John Hanley  
Tate: Frank Wilson  
Union: Bob McGee  
Washington: Ron Rudd  
Wayne: Dennis Elchlinger  
Williamsburg: Bari Henning

### Village Mayors

Amelia: Leroy Ellington  
Batavia: John Thebout  
Bethel: John Swarhout  
Chilo: Shirley Keller  
Felicity: Jerry Ross  
Moscow: Tim Suter  
Neville: Betty Lucas  
New Richmond: Ramona Carr  
Newtownsville: Philip Peterson  
Owensville: Rick McEvoy  
Williamsburg: Mary Ann Lefker

## 2008 Licensing Council

Ken Lewis: Tattoo Program Representative  
Joe Vogel: Marina Program Representative  
Sue Stephens: Manufactured Home Park Representative  
Andrew Crum: Swimming Pool Program Representative  
Gloria Noday: Food Service Program Representative  
Dennis Brown: Retail Food Establishment Representative  
John Zeuch: Campground Program Representative

Working to protect  
and improve the  
health of all  
Clermont County  
residents

**Clermont County General Health District**

**2275 Bauer Road, Suite 300**

**Batavia, Ohio 45103-1930**

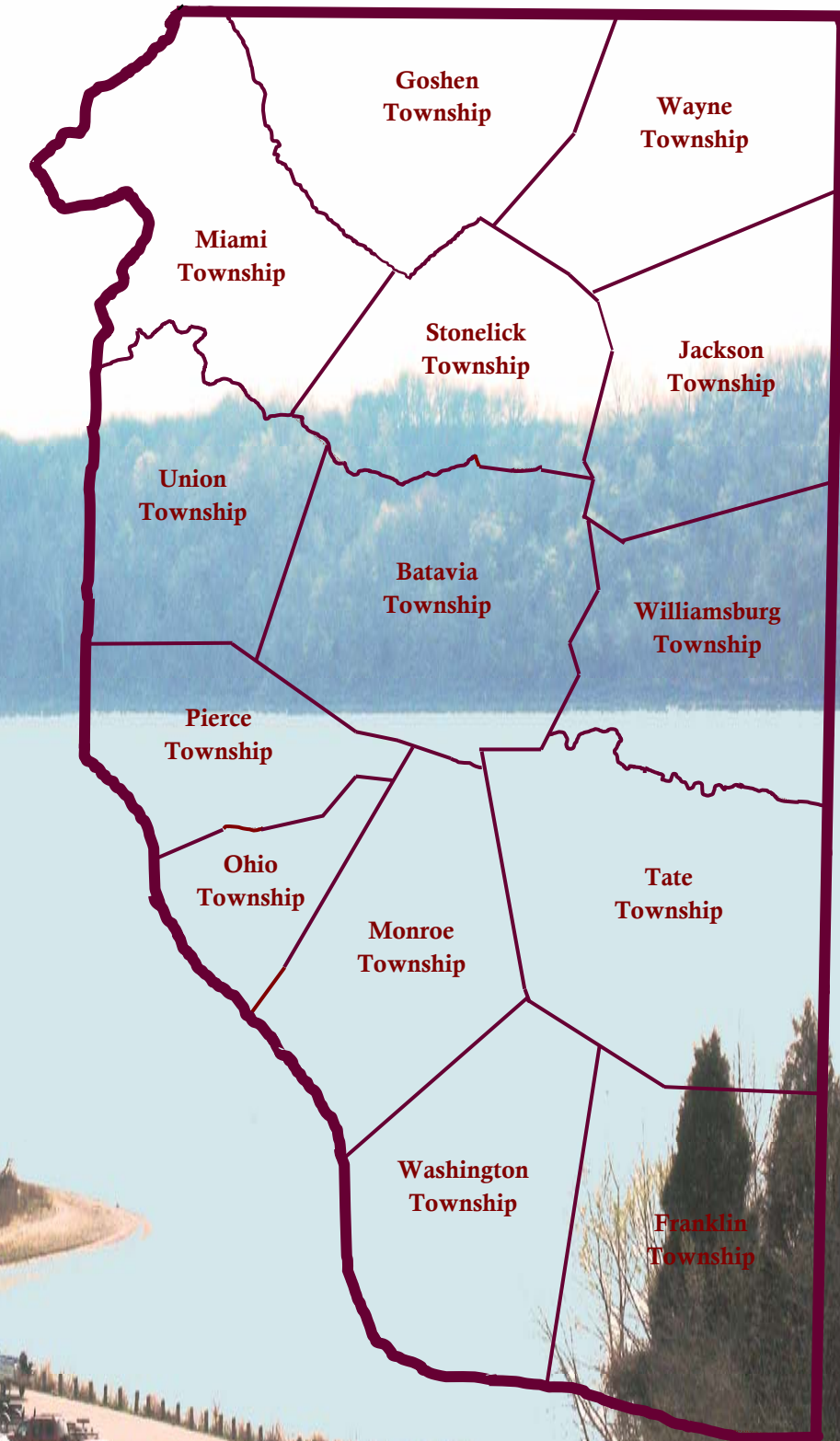
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# Clermont County General Health District Annual Report 2008



## A Message From the Health Commissioner

The Health District has been working hard for many years to develop plans that will ensure a timely response should the county ever face a major public health threat like pandemic influenza or a bioterrorism event. This planning includes not only how Health District staff will respond to the event but just as important, how critical Health District services continue during times of major disruption. To that end, the Health District has developed a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) which was put to the test not once, but twice during 2008. In January, a pipe burst in one of the Nursing Division clinic rooms flooding the entire Nursing Division suite and destroying the telephone switch for the building. This resulted in the building being closed for clean-up for an entire week. In September the windstorm knocked out power to most of the Nursing Division for over a week. The COOP was put into action both times and clinics were back in operation at alternate sites within a few days.

The one challenge that wasn't included in the Health District's COOP planning was maintaining services and programs in the face of challenging economic times. The past year saw rapidly increasing costs for gasoline, health insurance and supplies with decreasing revenues from most sources. The number of permits requested was down from prior years but requests for Nursing Division support services like WIC were higher than in previous years. Health District staff responded by tightening their belts even more, cutting back to bare essentials, minimizing travel, and working creatively to deal with the tough times. Although it was necessary to reduce the magnitude of some programs, the good news is that all Health District services were maintained.

The better news is that it wasn't just a year of challenges resulting from the difficult economic times. There were public health challenges and several noteworthy achievements that should be recognized and celebrated. A document outlining the Health District's Strategic Priorities for the next five years was completed along with specific strategic directions identified for 2008 and 2009. A joint exercise with Clermont Mercy Hospital in February demonstrated the possible uses of a mobile hospital to supplement existing infrastructure during a large scale emergency. Clermont County was one of only 14 local health jurisdictions to receive an Obesity Prevention grant from the Ohio Department of Health to assist in addressing chronic diseases directly linked to obesity. At the end of the year, the largest Pertussis outbreak seen in the county for many years was investigated and the public health measures implemented prior to the holidays stopped the spread of this highly contagious disease.

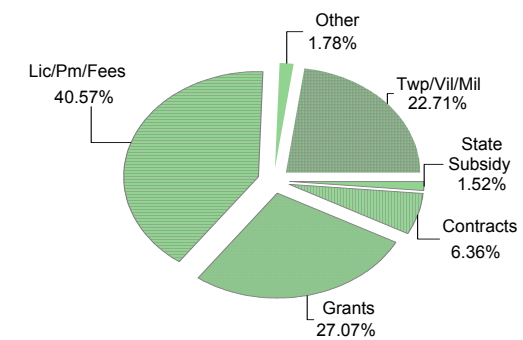
Please take a moment to read about some of the other wonderful accomplishments achieved during 2008. Even in the face of challenges and tight financial times the Clermont County General Health District continues to bring needed services to the county to protect and improve the health of all Clermont County residents.

*Marty Gambert*  
Health Commissioner



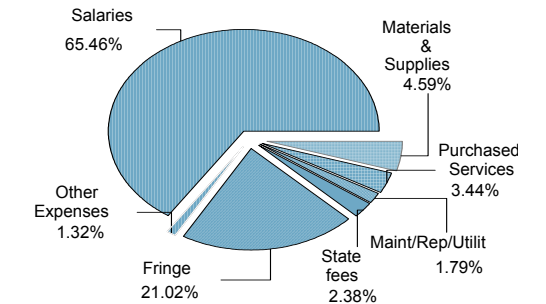
## Financial Reports - 2008

### Revenue



State Subsidy	\$53,453
Contracts	\$223,688
Grants	\$952,338
Licenses/Permits/ Fees	\$1,437,513
Other	\$62,477
Township/Villages/Milford	\$799,026
Balance, 2007	\$483,683
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,012,178</b>

### Expenditures



Salaries	\$2,208,164
Fringe Benefits	\$708,893
State Fees	\$80,131
Utilities, Maint & Repair	\$60,490
Purchased Services	\$116,175
Materials & Supplies	\$154,900
Other Expenses	\$44,441
Balance, 2008	\$638,984
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,012,178</b>

## Activities - 2008

### Environmental Health

	2008	2007
Food Licenses Issued	1,035	1,071
Food Inspections	3,162	3,143
Swimming Pool/Spa Inspections	432	605
MHP Inspections	95	168
Park, Camp, Marina Inspections	43	57
School Inspections	64	80
Animal Bite Investigations	291	299
Training Classes Conducted	9	8
Complaint Investigations	408	450

### Plumbing

	2008	2007
Plumbing Permits Issued	810	1,105
Plumbing Inspections	2,908	3,805
Backflow Permits Issued	2,806	2,608
Waterline Inspections	588	920
Sewer Changeover Inspections	30	52
Mobile Home Sewer Inspections	141	169
Water Heater Inspections	156	185
Sewer Lateral Inspections	475	722

### Nursing

	2008	2007
Vision & Hearing Clinics	27	24
Clients Served at Clinics	408	375
Immunization Clinics	83	84
Clients Served at Clinics	2,223	2,586
WIC Office Visits	15,313	14,469
Other Office Visits	1,682	3,371
Home Visits	421	537
Tuberculosis Skin Tests	531	663
Educational Presentations	16	29

### Water & Waste

	2008	2007
Septic System Permits Issued	180	222
Applications to Subdivide Lots	36	59
Basic System Assessments	10,053	8,335
Property Transfer Inspections	117	173
Private Water System Samples	60	61
Complaint Investigations	525	419
Infectious Waste Facility Inspections	33	44
Waste Truck Inspections	125	119
Water Truck Inspections	9	10

## “Mocktail Mania”

The Health District Safe Communities program partnered with the Clermont County Office of Public Information to sponsor “Mocktail Mania”. The Safe Communities program is funded by a grant through the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The program provides educational information and collaboration with law enforcement agencies to reduce the number of traffic fatalities in Clermont County. Mocktail Mania is an annual event that promotes non-alcoholic beverages during the holiday season. Twelve county agencies participated and provided samples of concoctions such as the “Seatbelt Shooter”, the “Frozen Pomerita” and the “Mango Tango”. The competition was won by the Clermont County Public Library with their “Dewey Decimator”. The Best Display award was won by the Health District for the “Lemon Loo”.



Additional awards were presented for Peoples’ Choice and Best Educational Message. Approximately 100 people attended the event and picked up tips on how to discourage drinking and driving. Recipes for all the mocktails are on the Health District web site.

## Sewage Nuisance Abatement & Remediation

The Sewage Nuisance Abatement and Remediation Plan (SNARP) program was without a doubt the biggest news for the Water & Waste Division again in 2008. The program works with homeowners to develop a three or four step plan to replace their failing household sewage treatment system (HSTS). As a rule, the Health District always recommends that a failing system be replaced. However, in such tough economic times more and more homeowners are deciding to follow the incremental repair process outlined in the SNARP program. In 2007, 40 applications were received for the SNARP program. In 2008 that number increased to 69. Since the initiation of the program 76 homeowners have completed the first phase of their plan and have eliminated the public health nuisances on their property. The SNARP program has caught the notice of state law makers and a version of the SNARP program has been recommended by the Ohio Sewage Study Commission to be included in the new law that is currently being written to replace the laws that were rescinded in July 2007.



## Windstorm Response

The power outage that resulted from the September 14<sup>th</sup> windstorm kept the entire Environmental Health Division busy for several days consulting with food facility operators concerning the disposition of food. Health District sanitarians helped food facilities recover what could be salvaged and oversaw the destruction of tons of food. For some facilities the Health District functioned as a independent third party to verify types and quantities of food destroyed for insurance purposes. For others, staff provided advice on how to safely transport food to be temporarily stored elsewhere. In some situations operators were interested in finding out how they could process frozen foods that would otherwise face destruction so it could be salvaged or distributed to citizens without power as a community service. In addition to consulting with commercial facilities, staff also fielded many telephone calls from members of the public concerning the salvage or destruction of food in their personal refrigerators/freezers.



## Low-Cost Rabies Clinics

The Health District partnered with the Family Animal Hospital of Batavia and the Henehan Animal Hospital of Milford to hold two low-cost rabies vaccination clinics in 2008. These clinics are part of an effort to increase the number of Clermont County dogs and cats vaccinated against this deadly virus in preparation for the likely



arrival of a rabies epidemic currently underway in northeast Ohio. Domestic dogs and cats are the bridge between rabies in the wild animal population and humans. As a result of these two clinics 224 animals received their rabies vaccination.



## Manufactured Home Installation

In 2008 the Plumbing Inspection Division assumed the duties of the Manufactured Housing Installation Program, a program previously under the Environmental Health Division. Two plumbing inspectors were trained and certified per the Ohio Manufactured Home Commission’s training program to inspect and certify homes installed within the county’s manufactured home parks. The administrative portion of the program was revamped to improve efficiency and the plumbing inspectors met with installers, park managers and manufactured home distributors to review the program’s guidelines and procedures. These meetings were very well received and have proven to be a great asset to the program.



## Illegal Tattoo Activities

An investigation in June 2008 involving Health District sanitarians and the Milford Police Department culminated in charges being filed against a Milford man. He was charged with illegally tattooing two Milford juveniles without guardian consent and tattooing in an unlicensed location. The tattoos resulted in infections in the two juveniles. The illegal artist was found guilty of both charges, required to pay restitution to the victims, pay a \$250 fine, and given probation in lieu of a 30 day jail sentence.



## WIC Immunization Program

One of the primary goals of the childhood immunization program at the Nursing Division is to increase the number of young children up-to-date on their shots. In 2008 the immunization staff began working more closely with the staff of the Women, Infants and Children program (WIC), a supplemental food program serving pregnant women and young children. Families were encouraged to bring their child’s immunization record to their WIC appointment so that records could be reviewed. A total of 1,790 WIC immunization records were reviewed and parents were given assistance in bringing their children up-to-date on their immunizations. Initially only 78% of the children had records indicating they were up-to-date, but with assistance from the immunization staff that number increased to 90%. Staff will continue working with families to keep increasing the number of children that are fully immunized.



## Communicable Disease Investigation

Communicable disease investigations kept Health District staff busy in 2008. In addition to routine disease investigations, staff were involved in two large scale outbreaks during the year. In late summer, an outbreak of the diarrheal illness shigellosis occurred among attendees at a large child care facility. In coordination with the center, extensive education was offered to the staff and families, and screening of the children, their families and staff was provided. The prompt implementation of these measures resulted in the prevention of additional cases of illness.

In October, multiple cases of pertussis began appearing in children, primarily among the elementary school-age population. Due to its long incubation period, subtle onset of symptoms and close interaction of children in this age group, cases of pertussis quickly spread. This outbreak impacted multiple children in classrooms, sports teams and other extracurricular activities in several schools throughout the county. Health District staff investigated each case, implemented isolation and exclusion measures and recommended preventive treatment for all close contacts. Educational information was provided to schools, parents and staff. The Health District worked closely with schools, regional public health partners and community health care providers in an effort to prevent ongoing transmission of this highly infectious respiratory illness. In total, 58 cases of pertussis were investigated as part of this outbreak.



## Alternative Care Center

On February 28, 2008, the Health District collaborated with the Clermont County Engineers Office and Clermont Mercy Hospital to set up an Alternative Care Center (ACC) in the hospital parking lot. The ACC



is a 210 bed self-contained mobile hospital that can be set up in parts or as a whole to provide additional capacity during a disaster. The space in the Clermont Mercy parking lot can support up to 11 of the units for a total of 110 additional beds for patient care if needed. Even though the temperature at the start of the exercise was 13°F and never rose above 30°F, three of the units (one wing) were set up in about two hours. Approximately fifty citizens including Health District staff, Mercy Hospital staff, Clermont building officials, county commissioners, township

trustees, fire/EMS and law enforcement toured the ACC. Citizens were also invited to walk through the ACC to find out more about the fully functional mobile medical facility which can provide triage, acute care and inpatient treatment to victims who need varying degrees of life-saving technology during a disaster situation.



## Reportable Diseases

	2008	2007
Campylobacteriosis	15	5
Chlamydia	225	203
Cryptosporidiosis	1	112
<i>E. coli - 0157:H7</i>	2	4
Encephalitis	2	0
Giardiasis	12	20
Gonococcal Infections	24	31
Haemophilus Influenzae	4	1
Hepatitis A	0	1
Hepatitis B	24	23
Hepatitis C	145	176
Influenza	229	244
Kawasaki Disease	4	3
Lyme Disease	1	0
Meningitis Aseptic	17	20
Meningococcal Disease	0	2
Mycobacterial Disease Tuberculosis	1	2
Mycobacterial Disease, Other	18	27
Pertussis	62	18
Pneumococcal Disease, Invasive	31	20
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	1
Salmonellosis	7	13
Shigellosis	18	58
Streptococcal Disease Invasive, GAS	4	3
Varicella	23	84

*This list reflects the communicable diseases reported to the Health District in 2008. There are other diseases which were not required to be reported in 2008 and are therefore not included in this list.*

## Vital Statistics Summary

	2008	2007
Total Births Registered	19	5
Total Deaths Registered	833	768
<b>Leading Causes of Death:</b>		
Disease of the Circulatory System	279	170
Malignant Neoplasm (cancer, etc.)	158	146
Diseases of the Respiratory System	65	98
Pneumonia	46	41
Diseases of the Nervous System	16	20
Accidents (drowning, traffic, etc.)	50	27
Diseases of the Urinary System	27	5
Alzheimer's	41	40
Suicide	22	15
Cirrhosis of Liver	13	6
Homicide	0	2

Please note: This information reflects the number of births and deaths that actually occurred in Clermont County. Births and deaths are registered in the county where the event occurs - not where the individual resides.

## Community Obesity Prevention Grant

The Health District was awarded a Community Obesity Prevention Grant through the Ohio Department of Health, Office of Healthy Ohio, to promote healthy lifestyles in Clermont County. This funding was provided as part of Ohio's *Envisioned Future State for a Healthy Ohio* and Governor Strickland's Healthy Ohio Initiative. The Clermont County Health District was one of only fourteen agencies across the state to be awarded grant funding and one of only two agencies to receive a capacity building grant. Capacity building grants are designed to empower communities without existing obesity prevention initiatives to build partnerships and develop an infrastructure to implement and sustain strategies to reduce risk factors for obesity.

An Obesity Prevention Coalition was formed in 2008 to provide direction and support to the initiative. Several projects will be completed with this initial funding including: funding for benches and signs for the Williamsburg to Batavia Hike Bike Trail, and implementation of a program to increase physical activity and better nutrition choices called "I am Moving, I am Learning" in all Clermont County Head Start classrooms.



In addition a brochure that provides information on no and low cost places for physical activity as well as nutrition tips and locations of farmers' markets in Clermont County will be updated. One of the most important projects is conducting a health survey of adults and children in Clermont County to obtain local data on risk factors. Adults were surveyed through a random phone questionnaire starting late 2008 and fourth grade school children will be surveyed through schools in 2009. This assessment will help guide future decisions on obesity prevention strategies in Clermont County.