



# Wood County Health Department

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



# Wood County Health Department

*Our mission is to prevent disease, promote healthy lifestyles and protect the health of everyone in Wood County.*

It has been my privilege to serve as Wood County Health Commissioner since September 2, 2020, when I joined our local Health Department. I was very excited to return to my home county and contribute to continuing the great work that is happening here.

Our 2019 Annual Report was delayed due to our local response to the COVID-19 pandemic and is being released in combination with a streamlined report on our 2020 finances and activities. These documents provide insight into the wide range of public health services we provide, how we've adapted to continue offering them during the pandemic, and how our Health Department has engaged with and continued to be a resource for Wood County during these challenging times.

Thank you for taking the time to review these documents and for the support and encouragement you have provided throughout the pandemic.



**Benjamin Robison**  
Wood County Health Commissioner

**Environmental Health** 419-354-2702  
**Community Health Center:** 419-354-9049  
**Pharmacy:** 419-354-9052  
**Infectious Disease:** 419-354-4306  
**Birth and Death Records:** 419-354-1050  
**WIC:** 419-354-9661  
**Main Line:** 419-352-8402

**Main office:**

1840 E. Gypsy Lane Road  
Bowling Green, OH 43402  
[healthdept@co.wood.oh.us](mailto:healthdept@co.wood.oh.us)

[www.WoodCountyHealth.org](http://www.WoodCountyHealth.org)



@WCHDOhio



@WCHealthCenter



@WCWIC

@WoodCountyBFF





# Wood County Health Department

## 2019 Board of Health

The 10-member Board of Health, in addition to appointing the Health Commissioner, oversees the Wood County Health Department to protect and promote the health of people in Wood County. The board typically meets at 5 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Health Department, located at 1840 E. Gypsy Lane Road, Bowling Green. For contact information and meeting minutes, go to [www.woodcountyhealth.org/about-us](http://www.woodcountyhealth.org/about-us)



Cathleen Nelson  
President



Thomas Milbrodt  
Vice President



Sonja Apple-Chamberlain



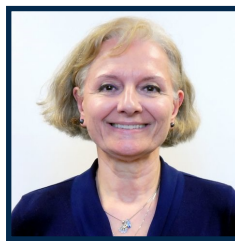
DJ Mears



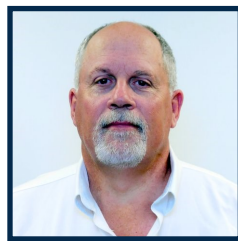
Bob Midden



Carolyn Rava



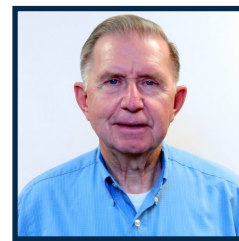
Nilgun Sezginis



Richard Strow



Betty Woods



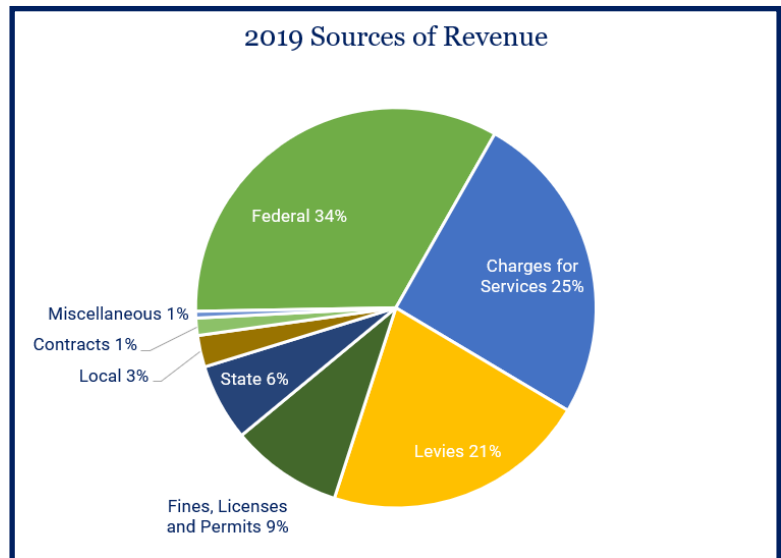
Dallas Ziegler



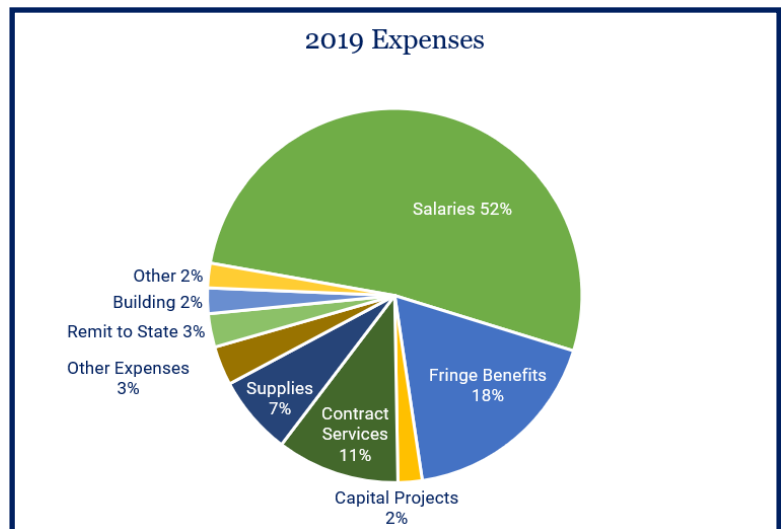
# Wood County Health Department

## Finance and Grants

Cash Receipts	
Levies	\$1,341,075.05
Charges for Services	\$1,586,702.31
Fines, Licenses and Permits	\$565,776.77
Intergovernmental:	
Federal	\$2,098,610.30
State	\$389,822.95
Local	\$160,166.01
Contracts	\$87,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$33,700.77
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>\$6,263,354.16</b>



Cash Disbursements	
Salaries	\$2,925,927.63
Fringe Benefits	\$1,005,116.58
Supplies	\$385,416.72
Contract Services	\$596,631.34
Travel	\$34,227.32
Advertising and Printing	\$41,522.83
Capital Projects	\$117,354.28
Equipment	\$43,558.42
Other Expenses	\$189,952.96
Remit to State	\$162,678.32
Building	\$124,366.00
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>\$5,626,752.40</b>





# Wood County Health Department

## Finance and Grants

While the health levy provides essential support, and fees help us offset program costs, grants are another important source of revenue. Last year, numerous activities were supported by grants, including health care, emergency planning, mosquito surveillance and immunization education.

- Get Vaccinated Ohio: **\$40,219** from the Ohio Department of Health.
- Mosquito Control: **\$17,410** from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.
- WPCLF Sewage Replacement: **\$226,704.62** from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness: **\$108,435** from the Ohio Department of Health.
- Regional Public Health Emergency Preparedness: **\$64,093.42** from the Ohio Department of Health.
- Women Infants and Children: **\$359,304** from the Ohio Department of Health.
- Reproductive Health and Wellness: **\$88,006.70** from the Ohio Department of Health.
- Ohio Primary Care Workforce Initiative: **\$26,215.50** from the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers.
- Federally Qualified Health Center: **\$1,014,543** from the Health Resources and Services Administration.
- Dental Expansion: **\$626,733.52** from the Health Resources and Services Administration.
- Integrated Behavioral Health Services: **\$167,000** from the Health Resources and Services Administration.



### 2019 Vital Statistics

Hospital births	327
Home births	13
Birth certificates issued	3,130
Deaths	1,249
Death certificates issued	6,168
Burial permits issued	446



## Wood County Health Department Community Health Center

We provide health care services for the entire family. We are a Federally Qualified Health Center that accepts Medicaid, Medicare and most insurance plans. Many fees are based on household size and income. In addition to primary care integrated with behavioral health, we offer dental services and a convenient on-site pharmacy that helps many people save on the cost of their prescriptions. We can help you apply for insurance and other programs, and no one is turned away due to inability to pay.



We've been thrilled to continue adding additional dental services to our scope of practice during 2019. Dr. Bushra Aouthmany and the rest of our team do a fantastic job of meeting our community's dental needs. Give us a call to see how we can help you!

### 2019 Highlights



Our patients told us that evening hours would be helpful, so we've begun staying open until 6 p.m. on Mondays to make appointments more convenient.



Our Chronic Care Management Program, which has helped our patients continue to progress in their health goals outside of face-to-face visits by more frequently communicating with our team. Providing preventative care, 24/7 support and encouraging our patients to continuously update us on their health has led to better care and better results.



We completed a two-year initiative designed to help patients to better control their blood pressure. Our efforts showed significant improvement in repeat blood pressure measurement and scheduling follow-up appointments for elevated blood pressure. These simple yet effective initiatives resulted in an overall 10 percent increase in blood pressure control. We will continue to report data, explore nurse-led hypertension visits and use a universal home blood pressure form developed by our chronic care management nurse.



Our pharmacist completed a year-long diabetes control project, providing customized handouts to diabetic patients while they were picking up medications. This included a graph mapping the patient's most recent A1C results to help them better understand how to control their diabetes. Data showed this helped patients slightly decrease their average A1C.





## Wood County Health Department **Community Health Center**

As a public entity, the Wood County Board of Health collaborates with the Wood County Community Health Center Co-Applicant Board to oversee operations of the Community Health Center. The health center board meets at 3 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month in the board room of the Wood County Health Department. Meetings are open to the public.

2019 members of the health center board included Joanne Navin (president), Ruthann House (vice president), George Ferguson, Thomas Hammett, Deana Lamb, Stephen Meredith, Sharon Schaeffer, Mark Sperry, Robert Walker and Cora Zickel.

### **2019 Grants**



**\$1,014,543** from the Health Resources and Services Administration. The program provides comprehensive health care services to entire families regardless of income level or insurance coverage. All services are provided based on ability to pay through a sliding fee benefit program.



**\$167,000** in Integrated Behavioral Health Services supplemental funding to support an increase in access to high quality integrated behavioral health services, including prevention or treatment of mental health conditions and/or substance use disorders.



**\$88,000** from the Ohio Department of Health Reproductive Health and Wellness Program. An important goal of the RHWP in Ohio is to improve the overall health and well-being of women and men by promoting healthy lifestyles and encouraging the establishment of a reproductive life plan. Priority is given to those with low incomes and those with no insurance or insurance that does not cover reproductive health services. Fees for services are based on family size and income, and no one is denied services if they cannot pay. There is no residency requirement to receive services.



**\$26,215.50** from the Ohio Association of Community Health Center Ohio Primary Care Workforce Initiative. The mission of the program is to teach, inspire and put to work our next generation of primary care providers by exposing students to rich clinical experiences in a network of modernized primary care settings.

“We’re proud to have added a wide range of affordable dental services to the quality health care we offer at Wood County Community Health Center.”

-Diane Krill, CEO





## Wood County Health Department **Environmental Health**



Our sanitarians include (left to right) **Cindi Anderson**, home sewage treatment system (HSTS) operation and maintenance; **Kendra Wise**, food safety, campgrounds, BG housing, HSTS inspections and grant processing; **Travis Wansitler**, food safety, smoke-free workplaces, county housing; **Jillan Bodey**, food safety, pools, food plan review; **Sheila Daguano**, HSTS soils and design, water; **Jodi Cline**, food safety; **Jennifer Campos**, HSTS inspections, private water; and **Julie Nye**, food safety, pools.

### **Recreational Programs: Public Swimming Pools and Campgrounds**

With more than 85 public pools, spas and special-use pools in Wood County (more than half of them seasonal), our inspection staff carefully plans schedules to ensure that pools are inspected prior to opening each year. The sixth-annual pool operator training on April 18 had great attendance and feedback. Because operators often change, this training give the opportunity for facilities to have their maintenance staff learn about regulatory aspects and basic pool operation.

Wood County hosted the ODH quarterly rec program training for Northwest Ohio in September. Hosting these events offers an opportunity for training and mandatory education credits for our staff while providing networking right here in Wood County.

2019 campground inspections included 6 permanent campgrounds and 5 temporary campgrounds.

### **Smoke-Free Workplace, Institution and School Inspections, and Body Art**

Smoke-Free Workplace Program investigations are done under contract with the Ohio Department of Health. Institution inspections include the local jails. Although school and body art programs are not surveyed, both programs are required to be enforced by the Health Department. Schools are required to have an inspection twice per year. Body art facilities are licensed and inspected by the Environmental Health Division. Body art includes tattooing, permanent cosmetics and piercing.





## Wood County Health Department **Environmental Health**

### **Food Safety Program**



2019 Clean Plate Award recipients.

Our food safety program staff conducted more than 2,800 inspections in 2019. This program also works closely with our epidemiologist for foodborne illness investigations. In 2019, 37 Food Service Operations were presented with the Clean Plate Award, which is offered to those who meet stringent standards and show commitment to consistent safe food handling.

In March 2019, the division hosted “roundup days” that allowed mobile food services to bring their food trucks and trailers for inspection and licensing.

Ongoing training for 2019 involved the division hosting a food inspection training where food safety specialists from both the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) were invited. Surrounding health departments were in attendance.

Staff also toured the agricultural incubator, Center for Innovative Food Technology, which is inspected by the Environmental Health Division and ODA, as it is used for commercial production.



Sanitarian Kendra Wise inspects a food truck.



Staff tour the agricultural incubator.

### **Mosquito Surveillance**

Thanks to our fourth cycle of funding applied for and received from the Ohio EPA Mosquito Control Fund, Wood County Health Department was able to secure continued surveillance, larvicide distribution and education and outreach regarding mosquito bite/vector-borne disease prevention. Surveillance is contracted through the Bowling Green State University's Biology Department, which traps mosquitoes throughout the county and submits to the Ohio Department of Health for identifying and testing as applicable. In 2019, 2,359 mosquitos were trapped and submitted to ODH. West Nile virus was not detected in the Wood County, and there were no varieties detected known to transmit Zika virus.



## Wood County Health Department **Environmental Health**

### **Home Sewage Treatment System Program**



A dye test shows a septic tank draining into a ditch.

With the quality of our waterways at the forefront in Northwest Ohio, we take very seriously the importance of fully functional home sewage treatment systems in areas where sanitary sewers remain unavailable. Since statewide sewage rules began in 2015, we have worked through program changes, community outreach, and building of partnerships to achieve countywide compliance through our Operation and Maintenance Plan.

Since 2016, we have applied for and received funding through the Ohio EPA Water Pollution Control Fund for the replacement and/or repair of failing septic systems. For the 2018-2019 cycle, the

\$200,000 available was used to help 17 families.

In May 2019, the Environmental Health Division began regulating small flow onsite sewage treatment systems (SFOSTS) that are otherwise regulated by the Ohio EPA. These are non-residential systems that treat not more than 1,000 gallons of sewage per day. Examples of small flow systems are home businesses, small businesses and lots with more than one dwelling.

### **Private Water Systems Program**

The private water system program not only involves permitting of new water systems, but also allows an opportunity to educate homeowners about their private water supply and how to ensure the water is safe, but to protect their investment. (photo 3-Jen, soil & water). The Ohio Department of Health conducted its semi-annual survey of the program in September. The surveyor gave positive feedback on the program staff performance.



Sanitarian Jen Campos shares information about water systems.

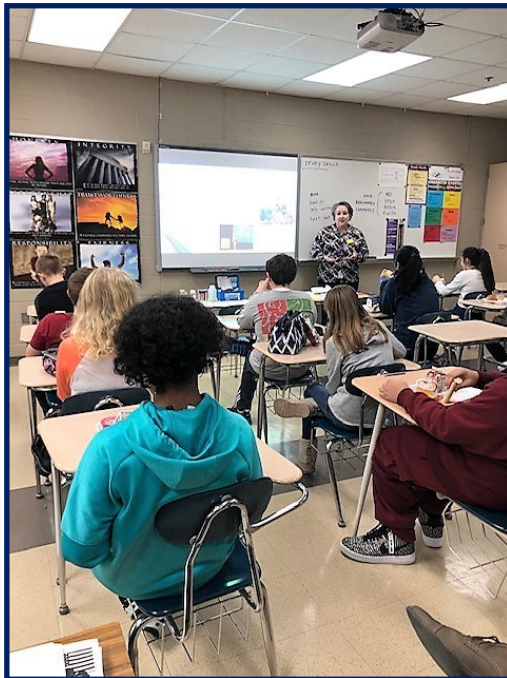




# Wood County Health Department Environmental Health

## Housing Program

The Environmental Health Division dedicates two staff members to cover housing complaints. We continue to contract with the City of Bowling Green to conduct external housing maintenance surveys and complaint inspections. Every five years, each home in Bowling Green is surveyed for external housing conditions. The results determine the areas of concentration for "mini-surveys." In 2019, this included the area south of Wooster Street and east of South Main Street. The countywide housing program requires good communication with local officials, county and city prosecutors, and fire and building officials.



## Environmental Health as a Profession

Sanitarian Jen Campos shared highlights about her work during 2019 with elementary and college students. Our sanitarians are registered with the Ohio Department of Health's Board of Sanitarian Registration and must have at least a bachelor's degree and 30 semester hours of science. We like to talk about our work serving others in our own community, while promoting our profession.

### By the numbers...

#### Private Water System (PWS) and Home Sewage Treatment System (HSTS) Program

Water samples	312
PWS new system permits	51
PWS alteration permits	17
PWS sealing permits	12
Point of sale inspections	6
New HSTS permits	38
HSTS alteration permits	25
HSTS replacement permits	52
Site evaluations	103
HSTS soil evaluations	42
HSTS design	38
Point of sale HSTS	1
Operation and maintenance permits	200
Licensed HSTS service providers	28

#### Food Program

Licenses issued	678
Mobile licenses issued	58
Temporary licenses	92
Vending locations	88
Micro-markets	44
FSO/RFE plan reviews	42
Mobile plan reviews	10

#### Recreation Program

Permanent campgrounds	6
Temporary campgrounds	5
Swimming pools and spas	86
Bathing beaches	3

#### Other services

Animal bites or exposure	264
Licensed body art facilities	13
Bowling Green housing inspections	248
County housing inspections	95
School inspections	44
Jail inspections	6
Smoke-free workplace inspections	14





# Wood County Health Department **Health Promotion & Preparedness**



## **Emergency Preparedness**

We help Wood County prevent, prepare for and respond to health-related emergencies by creating local plans and partnerships. We are also the regional public health emergency preparedness coordinator for Northwest Ohio, serving as a link between 17 other local health departments and the Ohio Department of Health. Every year we organize and participate in emergency preparedness exercises that help test our plans and response capabilities.

## **Medical Reserve Corps**

In an emergency, local resources are called upon first. Wood County's Medical Reserve Corps is made up of volunteers who have a wide range of experience and skills. As a member, you can help bolster our emergency planning and response capabilities.

With our MRC unit, you will be part of an organized and trained team. No special skills or medical experience are required as long as you're 18 years old, and roles can be tailored to take advantage of your own background. Go to [www.WoodCountyHealth.org](http://www.WoodCountyHealth.org) or more details or to apply.





# Wood County Health Department Health Promotion & Preparedness

## Immunizations

Vaccine-preventable disease levels in the United States are at or near record lows, but this is not the case around the world. Even though most infants and toddlers in the United States have received all recommended vaccines by age 2, many under-immunized children remain, creating the possibility of disease outbreaks.

Children who have not had all of their infant immunizations are at risk for getting these diseases from the people who care for them. Many teens and adults are missing the chance to protect not only themselves, but also children under the age of two against deadly diseases such as Hepatitis B, pertussis (whooping cough), influenza and pneumococcal disease.

Talk to your child's doctor or nurse about the vaccines recommended for their age. If they do not offer immunizations, contact Wood County Health Department at 419-352-8402.



## Backpack Event

Wood County Health Department partnered with United Way and the Salvation Army to host a large-scale school supply giveaway and health fair in the fall of 2019. In addition to providing supplies to those who need them, the event offered a chance for people to tour the Health Department and the Community Health Center, including its new dental expansion.







## Wood County Health Department **Women, Infants & Children (WIC)**

WIC is a nutrition education program that provides foods that promote good health for income-eligible pregnant women, women who just had a baby, breastfeeding moms, infants and children up to age 5. Research shows that breastfeeding provides a healthy nutritional foundation for infants to grow and thrive, and WIC plays an important role in fostering and supporting breastfeeding. A breastfeeding peer helper is always available by phone to WIC participants with any breastfeeding issues. In 2019, we had 4,650 visits with clients and carried a total caseload of 1,084 participants.

WIC hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday; and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Friday. Satellite clinics are available three days per month in Northwood and one day per month in North Baltimore.

### **2019 Highlights**



We continued building our Hospital Visitation Program in partnership with Wood County Hospital's Family Birthing Center, increasing our visits from 109 to 181 and maintaining a 45 percent breastfeeding rate. Our breastfeeding team, led by Ashley Donaldson and Ashley Rood, received the state's 2019 WIC Pro Award for their efforts to promote and improve Wood County's breastfeeding plan. Lauren Snyder became a Certified Lactation Consultant (CLC) this year, so we now have two CLCs on staff to assist our participants.



WIC collaborated to provide nutrition education presentations, Child Find activities, outreach such as Project Connect, and any opportunity to share WIC services and information to address food scarcity issues in Wood County. Our partners include Wood County's Early Childhood Task Force, Great Lakes Community Action Partnership, local preschools, Bowling Green State University, United Way and OSU Extension.



We completed the third year of the Farmers Market Nutrition Program, which provides WIC participants with an additional \$20 to spend at local farmers markets from June to October. WIC also began offering the WIC Shopper App, which allows participants to have the approved food list on their phone, track their produce spending, scan items to be sure they're WIC food, and access other tips and information.



We continued our partnership with OSU Extension to provide six-week Cooking Matters classes in June and July, and additional classes for WIC participants at no charge in April and October. Participants learn to make new recipes using WIC foods and how to stretch their food budget. Those who take the classes leave each session with free groceries to make the recipes that they learn about. We also provided measuring spoons, cutting boards, recipe cards and fresh herbs to help participants learn more about using healthy WIC foods and fresh produce.





# Wood County Health Department **Women, Infants & Children (WIC)**

## Did you know...



WIC helps pregnant women see doctors earlier and receive timely care.



WIC participation improves the length of pregnancy and birth weight, improves the diets of women and children, and reduces late fetal deaths.



Babies whose mothers use WIC are 33 percent less likely to die before age 1, according to the Journal of the American Medical Association.



Children ages 2-4 who participate in WIC are less likely to be obese.



We had a lot of fun throughout the year with our participants, providing our favorite holiday recipes and food samples, as well as many Celebrate My Plate activities. We provide free books for our participants, as well as clothing and diapers when available. We grew fresh vegetables in the WIC office to share with our participants and allow the children to plant seeds to watch them grow at home. We had trick or treat with the WIC Chicks, and Santa visited in December.





WIC shopping, simplified.

Download The App Today!

- 1 Install "WICShopper" from your app store.
- 2 Select Ohio as your WIC Agency.
- 3 Scan products using the app to verify WIC allowed foods as you shop.
- 4 View your Authorized Foods List, recipes, nutrition education, and more right from the app!

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