



# Health Commissioner / Medical Director Report Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

**October 7, 2015**

This report provides a monthly update for the Board of Health, staff and the community. Our key activities are listed for the seven pillars that support our vision for improving the health of our community.

- Prevent the spread of disease
- Protect against health threats
- Promote healthy behaviors
- Reach out to vulnerable populations
- Mobilize community action through partnerships
- Prepare for and respond to public health emergencies
- Serve as a public health information resource

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## Special items

### **Step Up To Success! – Diversity & Inclusion**

Our Diversity and Inclusion Champions have completed specialized training. Areas of training included presentation skills and positive storytelling, understanding teams, communication skills and styles, Socratic questioning, handling difficult conversations, dealing with unconscious biases at work, managing change, supporting policy review, on-boarding process and program development. Our Champions will support our initiatives throughout the organization and work with our Steering Committee in the development of our written Diversity and Inclusion Plan.

#### Champions

Mark McCurtis	Administration
Holly Williams	Administration
Teresa C. Bates	Disease Prevention
Laura Hale	Disease Prevention
Jenny Riley	Environmental Health
Odilia Ndefru Tumanjong	Environmental Health
Brenda Alexander	Office of the Health Commissioner
J. Gary Gonnella	Office of the Health Commissioner

Our Steering Committee has formed and will meet this month to begin the development of our Diversity and Inclusion Plan. Our committee members represent all levels and divisions within Public Health:

Roy Jordan	Administration
Jessie Underwood	Disease Prevention

Connie Freese  
Barbara Marsh  
Cheryl Scroggins  
Linda Burrs

Environmental Health  
Office of the Health Commissioner  
Office of the Health Commissioner  
Step Up to Success!

## Prevent the spread of diseases

### Local Investigations

Pertussis cases increased during the month; there were 9 probable/confirmed cases in children ages 2 months to 12 years old and two in adults ages 18 and 49. There were no school or daycare links between cases. Reported cases are not classified as confirmed until the cough has been present for 14 days. Close contacts were appropriately treated.

## Protect against health threats

### Health District Licensing Council

The Health District Licensing Council's annual meeting was held on September 22. The Council meets annually for the purposes of approving our Environmental Health Food Program license fees and electing a representative as a Board of Health member. The Council is comprised of business representatives of the sectors we inspect: restaurants, grocery stores, pools, campgrounds and the solid waste industry. The Council is part of a system of checks and balances pertaining to setting fees for the various program licenses.

Environmental Health uses calculation formulas that are mandated and provided by the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Agriculture to determine maximum allowable license fees for the upcoming year. The Council's fee recommendations for 2016 are included in today's Board of Health packet for public comment. Of note, Ken Spires was elected as representative of the Council for the Board of Health for another term.

### RAPCA Partners with MVRPC to Lower Air Pollution from Idling Vehicles

RAPCA and the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) are encouraging drivers to lower air pollution by turning off their cars, trucks and buses if they are parked for more than 30 seconds. This can include when parents are waiting to pick up kids from school or waiting to pick someone up at the shopping center. Car makers say no more than 30 seconds is needed to warm your car up before driving it, even when it is cold outside. If your car is idling, that is, it's left running for more than 30 seconds while parked, it uses more gas than it does by turning it off and restarting it.

The air pollution from vehicles plays a major part in our region's air quality and it can be costly, so turning off idling cars, trucks and buses not only helps improve the region's air quality, it also saves drivers money at the gas pump. Free information kits on the Idle Free program are available to schools, libraries, day care centers, parks, municipalities and businesses. Kits include a free "Be Idle Free" sign and post, to remind drivers to turn off their cars, trucks and buses, as well as additional information about this campaign.

This program was made possible with a grant from the Ohio Environmental Education Fund and kits are available by contacting RAPCA at 937-225-4435 or info@rapca.org.

## **Dayton Updates Source Water Protection Code**

The Dayton City Commission approved changes to its Source Water Protection Program after a year of stakeholder feedback and public meetings. The revisions enacted on July 29, 2015 represent the biggest changes to the Program since its inception over twenty-five years ago. The proposed changes include a down-sizing of the original “1-year capture” area for restricting chemicals at businesses, coupled with an expansion of surveillance and financial incentives to businesses in a larger 5-year area.

Currently, these changes only affect businesses within the city of Dayton limits. The other jurisdictional partners in the Program (Harrison Township, Riverside, Vandalia, Huber Heights) have their own zoning codes with local control over any changes to their groundwater protection rules. They have yet to revise their zoning codes to reflect Dayton’s updates, but that is anticipated going forward. Dayton’s Water Department just recently made available to Public Health and the outer jurisdictions the updated groundwater map delineating the revised capture areas.

Environmental Health’s Source Water Protection Program staff will be tasked with assisting the outer jurisdictions as they consider Program revisions. New responsibilities are outlined in our draft 2016 contract with the Source Water Protection Fund Board. These tasks include: providing assistance to jurisdictions with map interpretation; surveying all businesses and identifying potential risks in the new 5-year area; assisting in development of a new risk management ranking matrix.

Assisting the jurisdictions with implementing updated, consistent rules will likely be a process requiring many months. Until changes are enacted, EH Program staff will continue with their regular chemical inventory inspections and business consulting duties in the existing designated areas of the outer jurisdictions.

## **Promote healthy behaviors**

### **Westown Health Fair**

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Westown Health Fair was held on September 12 at the Westown Shopping Center. The event was sponsored by Public Health, WDAO Radio, CareSource, H&R Block and the Westown Management. Over one hundred citizens participated in health screenings which included blood pressure, total cholesterol, hemoglobin A1C, blood sugar, height/weight measurement, confidential HIV testing, and Glaucoma. Thirty social service organizations provided screenings and information. Hospice of Dayton indicated that fifty-five individuals who visited their table signed up to become volunteers for Hospice of Dayton. All participants who participated in the screenings were notified of their screening results.

### **Every Baby Matters**

Public Health’s Healthy Mommy-Healthy Baby Program held an Every Baby Matters event at the Montgomery County Job and Family Services Center on September 12. The event focused on social determinants of health and how they directly impact birth outcomes. In Montgomery County, for every one White baby that dies, approximately four Black babies die. The goal of the event was to

focus on this staggering statistic and provide individuals the tools that they need to have a healthy birth outcome. The event focused on inviting individuals from specific zip code areas that experience the highest infant mortality rates.

Every Baby Matters had over 160 participants and well over 20 vendors in attendance. Vendors representing educational opportunities, health insurance, job readiness, women's health, CenteringPregnancy®, literacy, mentoring, immunizations, breastfeeding and more were in attendance. Workshops on Fatherhood, Budgeting and Stress Reduction were also held. The little ones were not forgotten, and were engaged in a reading circle.

The event was sponsored by CareSource, along with Dayton Children's Hospital, who through their Cribs for Kids program provided cribs for twenty participants who met eligibility requirements and attended the on-site training.

## Prepare for and respond to PH emergencies

### **Ebola Virus Disease**

The Ebola outbreak in West Africa continues at decreased levels of activity. The World Health Organization reports that there have been a cumulative total of 28,388 cases (suspect and confirmed) of Ebola virus disease with 11,296 deaths in the countries with widespread transmission, as of September 29, 2015. There had been 28,000 cases with 11,287 deaths, as of August 23, 2015. The countries with widespread transmission include:

Guinea	3,805 cases (8 new cases in past month) and
Sierra Leone	13,894 cases (308 new cases in past month)

In Liberia, there were 10,666 cases through March 20; WHO had declared the end to the Ebola outbreak in Liberia on May 9, 2015. There have been 6 new cases reported in Liberia since June 28 (none since July 28). Nigeria (20 cases), Mali (8 cases), the United States (4 cases), Senegal (1 case), United Kingdom (1 case), Italy (1 case) and Spain (1 case) have been declared Ebola free.

### **Influenza Activity**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Influenza Division collects and analyzes surveillance data year-round and produces a weekly report on U.S. influenza activity from October through May. During the summer, overall influenza remained below baseline threshold within the United States. Pneumonia and influenza mortality also remained below the epidemic threshold. Since the end of May, 2.3 % of specimens submitted tested positive for influenza; 53% of the positive specimens were influenza A. Regional reporting for Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Shelby, and Warren counties will begin later this year.

## Serve as a public health information resource

### **Think for Two Conference**

The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Coalition hosted a conference on September 10 at Wright State University Nutter Center which focused on critical issues that many women and

children face in our communities. Two hundred people registered from around the state to attend the conference. The coalition was honored to have Senator Shannon Jones and internationally recognized Dr. Ira Chasnoff present in addition to our other presenters. Topics covered were infant mortality, women and addiction, pre and postnatal effects of infants exposed to alcohol and other substances and the behavioral interventions for children prenatally exposed to alcohol and other substances. Also debuted at the conference was Dr. Chasnoff's documentary *Moment to Moment: Adolescents Growing Up with FASD* and the FASD Coalition's new website, [www.thinkfortwo.org](http://www.thinkfortwo.org) and brochures.

### **Recent Respiratory Infection Linked to Increased Risk of Stroke in Children**

In a study published in the journal *Neurology*, researchers found that recent infection (within the past week) was associated with a 6 fold increased risk of stroke. Upper respiratory infection (common cold) was the most frequently reported infection. Strokes are known to affect approximately 11 in 100,000 children. The Vascular Effects of Infection in Pediatric Stroke study was an international study which also found that children who had received most or all of the recommended vaccines had a much lower risk of stroke compared to children who had received few or none of the recommended vaccines.

### **Mass Media Interactions**

During the past few weeks, we have had numerous contacts with TV, radio, and print.

The following are a few examples:

- News Release on Think for Two conference
- News Release on cadas accepting walk-in appointments
- Interview with DDN on accepting walk-in appointments
- In studio interview on CHN 2 about cadas accepting walk-in appointments
- Interview on Chn 7 and Chn 22/45 on cadas accepting walk-in appointments
- Interview with Chn 7 on drug overdose deaths
- Interview with DDN on obesity issues and Ohio's ranking
- Interview with Chn 7 about new flu vaccine and flu shots
- Interviews with Chn 7 on Medicare and Medicaid issues

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