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2017 Annual Report

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ABOUT US

The Gloucester County Department of Health partners closely throughout the year with all 24 municipalities to provide a range of Nursing, Special Child Health and WIC activities, Consumer and Environmental Health services, public health information and health education sessions and Preparedness readiness efforts. Levels of services performed in these specific program areas follow. As always, our primary goal remains focused upon protecting our residents from health threats and assisting them to adopt more healthful lifestyles.

Since our inception, the Gloucester County Department of Health has served as a valuable resource in the provision of public health services to all Gloucester County residents aimed at promoting, achieving and maintaining a healthy standard of living.

Working in collaboration with our partnering governmental and non-governmental organizations, we work to address health disparities, tackle chronic disease, and ensure our citizenry is prepared to respond to public health emergencies.

The Gloucester County Department of Health applies best business practices to demonstrate operational excellence in service and programming offerings to the public as we strive to safeguard the community's health.

WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?

Public Health is your health. It is how the health of those around you affects you on a daily basis. The Gloucester County Department of Health serves as the first line of defense in maintaining and improving the public's health status. We offer a variety of general and specialized programs to maintain and improve the health and wellbeing of our residents and our environment.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

This Department offers an array of programs, wellness clinics and services, which include, but are not limited to:

- Air/Noise Pollution Control Program
- All-Hazards (BT) Preparedness Program
- Body Art Program
- Child Health Services
- Food Safety Training
- Food Surveillance Programming
- Health and Safety Inspections (Campgrounds; Youth Camps; Recreational Bathing Facilities; and Tanning Salons)
- Groundwater Pollution Control Program (Wells & Septic Systems)
- Hazardous Materials Control Services (Via Contract with the County Office of Emergency Management)
- Health Education/Public Health Information and Training Programs
- HIV/AIDs Antibody Testing
- Influenza Immunization (Flu Shot) Program
- Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

- Potable Water Supply Inspections
- Rabies Program
- Reportable Disease Program
- Right-To-Know Program
- School Age Immunization Program
- Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Clinics
- Surface Water Pollution Control Program
- Tuberculosis (TB) Control Program
- WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program

The Gloucester County Department of Health has adopted the ten essential services of public health listed below, which guide our daily actions:

1. Monitor the health status of the community.
2. Investigate and diagnose health problems and hazards.
3. Inform and educate people regarding health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships to solve community problems.
5. Support policies and plans to achieve health goals.
6. Enforce laws and regulations to protect health and safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services.
8. Ensure a skilled, competent public health workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of health services.
10. Research and apply innovative solutions.

Our main office is located at the County Offices @ East Holly, 204 East Holly Avenue, Sewell, New Jersey (Washington Township).

Our WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program operates at this main location, as well as at two satellite centers: 1) Paulsboro County Health Building, 1000 Delaware Street, Paulsboro, New Jersey; and 2) Monroe Township Municipal Building, 125 Virginia Avenue, Williamstown, New Jersey.

Nursing Clinics (Child Health; STD; and HIV/AIDs Antibody Testing) are also run out of our main location listed above, as well as at our Paulsboro Satellite Center located at the Paulsboro County Health Building, 1000 Delaware Street, Paulsboro, New Jersey.

Community Outreach and various Health Education initiatives are conducted throughout our county at various facilities.

We are proud to report on the following collective accomplishments in 2017:

The Gloucester County Department of Health remains committed to serving our residents with the guiding principles of HEALTH in mind, aspiring to deliver program assistance that is: Helpful; Excellent; Accountable; as Leaders in public health; with Teamwork; all while encouraging Healthy behaviors.

2018 Goals and objectives have been designed to advance the Department forward in achieving our Vision to “Strive for a healthier Gloucester County”. With an overarching mission to: Prevent illness and injury;

Promote positive health behaviors; Protect people and the environment; and Prepare for public health emergencies, this Department offers a multitude of programs and services.

The work of public health requires strong collaboration and advocacy among our diverse community partners, active engagement with our communities and local boards of health, a sound alliance with our sister county Divisions/Departments, innovative use of technology, a well-trained and purposeful workforce and prevalent scientific research and knowledge.

It is a pleasure to share each respective Unit's most significant 2017 accomplishments as well as examine those challenges that lie ahead.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL UNIT

With efforts to aspire for public health accreditation status, a Strategic Plan under development with and input from the staff as a whole reshaped our Department's Vision and Mission statements and framed our Values statements this year. Internal and external strengths and weaknesses were considered, evaluated and incorporated as well into plan work. Additionally, several training sessions were scheduled to support the implementation of a formalized Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program with 85% of staff's involvement and participation. Each respective Unit was tasked with selecting one area/service to analyze, review and uniformly document which will be followed by ongoing monitoring and refinement. In 2018, 100% of staff will participate in this important and necessary initiative to assure continuous self- assessment and improvement of relevant programs, services and processes.

An Annual Report was prepared and shared with our community partners to comply with State health and subsequent accreditation requirements. A timeline to meet accreditation status will additionally be outlined in the year ahead with clear objectives to attain and complete.

In 2017, the Department received a total of \$ 1,964,741 in grant funding, a 2.6% increase from 2016. Subsequent funding in 2018 is expected to increase 5.3% with an anticipated total of \$2,068,100 projected. Additional revenue obtained through Program fees and/or Environmental Unit penalty assessments have remained steady and are anticipated to exhibit a slight 2.5% increase as we look ahead. Solid Waste fees/revenue is projected to remain the status quo.

Grant funds were responsibly appropriated in an effort to maximize offset to our County subsidy. The Department remains committed to the pursuit of additional funding sources to counteract increasing costs. New this year, as a part of the Governor's initiative to combat Opioid misuse, the Department applied for and was awarded a \$100,000 grant to conduct an ARCH (Access to Reproductive Care and HIV Services) RN Program. This service is dedicated to reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases by offering drug treatment assessment, education and preventive services and community partner linkages for individuals in the community, including pregnant women at high risk for HIV and STD's. This program is evolving as of the writing of the correspondence and will be expanded upon in 2018.

ENVIRONMENTAL UNIT

Our tenured Environmental Coordinator retired after 41 years of service to the County. Although a significant loss to our Department, operations continued seamlessly under the oversight of our very experienced and knowledgeable Chief REHS. In also preparing for the retirement of a Principal REHS at year end, work load assignments and responsibilities were reviewed throughout all program services and needs and re-emphasis upon time management and cross-training of staff in both Consumer and Environmental programs has been

initiated with monthly meetings held to strengthen and improve communications within the unit, discuss new direction; oversee program/activity status; and provide helpful training opportunities.

OPRA requests have consumed this Unit to date, requiring the equivalent of a full-time staff person to oversee and process timely. Thus far, the Unit has processed 1,310 ORPA requests; a 36.5% increase from the 960 cases processed in 2016.

Unit staff has become quite proficient with the use of the Digital Health Database. Several Consumer Health program sections were added to this electronic system this year, including Youth Camps, Pet Stores/Kennels and Campgrounds. Looking ahead into 2018 the Unit anticipates the inclusion of Real Estate Evaluation Inspections under the Septic Program and the embodiment of approvals for septic systems and wells into the database, which are expected to be tailored/designed and included at an additional cost should approvals to proceed be granted.

To further expedite plan review approvals, the Septic Program inspection review process integrated the use of electronic correspondence from Engineers, hence reducing time delays as well as added costs associated with supply costs to purchase envelopes, letterhead and postage. Turnaround time to conduct septic system reviews as well as real estate inspection process reviews has been significantly decreased as processes in-house have been modified.

HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT

In an effort to reconnect with our local Boards of Health, our Partnership staff slated individualized meetings with each jurisdiction to provide an overview of Health Department programs and services, discuss various interactions and address any questions or concerns. These visits permitted staff to explain, collect and enter New Jersey Board of Health Registry information for each of the 24 Municipalities, as required this past year by State Health. We anticipate continuation of these individualized meetings into the years ahead. In the spirit of teamwork, Environmental staff participated in these individualized meeting sessions providing the opportunity to address any related questions or concerns locally. This staff will remain involved in future meeting sessions as we collectively work to promote and encourage a stronger communication base and ability to resolve outstanding issues.

Program activities as outlined in our Comprehensive Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) were provided throughout the year and remain centered around Cancer Education & Screening, Chronic Disease Prevention and Unintentional Injury Prevention.

In attempts to enhance screening offerings, the Unit researched and obtained two new screening devices; the first, a more sophisticated Derma Scan screening tool, which vastly improves screening observations and improved discussion over skin cancer awareness; and the second, the Dexascan screening device, introduced and trialed during Men's Health Month in June, and utilized to conduct bone density screenings. Both remain popular among all age groups.

The 17th Annual Women's Health Summit was successfully held in September with support from the Gloucester County Institute of Technology. The event realized an 18% increase in participation rates this year and included 13 interactive workshops that focused upon good health; nutrition and exercise; mind, body and spirit; and financial wellness. The day's activities also included a health and wellness exhibitor fair with 60 area providers, touted the many County Departments and service offerings, provided a variety of free health screenings, and more.

PERSONAL HEALTH/NURSING UNIT

In 2017, the three most commonly reported communicable diseases, excluding STD's in Gloucester County included: Lyme's, Hepatitis C and Pertussis. Epidemiological case investigations are required with staff follow-up on some 120 communicable disease cases monthly. STD's continue to be on the rise not only in NJ but in the US as a whole with our STD clinic providing care and counseling to an average of 115 individuals/month and additional intensive case management to an average of 3 syphilis cases per month. This year, the Unit became a referral site to conduct Rapid syphilis testing for positive cases to have their blood drawn for confirmation. Finally, with an increased awareness of Human Trafficking, screening for possible Human Trafficking victims was also incorporated into the clinic interview process this year.

With the ease of access to flu shots throughout our communities, our seasonal influenza campaign has experienced declining numbers over these last few years with staff administering approximately 10,479 flu shot immunizations to date. This is a program area under study however in preparation for the 2017/2018 season we anticipate pre-ordering 11,500 doses of influenza vaccine and have included this dollar amount along with related supplies into our operational budget.

The Unit remains a busy Vaccine for Children/Vaccine for Adults provider for NJ State Health. Screenings for lead poisoning and anemia also are important elements. With NJ State Department of Health requirements changing to provide case management for children with venous BLL of 5 ug/dL or above, this Division applied for and successfully received Childhood Lead Exposure Prevention (CLEP) Project grant funding to assist in offsetting costs attached to anticipated increases in case load volume as well as the need for added supplies and equipment requiring staff intervention in the following areas: case management and environmental screenings/inspections.

Tuberculosis cases still arise in the county with the ease of international travel. This challenges the workforce associated with the provision of nursing Direct Observational Therapy (DOT) as required. The use of Facetime and Skype related technology has proven invaluable and has since been incorporated into our processes as a way to conduct DOT, which must occur daily and extends over the course of 6 months or more throughout the year off hours, on weekends and holidays. The program also conducts a robust PPD screening program for Gloucester County residents serving approximately 58 clients monthly.

202 public and private school and daycares were audited in 2017, with staff reviewing some 16,271 records to ensure Pre-K; Kindergarten; 1st Grade entering; 6th Grade & any grade transfers from out of county, state, or country received required vaccinations. Gloucester County possesses a 98.4% vaccination rate amongst these school aged students.

Chronic Disease Health Screenings for blood pressure, glucose, and cholesterol all remain popular to the elderly and other community groups. In fact screening test rates reflective of 82 individuals on average each month, doubled from the prior year indicating vital interest from our citizens and validation to continue the provision of Chronic Disease prevention education and screening availability.

Finally, this Unit served as a lead trainer, offering 22 training sessions to date in a number of areas for the County as a whole, covering topics which included: Fit Testing, PPD testing, Blood Borne Pathogen Training, community education on emerging diseases (i.e.: Zika; Powassan Virus, etc.) and a number of health & safety trainings as requested by specific county departments (i.e.: Animal Shelter; Division of Transportation Services; Police Academy; Division of Social Services; etc.).

Areas of focus in 2018 will encompass Obesity Awareness and Drug Overdose concerns.

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS UNIT

A vigorous effort to locate and encourage Fixed Facilities to participate in Preparedness plan work was instituted this calendar year. To further spread the message, a Fixed Facility and First Responder Toolbox voiceover power point training was developed with the intent to garner local business/agency support and interest in serving as independent sites to provide medication distribution to respective staff and clientele bases while providing a means to facilitate training regarding the program's intent.

The Preparedness Unit's LINC database was reviewed for accuracy and expanded upon this past year. Efforts to recruit and integrate area Pediatricians into the system were made this year with 15 practices joining. The Communicator Lite Messaging System was tested quarterly as well to ensure messages were correctly prepared, forwarded and received.

5 Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Trainings were developed and scheduled for interested volunteers. This volunteer pool continues to shrink and efforts to find alternative ways to expand this necessary support group who assist during public health emergencies have turned towards recruitment of Rowan University students.

SPECIAL CHILD HEALTH SERVICES UNIT

Special Child Health staff received 653 new referrals to the Unit, and maintained an active caseload of 326 families. To date, Social Workers have made 2,722 direct contacts to new referrals and existing case load and processed 14 Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief applications which generated \$320,076 in awards to Gloucester County families who met qualifications for the program that assists families with out of pocket medical costs, vehicle modifications, and / or home modifications for their child.

WIC UNIT

Our WIC Program served approximately 3,300 program participants per month this year. This unit also successfully integrated a required Breastfeeding component, with the support of 1- PT Lactation Consultant and 2- PT Peer Counselors serving our three WIC locations: Sewell, Paulsboro and Williamstown with extended hours two evenings each week. In the summer of 2017, our WIC Unit was presented with a Gold Award for demonstrating model practices in breastfeeding promotion and support through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)'s Loving Support Award of Excellence program. The award program was established to recognize local WIC agencies that have provided exemplary breastfeeding promotion and support activities with the intent to provide models and motivate other local agencies to strengthen their breastfeeding promotion and support activities to ultimately increase breastfeeding initiation and duration rates among WIC participants.

An area of focus in 2018 will evolve around increasing participation rates with special emphasis upon our Spanish speaking populations.

Looking Ahead

2018 prepared Goals & Objectives will assure that Gloucester County Department of Health continues to advance operations forward with the goal of preventing, promoting, protecting and preparing all of our citizenry to “Strive for a Healthier” lifestyle.

We are mindful of the fact that we are only as healthy as the world we live in. We believe our services can benefit everyone, every day, everywhere in Gloucester County.

You are welcome to visit us at:

www.gloucestercountynj.gov

Or contact us directly at:

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MISSION AND VISION

Vision

Strive for a Healthier Gloucester County

Our Mission is to:

Prevent illness and injury

Promote positive health behaviors

Protect people and the environment

Prepare for public health emergencies

Prevent. Promote. Protect. Prepare.



VALUES – H.E.A.L.T.H

H – HELPFUL-----Our residents come first, customer service oriented

- Respectful
- Approachable
- Courteous

E- EXCELLENCE-----Do your best every day to deliver high quality services

- Productivity
- Responsiveness
- Quality

A – ACCOUNTABILITY-----Take pride in your work

- Integrity
- Responsibility
- Honesty

L – LEADERS-----Trusted source, model a healthy lifestyle

- Initiative
- Role model

T – TEAMWORK----- Work together

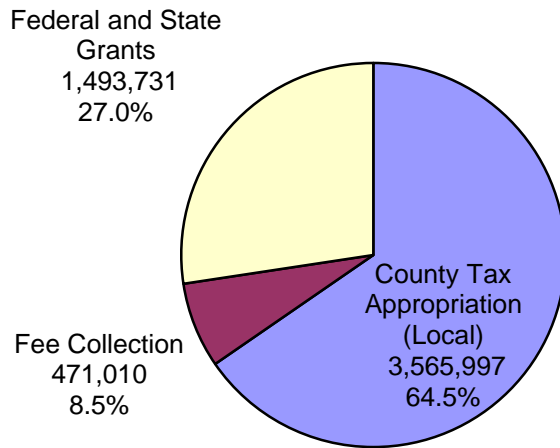
- Collaboration
- Communication

H –HEALTHY----- Make health a priority

- Prevention
- Wellness
- Healthy choices



**2017 ACTUAL FISCAL
YEAR FUNDING**



2017 Annual Report

CORE ACTIVITY		
Administration	Sessions /Participants	
Smoking Complaints	2	2
Nutrition Sessions	23	652
Physical Fitness (3 sessions)	23	997
Environmental Health	Inspections	
<u>Bathing Places</u>		
Plan reviews		
# of year-round facilities licensed	3	
# of seasonal facilities licensed	34	
# of swimming/wading pools operating	66	
# of hot tub/ spa operating	87	
# bathing beach-lake operating	5	
# of pre-operational year-round inspects	8	
# of pre-operational seasonal inspects	1	
# routine year-round inspections	71	
# routine seasonal inspections	34	
# routine re-inspected year-round	66	
# routine re-inspected seasonal	29	
# complaint year-round inspections	58	
# complaint seasonal inspections	1	
# swimming/wading pools features closed	-	
# of hot tub/ spa features closed	6	
# bathing beach-lake features closed	5	
Enforcement actions	-	

	45
<u>Campgrounds</u>	
Total Facilities	4
Facilities inspected	4
Facilities re-inspected	2
<u>Youth Camps</u>	
Youth Camps	11
Pre-operational	11
re-inspections	4
<u>Food Surveillance</u>	
Plan reviews	127
# pre-operational retail food	87
# licensed permanent fixed Level 1	90
# licensed permanent fixed Level 2	769
# licensed permanent fixed Level 3	325
# licensed mobile	61
# licensed temporary	309
Establishments	Inspections
# inspections permanent fixed Level 1	90
# inspections permanent fixed Level 2	769
# inspections permanent fixed Level 3	325
# inspections mobile	61
# inspections temporary	309
Establishments inspected	
# re-inspections permanent fixed Level 1	13
# re-inspections permanent fixed Level 2	262
# re-inspections permanent fixed Level 3	198
# re-inspections mobile	1
# re-inspections temporary	-
Complaints investigations non-routine	92

Complaints inspections non-routine	19
Enforcement actions	6
<u>Public Health Nuisances</u>	
Complaints	9
Investigations	5
Enforcement actions	-
<u>Wells and Drinking Water</u>	
Potable Well inspections	309
Unduplicated potable wells	180
Well Certificates of compliance	141
Well investigations	13
<u>Rabies</u>	
Pet shops inspected	8
Kennels inspected	6
Pre-operational shelters	-
Pre-operational Pet Shops	8
Pre-operational Kennels	6
Routine inspections Pet Shops	8
Routine inspections Kennels	6
Routine inspections Shelters	1
Re-inspections Pet Shops	5
Re-inspections Kennels	1
Re-inspections Shelters	-
Animal bite investigations	789
<u>Rabies Vaccine Disseminated</u>	
Dog's vaccinated In free clinics	2,318
Cat's vaccinated In free clinics	413
<u>Tanning</u>	Inspections
Tanning inspections	12
Tanning re-inspections	18
Tanning complaint	

<u>Septic</u>	2
install	
re-inspection	491
licensed issued	716
	471
<u>Tattoo</u>	
Licensed body art	40
Routine inspections	40
Re-inspections	11
Complaint inspections	3
Unlicensed	-
NURSING	Cases/Clients
<u>Communicable Diseases</u>	
Cases of reportable	1298 (number sent by state) (3491 =CDRSS CD + STD)
<u>Immunizations</u>	
School age children immunizations	2269
School age children immunized	1763
Number child age 0-4 Immunized	503
Children 0-4 Immunizations	1228
# Childcare/Pre-K facilities	133
# Childcare/Pre-K facilities-audited	133
# Kindergarten facilities	64
# Kindergarten facilities-audited	64
# Grade 1 facilities	57
# Grade 1 audited	57
# Grade 6 facilities	44
# Grade 6 facilities-audited	44
# High School facilities	25
# High School facilities-audited	25
<u>Tuberculosis Control</u>	
PPD tests	622
PPD unduplicated clients	619
<u>Sexually Transmitted Disease</u>	
total tests	1641
unduplicated clients tested	590
syphilis case investigations	32
HIV/AIDS-tests	583
HIV/AIDS-unduplicated clients	570

<u>Clinic Based</u>	Cases/Clients
number of medical visits	12,848
unduplicated medical services	12,193
home-based nursing visits (DOT's & Lead)	519
unduplicated home-based nursing (DOT's & Lead)	35
<u>Childhood Lead Poisoning</u>	
children screened	90
lead tests	90
<u>Adult Health</u>	
<u>Hypertension unduplicated clients</u>	274
<u>Hypertension tests</u>	275
<u>Diabetes</u>	
unduplicated risk assessments completed	356
Tests performed	357
<u>CVD</u>	
unduplicated risk factor assessments	362
tests	364
<u>Older Adult</u>	
adult immunizations	6212
adults immunized	6138
older adult immunizations	2523
older adults immunized	2517
SPECIAL CHILD HEALTH	Cases/Clients
Referrals	653
Discharged	711
Direct Contacts	2,722
Women Infant and Children	Cases/Clients
Number of clients	5,938
ELECTIVE ACTIVITY	Sessions /Participants
OTHER HEALTH SERVICES	
MRC-members	50
MRC-trainings	4
BT PRESENTATIONS	4
Zika Presentations	3 Vector borne
Zika Brochure Distribution	

WHS	225
Bed Bug Presentations	2
Food Safety Presentations	1
Blood Borne Pathogen Training	24 includes infectious disease awareness presentations