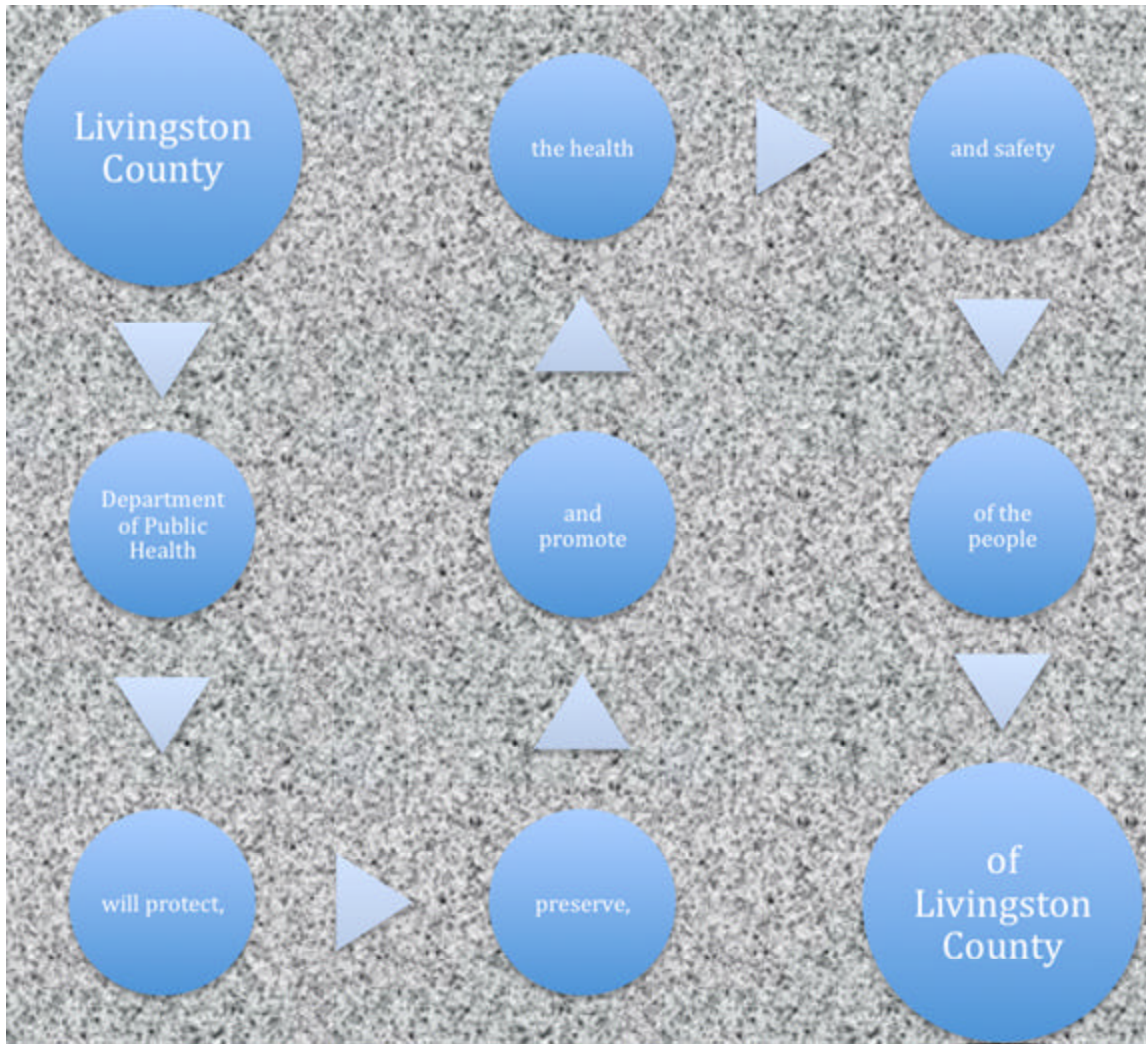


Livingston County Department of Public Health



2008
Annual
Report



From the Director

On behalf of the Livingston County Department of Public Health staff, I present you with our 2008 Annual Report. I sincerely encourage you to review the report and to become aware of our programs and services. Even in these very difficult economic conditions, our employees strive to maintain high quality programs and services. In 2008, our Department received Accreditation from the Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Program. This honor indicates that we meet or exceed all the minimum program requirements for the following programs: Local Public Health Administration, Clinical Laboratory, Food Service Sanitation, General Communicable Disease Control, Hearing and Vision Screening, Immunizations, On-site Sewage Treatment Management, Sexually Transmitted Infections, HIV/AIDS and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Administration.

Should you want to learn more about our programs and services or have questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ted Westmeier, RS, MPH
Director/Health Officer

Executive Management Staff

Ted Westmeier, Health Officer/Director
Elaine Brown, Personal/Preventive Health Services Director
Dianne McCormick, Environmental Health Director
Donald Lawrenchuk, M.D., Medical Director

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2008 Personal and Preventive Health Services

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

Disease control includes surveillance, epidemiological investigation, and prevention of communicable diseases in Livingston County. Newly emerging and reemerging infectious diseases may be a threat to public health and therefore must be monitored. Disease or infection identification and timely reporting by hospitals, health care providers and schools to the Health Department comprise the first steps in the disease control process. Prompt investigation of infectious diseases by our staff assists in identification of the source of the infection and reduces the possible spread of the disease.

Program activities for 2008 include:

- We investigated 398 reportable communicable diseases.
- We followed up on 185 animal bites for potential rabies exposure. Of 106 animals tested, two animals were positive for rabies: a bat and a fox.
- HIV/AIDS Testing Program focuses on prevention, education and HIV testing. We provided 94 individuals with these services, and we participated in National HIV Test Day.
- Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Program: education and referral for evaluation and treatment was provided to 189 individuals with STI.
- TB Prevention and Control: 504 TB skin tests were administered to individuals. A county resident was followed for active TB disease. Direct Observation Therapy (DOT) is the standard of care for TB treatment. It involves providing antituberculosis drugs directly to the patient and a Public Health Nurse watches as he/she swallows the medications. It is the preferred treatment strategy for all patients with tuberculosis. Fifty DOT home visits were made in regards to monitoring TB medication therapy and visits were continued in 2009 until treatment was completed.

CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

This program provides a broad range of care coordination services for families of children with special needs, including referrals for diagnostics, completion of applications for new or renewed enrollment, determination of financial eligibility and assistance with billing and transportation issues. We provided these services to 428 families in 2008.

2008 Personal and Preventive Health Services

HEARING AND VISION SCREENING

School hearing screenings were provided to 6655 children in preschools, kindergarten, grades 2 and 4 and to students in Early On and special education.

School vision screenings were provided to 10,947 children in preschools, grades 1, 3, 5 and 7 and children in Early On and special education. Early childhood and driver's education students were also screened as requested. Other children referred to the program by a parent, teacher, or school nurse due to a suspected hearing or vision problem were also screened.

IMMUNIZATIONS

The goal of the Immunization Program is to protect the public's health from vaccine preventable diseases. The program includes clinic activities and support and outreach to county schools and private vaccine providers.

Program activities for 2008 include:

- Administered 3831 doses of vaccine, including 1101 doses of influenza vaccine.
- Assessed the immunization status of 6924 Kindergarten to 12th grade student records and 2773 preschool records
- Presented six **Nurse Educator training modules to county physician office staff.**
- Conducted 12 site **visits to Vaccines for Children (VFC) provider offices.**

NURSES WELCOME NEWBORNS PROGRAM

Public Health Nurses offer support and education to parents and newborns in their homes. The nurses provide information about infant care, nutrition, growth and development, home and car seat safety as well as linking families with community resources. The NWN program served 39 families.

2008 Personal and Preventive Health Services

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC) PROGRAM

WIC provides screenings for some health problems and offers nutrition education. WIC staff provides referrals to other health and social service agencies for parenting, social work, immunizations, access to Healthy Kids/MiChild, prenatal care and smoking cessation programs.

Program activities for 2008 include:

- The average monthly participation in WIC was 2095 individuals for visits for assessment, supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education
- Participants of the WIC program received 180 packets of Project Fresh coupons to use at farmers markets to purchase Michigan grown produce.
- 231 children in WIC received blood lead screening tests. Parents received specific information on how to reduce the lead hazards in their homes. We provide case management, including public health nursing and environmental assessment and follow-up to children identified with elevated blood lead levels.

The WIC Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) was implemented in May 2008. Clients are issued a Michigan WIC Bridge Card to use at stores to redeem WIC benefits, similar to the way food stamps are issued. In fiscal year 2008, WIC participants spent over one million dollars in Livingston County for WIC approved foods.



Benefits for retailers include:

- Automatic verification of both participant and WIC approved items.
- Reduction of time spent in-lane on WIC sales and in the back office.
- More prompt payment.

2008 Environmental Health Services

COMMUNITY HEALTH & SAFETY

LCDPH Environmental health staff routinely inspect, public swimming pools, public bathing beaches, child and foster care facilities, and public campgrounds.

Inspections for 2008 include:

- 8 public campgrounds
- 2 temporary campgrounds
- 8 children's campgrounds
- 83 adult foster care and child care facility inspections
- 58 pools & spas
- 14 public beaches

FOOD PROTECTION

LCDPH routinely inspects food service establishments to ensure proper food handling and review standard operations in an effort to eliminate potential food-borne illness.

Program activities for 2008 include:

- 411 permanent food service establishments
- 24 plan reviews
- 15 food vending inspections
- 87 food-borne investigations
- 749 frequent food service inspections
- 130 temporary food inspections
- 10 mobile food service units
- 16 special transitory food units

WASTE MANAGEMENT

LCDPH services include evaluation of site conditions to determine suitability for the utilization of onsite sewage disposal, evaluation and approval of system construction, and the investigation and enforcement of complaints regarding improper operation and maintenance of existing onsite sewage disposal facilities in the county.

Program activities for 2008 include:

- 215 site evaluations
- 10 licensed waste haulers
- 215 septic system permits
- 730 construction inspections
- 44 complaint investigations
- 1 septage receiving station inspected

2008 Environmental Health Services

AIR QUALITY

LCDPH provides resource information and consultation on various sources of air pollutants, such as: radon, mold, lead, asbestos, mercury, carbon monoxide, environmental tobacco smoke, and volatile organic compounds (vocs).

WATER QUALITY

The LCDPH onsite water supply program works to ensure public health protection through safe drinking water, proper well and water supply system construction, and site evaluation for land development. LCDPH acts as the local permitting agency for all residential and small public water supply systems.

Program activities for 2008 include:

- 340 permits
- 242 construction inspections
- 272 private wells sampled adjacent to contamination sites
- 401 non-community supplies, with 135 inspections



In January 2008, LCDPH in cooperation with WHMI 93.5 FM, organized a lead testing event:

“Get the Lead Out”

A special hand-held analyzer, provided by Innov-X Systems, was used to test items for lead contamination, with instant results.

Regardless of screening results, blood lead testing is the best way to determine if a child has been exposed to a

dangerous amount of lead. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has recommended a virtually universal screening of children 12-72 months of age. Child healthcare providers should use a blood lead test to screen children at ages one and two years and children 36-72 months of age who have not previously been screened if they meet certain high-risk criteria. It is important for children with an elevated blood lead level to be identified early so interventions can be implemented to decrease the risk of future health and developmental problems. Creating a lead-safe environment for families is key to preventing further lead contamination.

HEALTH PLAN B

The Livingston Health Plan B benefit program is a community-sponsored program that helps uninsured adults to get in-county health care services. Uninsured residents of Livingston County who meet residency and income eligibility requirements may be candidates for the Plan B benefit.

In 2008, we assisted 1180 Livingston County residents in obtaining health benefits.

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

In 2008, a Livingston County partnership between LCDPH, Emergency Management, Animal Control, MSU Extension and state/private veterinarians resulted in an operational Animal/Agricultural Disaster Response Plan.

The Public Health Volunteer Response Team, comprised of 208 active nurse volunteers, received 3 trainings in 2008:

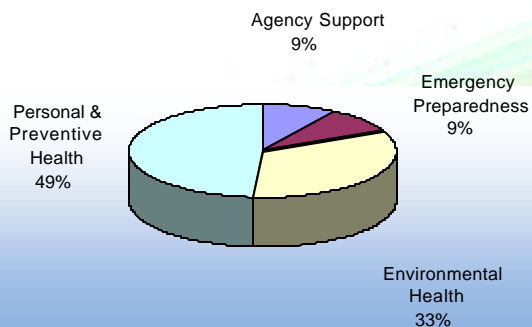
- Red Cross First Aid,
- Psychological First Aid,
- Operational Mass Dispensing.

Several Mass Dispensing infrastructure drills were conducted by LCDPH, in collaboration with the Office of the Drain Commissioner and other Southeastern Michigan Health Departments.

A second printing and distribution of the LCDPH Family Preparedness Booklet occurred in 2008.

LCDPH REVENUE AND EXPENSES 2008

Expenses by Division, 2008



Revenue by Source, 2008

