2015 Annual Report





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FOREWORD

As stated last year, the one constant is change and remains our greatest source of opportunity.

No two days are the same at the Health Department.

Last year Ebola was in all of the headlines. This year it is the Zika virus and we are challenged as a department to plan our response in a worst case scenario. It keeps us sharp.

This year we continued our journey toward Accreditation, visited other Health Departments that have achieved Accreditation and opened the effort up to the whole department, turns out it is a Team Sport.

Mr. Gries left the Auditors office to take on the role of the Administrator of the Health Department and is settling in. He has attended the Spring Leadership Conference and has joined the Health Administrator Roundtable.

Mr. Gries has already been a featured speaker on the on the IU Fairbanks School of Public Health, Public Health INsights and Innovation, and is scheduled for four more presentations.

Dr. Jerome Adams has visited Evansville twice this past year and toured the Vanderburgh County Health Department and left with a good impression of our people and our efforts.

Our commitment to partnership has never been stronger and is best exemplified by our new LOGO and the fourth P, Partnership!

We will continue to evolve and grow in our efforts to Promote Good Health, Prevent the spread of disease, Protect our citizenry from the smallest to the eldest and Partner across the continuum to leverage both capital and capacity.

Join us in this journey. Working together we can and will accomplish the goals of good health and a healthy community.

Robert k Spear M.D.

Ken Spear MD

Vanderburgh County Health officer



VANDERBURGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Name	Position	Original Appointment Date
Catherine M. Engel, PhD	Chair	February 8, 2005
Mark E. Wohlford, D.D.S., PhD	Vice-Chair	January 1, 2008
John D. Pulcini, M.D.	Member	May 1, 1987
Maria Del Rio, M.D.	Member	August 15, 1989
Fred Mulfinger	Member	July 25, 2005
R. Michelle Galen. M.D.	Member	January 1, 2013
Timothy Hubert, Esq.	Member	June 23, 2014

The members listed above served during the year 2015. The original Board of Health was appointed in 1948. All members have been appointed for terms of four years, except those who are appointed to serve out unexpired terms. Members may be reappointed or replaced, and continue to serve until their successors have been named. Appointments are made under Indiana Statute IC 16-20-2-6 & 7 by the Mayor and County Commissioners, according to population ratio. The members received no compensation.

ADMINISTRATION AND CORE MANAGEMENT TEAM

R. Kenneth Spear, M.D. Health Officer

Joe Gries Administrator (Effective November 2, 2015)

Kristina Carter, BSN RN Director Communicable Disease Division

Mary Ellen Stonestreet, RD Coordinator WIC Clinic

Christopher Allen, MT (ASCP), SH Director Laboratory Division

Christian Borowiecki, BS, EHS Director Environmental Health Division

DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS

Paulette Hoffman Financial Officer
Wallace Corbitt, MS Supervisor STD

Jeri Kenning, RN, BSN

Supervisor Public Health Nursing

Mary Jo Borowiecki, BS

Supervisor Health Promotions

Supervisor Vital Becords

Erica Mitchell, AAS Supervisor Vital Records

Keith Goy, BS Supervisor Rodent & Vector Control

Joanne Alexandrovich, PhD Ozone Officer



MISSION

We exist to serve our clients and the community. We will work with our community partners to:

Develop and provide quality health services;

Promote healthy lifestyles;

Protect against and prevent the spread of disease; and,

Assure preparedness to achieve and maintain the best public health for our community.

VISION

A strong vibrant Health Department recognized as a leading advocate for the health and wellbeing of the community.

ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES

Organizational values are those ideals, principles, assumptions, and beliefs that guide our organization. Vanderburgh County Health Department values include:

Customer and community focus.....mindful and responsive to their needs.

Collaboration.....working together for a healthier community.

Integrity.....being respectful of, and fair and honest with, our coworkers and community.

Preparedness.....ready to respond to threats and emergencies.

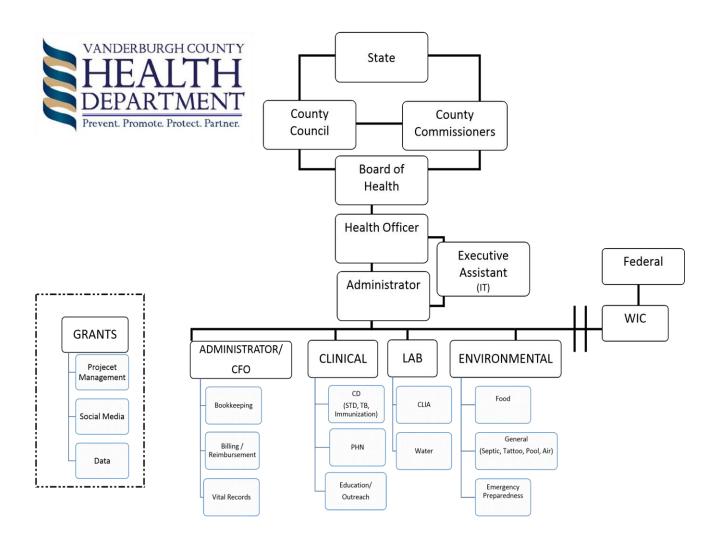
Prevent and promote.....against disease and for healthy living.

Protection and advocacy.....for vulnerable populations

Continuous quality improvement.....nurture and strengthen the culture of quality at the Vanderburgh County Health Department.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART VANDERBURGH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT





HIPPA ADVISORY WORKGROUP

GOALS

The goal of the HIPAA Advisory Workgroup is to insure that the Vanderburgh County Health Department (VCHD) is in compliance with HIPAA administrative simplification rules which cover the privacy, security and electronic access to protected health information associated with our clients.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

The HIPAA Advisory Workgroup meets quarterly to review and update our HIPAA Security and Privacy Policy and Procedures to maintain compliance with Federal HIPAA Administrative Simplification regulations.

HIPAA mandates workforce members be trained on the HIPAA Policy and Procedures unique to each HIPAA Covered Entity. The term workforce, as defined by HIPAA, includes not only our employees, but students, interns, observers and volunteers.

HIPAA training is provided during staff orientation. An annual update is required of all staff and applicable workforce members. Training, which includes signing of a confidentiality agreement, is conducted for student, interns, observers, and volunteers prior to any client contact.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The advisory workgroup continues to monitor, review and update procedures to maintain the integrity of our protected health information and electronic protected health information.

The Health Department continues a long history of providing public health educational opportunities for student rotations to University of Southern Indiana and University of Evansville Nursing students, medical and dental students, physical therapy students, dental hygiene students, as well as observers, interns and volunteers. Education and enforcement of our HIPAA Policies and Procedures remains a high priority.

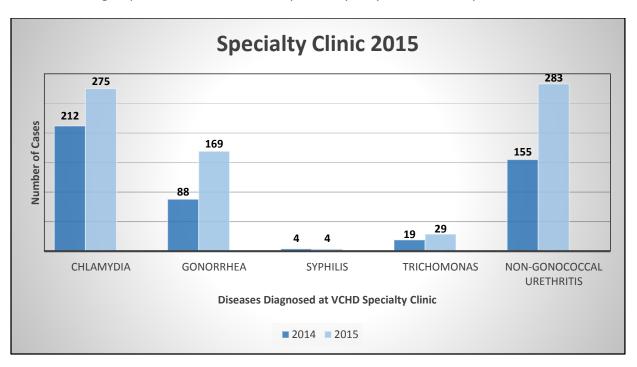


COMMUNICABLE DISEASE DIVISION

Communicable Disease programs provide data collection, reporting, investigation, and surveillance of reportable communicable diseases, as well as diagnostic, treatment, and immunization services through specialized clinic programs.

SPECIALTY CLINIC

The goal of the Specialty Clinic is to prevent the spread of disease, development of complications and recurrence of a Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD). This is accomplished through low cost testing, treatment, case investigation/intervention, risk reduction education and counseling to persons who have or suspect they may have been exposed to a STD.



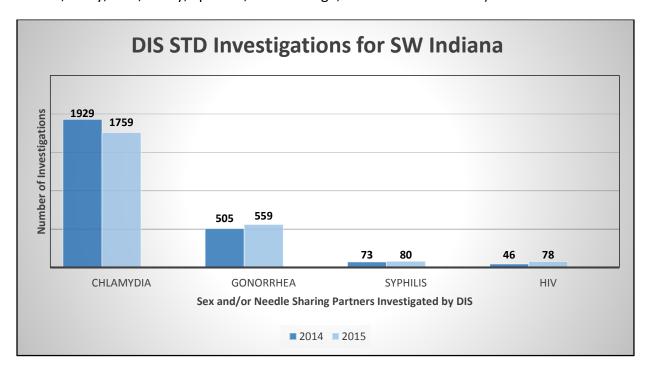
- Case investigation numbers less than 5 will be reported as 4.
- Disease investigations were completed according to Indiana Administrative Code 410
 IAC 1-2.3. The revised Communicable Disease Rule 410 IAC 1-2.5 took effect 12/25/15.
- Due to policy changes at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), VCHD can no longer generate a report with county STD and HIV numbers until released by ISDH.

The Specialty Clinic received a \$9,000 Special Project grant from ISDH to integrate STD screenings among populations identified as high risk for STDs after being tested for HIV through the AIDS RESOURCE GROUP (ARG) of Evansville.



DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALISTS (DIS)

The Supervisor and/or Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) assists all persons who test positive for HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia with partner identification and counseling of their sexual and needle sharing contacts (if applicable). The DIS locates and notifies contacts of their risk of exposure in the field or office. The DIS refers persons who have tested positive for HIV to medical, mental health, financial and social service agencies for assistance as needed. Services are provided in the 11 county area known as District 8 (includes Daviess, Dubois, Gibson, Knox, Martin, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties).



- Partner investigations were completed per ISDH protocol.
- Due to policy changes at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), VCHD can no longer generate a report with county STD and HIV numbers until released by ISDH.

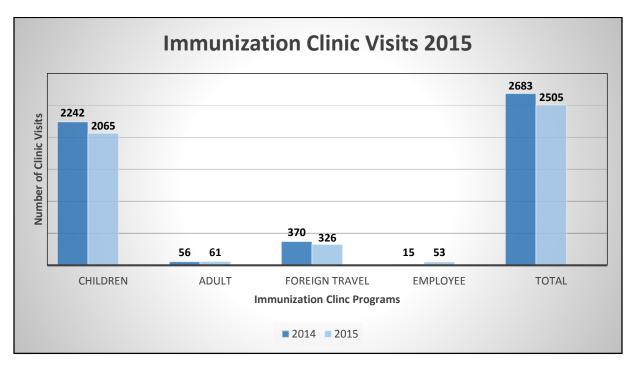
The VCHD Specialty Clinic participated in the ISDH STD Prevention Programs, 2015 Trojan NCSD Condom Donation Program. This program donated 50,000 condoms to VCHD. Condoms were donated to various community partners in southwestern Indiana. In total, 49,475 condoms were distributed.



IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

The Vanderburgh County Health Department (VCHD) operates an Immunization Clinic where vaccines (also known as immunizations or shots) are offered to children, adolescents (teens) and adults in conjunction with the Indiana State Department of Health's (ISDH) Immunization Program. All immunizations are given according to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's (CDC) guidelines.

The Foreign Travel Clinic is a licensed yellow fever vaccination center. Clients are issued an International Certificate of Vaccination and educated on vaccine-preventable diseases, safe food and water consumption, altitude sickness, jet lag, safety and malaria prevention.





IMMUNIZATION GRANT





To increase the primary vaccine completion rate in Vanderburgh County children from 52-55%, promote children receiving their required and recommended school vaccines, dispel myths about the influenza vaccine and promote the use of MyVaxIndiana (a free immunization portal that enables a person to access a vaccine record from an electronic device), VCHD applied for and received the Indiana State Department of Health Immunization Grant for 2015.

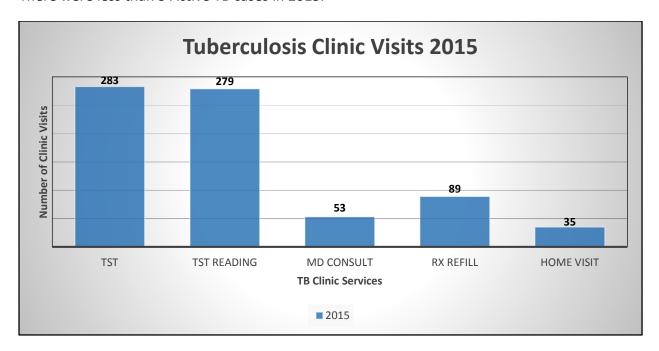
With our community partners, VCHD developed a marketing and education plan, resulting in the creation of "Vax" our blue vaccination bird/immunization mascot, our website vaxtoday.com, a series of commercials, billboards, bus wraps, banners, print materials and a bidirectional interface for transfer of vaccination records between CHIRP and our Electronic Health Record, iSalus. As a result of our marketing campaign and education plan, our primary vaccine series completion rates went from 52-67% and we tracked increased use of MyVaxIndiana in 2015. Our commercials have been shared by ISDH with other local health departments and our Health Officer, Dr. Ken Spear, gave a presentation on this topic to the Indiana Health Officers at the Public Health Leadership Symposium in 2015.



TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC

The Vanderburgh County Health Department (VCHD) investigates, treats, and manages Latent Tuberculosis infection (LTBI) and Active Tuberculosis (TB) disease in Vanderburgh County residents. Our services include administering and reading tuberculin skin tests (TST), TST classes for healthcare providers and educational programs for community partners.

There were less than 5 Active TB cases in 2015.



- TST: Starting in March of 2015, skin tests were limited to VCHD employees, shelter residents and staff, resulting in a decreased number of skin tests being administered and read at VCHD.
- MD Consult: Offered by appointment only for evaluation of Latent Tuberculosis
 Infection (LTBI), active Tuberculosis disease (TB), refugee health screenings and chest X-ray interpretations. After 27 years of service, our contracted TB Physician retired in
 December 2015.



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE INVESTIGATION

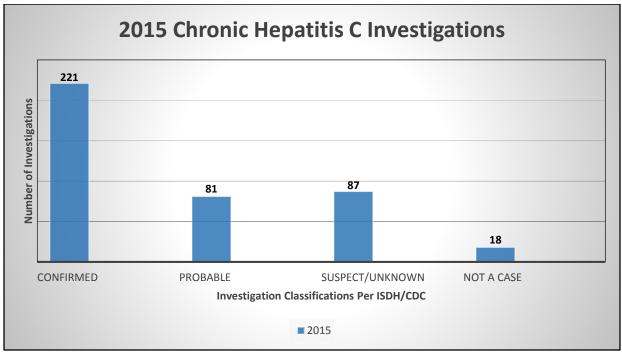
Indiana Administrative Code 410 IAC 1-2.5; directs physicians, hospitals and labs to report certain diseases to the local health department where the patient lives. This information is reviewed to determine things such as disease trends, risk factors, and the effectiveness of various vaccines and medications.

As of 03/01/16, confirmed case investigation numbers for 2015 per ISDH are:

Disease Condition	2015	Disease Condition	2015
Enteric:		Vaccine Preventable:	
Campylobacter	13	Chickenpox	0
E. coli 0157:H7	<5	H. Influenza	<5
Giardiasis	17	Hepatitis A (Acute)	0
Salmonellosis	10	Hepatitis B (Acute)	<5
Shigellosis	8	Perinatal Hepatitis B	0
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	221	Measles (Rubeola)	0
Bacteremia		Mumps	0
Invasive Group A/Group B	17	Neisseria Meningitis	0
Strep			
Mosquito Borne:	<5	Pertussis	<5
West Nile Virus	<5	Rubella	0
Respiratory:		Streptococcal Pneumonia	23
Histoplasmosis	<5	Selected Disease	
		Prevalence Indicators	
Legionellosis	<5	Head Lice	808
Tuberculosis	<5	Pink Eye	438
Influenza Associated Deaths	<5	Pneumonia	83
Tick Borne:		Ringworm	82
Lyme Disease	0	Strep Throat	751
Rocky Mountain Spotted	0		
Fever			

- Case investigation numbers are for confirmed cases only, not probable or suspect cases.
- Case investigation numbers between 1-4 will be reported as <5
- Disease investigations were completed according to Indiana Administrative Code 410
 IAC 1-2.3. The revised Communicable Disease Rule 410 IAC 1-2.5 took effect 12/25/15.
- Selected Disease Prevalence Indicator data was compiled by disease surveillance data sent to VCHD by daycares, childcare centers and public, private and charter schools in Vanderburgh County.





- Disease investigations were completed according to Indiana Administrative Code 410
 IAC 1-2.3. The revised Communicable Disease Rule 410 IAC 1-2.5 took effect 12/25/15.
- Confirmed Case Classification: A case that is laboratory confirmed and does not meet the case definition for Acute Hepatitis C. (A new definition for Chronic Hepatitis C is in effect for 2016.)
- Probable Case Classification: A case that does not meet the case definition for acute
 Hepatitis C, is anti-HCV positive (repeat reactive) by EIA, and has alanine
 aminotransferase (ALT or SGPT) values above the upper limit of normal, but the antiHCV EIA result has not been verified by an additional more specific assay or the signal to
 cut-off ratio is unknown.

Suspect/Unknown Case Classification: Not enough information was available to make a determination of Confirmed or Probable.



PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING/OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

GOALS

The Nursing/Outreach Division has had a focus on maternal/child health for many years. Starting in 2015 we are proud to be able to expand this focus with two new grants we received which are aimed at lowering the county's high infant mortality rate; Early Start and Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR). Early Start's goal is to identify pregnancies and maternal risk factors and provide early prenatal care access to improve pregnancy outcomes. The FIMR grant allows the VCHD to take the lead with our community partners in reviewing cases of fetal and infant deaths to identify contributing factors for community intervention. A third grant, Injury Prevention, focuses on prevention of fatal and non-fatal injuries in children from ages 1–19. Combined, these grants total \$95,000 each grant year.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

Public Health Nurses (PHN's) work primarily in the homes of clients to positively impact the health of our community. Based on the individual's or family's needs, education is provided on a variety of topics, including healthy pregnancy, parenting, proper growth & development of children, safety, lifestyle modifications, and chronic disease management. In 2015, there was 1655 encounters with clients, their physician, &/or other community resources on their behalf. Community partners sent 189 referrals for services to assist clients/families that would not qualify for other services.

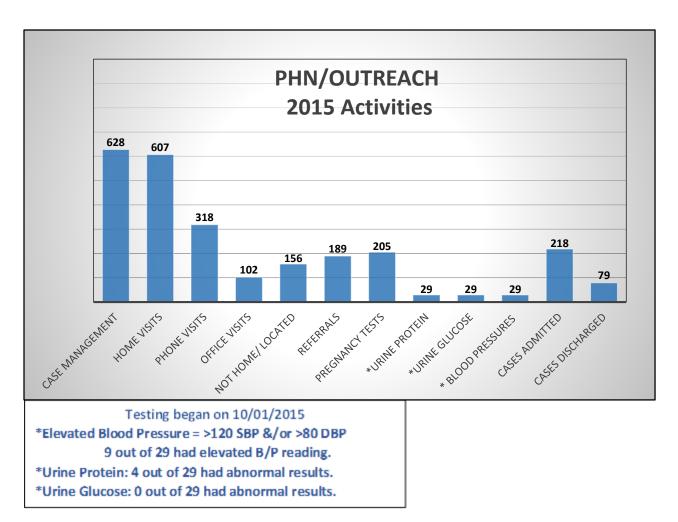
Pregnancy testing is offered daily, which feeds directly into the Early Start grant. A total of 205 tests were administered (115 positive, 90 negative). Women receive counseling and education regardless of the result as well as referrals to various community resources to meet each woman's needs. Those identified with risk factors are referred for early prenatal care. Each woman is given a supply of prenatal vitamins and folic acid education to decrease the risk of birth defects of the brain and spinal cord in current and future pregnancies.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Due to the high infant mortality rate both in Indiana and Vanderburgh County, in April we submitted an abstract for presentation at the Infant Mortality Summit Labor of Love in Indianapolis scheduled in November. The abstract was approved and our FIMR data was presented during a break out session. While this provided a wonderful opportunity to show our local efforts, it allowed us to network with over 400 medical, social, and nursing staff throughout the state. Lowering infant mortality is the number one priority of our state and will remain so for as long as needed.



Affiliation agreements with local universities that have baccalaureate nursing programs (UE, USI, and Vincennes University) provided an exciting educational experience for those students as well as for 1st year students attending IU School of Medicine–Evansville campus.



CHRONIC DISEASE PROGRAM

GOALS

The Nursing/Outreach Division welcomed the Chronic Disease Program as a part of the division. This program's goal is to reduce the burden of chronic disease in our community by providing free blood pressure (B/P) and blood sugar screenings to assist clients in managing their conditions between physician visits.

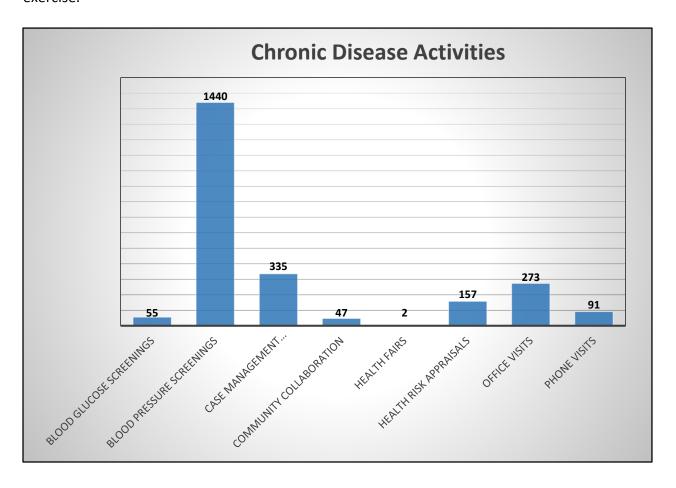


DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Chronic Disease Program serves a vital need in the community, providing blood pressure and blood sugar checks, health risk appraisals, referrals, and education. There are two B/P screening sites offered monthly and individual appointments take place in the office to accommodate others. This year, there were 1495 blood pressure &/or blood glucose screenings in addition to other case management activities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The prevention of diabetes, especially type 2 is a topic that has gained the attention of the medical community, insurance providers, and other health related organizations. Issues related to obesity and a lack of exercise put a burden on the health of many of our citizens. In response, we will be utilizing the Indiana State Department of Health's Diabetes Prevention Program. This evidence-based program allows us to build on and address the issues that are currently being dealt with on a one-to-one basis by providing a curriculum designed to lower BMI and improve the general health of our community through a healthy diet and regular exercise.





PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTIONS

GOALS

Our goal in the Health Promotion department is to educate, enhance, and motivate individuals to strive for optimal health.

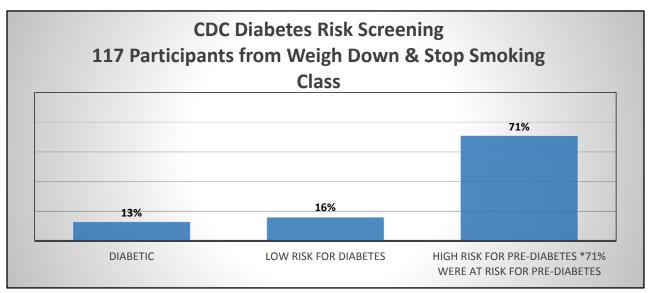
RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

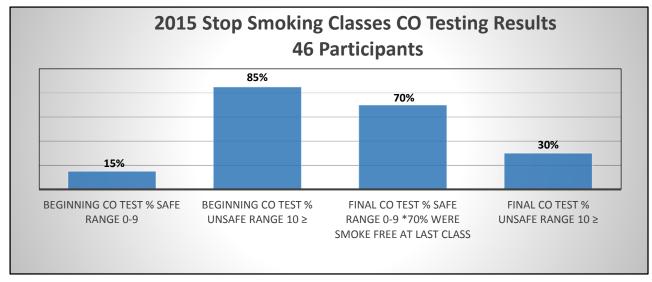
In the health promotion division we strive to provide educational programs and services that meet our community needs. It is also intended to educate community residents so they will have the necessary knowledge, tools, and skills to improve their health and reduce their risks for chronic diseases. The health promotion division cares about the community's health, and realizes the importance of prevention and early detection. Poor lifestyle habits such as unbalanced diet, cigarette smoking, lack of proper exercise, and excessive stress are all prominent risk factors for the leading causes of death in the United States. Through education, prevention, and changes in lifestyles, individuals have the capability to enhance their well-being.

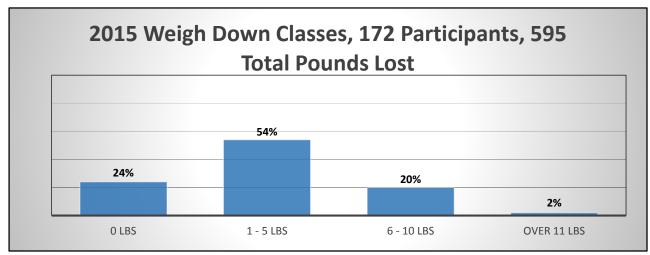
Highlights for the 2015 year for the Health Promotion Division include:

- Educating and providing services to 14,283 individuals in our community on making healthy life choices and reducing their risks for chronic diseases.
- Receiving a new grant entitled, "Baby and Me Tobacco Free"! This is an evidence-based smoking cessation program created to reduce the burden of tobacco use in the pregnant and post-partum population. Women who quit smoking before/during pregnancy are less likely to have premature and low-birth weight babies. Due to the damaging effect of second hand smoke, women and their partner, are encouraged to maintain smoking cessation after delivery. This results in healthier mothers, babies, and improved health outcomes for those involved. If the women signs up for the program, gets off the cigarettes, and stays off the cigarettes she will receive a \$25.00 voucher for free diapers each month up to a year.
- 71% of our participants from our weight loss and stop smoking classes were at a HIGH risk for pre-diabetes per usage of the CDC's pre-diabetes screening tool.
- 70% of our stop smokers were smoke free at their last class!
- 76% of our weight loss participants had lost weight by the final class!
- Stop smoking, health promotion classes, and weight loss classes were taken out into the community and provided at various worksites, churches, daycares, and schools.











ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

GOALS

Environmental Health Services (EHS) promotes the public health and protects the environment of Vanderburgh County citizens. To accomplish this goal the section utilizes practices and procedures to ensure federal, state and local laws are met and offers education to residents to prevent future hazards.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

- Onsite Sewage Disposal
- Environmental Hazards
- Lead Poisoning Prevention
- Tattoo Establishment Regulation
- Public and Semipublic Swimming Pools

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

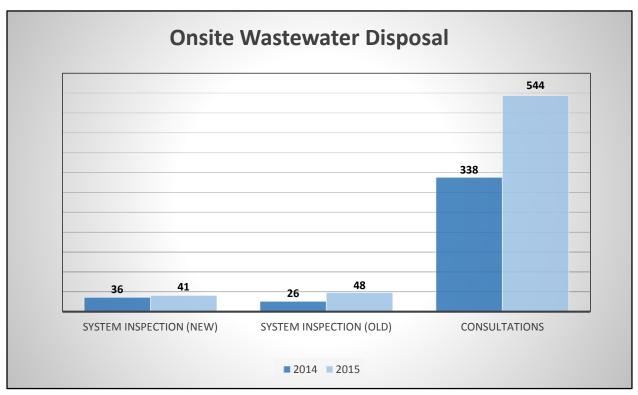
- Spring Training for Onsite Sewage Disposal System Installers
- Annual Training for Public Pool Operators
- Hosting USI & Student Nurses
- Participated in the LEPC Hazmat Drill

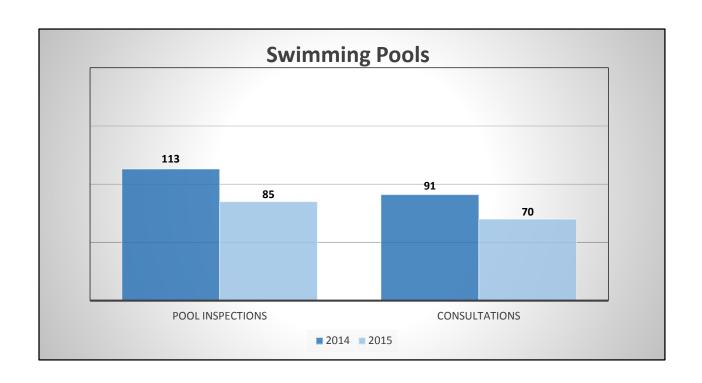
ENVIRONMENTAL STAFF PARTICIPATE ON SEVERAL COMMITTEES/BOARDS

- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- SWIN Technical Center Public Safety Advisory Board
- Emergency Management Advisory Board
- Citizen Corps Advisory Board
- Mayor's No Meth Task Force
- Evansville Trails Coalition
- License & Disciplinary Board

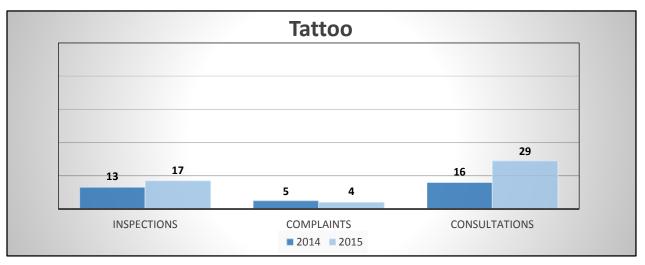
The EHS staff attends various trainings to acquire new skills and to maintain licenses and certifications. The staff presents outreach activities to civic, professional and other groups regarding environmental health issues.

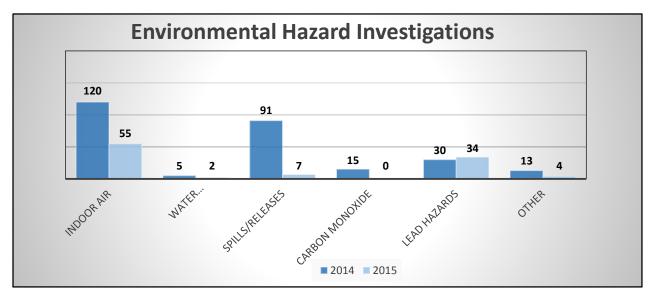


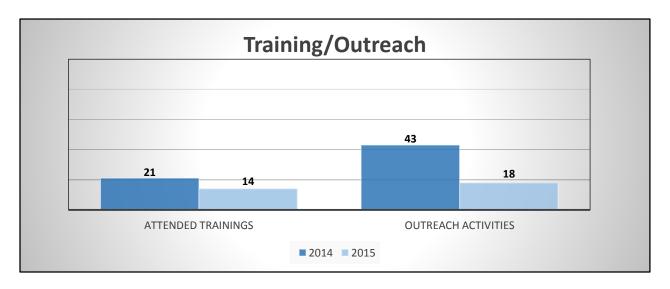














ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION FOOD SAFETY

GOALS

Our mission is to provide a uniform inspection and regulatory program for the food industry, utilizing the latest science and technology, State and Federal food safety codes and requirements. We strive to provide close cooperation and communication with consumers, state and federal agencies, the medical community and the news media to deal with any problem or outbreak relating to food. We provide educational information for the prevention of foodborne disease.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

The food protection program works with the food industry to safeguard the public's health ensuring food is safe, wholesome, unadulterated, and honestly presented, while meeting customer expectations. Local health departments assume the responsibility for food safety at the community level and often serve as the last line of defense ensuring that safe and wholesome food reaches the consumer. The retail food industry is regulated by state law, requiring retail food facilities compliance with state and federal regulations and guidelines for the production and sale of food. The Food Safety program is responsible for the licensing, routine inspection, complaint investigations, foodborne illness investigations, and on-going education of food service workers for all retail food establishments in Vanderburgh County.

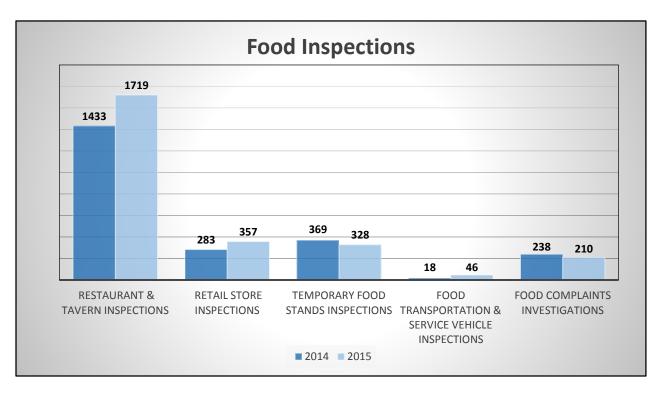
The Food Safety program regulates all retail food sales. Examples include restaurants, groceries, taverns, school cafeterias, mobile food vehicles, vending machines and temporary food stands. Our health specialists investigate all consumer complaints involving food, such as, foodborne illness, foreign material in food, suspected tampering, mislabeling or unsanitary practices and conditions in food facilities.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The local Food Safety Program has monitored the source of food, food production ingredients and transportation methods of the local food industry of all food sold and consumed in Vanderburgh County. Close cooperation and communication has been maintained with federal and state agencies keeping our food program current with food industry and regulatory food safety practices.

The key to food safety is a comprehensive approach toward the food safety education of food service managers, food service personnel, and the general public. Education and Food Safety Certification training has been provided through ServSafe Training courses, by our staff, to food service managers and employees.





VECTOR CONTROL PROGRAM

GOALS

The main goal of the Vector Control Division is the prevention of the spread of disease by vector organisms such as mosquitoes and ticks. This is accomplished through various control methods and educating the public of the types of vectors in this area and the methods of disease prevention.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

The Vector Control Division engages in the control of mosquitoes through several methods, including adult control, larvae control and breeding site reduction. Emphasis is placed on larvae control and breeding site reduction as the two most effective means of control. The Vector Control Program assists the public in many areas of insect and vector control, including identification of vector or nuisance insects, enforcement of local ordinances, and advising concerned citizens when necessary. Vector Control believes education is important and offers educational opportunities through conversations with individuals, media interviews, or various presentations to groups and organizations.



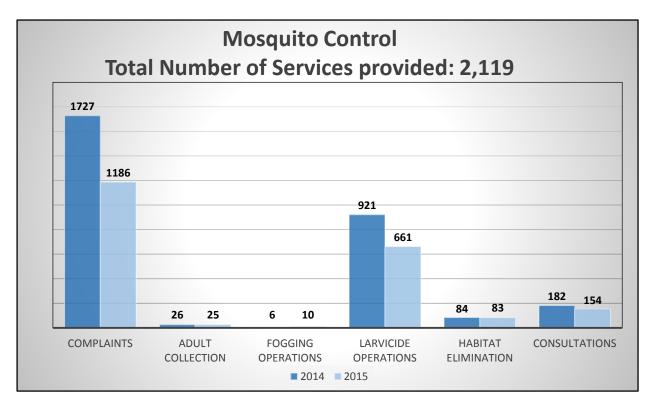
HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Vanderburgh County experienced frequent rainfall in the spring of 2015, which led to increased mosquito larvicide treatment of standing water areas. A dry summer followed which resulted in an increased presence of West Nile Virus being found in the county's mosquito population. Vector Control submitted 27 sample pools of adult mosquitoes for laboratory testing which resulted in 13 pools testing positive for West Nile Virus. There were also less than 5 probable cases of human West Nile Virus in Vanderburgh County.

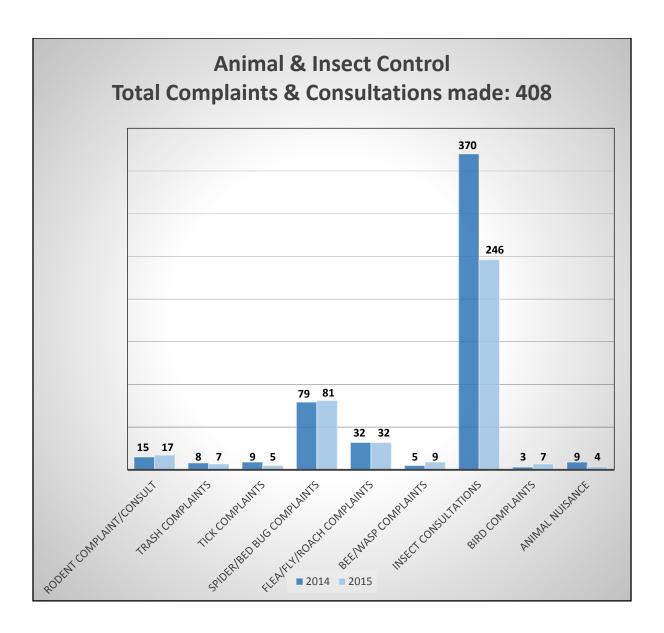
The Vector Control program focused its efforts on controlling breeding habitats by treating sewer catch basins, ditches, and flooded areas regularly with larvicide. Adulticiding was conducted in areas where pools of mosquitos were found to have tested positive for West Nile Virus or a human case was reported. Response to citizen complaints led to extensive educational and treatment operations by program staff at residential properties throughout the county. Operations continued into the month of November.

The Vector Control program also visited numerous used tire facilities in the county to educate operators on proper storage methods to prevent mosquito breeding.

Although bed bugs have not been shown to transmit disease they pose a significant nuisance to individuals of Vanderburgh County. The Vector Control Division had numerous conversations and educational opportunities with landlords, tenants, and community health organizations regarding best practices in preventing and eliminating bed bug infestations.









PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

GOAL

Enhance the ability of the Vanderburgh County Health Department to prepare for and respond to bioterrorism, natural disasters, and other public health emergencies/disasters.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

The Vanderburgh County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator is responsible for coordinating, planning, preparing, and responding to public health emergencies involving the Health Department. The Coordinator is responsible for engaging in activities that enhance the Health Department's preparedness and ability to respond to emergencies that threaten the public health by:

- Identifying primary and secondary command staff and other redundant contingencies
- Maintaining 24/7 contact list with health department staff and District 10 public health departments and other key stakeholders
- Acquiring and maintaining Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) or Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) relating to emergency preparedness and response
- Updating the All-hazards Medical Countermeasure Dispensing (MCD) Plan
- Review/Update current Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and appropriate appendices
- Maintaining Crisis Communication Plan
- Conducting and participating in drills & exercises

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

The Vanderburgh County Department of Health advances its preparedness capability through participation in Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grants. During the 2014-2015 fiscal year the grant total received was \$22,671. For 2015-2016 the total is \$24,994. Additionally, participation in Supplemental Ebola Funding for 2015-2016 totaled \$26,140.



During Fiscal year 2014-2015, staff members successfully completed all the assigned performance based grant deliverables based on capabilities developed by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. Focus was on improving capabilities in Volunteer Management, Mass Care, and Community Recovery. Deliverables completed included:

- Develop standard operating procedure for the coordination and use of public health volunteers.
- Identify the primary points of contact for mass care organizations and public health services that may be needed following a disaster.
- Identify health service delivery recovery priorities and jurisdictional partners.

2015-2016 PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS GRANT & SUPPLEMENTAL EBOLA

The 2015-2016 grant year focuses on an additional set of capabilities. These capabilities include: Community Preparedness and Information Sharing. Along with these capabilities the grant also requires updating of the Training and Exercise Plan and appropriate comprehensive planning guides (CPG), and to utilize the state SERV-IN volunteer management database.

The Supplemental Ebola Funding focuses on coordination with local partners to assess, and improve upon, readiness in the event of an infectious disease outbreak.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

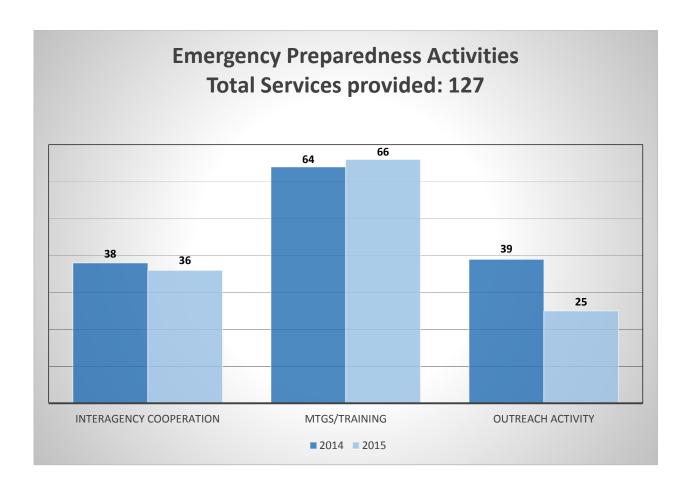
The Vanderburgh County Health Department participated in yearly and quarterly preparedness drills. Some of these drills included: two volunteer call-down drills, statewide 800 MHz radio drills, and a staff call-down drill among community stakeholders and VCHD staff. These drills serve to test communication methods and volunteer participation within the community.

In 2015, notable planning meetings held at the Health Department with jurisdictional partners included:

- A recovery planning meeting which identified public health priorities specific to Vanderburgh County, and potential gaps to restoring these services after a large-scale incident, through discussion and identification.
- Two Infectious Disease Response Plan meetings conducted in the development of a county Infectious Disease Plan.



An Ebola/Infectious Disease Response Plan was written for the county to provide guidelines and coordinate response activities to reduce morbidity, mortality, social and economic disruption caused by an outbreak of infectious diseases within the community.





OZONE OFFICE

GOALS

The primary mission of the Ozone Office is to preserve and improve the air quality of Vanderburgh County and Southwest Indiana in order to remain in attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). This is to insure that the citizens of Southern Indiana have healthy air to breathe, while not suffering hindered economic development due to air quality problems.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

To promote the achievement and maintenance of air quality in Vanderburgh County, the Ozone Office has responsibilities in the areas of **science**, **compliance**, and **education**. The Ozone Officer is Vanderburgh County's principal advisor on issues of air quality, and is responsible for the impartial analysis of scientific data, education of the public, and the assurance of fair enforcement of air quality control regulations.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In order to keep up-to-date in developments in the fields of air pollution control and environmental and public health, the Ozone Officer completed continuing education training programs and seminars in the following areas:

- HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act)
- Universal Precautions, blood borne pathogen exposure, and CPR
- Environmental and air quality planning, science, technology, and the law
- Environmental exposures and health
- Weather forecasting
- Standards for the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)
- Community health assessments and health improvement
- Cultural competency, ethics, and Quality Improvement

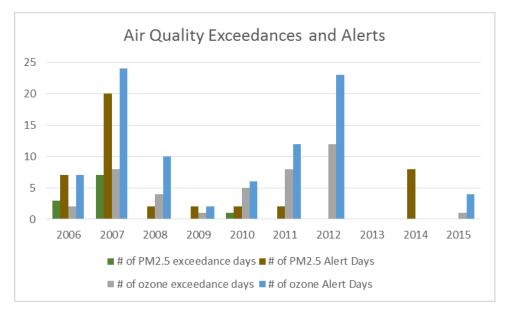
SCIENCE

- Maintained and updated records of air quality indicators including monitoring and emission inventory data in the Tri-State region.
- Produced year round fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and ozone season numerical air quality forecasts. The goal of the forecasting program is to provide information to the public about anticipated pollution levels at least a day ahead of time. If pollution is expected to reach NAAQS levels, an "Ozone Alert," "Particulate Alert," or combined alert is issued jointly with the Evansville Environmental Protection Agency in order to notify the public to possible detrimental health effects. The secondary message of the alerts is to get people to alter their behaviors in order to reduce their contribution to pollution emissions.



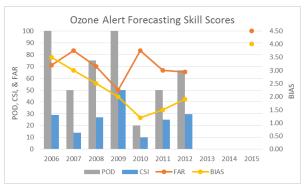
AIR QUALITY ALERT FORECAST DISCUSSION AND VERIFICATION

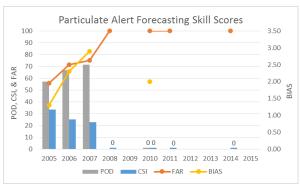
In 2015, one ozone NAAQS exceedance was monitored. Four Ozone Alerts were issued. No particulate exceedances were monitored. No Particulate Alerts were issued.



Between 2005 and 2007 ozone exceedances were recorded when ozone levels were 85 ppb or above. In 2008 through 2015 exceedances were recorded when ozone levels were above 75 ppb.

The following charts display standard forecast statistics for NAAQS exceedances only. Alerts are called if a NAAQS exceedance is expected. Blanks indicate no value could be calculated. Ozone Office monthly reports compile statistics relative to the moderate air quality level, and include information and discussions related to daily forecasts.





POD A Probability of Detection of 100 is perfect.

CSI A Critical Success Index or Threat Score of 100 is perfect. FAR

A False Alarm Rate of 0 is perfect.

BIAS A BIAS of 1 indicates neither under predicting nor over predicting. A BIAS of greater than 1 indicates over predicting.



COMPLIANCE

- The Evansville area continues to maintain compliance (attainment) with the current ozone and PM2.5 NAAQS, as well as the new ozone NAAQS promulgated in October, 2015.
- Formally commented on USEPA's 2015 proposal for a revised ozone NAAQS.
- Formally commented on IDEM's 2016 monitoring network plan.
- Tracked statutory developments and regulatory rulemaking related to air quality and other environmental issues.
- The Ozone Officer attended meetings of the Indiana State Environmental Rules Board as an appointed representative of local government.

EDUCATION

The Ozone Officer was an active participant in meetings and worked on projects with the following ongoing stakeholder groups:

- City of Evansville Environmental Protection Agency
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management
- National Association of Clean Air Agencies
- Southwest Indiana Chamber of Commerce Environmental Committee
- VCHD HIPAA Advisory Workgroup, PHAB Committee, Branding Team, QI Team

Other education efforts include:

- Air Quality Action Day, Ozone and Particulate Alert notification and education program with the Evansville Environmental Protection Agency.
- Provision of information and data on local air quality (monitoring, emissions sources, air quality standards and trends, laws and regulations, research results, and pollution alerts, etc.) and other environmental issues to Health Department interns, students, environmental consultants, businesses, government agencies, the medical community, and other members of the public and media.
- Maintenance of the air quality forecast page and other departmental material on the Vanderburgh County Health Department website. Coordinated timely posting of important information in response to public health issues.

Tweets of mission oriented information for the Vanderburgh County Health Department on the social media website "Twitter."



LABORATORY DIVISION

GOALS

Our goals, as always, are to provide the highest quality of specimen testing to aid in the diagnosis and prevention of disease in our community, and to promote the health of area residents by providing education in the areas of lead poisoning prevention and safe water standards for drinking water, public pools, recreational water, source water, surface water, and wastewater.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

The Vanderburgh County Department of Health Laboratory provides testing services in support of health department clinics and divisions. On-site testing allows rapid turnaround of test results with often same visit treatments. The laboratory also provides bacteriological water testing for drinking water, public pools, recreational water, surface water, source water, and wastewater.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Our laboratory is certified by the Health Care Financing Administration for Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) Laboratory Compliance for overall operation as well as by the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) for the bacteriological examination of public waters.

Our laboratory staff consists of experienced Medical Technologists and a Medical Laboratory Technician who are board certified by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). We are certified both as a CLIA regulated medical lab as well as an Indiana State certified Laboratory for the Bacterial Examination of Public Waters. Our dedicated and professional staff participates in quality assurance, quality control, proficiency testing and continuing education opportunities to assure the highest level of test performance and the highest quality of test results.

A total of 14,532 tests and services were provided in 2015. Tests performed included:

- A. Culture and/or identification of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC), *Chancroid identification*, *Trichomonas vaginalis*, yeast, NGU (nongonococcal urethritis), and bacterial vaginosis
- B. Testing for HIV, syphilis, and whole blood lead levels
- C. Bacteriological examination of drinking water/ice samples, public pools, recreational water, surface water, source water, and wastewater
- D. Cholesterol and glucose screenings



LEAD TESTING

We continue to be an active participant in the CDC's Systematic Tracking of Elevated Lead Levels and Remediation (STELLAR) Program. In 2015, our laboratory screened 143 children in southern Indiana for lead poisoning. Screening results indicated 5 children as lead poisoned. Lead poisoning in children continues to be a problem especially in Vanderburgh County since 41.5% of its housing units were built prior to 1950. In 2015, the lead program participated with the State lead program to actively track and follow up on cases of children with elevated lead levels. The Laboratory receives solar files from the Indiana State Department of Health containing lead testing results on children in our county, regardless of the testing site. The laboratory imports these files, enter the results into the STELLAR program, and is active with our nursing department following up with lead poisoned children and their families. In 2015 the VCHD Laboratory processed and entered 678 solar files and tokens. We are also working with local health providers as well as participating in off-site clinics (Head Start and others) to increase the number of children screened. Over the past several years we have transitioned from being a regional reference laboratory for lead testing to focusing our efforts on Vanderburgh County residents and children with strong case management and follow up to help ensure better outcomes and remediation. We switched to Lead Care II analyzers which have the ability to run point of care, real time whole blood lead results and allow us to identify high risk individuals at the time of service, thus being able to provide guidance and counseling to the exposed families in a much more expedient manner.

WATER TESTING

Safe drinking water is an increasingly important issue. In 2015, 528 well and municipal samples were tested for bacterial suitability. An important part of providing testing is gaining the opportunity to educate homeowners with wells on drinking water safety. We also provide testing to several municipal water systems in the Southern Indiana area and report unacceptable test results to IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management) immediately for follow up and remedial measures. The Laboratory also fields a wide variety of drinking, recreational, and wastewater questions from the general public and provide referral information for testing requirements beyond the scope of our testing menu.

Every year the health department staff works diligently with pool operators to provide the public with safe swimming pool water. In 2003, the State of Indiana updated the Swimming Pool Rule (410 IAC 6-2.1) expanding the definition of public swimming pool to include competition pools, diving pools, plunge pools, wave pools, and spas. We serve as a regional certified water testing Laboratory for a large portion of Southwestern Indiana public pools, hotels, and spas. In 2015, 2,982 samples were tested for bacteriological safety. The



Laboratory works in close cooperation with the Environmental division to notify them when pools have unacceptable samples so remedial action can be taken in a timely manner.

In 2015, we continued to offer testing for determining the bacteriological quality of water by providing a method for MPN (most probable number) of *E. coli* in recreational water, source water, surface water, and wastewater. We tested 209 of these samples in 2015.

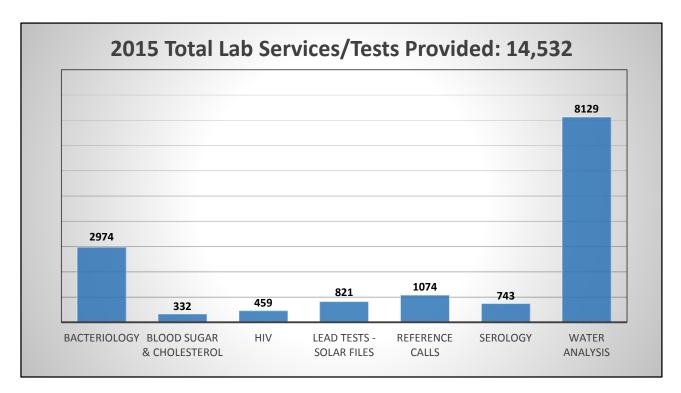
HIV TESTING

The Laboratory continues to provide rapid HIV testing in support of the STD program. Funding cuts have reduced the number of HIV tests performed, but we continue to offer the test in support of our STD clinic and perform proficiency testing on the methodology. In 2015 the VCHD Laboratory performed 459 rapid HIV tests.

The advent of DNA testing has required the city and county law enforcement agencies to greatly increase their need for blood drawing services to ensure proper sample collection and integrity. The Vanderburgh County Health Department Laboratory continues to provide this service for our local police agencies when requested.

CHRONIC DISEASE TESTING

The Laboratory offers cholesterol and glucose testing during health fairs and employee screenings. In 2015 we tested 332 glucose or cholesterol samples.





WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN (WIC) PROGRAM

GOALS

The goals of the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children(WIC) are to teach the relationship between proper nutrition and health, to help individuals develop better dietary habits, and to prevent nutrition-related problems by showing participants how best to use the WIC foods with other nutritious foods for a proper diet. A major goal of the WIC Program is to improve the nutritional status of infants; therefore, WIC mothers are encouraged to breastfeed their infants, unless medically contraindicated.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

WIC is a Federal grant program for which congress authorizes a specific amount of funding each year for program operations. The Food and Nutrition Service, which administers the program at the Federal level, provides these funds to WIC State agencies to pay for WIC foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, and administrative costs. WIC serves low-income pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, and infants and children up to age 5 who have a medical and/or nutrition risk.

WIC provides nutritious foods, nutrition education and referrals to health and other social services to participants at no charge. WIC provides supplemental foods rich in protein, iron, calcium, and vitamins A and C. Because nutrition education is an important component of the WIC Program, individual nutrition education contacts are scheduled on a quarterly basis for all participants. Registered Dietitians and Registered Nurses make up the staff who conduct all individual nutrition education.

The Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program continued to support breastfeeding with three Peer Counselors and a Breastfeeding Coordinator. The Breastfeeding Coordinator is a registered nurse who is a Certified Lactation Specialist. Peer counselors are mothers who have personal experience with breastfeeding and are trained to provide basic breastfeeding information and support to other mothers with whom they share various characteristics, such as language, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. The use of breastfeeding peer counselors adds a critical dimension to WIC's efforts to help women initiate and continue breastfeeding. WIC breastfeeding peer counselors provide a valuable service to their communities, addressing the barriers to breastfeeding by offering breastfeeding education, support, and role modeling. Peer counselors are familiar with the resources available to WIC clients, have familiarity with the questions a new breastfeeding mother may ask, and recognize when to refer mothers to other resources during critical periods when mothers may experience difficulty. The peer counselors teach an "Infant Feeding Class" three times per week that is offered to all prenatal WIC



participants. An RN, IBCLC teaches a weekly breastfeeding class for those who would like to know more about it.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The breastfeeding initiation rate decreased slightly from 69.9% in 2014 to 68.6% in 2015. This rate was slightly lower than the Indiana WIC 2014 rate of 72.2%. Through the WIC breast pump loan program, the peer counselors issued 143 breast pumps to assist women in achieving their breastfeeding goals. The WIC staff is also available to help breastfeeding women with additional supplies they may need, i.e.; a nursing bra, washable nursing pads, storage bags and referrals. A weekly breastfeeding basics class has been added to the schedule. It is taught by a registered nurse, IBCLC (International Board of Certified Lactation Consultants)

WIC participated again in the USDA Farmer's Market Program. Three \$6.00 checks were issued to 900 families during the period of June – September. However, only 325 households redeemed at least one check. This is a redemption rate of 35%. 81.5% of Fruit and Vegetable WIC vouchers (CVVs) were redeemed at the local grocery stores for fresh produce. This is higher than the state average of 80%.

Throughout the year the WIC Program offered clinic observations for nutrition and nursing students from University of Evansville, University of Southern Indiana, IVY Tech and ITT. WIC hosted one Dietetic intern for one week from Iowa State University. WIC utilizes college student volunteers to keep bulletin boards current with nutrition and health information and general office assistance, giving them experience in the WIC clinic.

The WIC clinic has increased its participation of outreach in the community. For example; the Healthy Families Christmas party, Mom and Baby classes at St Mary's Medical Center, Little Lambs and giving lectures about WIC to Community Nutrition classes at The University of Southern Indiana are just a few of the community partners whom WIC provides information to about the services offered.

The most successful outreach program has been the certification of newborns and breastfeeding mothers at St Mary's Hospital for Women and Children. By certifying participants in the hospital, they are able to receive their WIC checks 10 days sooner; therefore able to provide nourishment for their baby without having to wait for an appointment in the WIC clinic.

WIC has teamed with Purdue Extension Family Nutrition Program to offer nutrition education classes 3 times per week. Participants may choose to be scheduled for a class at their quarterly appointment. The classes focus on reading food labels, portion sizes, increasing activity and other general nutrition topics. One time per month FNP is providing a cooking class using WIC



foods and sampling the finished recipe. Early Headstart parents have also joined the cooking class and many of them are already WIC participants. As the class grows, additional cooking classes will be offered.

GROCERY/PHARMACY VENDORS

There are 26 grocery stores in Vanderburgh County that have been trained to redeem WIC checks. Representatives from all stores receive mandatory training every September and optional training in March. Revenue generated in Vanderburgh County:

- \$2,424,000.00 in 2014
- \$2,339,232.00 in 2015

FARMER'S MARKET

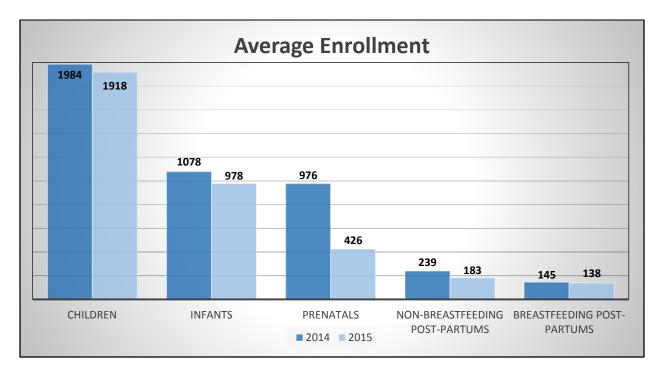
The Farmer's Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) was established by congress in July 1992, to provide fresh, nutritious, unprepared locally grown fruits and vegetables through farmer's markets and roadside stands to WIC participants. FNMP was also created to expand awareness and generate more use and sales at farmers' markets and roadside stands. Revenue generated from Vanderburgh County Farmer's Market Program:

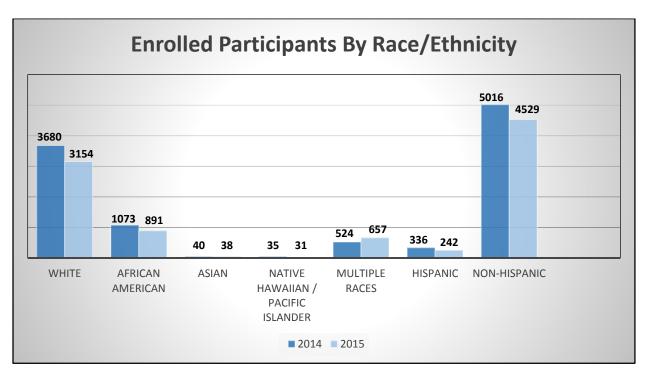
- · \$9,745.00 in 2014
- · \$9,235.00 in 2015



WIC STATISTICS - 2015

The Vanderburgh County WIC program had an assigned caseload of 2,960 participants in 2015:







VITAL RECORDS

GOAL

The Vital Records department's goal is to maintain accurate and complete vital event records such as birth and death certificates along with legal changes to those records.

RESPONSIBILITES AND SERVICES

The Vital Records Division's primary duty continues to be the registration of vital events (birth and deaths) that occur in the City of Evansville and Vanderburgh County. The statistics gathered by this division are the basis for identifying major health trends; identifying problems and determining areas of need; evaluating the effectiveness of public health efforts; and helping formulate public policy regarding the allocation of health resources and funds. In addition, it helps to ascertain whether new programs are needed to lower the number of preventable deaths.

This division is charged with issuing certified birth certificates and death certificates, filing home birth, executing paternity affidavits, paternity affidavits upon marriage, and issuing other vital event permits and documents designated by the State, including birth records due to adoptions and/or court ordered changes.

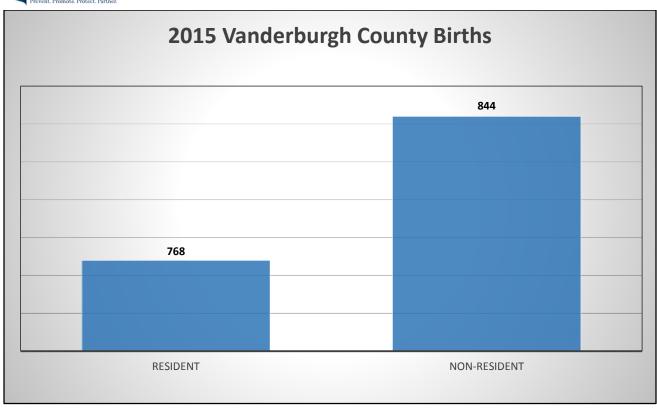
HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

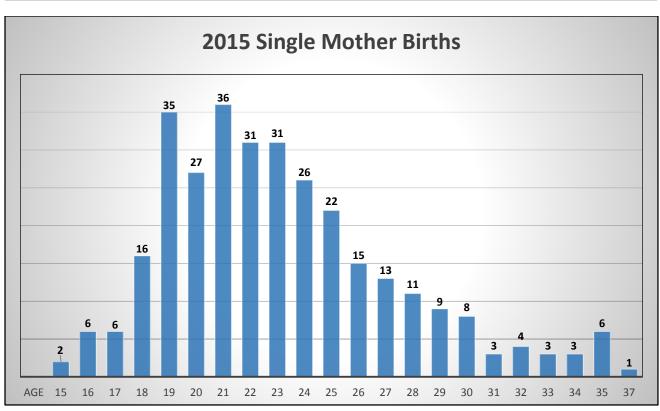
In 2015, Vital Records obtained a new computer program for retaining their records, which will provide them more accessible reporting options.

There were a total of 1,612 births in Vanderburgh County. Of those, 768 were Vanderburgh County residents. There were 2,765 deaths in Vanderburgh County and of those 1,807 were Vanderburgh County residents. This division issued 9,164 birth certificates and 14,669 death certificates to requesting individuals that either came into our office or mailed in a request.

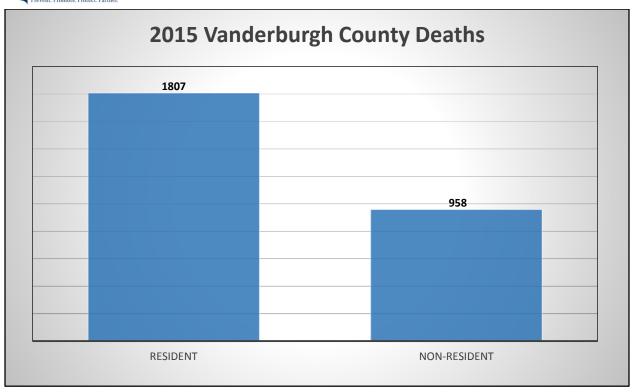
The Vital Records Division participated in the 7th annual Homeless Connect of Vanderburgh County providing free birth certificates to eligible participants. This free event helps those in our community who are homeless or near homeless. A birth certificate is a key document needed by anyone trying to obtain identification, employment and housing assistance. The Vital Records Division is proud and honored to be a part of such an event to assist our community.

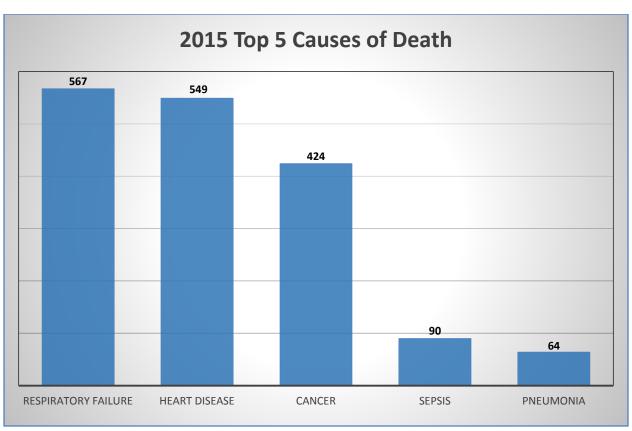




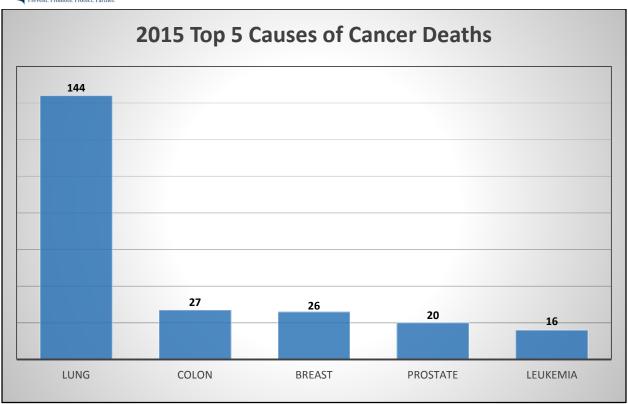














FINANCE DEPARTMENT

GOALS

Manage the financial records of the Vanderburgh County Health Department including all expenditures, revenue, and awarded grants in an accurate and professional manner according to procedures set by the State Board of Accounts.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED

The Finance Department directs all accounting and business office functions of the Health Department. This includes preparation and administration of Health Department and grant budgets. Tracking and balancing all financial accounts for revenue, expenditures, time accruals, and payroll.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

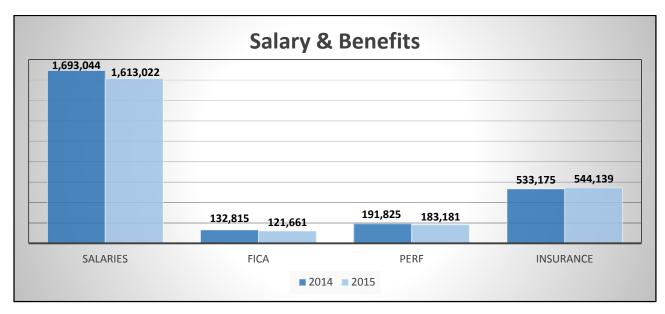
In 2015, the Maternal Child Health (MCH) Division at Indiana State Department of Health changed the structure of their grant resources from one grant fund into multiple grant opportunities targeting several factors of child health concerns. The MCH grant was renamed Early Start while additional grant funds for Baby & Me – Tobacco Free, Injury Prevention, and FIMR were also created.

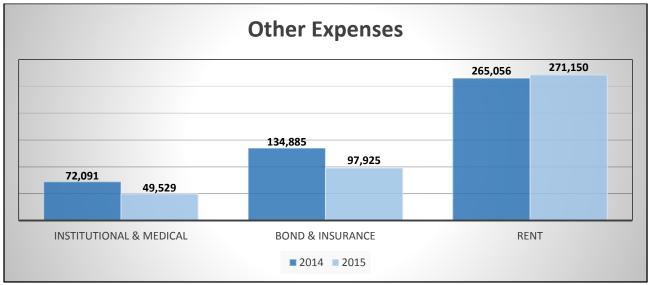
The Finance Department instituted a Health Department wide revision in time keeping by implementing the Work Force Ready time clock system and revising the time off request process. By eliminating individual Attendance/Absence sheets and going to a monthly time record, the time spent on bi-weekly payroll and time keeping was reduced substantially. This process resulted in a more concise and accurate time record for the employees and bookkeepers.



EXPENDITURES

Expenses for 2015 decreased by over \$200,000 primarily in Salary & Fringe. This was an outcome of employee turnover resulting in employees being hired with less tenure and delays in filling positions while working on a restructuring process.

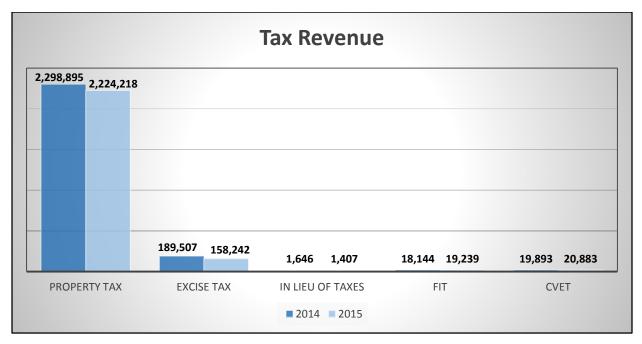


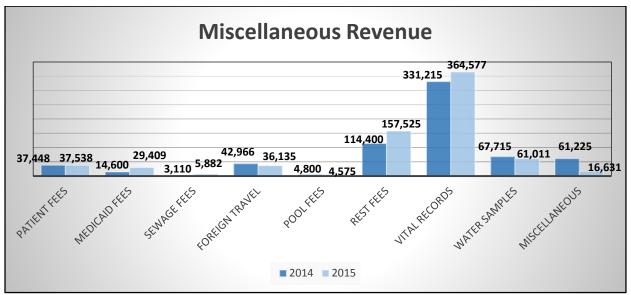




REVENUE

Revenue for 2015 includes a decrease of \$104,096 in taxes and an increase of \$35,803 in miscellaneous revenue totaling a 2% decrease overall from 2014.

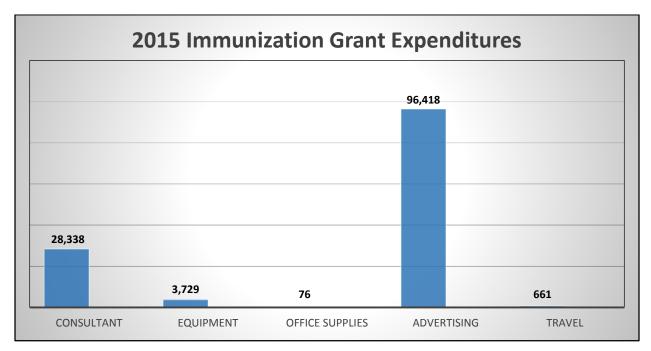


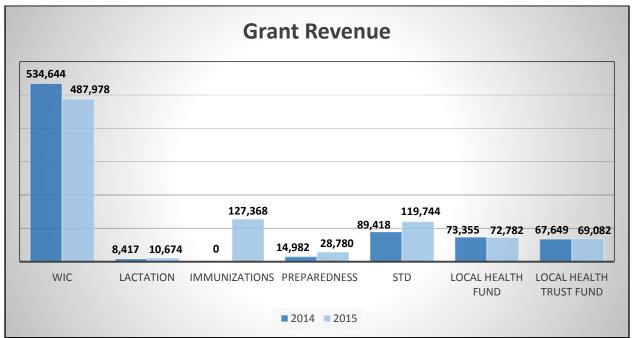




Grants

Grants continue to be a great resource for the Vanderburgh County Health Department. For 2015 the Immunization grant alone provide nearly \$175,000 of funding that was used to increase the immunization rates of children.







In our efforts to provide quality information concerning the Health Fund, grant funds, and all miscellaneous accounts the Finance Department has listed our 2015 Financial Statement showing the amount of money brought in and expended last year. Our reserves have increased over the last few years and is strong evidence of the Health Departments fiscal responsibility.

2015 VCHD Financial Statement

2010 10110 1 1114110141 0141011011				
	Balance	2015	2015	Balance
	1/1 2015	Receipts	Expenses	12/31/2015
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	578,102	3,137,272	3,004,248	711,126
EXPORT HEALTH CERTIFICATES	17,860	7,420	3,412	21,868
VAXCARE	10,028	5,538	0	15,566
CORONER'S CONTINUING ED	2,420	29,890	29,878	2,432
MCH/EARLY START	5,977	67,892	55,320	18,550
WIC	(79,426)	487,978	481,465	(72,913)
STD	(13,378)	11,975	0	(1,403)
LACTATION	4,131	10,674	11,702	3,103
IMMUNIZATIONS	0	127,368	129,221	(1,852)
LHD DELIVERABLES	(1,612)	28,780	30,396	(3,228)
RADON GAS	0	100	100	0
MEDICAL RESERVE-NACCHO	9,650	3,500	3,858	9,292
MEDICAL RESERVE	0	4,646	4,016	630
STD (NEW)	(6,072)	119,744	131,349	(17,677)
BABY & ME TOBACCO FREE	0	0	1,709	(1,709)
FIMR	0	0	1,059	(1,059)
INJURY PREVENTION	0	0	145	(145)
LEAD SCREENING	26,078	327	2,900	23,504
LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE FUND	120,230	72,782	118,553	74,459
TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION	35,447	0	6,862	28,585
TOBACCO GRANT	52,536	955	0	53,490
HEALTH EDUCATION SCREENINGS	441	274	316	399
INDIANA LOCAL HEALTH DPT. TRUST FUND	79,830	69,082	34,061	114,852