

# SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

## 2011



# FROM THE COMMISSIONER AND BOARD OF HEALTH

2011 was an extraordinary year for public health in Summit County. We began the year for the first time as a single agency following the unions of Akron and Barberton to the district. Aside from some technical issues such as coordinating phones and IT systems, the transition has gone well. This ease in change-over was largely due to the exhaustive planning that preceded the mergers and the patience of our staff.



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Early in the year, we took this rare opportunity entrusted to us with our consolidation to carefully consider our role in the community; how can we best leverage our capacity and services with other community resources and partners to maximize desired outcomes. The findings from that planning can be found in the 2012 Summit County Public Health Strategic Plan located on our web site.

We understand that to truly affect changes in Summit County health status dynamics, we need to address fundamental social inequities rooted in education, poverty, housing, racism and environmental injustice. Social justice affects the ways people live and causes an inequitable distribution of diseases and premature death. This perspective is a fundamental shift of focus for us and we look forward to framing an action plan around these themes.

These are challenging but exciting times. The economy has certainly been and will continue to be a driver of change in local government services. We have seen an incessant erosion of state and federal funding support causing us to seek renewed opportunities to align with other community providers and systems. The Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as healthcare reform, also portends unclear shifts in healthcare access and delivery models and holds prospects for new prevention and health promotion strategies.

In 2011, in partnership with the Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron, we were awarded one of 35 national five-year Community Transformational Grants under ACA designed to create a healthier community and fight chronic disease. We also are applying for first time ever available local public health national accreditation to demonstrate the full service capacity and capability of Summit County Public Health. We believe both these distinctions could not have been possible without the unions of our public health agencies. We feel confident that whatever health and wellness challenges face us in 2012, we stand ready to respond and serve.

Thank you for your support and interest in Summit County Public Health,

Gene Nixon  
Health Commissioner

Daniel Karant  
President, Board of Health

*Individual health is closely linked to community health -- the health of the community in which people live, work, and play.*

*Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Summit County Public Health is to protect and promote the health of the entire community through programs and activities designed to address the safety, health and well-being of the people who live in Summit County. Through its programs and activities, the Health District seeks to create a healthful environment and ensure the accessibility of health services to all.

### **Health Commissioner**

Gene Nixon, RS, MPA

### **Community Health Director**

Tonya Block, LSW, MSW

### **Deputy Health Commissioner**

Thomas Quade, MA, MPH, CPH

### **Environmental Health Director**

Robert Hasenyager, MS, RS

### **Deputy Health Commissioner**

Donna Skoda, MS, RD, LD

### **Nursing Director**

Gillian Solem, RN, MSN

### **Medical Director**

Marguerite Erme, DO, MPH

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



Prior to consolidation of the health districts, Environmental Health (EH) programs at the Summit County Health District had been divided into two inspection groups: water quality and all other EH programs. With the consolidation, the Akron Regional Air Quality Management District became part of Summit County Public Health and forms the foundation of its new air quality program. The consolidation has also enabled an additional level of specialization of staff into the five EH program areas: water quality, solid waste and vector control, food safety and recreation, healthy homes and air quality. This specialization is intended to take advantage of the economy of scale resulting from the consolidation of public health services while at the same time improving the technical expertise of staff working in particular program areas. While

this is an initiative in progress, we have realized some savings in the short term and expect to see continued savings as we work to refine the delivery of programs and services.

### **Drug Collection Program**

Through a start-up grant from the Summit-Akron Solid Waste Management Authority and with the cooperation of multiple communities and police departments, we have placed 14 secure collection boxes around the county for residents to safely dispose of unused medications. Since April of 2011, residents have disposed of over 1500 lbs of unused medications into these boxes. The collected medications are delivered by law enforcement to a hazardous waste treatment facility for proper destruction. The goals of the program are to prevent accidental poisonings caused by unused medications being stored in homes and to provide a more environmentally sound disposal option than flushing the medications into the sanitary sewer and thus into our streams and rivers.



### **Rabies Surveillance and Prevention**



For several years, SCPH has participated in an effort to prevent the westward movement of a raccoon-strain of rabies through distribution of rabies vaccine baits in northeastern Summit County to provide some level of vaccination of wildlife. However, this past fall a dog died from raccoon-strain rabies in Twinsburg. Rabies prevention programs and vaccination have been very successful in Ohio. This rabid dog represents the first rabid dog in Ohio in 14 years. SCPH is increasing public education efforts and building partnerships with veterinarians, doctors, Ohio Division of Wildlife, and USDA to improve surveillance and prevention efforts.

### **Environmental Assessment**

The first phase in the process to complete an environmental health assessment for Summit County has been completed. The initial report titled "Summit County Environmental Health Preliminary Assessment" was published in the fall of 2011. The end goal of the process is to develop assessment measures and collect data in order to discover gaps in environmental public health protections and track environmental health status improvements and declines over time. Phases 2 and 3 of the project will continue in 2012. This report is available on our website at [www.scphoh.org](http://www.scphoh.org).

## BOARD OF HEALTH

Albert Barber, Pharm.D.  
Stow

Lynn Clark  
New Franklin

Kristine Gill, RN, PhD  
Cuyahoga Falls

C. William Keck, MD  
Akron

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Leon Ricks  
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Jeffrey Snell  
General Health District

Peggy Burns  
General Health District

Barry Ganoe  
General Health District

Daniel Karant, Rph—*President*  
Norton

Gayleen Kolaczewski, MD  
Munroe Falls

Todd Burdette  
Licensing Council

Jay Williamson, MD  
Tallmadge

## COMMUNITY HEALTH



The goal of the Division of Community Health is to improve our public health system by anticipating changes in the current environment and implementing appropriate strategies to respond to those changes. Community Health employees work in priority service areas that promote collaboration, coordination and integration among programs. These areas include health promotion and disease prevention, social services needs assessment, linking citizens to appropriate resources, and epidemiology. The menu of services offered by the Division span the life cycle from comprehensive early childhood development to reproductive health education for adolescents to home assessments for seniors. Community Health programs include Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention, Child and Family Health Services, Personal Responsibility Education, Creating Health Communities,

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps, Emergency Preparedness, 2020: A Quality of Life Project, School Health, Prescription Assistance, HIV Prevention, First Things First, Access to Care, and Family and Children First Council (Help Me Grow, Cluster for Youth, Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, and Family Centered Services and Supports).



The Division is currently in the early stages of development for an innovative model of care coordination that will improve health and social outcomes for high-need populations. Care coordination is considered a significant standard of care for high-need populations due to the necessity to plan beyond the medical needs of the individual, and the complexity of the service system with different entry points and eligibility criteria. Research shows that care coordination:



- Facilitates access to service
- Promotes continuity of care
- Promotes family stability
- Improves health
- Maximizes efficient and effective use of resources

Scheduled to commence in April 2012, the care coordination unit will assist individuals on a host of health and social service related issues. Care coordinators will conduct a comprehensive needs assessment and develop a case plan that assists individuals with accessing community resources and supports consumers in navigating the health and social services arena. The care coordinator will organize and facilitate implementation of case plan, periodically reassess the case plan, and address new needs when identified.

We are truly grateful for the community partners who continue to support our work, including the Office of the County Executive, the Summit County Department of Job and Family Services, Summit County Children's Services, the Summit ADM Board, Akron General Medical Center, Akron-Summit Public Library, The GAR Foundation, the Akron Community Foundation, Akron Children's Hospital, Summit County Juvenile Court, Summit Developmental Disabilities Board, the Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron, Greenleaf Family Center, Child Guidance & Family Solutions, Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority, Akron Summit Community Action and many more. We look forward to building stronger alliances in the upcoming year.

# CLINICAL SERVICES



With consolidation in 2011, the Clinical Health Services Division expanded to include all clinic services (prenatal, child and adult immunization including those for international travel, hypertension program, refugee screening program, tuberculosis investigation, sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment) formerly offered at each of the original three health districts, all WIC services within the county, alcohol and drug counseling, communicable disease surveillance and investigation, oral health and public health laboratory services. Services are delivered at eight locations, each with a unique service mix. Grant-supported services provided within the division include the Dental Sealant program, which expanded to additional counties this year, the

Immunization Action Plan, the ARRA Peer Advocate Immunization project, funding from the Ohio Department of Health to support identification, treatment and follow-up for syphilis and HIV, the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program and a partial year of Women's Health Services programming. In addition, the Juvenile Court provided funding for enhanced services for incarcerated youth, the Tuscora Park Foundation provided funding for school-based dental services in the southern portion of the county, and both the Ohio Voluntary Accreditation Team and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation provided funding to support implementation of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) projects.



Consolidation has brought with it expanded services in several areas. In addition to regular day-time hours, immunizations and WIC services are now available during the evening at Barberton (Wednesdays), Cuyahoga Falls (Wednesdays) and Springfield Township (Thursdays) facilities from 4-7pm. Counseling has evening hours available Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Morley Health center. Dental van clinics for pregnant women, preschoolers and adults, have more than doubled. Refugee families, who formerly sought care at two facilities, are now able to access services at a single location.

Consolidation has also brought challenges and successes in integrating service delivery protocols, paperwork, developing new processes, cross-training to learn new service locations, share expertise and develop consistent approaches to problems.

## ***Immunizations – It Takes a Community***

*Vaccination is one of the most successful strategies in preventing illness and premature death. In fact, as a society we are so accustomed to having this protection that many people have never experienced the devastation of a child or adult's serious illness or death from diseases like tetanus, diphtheria, or polio. Vaccinations "teach" the immune system to recognize and defend against germs that can cause illness. The only other way for the immune system "learns" this is when the person is actually infected with the germ and becomes ill.*



*"It takes a community" applies to two aspects of vaccination. One aspect is the protection offered by the vaccine. Most individuals are able to develop antibodies after a vaccine, and when many people in a community are vaccinated, fewer people are likely to become ill. This is known as "herd immunity" – the entire community is safer because fewer individuals are vulnerable to illness.*

*The second aspect is the array of providers who are knowledgeable about and able to provide vaccinations. The Immunization Coalition of Summit County brings together all these providers to identify best practices, review the occurrence of vaccine-preventable diseases, and to develop common approaches to enhance protection for the community.*

*What difference does all this make? The May 20, 2011 edition of the MMWR notes that "Following the introduction of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, an estimated 21,000 serious pneumococcal infections and 13,000 deaths were prevented during 2000-2008.*

*Routine rotavirus vaccination, implemented in 2006, now prevents an estimated 40,000-60,000 rotavirus hospitalization each year".*

# FISCAL

## Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Funds for the Period through December 2011

	General Fund	Akron Contract Fund	Special Revenue (Grants)	Total
<b>CASH RECEIPTS</b>				
Local Taxation	3,230,675	0	0	3,230,675
State Subsidy	94,360	0	0	94,360
Environmental Health Fees	1,539,191	474,182	119,548	2,132,921
Vital Statistics	33,739	404,093	0	437,832
Personal Health Services	806,351	446,806	4,647	1,257,804
School Health Services	384,279	0	0	384,279
Miscellaneous Receipts	203,876	12,715	1,387,929	1,604,519
Federal Funds Reimbursement	0	0	9,664,131	9,664,131
Local Contracts (Including Akron)	71,584	4,004,365	0	4,075,949
Nuisance Abatement	0	0	0	0
State Fees	194,752	682,924	0	877,676
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>6,558,808</b>	<b>6,025,086</b>	<b>11,176,255</b>	<b>23,760,148</b>
<b>CASH DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
Salaries	3,125,243	2,717,874	4,777,128	10,620,244
PERS/Workers Comp/Medicare	530,087	420,305	759,194	1,709,585
Health Benefits	516,042	517,251	895,892	1,929,184
Travel	100,293	63,632	68,220	232,144
Supplies	229,213	293,106	445,478	967,797
Contracts-Services/Repairs	579,462	520,345	3,404,520	4,504,327
Building Rental	11,460	165,314	260,371	437,145
Advertising and Printing	8,255	3,576	26,120	37,951
Other Expenses	29,022	80,630	12,393	122,045
Equipment	62,243	96,243	122,968	281,454
Remittance to State	239,442	527,260	0	766,703
Nuisance Abatement	0	0	0	0
Debt Service-Building	0	0	0	0
Client Services	0	0	102,647	102,647
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>5,430,761</b>	<b>5,405,535</b>	<b>10,874,931</b>	<b>21,711,227</b>
Subtotal (Receipts Less Disbursements)	1,128,046	619,551	301,324	2,048,921
Transfers/Advances-In (Receipts)	446,951	0	1,084,917	1,531,868
Transfers/Advances-Out (Disbursements)	(911,252)	-	(620,616)	(1,531,868)
Reserve for Encumbrances	2,091,956	1,764	1,471,291	3,565,012
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>2,755,702</b>	<b>621,315</b>	<b>2,236,916</b>	<b>5,613,932</b>



Summit County Public Health  
 1100 Graham Road Circle  
 Stow, Ohio 44224

MAILING ADDRESS

