The Mission of the DeKalb County Health Department is to promote optimal health for all county residents. Health promotion includes preventative health services, health protection services and health education. Working in partnership with other organizations, programs help individuals, families, and the community prevent, as well as manage, health problems and risks. DeKalb County Health Department has a strong commitment to delivering quality public health services with competence and skill, while respecting the dignity and rights of all individuals.

A Message from the Administrator

We are very pleased to present our Fifty-First Annual Report which highlights the ways in which the DeKalb County Health Department (DCHD) works each and every day with a goal of improving health outcomes in our community.

The past year came with both challenges and opportunities for our Department. The election for the referendum to support public health services was held in April 2017. Although the outcome of that was not in our favor, we are confident that the residents of our county are more aware of our services and of our impact in the community. The impasse of the state budget was resolved mid-year, at least temporarily, which was a relief after an impasse that lasted more than two years. Even with an approved state budget, we continue to manage through the instability of grant funding and issues related to timeliness of payment.

This year, we established the DCHD Marketing Committee which was the driving force behind our recent emphasis on improving client education, increasing our social media reach and initiating various website improvements. In addition, through a few targeted grant opportunities, the Department was able to enhance our outreach efforts to conduct community campaigns related to maternal and child health, prevention of Zika Virus, family emergency preparedness and tobacco prevention and cessation.

During this time of fiscal uncertainty, we continue to look at ways to sustain our current set of services. Over the past few years, our Health Department has made great strides containing costs and increasing revenue through improving efficiencies in our medical billing. This has been critical in a time when grant revenue to support our work has been very unstable due to several external factors.

We would like to thank our Health Department staff, elected and appointed officials and the residents of DeKalb County for their ongoing support and commitment to public health. We would also like to thank our Public Health System partners who play such an essential role in our mission to improve the health of all DeKalb County residents.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gonzalez, MPH
Administrator
DeKalb County Health Department

Christina Jones, RN, MS
President
DeKalb County Board of Health

DeKalb County Board of Health

Christina Jones, RN, MS - President
Ronald Feldmann, MD - Vice President
Celeste Latham - Secretary
Derryl Block, RN, PhD

Heather Breuer, DMD
Kevin Bunge
Maria Caudillo
Roger Faivre

LeAnn Gruber, DVM
Mayuri Morker, MD
Jill Tritt, JD
Animal Control Program

What happens to stray dogs?

Many residents wonder what happens to dogs running at large picked up by Animal Control. First, the dog is checked to see if it is wearing a collar with a rabies tag or other contact information and it is also scanned for a microchip. If the owner is available the dog is returned immediately, if not the dog is transported to Malta Veterinary Hospital for holding. If the dog is ill or injured then basic emergency treatment is also provided. Dogs are typically held for 7 days to allow time for an owner to claim the dog. The holding time may be shortened if the dog is extremely ill or injured. In these cases alternative options are explored such as working with our partner agencies to seek advanced medical treatment. After seven days, the dogs that are adoptable (not aggressive) are placed in various shelters or rescue organizations. Unfortunately, dogs that are aggressive cannot be placed for adoption. In an effort to reunite more pets with their owner, all dogs heading to the shelters are now microchipped.

Food Service Sanitation Program

Licenses and inspects food establishments, including temporary food vendors. Educates the public about safe food handling, preparation and storage.

Potable Water and Sewage Disposal

Ensures proper installation and repair of privately owned wells and sewage disposal systems. Prevents the transmission of disease caused by exposure to sewage and contaminated drinking water.

- **28** well permits issued
- **14** new well inspections
- **105** water samples obtained and tested
- **86** real estate inspections
- **82** sewage disposal inspections
- **40** sewage disposal permits

Food Scrap Pilot Program

In 2013, the DeKalb County Board commissioned the Zero Waste Task Force (ZWTF) to address reducing the amount of waste sent to the landfill from DeKalb County residents. One of the top three priorities was to reduce food waste going into the landfill. The best way to capture food waste from residents is through a curbside residential pick up with the waste hauler. The Solid Waste Specialist worked with Waste Management to administer a small pilot program in the City of DeKalb.

The pilot ran from May 2017 until November 2017. Residents in the pilot mixed their food waste with their yard waste to be composted. Overall, 87 homes participated, and approximately 500 pounds of food waste was diverted from the landfill. The post-pilot survey showed the residents to be enthusiastic about the program and they asked for it to continue the following spring. The program will continue in the spring of 2018 with the residents now paying for the service.
Family Case Management Program
Assists income eligible pregnant women, infants and young children to obtain the healthcare services and other assistance they may need to have a healthy pregnancy and promote the child's healthy development.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Food Program
Helps meet the nutritional needs of income-eligible women who are pregnant, breastfeeding and infants and children under 5 years old through health and nutrition assessments and education, food vouchers to participating stores and breastfeeding support. Many working families and those who receive SNAP benefits also qualify for WIC services. Walk-ins are welcome.

Healthcare Enrollment Assistance Program
Provides assistance with enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace and expanded Medicaid. Funding for this program is made possible by the DeKalb County Mental Health Board.

Vision & Hearing Screening Program
Screens children to identify and refer those who are in need of follow-up care.

DeKalb County Drug Overdose Prevention Program
A meeting was held in August to reimplement the DeKalb County Drug Overdose Prevention Program (DeK-DOPP). Dek-DOPP is a coalition of Non-EMS first responders concerned with quick response to drug overdoses in DeKalb County to provide support, resources, and oversight to those in the program. DCHD will serve as the facilitator and provide oversight to the group of police departments in DeKalb County, social service agencies (such as Hope Haven and Safe Passage), schools, State’s Attorney and the local healthcare system. The coalition is focused on making a comprehensive impact on the opioid epidemic in DeKalb County. DeK-DOPP is working from three areas of focus:

1. **Rescue**- increase the number of Non-EMS first responders and community members who are trained in the use of naloxone
2. **Access to care**- create more direct pathways to treatment
3. **Diversion programs**- increase the ability to divert them from the judicial system into treatment programs

OnSite Dental
We continue to collaborate with On-Site Dental to provide local access to dental care for those with limited resources. DCHD makes available clinical space that allows this care to be provided in DeKalb County rather than drive to Rockford.
**3rd Annual Healthy Start to School Event**

The third annual Healthy Start to School Event was held on August 3rd, 2017 to focus on the health aspects of school readiness including administering immunizations and providing school and sports physicals. With the help of our Medical Director, Dr. Thornton, and two nurse practitioners, we completed 29 school/sport physicals and 46 physicals with immunizations. OnSite Dental was also available for dental exams. Our annual Shoe Share distribution provided children with gently used and new shoes. We also had visits from the Sycamore Police Department to provide car seat safety checks, the Northern Illinois Food Bank Mobile Pantry and the DeKalb County Community Gardens' Grow Mobile produce pantry.

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**Childhood, Adult & Travel Immunizations**

Provides vaccines for preventable diseases to adults and children, including flu vaccines. DCHD is a state approved Vaccine for Children (VFC) Program and provides free or low-cost vaccines to eligible children through 18 years. Travel immunizations visits include a nurse consultation for recommended vaccines and country specific information.

- **3,446** Child Visits
- **8,719** Child Vaccines Administered
- **2,276** Adult Vaccines Administered

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**Communicable Disease Program**

Provides surveillance and case investigation to identify potential outbreaks and mitigate the spread of disease.

- **866** Case Investigations
- **687** Reportable Diseases

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**Drug Testing Services**

Improves access for affordable drug screening for college programs, employers and the public.

- **308** Tests Performed

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**Family Planning Program**

Offers confidential medical, educational and social services to persons of childbearing age to support reproductive health and positive birth outcomes. Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections including HIV testing.

- **1,957** Visits

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**Tuberculosis Program**

- **1,350** TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTS ADMINISTERED AND INTERPRETED

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**Ryan White Case Management Program**

- **41** NUMBER OF CLIENTS ENROLLED (MONTHLY AVERAGE)
Health Promotion

The DeKalb County Health Department launched a tobacco education campaign promoting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Tips from Former Smokers. This campaign features real people who are living with serious long-term health effects from smoking. The media campaign was launched locally in DeKalb County to include Comcast cable, movie theater, bus and bus shelter advertisements, social media, and local media advertisement. The goals of the campaign were to create public awareness about the long term effects of smoking and to encourage smokers to call the Illinois Tobacco Quitline if seeking help to quit smoking.

Vital Records Program

As the DeKalb County Registrar, the DeKalb County Health Department has the responsibility of registering birth and death records for DeKalb County. We also issue copies of certificates by request.

MAPP Process Flowchart

- Organize for Success
- Partnership Development
- Visioning
- Four MAPP Assessments
- Identify Strategic Issues
- Formulate Goals and Strategies
- Evaluate
- Action
- Plan
- Implement

This year the Health Department, once again, partnered with NM Kishwaukee Hospital and Valley West Hospital to initiate the 2017-2018 cycle of the DeKalb County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plan. For this assessment cycle, the Mobilizing for through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) tool was selected as the MAPP process provides a more comprehensive reach to identify priority health issues and helps us to align our priorities under the 10 Essential Public Health Services. A Steering Committee, comprised of both Health Department and Hospital personnel, was established to provide oversight to the development of the CHNA and engage the community throughout the process. The MAPP process consists for four assessments: Community Themes and Strengths Assessment, Local Public Health System Assessment, Community Health Status Assessment and Forces of Change Assessment. To prepare for the assessments that will take place in 2018, the Committee developed a public health system partner database, designed the Community Themes and Strengths Assessment tool with a distribution plan and prepared for the Local Public Health System Assessment which will be completed during five working sessions with local public health system partners in early 2018. The assessment results and final plan are expected to be released to the public by September 2018.

Emergency Preparedness

In collaboration with the Illinois Department of Public Health and state-wide emergency planning teams, DeKalb County Health Department works to assure readiness in cases of public health disaster or outbreak. This year, DeKalb County Health Department’s Emergency Preparedness staff focused on community readiness by distributing over 516 emergency preparedness starter kits to community members. Presentations were held throughout the county at locations including food pantries, libraries, and the YMCA specifically focusing on areas prone to more severe weather. The goals of the emergency preparedness presentations were to increase awareness about the importance of having a communication plan in case of a disaster and assembling an emergency preparedness kit.

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Widening Our Reach & Impact

We aim to reach out in the less developed markets and countries where SunnyMoney doesn’t yet operate. We’ll also channel the voices of African consumers and entrepreneurs into the decision-making processes of governments, aid agencies, companies and NGO’s in order to contribute to the planning of energy access development initiatives that can be both effective and sustainable.

Revenue 2015-2017

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<th>Type</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,687,549</td>
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THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED STAFF

Lorna Schmidt, RN
Communicable Disease/Immunizations Coordinator
10 years

Soula Bahramis, BS
Nutritionist
15 years

Susan Scheffler, RN
Public Health Nurse/Casemanager
10 years

Melissa Edwards, MPH
Health Promotion and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
5 years

Beverly Balika
Health Protection Secretary
10 years

Rocio Marungo
Certified Application Counselor & Vision and Hearing Technician
5 years

Cindy Graves, RN, MSHA
Community Health and Prevention and Health Promotion & Emergency Preparedness Director
5 years

Deb Michalowski, RN
Public Health Nurse/Casemanager
25 years

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

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