



TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN ANNUAL REPORT



DIRECTOR'S LETTER



Welcome to our 2015 Annual Report! The following pages offer a brief review of the many accomplishments of your nationally accredited Clay County Public Health Center during 2015. We continue to work hard every day to assure conditions exist in which all of our citizens can be healthy. Our Board of Health is committed to providing the highest standard of public health services to the residents of Clay County. Our vision remains to empower the people of Clay County to live healthy lives!

Highlights during 2015 include:

- Our most significant accomplishment occurred on Friday, Nov. 13. We learned we earned five year accreditation status from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). We met our goal of becoming one of the first health departments in the U.S. to be nationally accredited! To date, less than 100 of the over 3,000 health departments across the country have achieved this very high standard. This accomplishment demonstrates to our communities that we have:
 - Proven our capacity to deliver the 10 Essential Public Health Services
 - Shown that we have incorporated quality and performance improvement practices into daily operations
 - Implemented strategies which allow us to set priorities to meet the identified needs of our communities
 - Ensured you, the taxpayer, that we are spending money wisely and providing quality services
 - Advanced quality and performance by meeting or exceeding rigorous national public health standards
- Completion of our 2013-2015 CCPHC Strategic Plan. To learn more about our Strategic Planning efforts, please visit our website, www.clayhealth.com, and select the "About Us" tab to open a copy of our Strategic Plan. We also began actively working on developing our next strategic plan.
- We had a lead role in the investigation and containment of a number of disease outbreaks in Clay County. This very important work is accomplished each year beyond the public spotlight. Our dedicated team of epidemiologists, environmental health specialists and public health nurses respond quickly to effectively identify and contain outbreaks to prevent the spread of disease in Clay County men, women and children.

In order to be successful in assuring conditions exist for people to be healthy, it takes a strong network of collaborative partners. We extend a sincere thank you to each of you, our partners, in the local public health system in Clay County!

In Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary E. Zaborac". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary E. Zaborac
Director of Public Health

ADMINISTRATION

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Clay County Public Health Center is to deliver the essential public health services of prevention, promotion and protection to the communities of Clay County.

OUR VISION

Empowering all people in Clay County to lead healthier lives!



Gary E. Zaborac, MS, Director of Public Health

Darrell Meinke, Director, Division of Administration

Sue Miller, RN, MSN, Director, Division of Community Health Promotion

Dr. Ximena Somoza, MPH, Section Chief, Health Policy and Planning

Jami Lewis, MPA, Section Chief, Operations

Becky Steiner, REHS, MPH, Section Chief, Environmental Health Protection

Jason Stalling, MBA, CAAMA, Section Chief, Family and Personal Health

BOARD OF HEALTH



Patricia Dixon
Chair



Russell Andrews
Vice-Chair



Freddie Nichols
Treasurer



Kathy Ellermeier
Secretary



Cherie Journ e
Vice Secretary

WE'RE AMONG THE BEST

The Clay County Public Health Center celebrated a milestone in 2015, becoming nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The Health Center joins a group of less than 100 accredited health departments in the nation.

Accreditation demonstrates a commitment to excellence, says Gary E. Zaborac, director of public health, Clay County Public Health Center.

“Receiving PHAB accreditation clearly demonstrates our commitment to delivering high quality services to the people of Clay County on a daily basis. Going forward, our focus will be to continue to meet or exceed those high standards set forth in the national accreditation process.”

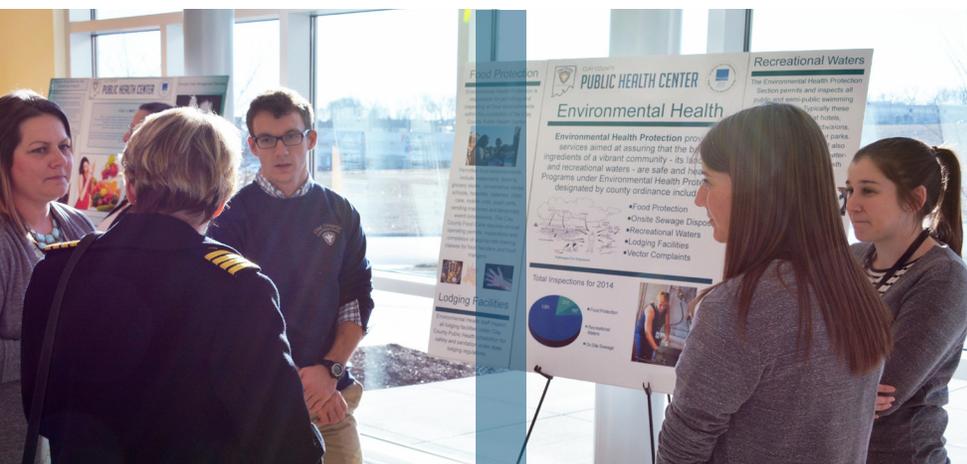


Receiving accreditation is a rigorous, seven step process. The goal of accreditation is to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of all health departments in the United States.

One of the best examples of how we are meeting the standards of accreditation is the recent completion of the Clay County Community Health Assessment. We collaborated with our local public health system partners over a year long period, reviewing local health data to gain a complete understanding of health issues affecting the health of Clay County residents. We also involved community members by conducting Community Health Forums and surveys.

Other examples include focusing education and awareness efforts on what our communities feel are their top health issues. We continue to expand key partnerships. Our partnership with Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center (SUR) is a great example. SUR has a dental and primary care clinic housed at the Health Center. This opens the door for residents who might not otherwise have a place to receive adequate health care.

“I am truly grateful for the commitment and effort that our staff and board have given to the accreditation process. They all have worked so hard to make this happen.” Zaborac said. “We are extremely proud to be one of the first 100 agencies in the United States to accomplish this significant achievement.”



Accreditation provides valuable, measurable feedback about how we are performing, which allows us to better promote, protect and preserve our community's health.

FAST FACTS



Conducted **1,230** food establishment inspections

Investigated **107** food-related complaints



Trained **1,004** food handlers

215 outdoor pools and spas inspected



Investigated **13** on-site sewage complaints

Provided oral health education to **436** women, infants and children



Provided services to **29,706** WIC clients

Vaccinated **6,091** community members



Administered **4,522** vaccines through the Vaccines for Children program

Conducted oral health screenings for **13,731** school children in Clay County



Supported **72** new parents in their journey to begin breastfeeding

FY 15 FINANCIALS

INCOME

Local Taxes	\$3,935,140
Interest	\$31,580
Vital Records	\$216,133
Fees	\$337,557
Other*	\$18,304
Federal Grants	\$758,577
State Grants	\$56,482
Medicaid/MC+	\$89,582
Medicare	\$7,436
Other Mo. Depts.	\$280
Insurance Billing	\$4,354

TOTAL \$5,455,425

*This includes: facility rent (Samuel U. Rodgers), financial institution tax, refunds and reimbursements.

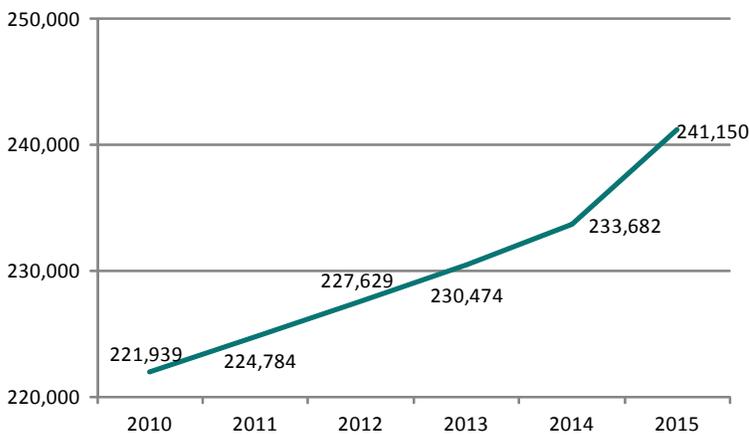
EXPENDITURES

Salaries	\$2,729,222
Benefits	\$1,146,163
Supplies	\$260,900
Contracted Services	\$401,867
Travel	\$32,559
Utilities/Rent	\$72,290
Interest Expense	\$107,957
Depreciation	\$230,138
Capital Items*	\$132,714

TOTAL \$5,113,810

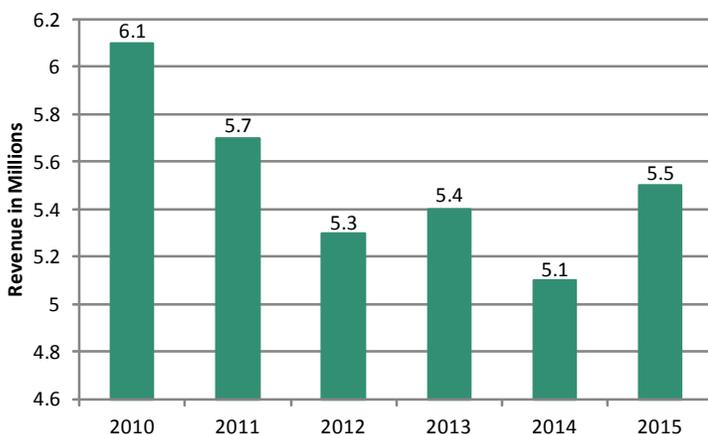
*This includes: new HVAC unit, parking lot repairs, equipment and sewer.

RESIDENTS

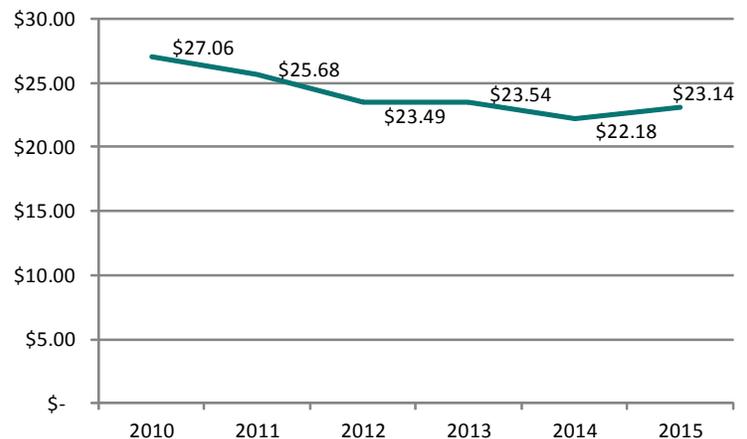


The two graphs at the bottom of this page illustrate a troubling trend. Over the last five years, despite seeing a significant increase in the population of Clay County, which creates an increasing need for public health programs and services, fewer dollars are available per capita to be invested in public health prevention programs/services. **Lack of spending on prevention directly correlates with poorer health outcomes and an increase in associated costs to treat them.** To offset the decline in resources, CCPHC continues to develop and work with local partners interested in participating in population health improvement initiatives. The list of partnerships continues to grow, but there is much more to do than the current resources and alliances can address. This results in difficult choices being made.

ANNUAL INCOME



EXPENDITURES PER RESIDENT



COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT, A CLAY COUNTY FIRST



In June 2015, a Community Health Needs Assessment, the first of its kind in Clay County, was completed. This was a part of a larger effort by the Northland Health Alliance (NHA), a large group of health partners in both Clay and Platte Counties. The Clay County Public Health Center had a leadership role in this assessment process. In addition to gathering county specific health data for review and analysis, this comprehensive assessment of our community's health also involved speaking directly to Clay County residents to listen to how they felt about the issues. As a result, more than 1,200 citizens completed surveys and seven town hall health forums were conducted in communities throughout the county. Reaching out to people to ask them what they felt were the issues affecting their health and wellness was

extremely beneficial in gaining a more complete understanding of the health issues in Clay County.

This process took almost 10 months to complete and resulted in three assessment reports being developed. Those reports, available in a comprehensive version and in an executive summary version are:

- The Northland Community Health Assessment
- The Clay County Community Health Assessment
- The Platte County Community Health Assessment

Three common themes emerged as health priorities in these reports. They are Access to Care, Mental Health and Chronic Disease. For more information on these assessments, please visit www.clayhealth.com.

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

Working together with our system partners to complete a comprehensive review to identify the issues that have the most impact on our health was the goal of the NHA. Once the reports were complete, it was agreed that two key next steps were needed. The first was to thank the community for giving their time to complete surveys and forums and let them know about the results. The second was to develop a plan to address the identified areas of Access to Care, Mental Health and Chronic Disease. The group strongly believed that once those health priorities were identified, we should work together for solutions that will improve our population's health. The NHA began in December 2015 to do just that. The end result will be a Community Health Improvement Plan which addresses the three identified health priority areas with the goal of improving the health of Clay County citizens. That plan is expected to be completed in 2016.



COMMUNITY PROTECTION



As the old saying goes, it's better to always be prepared. Rest assured, the Clay County Public Health Center takes that saying to heart. The Health Center and its staff are involved in many trainings and exercises throughout the year.

This year, Community Development Specialist and Emergency Planner, Wenne Tarama, led efforts to conduct a pandemic flu tabletop exercise. The purpose of the exercise was to exercise communication strategies to better meet access and functional needs (those with disabilities, cultural difference, language barriers, etc.) populations in the event of a public health emergency.

"Conducting exercises like this are extremely important, not only to build and renew relationships, but also to test response strategies in the event of an emergency," Tarama said.

Partners from across the metro were in attendance and included health departments, hospitals and first responders, along with community members.

Participants were taken through the steps of an influenza outbreak, with various scenarios taking place throughout. During the course of the scenario, tools used to communicate important and potentially lifesaving information were evaluated to find areas where our process can be improved.

Conducting exercises like this are critical to ensuring the Health Center and its partners are ready to respond.

PARTNERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH



Protecting the public's health can't be done alone; it takes partners across the entire Clay County public health system. One such partner is the Clay County Sheriff's Office and specifically, the Emergency Preparedness Division.

It was a rainy day in October when the Clay County Public Health Center and the Sherriff's Department conducted a Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) exercise with Points of Dispensing (PODs) locations in Clay County.

"The Strategic National Stockpile Distribution full scale exercise was instrumental in testing and enhancing the Clay County Public Health Center's and partner capabilities to effectively and efficiently respond to public health emergencies," Tarama said.

Just like in a real emergency, the exercise started at the SNS location and included a police escort. To simulate medication, candy was used and the exercise involved the full process of distribution, including chain of custody forms. This exercise was also a chance to test emergency communication systems, as well as for our partners to understand the Health Center's process for distribution and to test their internal process.

In the event of an actual public health emergency, getting medication out to POD locations is essential in protecting the health of the public. This exercise provided an opportunity to practice the process and be prepared for dispensing operations during a real emergency response.



BRINGING AWARENESS TO BREASTFEEDING

The Clay County Public Health Center participated in the 2015 Breastfeeding Week celebration organized by the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA). The celebration was one of the most successful events to date, with nearly 100 moms, dads, advocates and children in attendance.

Julia Hladky, breastfeeding peer counselor, Clay County Public Health Center, knows that breastfeeding can be done by working mothers; all it takes is community support.

“When the community comes together, we can make breastfeeding work,” Hladky said. “We are glad to offer more support by celebrating World Breastfeeding Week and having our Breastfeeding Encouragement Group at the Health Center.”

Bringing awareness to breastfeeding will help gain acceptance as a normal and healthy part of a baby’s life. That’s exactly what Hladky and Sarah Lammers, nutritionist, Clay County Public Health Center, try to accomplish each day. They both advocate for breastfeeding and educate new parents and the public on the benefits to a new baby’s health.

As part of educating new parents, Hladky and Lammers host a monthly Breastfeeding Encouragement Group on the first and third Thursday from 1-3 p.m. at the Health Center. New and expecting families, health care providers, local community partners and breastfeeding advocates are encouraged to attend.

Be on the lookout for information for the 2016 World Breastfeeding Celebration, which will be held during the first week of August. Work is already underway to make it even bigger and better.

Those interested in the celebration, or to learn more about breastfeeding, are encouraged to call Hladky at 816-595-4293.

THANK YOU SPONSORS!

- Amazing Play
- Cheddar’s
- CiCi’s Pizza
- Corner Café
- Crown Center
- Dominos
- Festival Foods
- Green Lantern Carwash
- Hy-Vee
- Lemon Tree
- Macaluso’s
- McDonalds
- Nicky’s Pizza
- Price Chopper
- Rancho Grande
- Red Robin
- Retro Bowl
- Royals
- Sheridan’s
- Target

THANK YOU SPEAKERS!

- Allen Pettigrew, community development coordinator, Aetna
- Amy McGee, Cornerstone Health Families
- Elizabeth Reinsch, breastfeeding mom
- Karen Carmack, licensed massage therapist
- Karmen Haney, RDH, dental hygienist educator, Clay County Public Health Center
- Kathleen Welton, community development specialist, Clay County Public Health Center
- Sara Shahbazi, breastfeeding mom
- Sherry L. Payne, R.N., M.S.N., CNE, IBCLC, executive director, Uzazi Village



We **STOCK**
healthy
so you can
SHOP
healthy!



How many times have we been on that exciting, or dreaded road trip and have gotten hungry, stopped in the nearest gas station and gotten a quick snack?

We understand that convenience doesn't always mean the healthiest items. That's why we are working with the Englewood Road and Gladstone Hy-Vee locations to bring a pilot program, Stock Healthy, Shop Healthy, to the Hy-Vee gas stations at these locations.

Stock Healthy, Shop Healthy, is a comprehensive, community-based program that allows communities to improve access to healthy, affordable foods by working with small food retailers. Millions of Americans have limited access to a supermarket, which means they must rely on fast-food restaurants, gas stations and corner stores to feed themselves and their families. People who have better access to supermarkets are more likely to eat more fruits and vegetables and less likely to be overweight or obese.

The Stock Healthy, Shop Healthy program in Clay County is one of 12 pilot sites in Missouri and is led by Teresa Tunstill, community development specialist, Clay County Public Health Center. Tunstill is excited to be part of the program and knows it's about connecting residents to nutritious food snacks.

"The whole idea is for convenience stores to actively increase the better choice," Tunstill said.

The program has been in the works since mid 2015 and has involved partners from MU Extension, Gladstone Parks and Recreation, Oakhill Day School, North Kansas City School District, dietitians from both Hy-Vee locations, store directors and gas mart managers. The program launched in November and it is hoped that the program will expand to other locations in the coming years.

"We know that there is a huge obesity problem," Tunstill said. "People have less and less time and don't have places to get healthy food quickly. Convenience stores are conveniently located, you can just pop in and pop out and still be able to choose healthy food items."

If you're not near a participating location, you can advocate for the program and how Stock Healthy, Shop Healthy is helping to expand access to nutritious food snacks.

"As a consumer, you should be able to have a healthier choice wherever you are, without going to the store or going to a fast food restaurant," Tunstill said.

If you are a consumer or convenience store interested in Stock Healthy, Shop Healthy, you are encouraged to contact Tunstill at 816-595-4200.

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A WIN FOR BETTER HEALTH

A healthy community includes an adequate number of health care providers, accessible parks, quality police and fire departments and clean air. The residents of Kearney had many of these things in place; however, clean indoor air in public places was a policy that residents wanted.

April 2016 marks two years since the start of a journey of getting Kearney public places smoke-free. The initial start involved a public hearing to hear from citizens about creating a smoke-free ordinance. Despite what many think would be a great benefit, the conversation was not going where it needed to go. Shawn Warfield, chair, Clean Air Kearney, knew there had to be a way to get Kearney to be smoke free.

“I was frustrated by the initial response,” Warfield said.

With that, Warfield knew there still had to be a way to build support for the issue. She was right. She found out about Kearney-Holt Community Acting Now (CAN). With the involvement of friends and residents, Clean Air Kearney became a subcommittee of Kearny-Holt CAN.

Clean Air Kearney is a group of citizens who work to educate the community on the dangers of secondhand smoke exposure. They also promote smoke-free public places, including all restaurants, bars and workplaces. In May, a petition was circulated and collected more than 1,600 signatures, more than enough to bring the issue to the Aug. 4 ballot. The issue had overwhelming voter support and was able to take the next step, going to the Kearney Board of Alderman. After debate, the alderman voted in favor of enacting a smoking ban in Kearney public places, which went into effect October 2015.

“The mayor backed the people,” Warfield said. “My eyes welled up with tears, I was so happy the city was going to back a healthier Kearney.”

For those that might live in communities where smoke-free ordinances are not in place, you can get involved with organizations like Clean Air Kearney, or advocate to public officials about the benefits of having your community go smoke-free.





CLAY COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER



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