District Health Department No. 2

FY 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Proudly serving the counties of Alcona, Iosco, Ogemaw & Oscoda
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A Message from the Health Officer

To the Residents of Alcona, Iosco, Ogemaw, and Oscoda Counties,

On behalf of the Board of Health Commissioners and District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2) staff, I am pleased to present our 2016-2017 Annual Report. It is my privilege to serve as your Health Officer, and this was a very exciting and transformative year.

DHD2 prides itself on innovative thinking and resiliency. Recognizing the financial fragility of two small local health departments, this was my inaugural year in being a shared Health Officer with District Health Department No. 4 (DHD4). I worked two (2) days in the Alpena office for DHD4, and three (3) days in the West Branch office. This provided for critical cost-sharing opportunities as well as maximizing collaboration and resources. A focus has been on mentoring new leadership teams in both health departments and looking to create connections with local stakeholders and community partners. This is a true investment in sustainability for both local health departments. For the first time in DHD2 history, $250,000 revenue was moved into a Certification of Deposit.

Public health advocacy and alternate water efforts continued in order to address the increased concerns for the PFAS contamination related to the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base. For a second year, DHD2 operated in an informal incident command structure working with a multi-disciplinary team made up of all departments - Clinics, Environmental Health, Health Education and Administration. These outstanding efforts were recognized by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services by awarding DHD2 the distinguished Director’s Award for Excellence in Local Public Health. There is much more work to be done for our residents of Iosco County, and for many more communities in the State of Michigan facing PFAS contamination. This indeed, is a true testament to the importance of local public health.

DHD2 staff and our Board of Health are committed to our public health mission to promote health, safety and prosperity in the communities we live, work and play in!

Here to Serve,

Denise M. Bryan, M.P.A.
Health Officer

District Health Department No. 2 was awarded the distinguished Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director’s Award for Excellence in Local Public Health for FY 2016-2017
A Message from the Medical Director

Public Health, an entity and a thought most individuals ponder little; until an outbreak of communicable or infectious disease occurs, an environmental disaster befalls us, or a community-wide safety concern becomes a threat to residents’ health and safety. The fact that so few think so infrequently about Public Health is a testament to the level of competency and oversight the hard-working folks within the specialty area of Public Health retain. Public Health displays, daily, the business of preventing disease and injury, promoting health and safety, and protecting the people and the environment.

As has been seen in recent times, chemically contaminated water and soil is an ongoing issue, ongoing and recurrent infectious diseases of livestock and wildlife shows up sporadically, periodic outbreaks in congregate living settings occurs intermittently, and contaminated foods causing human illnesses are sometimes problematic; are these and more are addressed by the dedicated individuals who have made Public Health their life and livelihood.

District Health Department No. 2 remains ever-vigilant in its surveillance of the horizon for a multitude of potential and actual threats. We have addressed Ebola, human and bovine tuberculosis, wasting disease in wildlife, contamination of imported fruit from abroad, and other food-associated issues, PFAS environmental contamination, nursing facility and school influenza and norovirus outbreaks, and a host of other threats to the health and safety of the public.

We have and will continue to provide assurance to the community we serve that the best health and safety interests are our highest priority. We advocate for a progressively healthier environment and society. We continue to promote good public policy with health and safety addressed in all we do. We have an obligation to enforce policies, laws and regulations to the best of our ability, particularly when a threat appears to undermine the health and safety of the community.

As we move forward, I want you, our community, to know that District Health Department No. 2 is here because of you and for you. Feel free to ask questions and expect to get answers.

Sincerely,

Dr. Russell L. Bush, M.D., M.P.H.
Medical Director
Mission, Vision, & Values

Our Mission: District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2) provides leadership in promoting environmental and personal health through health promotion, disease detection, disease prevention, education and regulation.

Our Vision: A healthier environment and community for all.
• Transferred $43,000 into our reserve account due to savings from the Shared Health Officer agreement with DHD4.

• Used $250,000 to purchase a Certificate of Deposit that yields 1.2% annually and becomes mature in August 2018.

• Purchased a new Environmental Health Software system to enhance efficiencies and leverage new technology.

• DHD2’s net position increased for the fiscal year by $198,804.00
What Does DHD2 Do For You?

Every day, District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2) works to promote health and well-being for all people in Alcona, Iosco, Ogemaw and Oscoda Counties.

Protect

DHD2 works to prevent and monitor disease outbreaks. Environmental Health works to ensure safe drinking water and food. DHD2 is also ready to respond to any health emergency - bioterrorism threat or an environmental hazard.

In 2017, DHD2 again partnered with several local agencies to implement the second and final year of the grant funded program “Prescription for Health” in eight counties across northern Michigan. To help improve food choices, activity level and overall nutrition of the communities served, program participants attended a series of nutrition education sessions and received $10 vouchers. These vouchers were redeemable for fresh fruits and vegetables, for each week attended. To ensure no participating county missed out, DHD2’s Registered Dietitian acted as the county lead for Oscoda County and met the goal of 200 participants far in advance of the deadline.

Educate

DHD2 now offers long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC) in collaboration with Mid-Michigan Health.

Provide

DHD2 provides the public with information about making healthy decisions, like exercising, eating right, quitting smoking or simply handwashing to keep from spreading illness.

Advance

Telehealth Virtual Health System continues to be a venture between DHD2 and AuSable Valley Community Mental Health Authority. In FY 17, telehealth had a total of 6 patients. The delivery model is for adults with severe mental illness and co-occurring disorders. Telehealth patients receive a variety of services including lab draws, prescriptions, and referrals to specialists. Telehealth benefits include; reduced travel time and cost, especially in our rural jurisdiction, and provides greater access to healthcare services.
Community Impacts

PFAS Response at the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base

District Health Department No. 2 remains committed to sustained response and advocacy related to PFAS contamination from the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda Township. We continued our efforts to provide alternate water to residents whose ground water wells had been effected by the contamination. With funding provided by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, water filters, a water cooler or financial assistance for municipal water was provided. In fiscal year 2016-2017, District Health Department No. 2 provided alternate water to 113 households and businesses.

Additionally, to ensure all residents in the area were aware of the contamination and what options are available to them, a door-to-door awareness campaign was conducted. DHD2 staff along with officials from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and State Senator Jim Stamas, went door-to-door in the effected area to talk to residents about the contamination. Over five days, approximately 200 homes were visited and information was provided on alternate water options.

District Health Department No. 2 will continue to serve as a resource for residents in the Oscoda area related to the PFAS contamination. We will provide alternate water to eligible residents and provide accurate and credible information to anyone with questions or concerns. Safe drinking water is something all citizens are entitled to and District Health Department No. 2 will continue to pursue our mission and provide leadership in promoting environmental and personal health. We will advocate for the citizens of the area until a permanent solution for clean drinking water can be provided.

22
IN-HOME WATER COOLER DISTRIBUTED

15
MUNICIPAL HOOK-UPS

91
REVERSE OSMOSIS FILTER SYSTEMS INSTALLED
Community Impacts

Big Latch On 2017

During Breastfeeding Awareness Week, both Iosco and Ogemaw Counties held Global Big Latch On events. The event is to raise awareness and support for breastfeeding women in the community by having mothers nurse their babies at the same time across the globe. Both events received many donations from local businesses and were able to provide refreshments, photography and prizes for participants which included free haircuts and salon vouchers. In total, there were 15 moms who participated, double from the previous year! The goal is to continue to raise awareness and build a community of support for breastfeeding women in our area through this event and others like it throughout the entire year.

Furthermore, in 2017, DHD2 received the Gold Level of the Michigan Breastfeeding Network Breastfeeding-Friendly Workplace Award. We were recognized on social media for going above and beyond Michigan law for breastfeeding women.

Hepatitis A Strawberry Contamination Response

In October 2016, a long-term care facility in Ogemaw County received a recall letter for frozen strawberries that may have been infected with Hepatitis A. Due to DHD2’s reputation of respect in the community, the facility immediately reached out to DHD2 for review and advice. The facility was concerned because the strawberries had already been consumed. DHD2’s communicable disease nurse promptly contacted the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). MDHHS was able to share this information with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). This was critical because CDC and other FDA counterparts had not yet been informed. DHD2’s notice to MDHHS, and their immediate notice to MDARD, was the first awareness of the recall and potential risk by any agency in Michigan. This notification allowed Michigan to identify at-risk populations for prophylaxis in the short time window that was available.

As a result, 39 residents of the facility received IgG and 11 received the Hepatitis A vaccination.

At the 17th Annual MDHHS Communicable Disease Conference, DHD2 received an award for stellar strawberry follow-up and timely notification to MDHHS!
Community Health Programs

DHD2 continues to provide a wide-range of health services for people of all ages within our jurisdiction. Some highlights include:

- Family Planning Program began offering Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARCs).
- Tobacco Smoking Cessation Initiative available in Family Planning Program.
- Registered Nurse recruited for Children’s Special Health Care Services.
- DHD2 rated in the Top Quartile in variable completion of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children’s Special Healthcare</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Clients</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Immunizations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Immunizations Given</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flu Vaccinations Given</td>
<td>731</td>
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<td>Tuberculosis Skin Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Family Planning and Women’s Healthcare</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Healthcare Clinic Visits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Planning Clients</td>
<td>519</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Home Visiting Programs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) Visits</td>
<td>1899</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthy Families Northern Michigan Visits</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Student Hearing and Vision Screenings</strong></td>
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<td>Number of Hearing Screenings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Vision Screenings</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WIC</strong></td>
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<td>Monthly Caseload Average</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Communicable Disease</strong></td>
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<td>Court Ordered HIV Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communicable Disease Investigations</td>
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<td><strong>Number of Cases</strong></td>
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<td>Foodborne</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influenza</td>
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<tr>
<td>STD</td>
<td>86</td>
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<td>Vaccine Preventable Disease</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viral Hepatitis</td>
<td>72</td>
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</table>
Community Health At-A Glance

- 361 Communicable Disease Investigations
- 1,239 MIHP Visits
- 4,777 Vision Screens Conducted
- 2,838 Immunizations Given
- 16 Foodborne Illness Investigations
- 16 BCCCP Nurse Practitioner Visits
- 453 Lead Tests Conducted
- 314 Family Planning Clients
- 2,696 Hearing Screens Conducted
- 1,269 Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Client Contacts
- 37 STI's Treated
- 145 Sexually Transmitted Infection Investigations
Community Health Highlights

Infant Mortality Task Force

Due to Iosco County’s infant mortality rate of 4.4 deaths/1,000 live births, a task force was created to combat preventable infant deaths through implementing effective interventions through a collaborative process. Twenty community organizations and stakeholders are participating to create a collaborative impact. The workplan includes hosting a county-wide baby shower and providing grandparent education.

All members of the task force posed for a “all hands in” photo on a baby blanket to solidify our commitment to ending infant mortality due to unsafe sleep practices.

Rapid H.I.V. Testing

Staff traveled to two local jails to perform Rapid HIV testing. 48 free tests were conducted.

In August, 2017, the program had its first ever MDHHS CTR Site Visit. The program was noted to be well-run and conducted safely and efficiently.

138

DHD2 conducted 138 Rapid HIV tests in FY 2016-2017

know your status. get tested.
Health Education

Taking Charge Program

During 2016 – 2017, the Taking Charge Program, administered through the Michigan Abstinence Program (MAP), was able to reach youth in six (6) school districts – offering approved programming and service learning.

School Districts Served:

- Fairview Area Schools
- Mio-AuSable Schools
- Oscoda Area Schools
- St. Joseph Catholic School
- Tawas Area Schools

Pictured: Erin Blakely, Health Educator, with St. Joseph Catholic School 7th Grade Students

103 of 284 students completed at least 10 volunteer service learning hours.

90% of participating youth declared they would practice abstinence.

284 7th grade students were served by Taking Charge

Youth Tobacco Compliance Checks

During the 2016 – 2017 fiscal year the Youth Tobacco Program checked twenty-three tobacco retailers within the four county service area. During these checks, only one store sold a tobacco product to the minor. During the checks, staff worked with local youth, local law enforcement and the Michigan State Police. Thirty-two tobacco retail locations were educated and had signs updated to make sure they are preventing tobacco sales to minors.

23:1 Non-Synar Checks: 23 sales were attempted with only 1 sale occurring.

32 32 out of 98 tobacco retailers received retailer education and signage
Emergency Preparedness

Volunteer Reception Centers

When major disasters strike, emergency responders’ resources can become easily overwhelmed and unable to provide aide to those effected. One of the resources that can become limited are volunteers. Accepting help from spontaneous volunteers can cause great concern among emergency response personnel. The concern is rooted in uncertainty regarding their ability to properly respond to the situation. For example, each disaster usually calls for a specialized skill set. Uncertainties regarding education, experiences, or even criminal history could result in dangerous situations for both emergency responders and victims of the disaster.

Volunteer Reception Centers (VRC) are a systematic approach to register, verify credentials, check criminal history, and assign volunteers to the most appropriate role in the response. The VRC is scalable, can target specific needs during a disaster, and is easily incorporated into the incident management structure. With modification, it can be used to deploy previously vetted groups.

District Health Department No. 2 participated in a collaborative planning initiative with various healthcare partners in Michigan’s Emergency Preparedness Region 3. Public Health, County Emergency Managers and the Region 3 Healthcare Coalition worked collaboratively with volunteer groups such as Citizen Corps, CERT, and Medical Reserve Corps, among others, to create a regional VRC plan.

This planning initiative worked with the above established groups to plan and provide training on the operation of a fully functional VRC. Upon training completion, volunteer groups are prepared for deployment to a disaster to set up and operate a VRC.

District Health Department No. 2 played a significant role in the development of this regional planning effort as well as coordinated a training exercise for over 50 volunteers in the region. Over the course of a year, the Emergency Preparedness Coordinators from across the region developed the Region 3 Volunteer Reception Center Plan. This plan was exercised at the Region 3 Volunteer Conference on October 15, 2016.
Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Division of DHD2 provides services that aid to protect public health and help ensure the protection of the environment within our communities. Programs administered and services provided through this division are authorized by the State of Michigan or within the jurisdiction of our local environmental health code.

DHD2 Registered Sanitarians educate the public, enforce public health laws and investigate environmental public health hazards to protect and improve our residents’ relationships with their environments/communities.

New or annual inspections are performed for a variety of retail food operations (restaurants, carry-outs, temporary events), private/residential sewage systems, private/residential water systems (wells) and public recreational facilities (swimming pools and campgrounds).

Hedgehog Program: Environmental Health at DHD2 started using the Hedgehog Software Program in 2017 to streamline all programs as well as provide reliable environmental health management data. Tablets were purchased for EH staff and the program is currently being used in the food program for fixed and temporary food establishments, the well program, and also fixed and temporary campgrounds.
Environmental Health At-A-Glance

**Food Operations**
- 52 Temporary Food Inspections
- 5 Plan Reviews
- 437 Restaurant Inspections
- 38 Food Complaint Investigations

**Public Waters & Recreation**
- 449 Bacterial Surface Water Tests Conducted
- 248 Great Lakes Samples
- 201 Inland Lake Samples
- 100 Public Campground & Swimming Pool Inspections

**Private & Residential Water Systems**
- 315 Drinking Water Analyses
- 425 New/Replacement Wastewater Permits
- 425 Well Permits
- 295 On-Site Wastewater Final Inspections
- 375 On-Site Well Inspections
Home Health Care

The DHD2 Home Health Agency, has been serving the area for 26 years, providing a full range of in-home services. Sadly, 2017 was the last year for this program.

We are proud of the quality of the services provided to the community. The patients in the program often shared how much they appreciated the staff and remarked about their kindness, skills, commitment and professionalism. In addition, the program was nationally recognized for several consecutive years by receiving the distinguished “Fazzi Award of Distinction for Agencies That Provided Superior Performance In Patient Satisfaction.”

The program became challenged by the changes in the healthcare environment such as insurance guidelines and payment delays, stringent Medicare guidelines, and other external factors.

Special thanks to our dedicated home health staff: Bonnie Klann (30 years), Liz Chadwick (24 years), Lora Gordon (18 years) and Laurie Hiltz (17 years).

Working with our Partners

Thank You....................

Healthy businesses and partners create healthy communities. In recognizing this, District Health Department No. 2 would like to sincerely thank the many state, regional, and local organizations, agencies, entities, and individuals who have worked with us to help make so many projects possible. Their dedication, commitment and collaboration have been vital to the success of DHD2 and the health and well-being of Alcona, Iosco, Ogemaw, and Oscoda County residents.

We look forward to continued collaboration efforts in the years to come!
DHD2 Strong

Our agency’s success is due to the dedication of our employees. The following employees are recognized for their longevity and service of 10 years or more.

Jeanette Breaugh  29 years
Nancy Flynn       28 years
Mary Damron       26 years
Cliff Church      24 years
Dave Schmidt      23 years
Lori Ann Clover   23 years
Marilynn Pearson  22 years
Holly Brindley    21 years
Jody Dantzer      20 years
Sharon Langley    19 years

Don Rousseau      18 years
Connie Stasiak    17 years
Brenda Kennedy    15 years
Cori Upper        15 years
Mike Anschuetz    15 years
Allison Ostrander 14 years
Tracey Wood       14 years
Rebecca Allison   13 years
Karla Mattson     11 years

Locations

Alcona County
Harrisville Office
311 Lake Street
Harrisville, MI 48740
Phone: (989) 724-6757
Fax: (989) 343-1894

Iosco County
Tawas Office
420 W. Lake Street
Tawas City, MI 48764
Phone: (989) 362-6183
Fax: (989) 362-5211

Ogemaw County
West Branch Office
630 Progress Street
West Branch, MI 48661
Phone: 989-343-5020
Fax: (989) 343-1899

Oscoda County
Mio Office
393 S. Mt.Tom Road
Mio, MI 48764
Phone: (989) 826-3970
Fax: (989) 343-1895

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