

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



PREVENTION, COLLABORATION, COMMUNICATION.

OUR VISION:

A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN WHICH EVERY CITIZEN ENJOYS THE BEST POSSIBLE STATE OF HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

OUR MISSION:

TO ASSURE, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY, THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR PEOPLE TO LIVE HEALTHY LIVES THROUGH PREVENTION AND PROTECTION PROGRAMS



2009 PUBLIC HEALTH MANAGEMENT TEAM

SEATED: DR. DIANA TORRES-BURGOS, MEDICAL DIRECTOR. RICHARD FLEECE, HEALTH OFFICER

STANDING: KELLY BELKNAP, FINANCE MANAGER, SUSAN LEE, NURSING DIRECTOR, FAMILY HEALTH MANAGER, SHARON P. SHELDON, HEALTH PROMOTION/DISEASE PREVENTION MANAGER, CINDRA JAMES, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MANAGER.

HEALTH OFFICER'S WELCOME
RICHARD FLEECE



On behalf of the Washtenaw County Public Health Staff I am pleased to share with you the 2009 Public Health Annual Report. This report describes the various initiatives, programs and services the department provides in striving to improve the health of the community. This report also summarizes key activities undertaken within those programs.

As the new health Officer I am proud of the efforts and accomplishments of the dedicated individuals that make up our staff. I urge you to take a few moments to learn more about what the department is doing to make your life healthier every day.

2009 was a landmark year for Washtenaw county Public Health. It was a year that began with the reintegration of Environmental Health into the Public Health Department after a 21 year separation; the onset of the pandemic H1N1 influenza virus, the transition in the Health Officers position, and the challenge of the worst economic recession since the great depression.

Through it all the dedicated staff continued to serve the citizens of Washtenaw County in areas such as communicable disease control, WIC, Maternal and Children's Health, assuring safe food, safe drinking water, safe swimming, safe day care centers, proper hazardous material use and storage, the promotion of exercise and healthy eating, safe sex, and emergency preparedness.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Fleece'.

RICHARD FLEECE
HEALTH OFFICER
WASHTENAW COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.
734-544-2959

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE
DR. DIANA TORRES-BURGOS



The Washtenaw County Public Health department is committed to preventing diseases, collaborating with community partners, and improving public health education and communications that will promote achieving healthier lives.

Prevention is the foundation of what Public Health does to minimize the impact of diseases and disease transmission especially to those most at risk.

Collaboration, the sharing of information and resources with our many community partners, is essential, particularly in these times of limited funding and resources.

Communication is necessary to disseminate disease updates, preventive action measures, and the latest guidelines and news from the federal and state governments. In 2009, communication outreach to county residents became more complicated with the loss of the Ann Arbor News daily print newspaper.

In 2009, this all came to the forefront, when a "novel" Influenza A H1N1 pandemic was declared in June, only nine weeks after the discovery of the first two cases in California. For the first time, the health department, in collaboration with many community partners, implemented emergency plans to mobilize mass vaccination clinics and coordinate vaccine distributions especially to those most at risk for disease. Preventive action measures messages against the H1N1 flu were circulated widely and consistently using different venues. Communications were increased using various media to meet the medical community, public and media requests for timely information.

I hope you enjoy the 2009 Annual report and get a better understanding for the importance of prevention, collaboration and communication to assure a healthier life for our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Diana Torres-Burgos MD, MPH'.

DIANA TORRES-BURGOS M.D., MPH
MEDICAL DIRECTOR
WASHTENAW COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.
734-544-3058

TRANSITIONS

Ellen J. Clement retired as the Health Officer in April 2009. Ellen began her career with Washtenaw County in 1986 and was appointed Administrative Health Officer in 1996.



Ellen was active in many National, State and regional Public Health organizations including:

- The American Public Health Association,
- The National Association of City and County Health Officers
- The Michigan Association of Local Public Health
- Southeastern Michigan Regional Health Association Board
- The American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics

Under Ellen's leadership the department was honored in 2005 with the *Michigan Special Public Health Community Achievement Award* for organizational cooperation in achieving public health goals.



SHARON P. SHELDON, CINDRA JAMES, KELLY BELKNAP, AND DR. DIANA TORRES-BURGOS CONGRATULATE ELLEN CLEMENT ON HER YEARS OF SERVICE

Richard Fleece was appointed Acting Health Officer effective May 1, 2009 and became permanent October 1, 2009.



Dick began his career with Washtenaw County in 1975 as a sanitarian in the Environmental Health Division. Over the years Dick's responsibilities grew until he was eventually named Director of Environmental Health in 1995. In that role Dick was responsible for the creation of policies, guidelines and regulations to address area including food safety, proper sewage disposal and safe drinking water.

Dick has served as Board member and President of both the Michigan Environmental Health Association and the Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators. Dick was recognized for his achievements in Environmental Health by being awarded the *MALEHA V Harry Adrounie* award in 2005 which is awarded annually to the EH Director of the Year and the MEHA Lifetime achievement award in 2006.

OTHER 2009 TRANSITIONS—RETIRES:

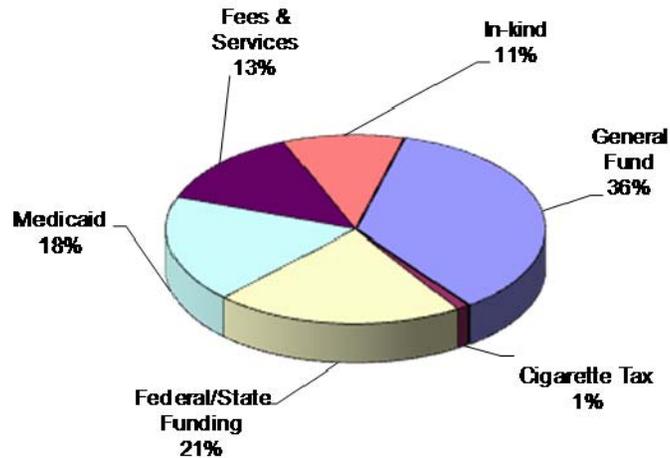
MICHELLE ROSE ARMSTRONG, DICK ECKOFF, GARY LOGAN, SHANNON RICHARDS, CHRIS WATKINS



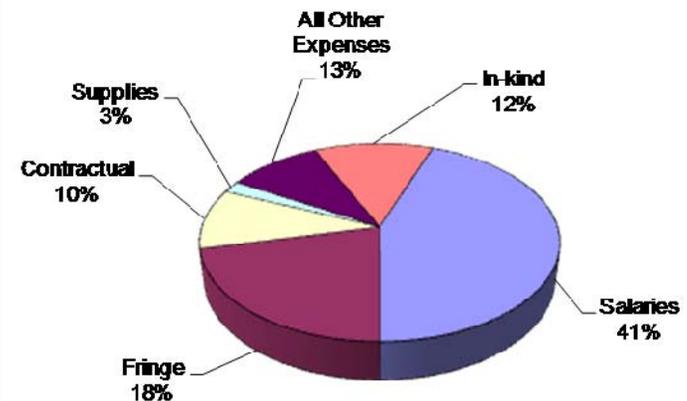
FINANCE DIVISION
KELLY BELKNAP B.S.
FINANCE MANAGER

The Washtenaw County Public Health Department's Financial Management team is responsible for accounting, budget, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and purchasing. The department also provides a variety of financial, reporting, and decision support services to management staff. The combined annual expenditures for the Public Health and Environmental Health Departments for fiscal year 2009 totaled \$11,951,336. Funding is comprised of multiple revenue streams that include Federal, State, and County/Local dollars and grants.

2009 Public Health Revenue



2009 Public Health Expenses





FAMILY HEALTH DIVISION
 SUSAN LEE, RN
 NURSING DIRECTOR, FAMILY HEALTH MANAGER

The Family Health Division promotes equality of health for women of childbearing age, their children, and families by ensuring that services are available and accessible, with respect to the dignity and cultural diversity of the community. Most Family Health Division programs focus on preventing health problems through early detection and intervention services, many of which begin at the very earliest stages—during pregnancy and the first year of a child's life. With a desire to see healthy babies in Washtenaw County, the Family Health Division also reviews the medical, social, and environmental factors linked with all fetal, infant, and maternal deaths.

Increased Demand for Services

Economic stressors can often lead to stressors in the health of a family. With the economic downturn, Public Health has been challenged to care for an ever-increasing number of clients seeking our services; many for the first time. For example, our WIC Program served a record number of clients in 2009 with an enrollment of over 6000 women, infants, and children. Our Maternal Infant Health Program made over 3400 home visits to pregnant women and their infants. Demand for services such as free childhood immunizations, health care assistance for children with serious or chronic long term medical conditions via our Children's Special Health Care Services Program, free Otology Clinic provided by our Hearing and Vision Program, or assistance in obtaining public benefits are at an all-time high.

The times where the public needs us the most are the times that the Public Health department shines. 2009 has been a challenging year for clients as well as staff, but Washtenaw County has continued to provide world-class service to our clients in all corners of our county.

WIC ENROLLMENT NUMBERS	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
<i>FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009</i>	6051	6106	6067	5639	5462	5832	6002	5999	6012	6073	6183	6288

HEARING AND VISION SCREENINGS	SEPT 1, 2009 -JULY 31, 2009
<i>SCHOOL YEAR 2009</i>	23,500 VISION SCREENINGS
	14,000 HEARING SCREENINGS





EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
CINDRA JAMES, B.S.
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR

Preparing for and responding to emergencies is the responsibility of the Division of Public Health Preparedness. This team of emergency management specialists is dedicated to protecting public health during unforeseen crises that affect the community. Their work includes extensive emergency planning and coordination activities with Emergency Management partners, first responders, and other community resources in both the public and private sectors. They are also responsible for providing critical information to the general public before, during, and after a public health emergency.

The Year of the Flu

For several years Public Health, along with Environmental Health have been planning, training, and exercising to ensure that our department was ready to respond to any public health emergency. In April 2009, Washtenaw County Public Health Department got to test their plans when responding to the novel strain of Influenza A H1N1.

Although H1N1 was different from the Avian Influenza we had planned for, the response strategy was the same: provide surveillance of and for the community, work with other health care providers and agencies, communicate to our community about non-pharmaceutical prevention strategies, and provide protection in the form of vaccine and/or anti-virals when necessary and available.

There was a lot of work that was done by WCPHD and other community stakeholders. We worked with our public and private schools, universities, hospital and healthcare systems, law enforcement and emergency management. From these partnerships one thing became apparent--everyone was prepared and committed to work together to provide the best outcome for the community. Several meetings, workgroups, and phone calls took place to provide a united message to the community: we are prepared.

During the spring and summer our Department worked to communicate messages of how to stop the spread of the flu, gave guidance on anti-virals and community containment and prepared for the fall mass vaccination clinics as H1N1 vaccine arrived. In mid-October WCPHD held its first mass vaccination clinics; this was one of several that were held around the county.

Mass Vaccination Statistics:

- Number of First Responders that received H1N1 vaccine at one of our mass vaccination clinics: 721
- Number of the general population that attended one of our mass vaccination clinics: 11, 709
- Number of pediatric doses: 999
- Number of mass clinics held: 12
- Average number of staff/volunteers needed to operate a clinic per shift: 100





HEALTH PROMOTION/DISEASE PREVENTION
SHARON P. SHELDON, MPH
HPDP MANAGER

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HPDP) promotes healthier lives for individuals, groups, and the community at-large through community assessment and mobilization, data dissemination, education, and policy and environmental approaches. To prevent disease and reduce individual health risks, staff members manage programs that support emotional well-being, provide health education, prevent substance abuse, improve worksite wellness, and coordinate crisis response services. They administer grants that improve community norms toward substance abuse prevention and increase the use of policy and environmental approaches to preventing chronic disease.

Promoting Safe Routes to School

This year, HPDP health educators partnered with three elementary schools in the Ypsilanti Public School District to begin Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs. SRTS is a state and federal program aimed at making biking and walking to school safe, convenient, and fun for children. When routes are safe, walking or biking to and from school is an easy way to get the regular physical activity children need for good health.



Health educators assisted schools in developing SRTS teams, holding neighborhood safety walking audits and creating plans for how to make routes safer. Schools and HPDP staff also promoted walking and biking as part of a healthy lifestyle by holding Walk to School Days and providing prizes and giveaways to student and families that participated. Throughout the year, HPDP reached nearly 1,500 elementary age students and parents or guardians with SRTS safety and physical activity messages.

Bringing an After-School Physical Activity Program to Ypsilanti

In the spring of 2009, an HPDP health educator and intern worked with Chapelle Elementary School in Ypsilanti to bring the Girls on the Run Program (GOTR) to 3rd-5th grade girls. GOTR uses running to help prepare girls for a lifetime of self respect and healthy living. The character-building program focuses on building self-esteem, confidence and improving physical and emotional health. Over the course of a 12 week season the volunteer coaches teach life-skills lesson such as handling bullies, dealing with body image and the media, making healthy decisions and contributing to the community. Along the way, the girls train together to run in a 5k (3.1 mile) run.



Although GOTR has been available in other areas of Washtenaw County, the partnership with WCPH was critical for bringing the program to Ypsilanti. 16 girls participated in the program in 2009 and an even more girls have joined in 2010.



DISEASE CONTROL
 DIANA TORRES-BURGOS, M.D., M.P.H.
 DISEASE CONTROL MANAGER

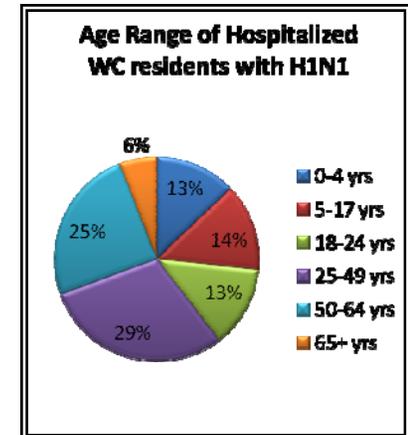
Disease Control is responsible for preventing and controlling the spread of communicable diseases. It provides an active surveillance and reporting system that monitors the prevalence of all communicable diseases in the County, such as tuberculosis, meningitis, pertussis, and influenza. Disease Control provides diagnostic, treatment, counseling, and referral services for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as HIV/AIDS, gonorrhea, syphilis, and Chlamydia, and also provides a wide variety of immunization services to County residents. Disease Control staff is available 24/7 to protect health and prevent disease.

In 2009, our experienced Disease Control staff continued to be very busy with the continuous monitoring of diseases in our community. Ongoing surveillance allows the Disease Control staff to investigate and respond quickly to prevent further transmission of diseases.

H1N1 Influenza A virus engaged the greatest amount of time for our staff during the year. It was the first time that the health department held multiple mass vaccination clinics and over 12,700 H1N1 immunizations were administered by the end of January 2010. In our county, 80 residents were hospitalized with influenza related illnesses (76 confirmed H1N1, 4 probable). The most common medical conditions of patients hospitalized included:

- Asthma (53%) and other lung conditions (13%)
- Metabolic disease such as diabetes (19%)
- Immunosuppression (17%)
- Obesity or a Body Mass Index >30 (36%).

Pertussis (commonly known as whooping cough) is a vaccine preventable disease. This was a record year for the number of confirmed cases of Pertussis with 81 cases compared to 23 cases in 2008. The ages of those infected ranged from 2 weeks to 84 years. 28% of the cases occurred in children and adolescents that were totally unvaccinated.



Services	2009 Clients Served
STD Clinic Examinations/Counseling	2291
HIV Testing/Counseling	765
TB Screenings and/or Treatment	1161
Children Vaccinated Against Seasonal Flu	339

The Adult Health Clinic staff works very hard and is experienced in contacting high risk clients who are positive for Chlamydia, Gonorrhea or HIV to review treatments, available resources and assist with partner notification. **Chlamydia** continues to be the most common sexually transmitted disease reported (35% of the cases occurred in ages 15 -19 years).



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
RICHARD FLEECE, HEALTH OFFICER

2009 WAS AN EXCITING YEAR IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH!

Michigan Food Law

New procedures for the enforcement of the Michigan Food Law and 2005 Food Code were developed and implemented. Restaurant owners and operators are now completing a risk control plan on any repeated critical food safety violation in an effort to have the establishment determine the best way to come into compliance with that item. This effort is to ultimately have the owners and operators of food service establishments be in charge of the food safety of their establishments and to prevent them from having further enforcement on these items.

Temporary Food Training Video

Washtenaw County's food program received a small grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture to produce an automated temporary food training video. This narrated, guided video is approximately 30 minutes in length and focuses on the food safety items that must be in place for a successful temporary food event. There is also a short quiz at the end to gauge knowledge of safe food handling practices. This video can be viewed on the website at <http://foodsafety.ewashtenaw.org> under "Temporary Food Vendor Training Video".



Well and Septic Records—Now Online

Remote public access via the internet to the Divisions well and septic records was released during the year. Now through the County website records can be search for by address or permit number. The Division has imaged over 2 million pages of records. Allowing the public to access these records from the comforts of their home or office has significantly reduced the need for people to travel to county offices and made accessing one's own well and septic records much easier.



Body Art

All body art establishments, including those facilities performing tattooing or piercing (excluding the ear lobe) were inspected and licensed in 2009. This new state law requires yearly inspections for health and safety standards of these facilities.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
RICHARD FLEECE, HEALTH OFFICER

Wastewater Regulation

On April 1, 2009 the Washtenaw Regulation for the Management, Treatment, and Disposal of Wastewater took effect (the regulation was approved by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissions in December of 2008). The implementation of this regulation was the culmination of a two year effort to re-write the existing sewage regulation which was adopted in 1961.

Water Supply Programs

The Type II Non-Community Water Supply Program and the Private/Type III water supply programs were audited by the MDEQ and found to be meeting all contractual Minimum Program Requirements (MPRs).

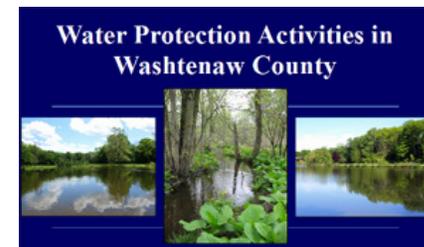
The Division continued its collaboration with the Office of the Water Resources Commissioner in ensuring compliance with the Washtenaw County Phase II Storm Water Permit. Staff collected storm water samples and performed consultative Pollution Prevention inspections at governmental agencies.

- 698 homes had a well/septic inspection at time of sale.
- 105 required sewage system replacement and
- 118 required corrective action be taken on the water supply.

It is interesting to note that over a third of these home were vacant at the time of inspection.

Of Note:

Staff assisted the Ypsilanti Fire Department in the mitigation of a mold infested home. The Division helped Fire Department officials in securing approval from the MDEQ to raze the home as a fire training exercise location.



THE YEAR IN PICTURES

