

WABASH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Annual Report 2024



I present in this document, the Annual Report of the Wabash County Health Department on behalf of the Wabash County Board of Health and the Wabash County Health Department Employees. This report is intended to represent the services provided during the time frame of December 1 2023 through November 30, 2024.

This annual report is just a snapshot of some of the work our staff does at the Health Department. Our staff works hard to meet the needs of the individuals we serve and takes an active role in our community. The Health Department has added several new programs in 2024 and we are looking forward to what 2025 brings to us and to our community.

Judy Wissel, Administrator

Mission Statement:

Promoting Lifelong Health and Wellness Close to Home.

Wabash County Health Department Staff

Administration:

Judy Wissel, M.S., NCC, LCPC, Administrator
Kendra Grounds, RN, Director of Public Health
Tonya Potts, AAS, Chief Financial Officer
Audra Spray, AGS, Executive Assistant
Amanda Hayes, Billing Coordinator

Public Health:

Tina Lents, RN, Health Services Coordinator
Liz Davis, RN, CLC
Barb Escobedo, RN, CLC
Christy Mayberry, RN, CLC
Paula Murphy, LPN
Alma Defendoll, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor

Environmental Health:

Marina Sample, LEHP, Health Inspector

Emergency Planning:

Tristan Barbre, PHEP Coordinator, Director of Prevention

Prevention:

Steve Akins, AOK Coordinator
Gracie Barnes, Family Engagement Specialist
Brianna Birkla, Drug Free Communities Coordinator
Ronda Lawson, Health Education
Katie Iles, Ticket for the Cure Outreach
Megan Storckman, Ticket for the Cure Patient Navigation

Wabash County Health Center Staff:

Kent Freeland, LCPC, LFMT, Therapist
Shauna Smith, LCSW, Therapist
Lisa Clodfelter, MSW
Leigh Ann O'Donnell, Administrative Support
Brittany Cox, Administrative Support

PUBLIC HEALTH – Health Services

The Wabash County Health Department Public Health Division offers a variety of services which are designed to promote healthy lifestyles for all clients. The Health Services Program at WCHD provides many services to residents of our community. The following are some of those services: Immunizations, Lead Screening, TB testing treatment and follow up, Communicable Disease follow-up, Foreign Travel Consultation, Free Blood Pressure Checks, Foot Care Clinic, Jail visits, and provide laboratory services for Quest Select members and self-pay clients. There were 233 Foot Clinic visits and 146 Lead screenings. Three hundred seven laboratory services were provided. Nine hundred eighty-four influenza vaccinations, 430 COVID-19 vaccinations and 1,928 additional vaccinations were given.

WIC

The WIC (Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program) provides health assessments, nutritional education, and supplemental food to pregnant women, infants and children up to 5 years of age. The Health Department provides in office visits in both Wabash and Edwards Counties. This year, the WIC program averaged 320 participants per month. The WIC program also promotes and supports breastfeeding and employs a part-time Breastfeeding Peer Counselor. The Peer Counselor started a breastfeeding support group this year, which was well received. The Health Department also employs a PRN International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant. This allows us to offer more in-depth lactation support to our WIC moms and non-WIC moms in our community.

Family Case Management

The Family Case Management Program (FCM) registered nurses served 217 participants in Wabash and Edwards Counties during this reporting period. The nurses assess the family's medical, social, economic, and educational status, as well as, mental health and wellness. Care plans are created by the nurse to guide the care of each family. In collaboration with Illinois Healthworks, the Health Department provides medical case management to foster children up through age six. Through case management funding, the Health Department also has a High-Risk Infant follow-up program. This program provided additional screenings and follow-up to 21 children during 2024. Twenty children received medical case management.

New Public Health Grants

During 2024, the Health Department Public Health Division received additional grant funding for a Residential Sharps Collection Program and Respiratory Surveillance and Outbreak Response. The Health Department handed out 39 sharps containers that are to be returned for disposal, at no cost to the client. The Respiratory Surveillance grant supports the continuation of our infectious disease program.

Reproductive Health

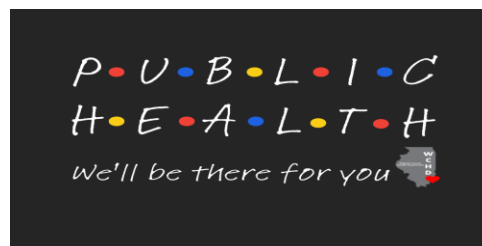
The Reproductive Health and Wellness Program at the Wabash County Health Department provides comprehensive family planning services to men and women of reproductive age. The intent of the program is to improve the wellbeing of our community by lowering the incidence of unintended pregnancy, improving maternal and infant health, and reducing the incidence of abortion. All clinical staff working in the program are required to complete specific training designed to provide high quality client centered services. The program saw 95 unduplicated clients during 2024. The program clinician conducted 105 exams, 88 STD tests, 18 Pap smears, 14 HPV DNA tests and 14 breast exams. The payor source for clients was primarily Illinois Medicaid at 51%. Twenty-seven percent had private insurance, 17% were no-fee clients and 5% were partial-fee clients.

Public Health Statistics

December 1, 2023 – November 30, 2024

Communicable Diseases Reported

Campylobacteriosis	2	Hemophilus Influenza	1
Chlamydia	15	Strep Disease Invasive Group A	1
Gonorrhea	2	Rabies, Potential Exposure	4
Salmonellosis	2	Hepatitis C – Chronic	1



Behavior Health Division

The Behavior Health Division continues to provide outpatient mental health services through the Wabash Community Health Center. Those services include counseling for individuals, couples and families. The Division provides treatment services for those dealing with substance use disorders as well by offering individual and group therapy. The Division also provides DUI evaluations, Updates and Driver's Risk Education. Staff also participate on the Wabash County Drug Court. Clinical Supervision for all clinical therapists is provided by Wabash County Health Department.



Prevention

In 2024, the WCHD established the Prevention Division to encompass a variety of public health prevention-based programs. These programs include Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP), All Our Kids Network (AOK), Flu/Fit/Hep B Education and Outreach, Tobacco Education and Prevention, Oral Health Promotion Program, and the newly acquired Drug Free Communities and Caroline Adams Ticket for the Cure. Each grant supports the residents of Wabash County through outreach to improve health literacy, improve health outcomes, drive policy change, address health inequities and continuously build strong relationships with the community we serve.

Emergency Preparedness

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant supports Wabash County in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from threats and emergencies. In 2024, we focused on building our community collaboration by actively engaging a multitude of sector representatives in the preparedness processes including facilitating the Emergency Response Group. The increased collaboration has added great value to the planning and exercise process for each representative, providing expanded whole community process.

All Our Kids (AOK)

The Wabash/Edwards All Our Kids (AOK) Early Childhood Network is a collaboration of community members, educators, and health professionals who promote the health and positive development of pregnant women, young children and their caregivers by improving program and resource awareness, accessibility and quality. In 2024, AOK hosted 11 network meetings and 3 workgroup meetings, where we continued planning for our next 5-year goal of promoting healthy weight in children and their families. Additionally, we continued our Literacy Initiative through the promotion of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library which benefits 250 children in Wabash County. We continue to partner with the WCHD HERO Foundation's Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank, who distributes free diapers to over 100 families each month. Through our continued work with our partners, we seek to improve success rates for kids entering Kindergarten by improving the early childhood system.



Flu/Fit/Hep B

The Flu/Fit/Hepatitis B program provides outreach and education to the Wabash County Community. Information on the importance of Flu and Hepatitis Immunizations are provided through multiple social media and other mix media platforms. At the drive through flu clinic, we distributed Colorectal Screening Kits to individuals interested in the screening. After test completion, residents may bring their tests back in to have their screening read in-house by the nursing staff. Results are then submitted to the individuals PCP.

Tobacco Education

The Illinois Tobacco Free Communities grant provides tobacco compliance checks and the distribution of tobacco free signage. Additionally, the Tobacco Coordinator works with local schools to deliver vape and tobacco free curriculum-based education to young children in efforts to reduce tobacco use among teens and young adults. As well as seeking policy change with local schools on vape usage on campus and within annual student handbooks.

Oral Health Promotion

The Oral Health Promotion program increased its efforts in 2024 through collaboration with WIC services in Edwards, Wayne, and Wabash counties. This year's focus was on the benefits of supporting good oral health practices for infants and adults alike. WIC nurses provided oral health management goal sheets, along with education on the benefits of tap water, encouraged weaning from the bottle starting at six months with an approved sippy cup. We have also offered quarterly educational outreach at events and in classroom presentations for young children in all three counties.

Drug Free Communities

In October of 2024, the Wabash County Health Department was awarded a 5-year CDC Drug Free Communities grant. The DFC- Support Program is the nation's leading effort to mobilize communities to prevent youth substance use. Through collaborative efforts with Wabash County Schools, we were able to identify data supporting the need for increased preventative efforts regarding youth's alcohol and marijuana use. This grant allows us to mobilize community leaders and youth to identify and respond to the unique challenges that face our community.



Ticket for the Cure

This year we secured a one-year Caroline Adams Ticket for the Cure Patient Navigation grant and Ticket for the Cure Outreach and Education grant. These grants, while separate, are collaborative in their efforts to provide support and services to 5 counties, Wabash, Edwards, Wayne, White and Richland. These grants provide education through media campaigns and in-person events as well as direct service Breast Cancer Patient Navigation, assisting clients with addressing barriers, plan care of support, education resources, and care coordination as well as non-clinical interventions for individuals who have had an abnormal breast screening or have a positive diagnosis.

Environmental Health

The goal of the Environmental Health Division is to reduce the incidence of disease and injury related to environmental factors in Wabash County. These programs include, but are not limited to: Food Sanitation, Potable Water Supply Program, Private Sewage Program, Nuisance Program, and Vector Control Program.

Environmental Health Inspections:

Food Inspections	82	Food Complaints	4
Sewage Permits Issued	7	Sewage Inspections	10
Water Well Permits	2	Water Supply Inspections	3
Water Samples Collected	14	Nuisance Control	3
Tick Drags	6		

Cash Financial Statement

Income Statement for Year End November 30, 2024

Revenues:

Fee for Services	\$517,303.45
State & Local Grants	\$802,371.09
COVID Funding	\$ 39,543.13
County Funds	\$113,117.43
708 Board Funds	\$ 78,311.12
Interest Earned	\$ 45,837.09
Other Reimbursements	\$ 12,811.77
Salary Reimbursements	\$441,225.81
Total Revenues	\$2,050,520.89

Expenses:

Salaries	\$1,079,145.18
Employee Benefits	\$284,866.44
Contractual Services	\$275,553.94
Supplies/Other Expenses	\$315,669.32
Travel	\$ 7,550.87
Occupancy	\$ 20,387.92
Total Expenses:	\$1,983,173.67

Net Income **\$ 67,347.22**

Cash Balance as of November 30, 2022 **\$1,822,063.79**

Board of Health

Wabash County Health Department Board of Health

Bryce Miller, DMD, President

Theresa Marcotte, DNP, RN, CNE, President Elect

Scott West, County Commissioner

Marcia Hall, Secretary

Mark Brines

Lawrence Jennings, M.D.

Cindy Bishop

Lauren Croft, M.D.

Darrel Thompson

Vision and Values

Vision: In carrying out the Mission, the Wabash County Health Department will strive to:

1. Protect the health of the community through environmental health programs, public health programs, emergency preparedness and behavior health programs.
2. Provide services to individuals that may not otherwise have access to services.
3. Provide information to the community related to health, wellness, prevention and public safety.
4. Be a facility in this community that individuals can count on for accurate information, effective, efficient and quality services.

Values:

1. Customer Satisfaction: We value the individuals we serve and are dedicated to assisting those we serve achieve a high level of satisfaction with those services.
2. Community Partner: We value the others in our community and are committed to working together for the betterment of our community.
3. Professionalism: We value the professional work environment where individuals are treated with respect and where individual rights are held in high regard.
4. Financial: We value fiscal responsibility and practice responsible fiscal activities.
5. Continuous Improvement: We value the process of examining the functions of the agency with future improvements in mind.
6. Employees: We value our qualified employees and the contributions each one makes in providing services to the individuals we serve.

Wabash County Health Department

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