



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

## Preble County Public Health

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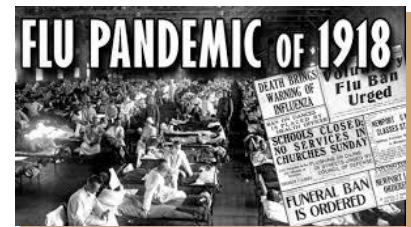
615 Hillcrest Drive, Eaton 45320



## Administration

### The History

In 1893, the State of Ohio required all municipalities to establish a Board of Health. This requirement created 2,158 city, village, and township health “units” in Ohio. Partially in response to the 1918 Influenza Pandemic, Ohio passed the Hughes Act and Griswold Amendment in April 1919 which created city and general health districts and required the 2,158 health units to combine into 88 general (county) health districts and 92 city health districts. This Act also required the newly formed health districts to employ, at a minimum, a Health Commissioner, public health nurse, and a clerk. In 1961, the District Advisory Council voted to approve the union of the county health district with the city of Eaton under the name of Preble County General Health District. In early 2014 the Preble County General Health District adopted the national identity of public health and is now called **Preble County Public Health**. In May of 2016, Preble County Public Health **achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board**, becoming one of the first health departments in both Ohio and the United States to achieve this status.



### The Board of Health

The Board of Health is comprised of five members to represent the citizens of Preble County. Four of the Board members are appointed by the District Advisory Council (which is comprised of the leaders of all municipal corporations in the county including townships, villages, cities, and County Commissioners). The other Board member is appointed by the Mayor of the City of Eaton. By Ohio law, at least one Board member must be a licensed Physician. Board members are appointed for a term of five years.

**George E. Henry** serves as the President, represents the City of Eaton, and his term expires in March 2021.  
**JoEllen Tapalman** serves as President Pro Tempore, represents the County, & her term expires in March 2020.  
**Dr. Peter Sambol** serves as the Board Physician, represents the County, and his term expires in March 2019.  
**Lori J. George** represents the County and her term expires in March 2023.  
**Ron Wesler** represents the County and his term expires in March 2022.

### The Health Commissioner

The Health Commissioner is Erik Balster and he has served in this role since April 2013. Erik directs the daily operations of the agency as it serves the public health needs of 42,000 people in Preble County. Erik is responsible for all policy development, financial decisions, staffing, workforce training, programming, grant management, and strategic leadership. He ensures that resources are utilized effectively and efficiently to maximize return-on-investment while working with his team to address current community health needs and anticipate future public health threats. One of his biggest priorities is ensuring that the agency provides exceptional customer service to the public.



## What's in this report?

We took a slightly different approach this year. Annual reports are usually filled with numbers that, frankly, only mean something to us. Instead we decided to tell you three great stories that happened in each of our primary programs during 2018. Our hope is that you see how relevant public health programs continue to be in Preble County.

## Vital Statistics

Birth Certificates can be obtained for \$22 for births anywhere in the state of Ohio. In 2018, Preble County had seven births. Our office issued a total of **1,195 birth certificates**, in 2018.

- 1 Our staff continues to work with the State Vitals Department to correct any problems found on birth certificates. As the requirements have changed for obtaining a government issued identification card, we expect an increase in requests in the coming years.



Death Certificates can be obtained for \$22 for deaths that occur in Preble County, only. In 2018, Preble County certified 296 deaths. Most common causes of death in 2018 were: **cancer, heart related, vascular related, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, single/multiple drug intoxication and suicide**. Our office issued a total of 1,247 certified copies of death certificates in 2018.

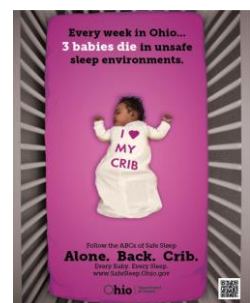
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## Community Health and Safety

- 1 Through generous donations from EvenFlo and the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes program, our certified car seat technicians were able to **install 38 free child safety seats for our low-income Preble County residents**. Participants received in-person education about the proper use of car seats and an in-car demonstration of how to correctly install the seat in a vehicle.

- 2 To help combat the opioid epidemic in Preble county, we partnered with Darke and Montgomery counties to establish **Project Save Miami Valley** in conjunction with Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services board. The program is aimed at overdose prevention, education, public outreach and the provision of overdose reversal medications to aid local first responders. Through this initiative and work with the **Preble County Substance Abuse Prevention Partnership (SAPP)**, Preble county saw a **reduction in overdose deaths** from 28 total in 2017 to 8 in 2018.

- 3 As part of the state of Ohio initiative to combat infant mortality, PCPH has partnered with Cribs for Kids® to ensure infants have a safe sleeping environment. Babies who sleep on couches, in bed with others, or on their stomachs are more likely to die from an unexpected sudden cause. **Preble County promotes the ABCs of infant safe sleep practices - place infants Alone, on their Back, in a Crib**. Twenty-three Pac and Play Cribettes with safe sleep kits were distributed in 2018.



## Did You Know

PCPH employs 19 people to serve 42,000 residents with essential public health services. Talk about doing a lot with a little! Our budget is one of the smallest in the county but our preventative services save the healthcare system real money. Like to the tune of saving \$15 in healthcare costs for every \$1 spent on public health in Preble. That's ROI!

## Emergency Preparedness

**1** We completely **revamped our Emergency Response Plan** to make it practical and more flexible for public health emergencies. We created a CMIST (Communication, Maintaining Health, Independence, Safety and Support, Transportation) profile for Preble County, which helps identify those who have “functional needs” (such as oxygen machines at home) who would have a challenging time in an emergency.

**2** In 2018, PCPH staff and community partners worked through an **exercise designed to push our resources** and test plans; this exercise focused on a biological terrorist incident where our staff was tasked with providing antibiotics to local first responders to distribute to their staff and their families, and to local healthcare agencies to distribute to their employees, families of their employees, and their clients.



**3** One of the greatest strengths of Preble County is our community partnerships. PCPH worked with Kettering Health Network’s Preble County Emergency Department to **form a Surge Team within our volunteer organization, the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)**. The purpose of the surge team is to assist the emergency department’s staff if there is a time when they are overwhelmed by more patients arriving than their staff can handle. Our volunteers can step in and help with retrieving supplies, monitoring and moving patients as needed, and assisting family members as necessary

## Environmental Health

**1** Modernization has been the name of the game in our food safety program. We began implantation of an **electronic inspection program** to manage facility information and produce food service inspections. Coming in 2019, restaurant inspections will be available online, which will provide easier access to the work we do and help inform the community.

**2** In August we responded to our **first confirmed human case of West Nile Virus** in the county. Although this was a travel-associated case, the threat of the virus by local mosquitoes and then transmitted to other people was very real. Throughout mosquito season, we treated areas with standing water with larvacide briquettes, conducted mosquito trapping and surveillance, and provided information about mosquito borne illnesses to residents in the high-risk locations throughout the county.



**3** We provided over \$41,024.50 in grant funding to **repair failing sewage systems** in the county last year and we already have three more repair projects queued up for 2019 with \$100,000 total to be used by the end of 2019 to help address other malfunctioning sewage systems in Preble County.

## Let’s Get Social

PCPH is on social media. But hey, who follows government agencies on social media?! Besides all of our public health friends, YOU should follow us too! It’s a great place to read about recalls and get quick health tips for you and your family. @PrebleCoHealth

## **Nursing and Clinical Services**

**1** Prenatal care is an important part of staying healthy during pregnancy. PCPH provides comprehensive obstetric care to **monitor baby's development and does routine testing to help find and does routine testing to help find and prevent possible problems** to assure a healthy outcome for a baby and mother. Walk-in pregnancy testing is available with post-test counseling, education and referral services provided to facilitate early entry into prenatal care.

**2** We offer all childhood, teen and adult vaccines and bill most insurance plans in the county. We also have a sliding fee scale and vaccine assistance programs for those with no insurance. During 2018 our Registered Nurses administered over **2,413 vaccinations**. Our nurses also serve as a resource to local practitioners for immunization education and updated schedules for vaccines.



**3** Through the Title X grant funding and local health dollars and in partnership with Wright State University Family Medicine Residency Program, PCPH has provided reproductive health and wellness services for women and men since December 2011. The clinic offers preventive exams with **PAP screening, STD testing and treatment, HIV testing and referral, birth control and reproductive life plan education**. Most insurance plans are accepted and we offer a sliding fee scale for those with no insurance.

## **Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)**

**1** We participated in the Wright State University (WSU) Boonshoft School of Medicine Interprofessional Engagement Experience. Eleven WSU medical students chose our WIC office. They learned about the lactation care we provide from the Breastfeeding Peer Helper and Lactation Consultant. This training will **help shape future physicians to better understand what quality breastfeeding support** is available in their communities, and why they need to be a part of that care.



**2** Educational topics are planned out a year in advance for our clients, and carried out in group and individual settings throughout each month. Topics included Discover Colorful Foods, Well-Rounded Meals, Balance Food with Physical Activity, Cook More/Eat Out Less, and Keep Your Family Safe. **864 individual WIC participants received education throughout 2018.**

**3** WIC is continually working to improve breastfeeding rates through support from our peer helper and health professionals. Last year we increased from **41% of our women breastfeeding in Quarter 1 to 49.6% breastfeeding Quarter 4**. Support is available to our mothers 24 hours a day via telephone with our Peer Helper, provided by the WIC grant.

## **Nursing and WIC Make a Difference**

Did you know that every school nurse in the county is an employee of PCPH? This gives schools direct access to services like vaccines and epidemiology support from PCPH. WIC is so much more than providing supplemental food to our at-risk mothers and children. The nutrition counseling our participants receive set them up for a lifetime of success.

## Mission, Vision, and Core Commitments

### Mission

The mission of Preble County Public Health is to promote and improve the health and well being of the people living and/or working in Preble county.

### Vision

Achieve the highest possible health and well being for Preble County resident and workers.

### Core Values

Team members at Preble County Public Health commit to...

1. Diversity
2. Quality of Life
3. Justice
4. Teamwork
5. Responsibility to the public



## Financial Picture

### Performance Measures for the Year Ending December 31, 2018

Grant Income: \$502,780.67

Non-Grant Income: \$946,933.83

Grant Expense: \$427,807.27

Non-Grant Expense: \$927,407.16

Total Expenditures: \$1,355,214.43

Total Revenue: \$1,449,714.50

Preble County Public Health continues to be fiscally responsible by saving and spending in a manner that serves the public health needs of the community.

