



2024-2025 **Annual** **Report**



HURON COUNTY
Health Department

A Message from the Health Officer

The Huron County Health Department's Annual Report provides an overview of the programs and services dedicated to improving the health and well-being of our community. Our staff is deeply committed to this mission, and we take great pride in strengthening partnerships and delivering high-quality, community-focused services.

Across all divisions, the Health Department has continued to expand client-centered, post-pandemic initiatives, with a particular emphasis on addressing vaccine hesitancy. Our team has maintained a strong presence at local events, including co-sponsoring a day at the Huron Community Fair in partnership with DTE, as well as participating in school open houses, kindergarten roundups, the senior fair and the community baby shower.

We extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all Health Department employees for their dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment to serving the residents and workforce of Huron County. We also thank the Huron County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Health for their continued guidance and support.

Finally, we are grateful to our many community partners—including schools, hospitals, physicians, townships, mental health organizations, nonprofits, businesses, law enforcement, and restaurants—whose collaboration plays a vital role in promoting a healthy environment for all.



*Tip MacGuire R.S., B.S.
Health Officer/
Environmental Health Director*



Main Topics



**FINANCIAL
SUMMARY**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH**



**PUBLIC
HEALTH**



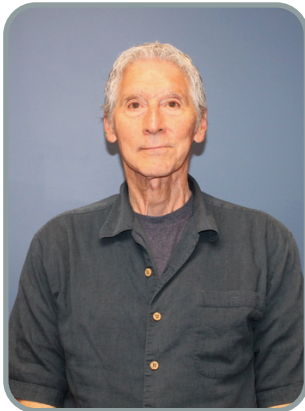
Huron County Board of Health



Joseph Murphy
Chairman



Carol Majeski
Vice Chairman



Robert Siver
Secretary



Cindy Rochefort
Member



Vicki Koglin
Member

HCHD Achieves Accreditation Status



Laura de la Rambelje, from MDHHS stopped in to present staff with a Certificate of Appreciation, and thank them for their excellent job with Cycle 8 Accreditation, and meeting all standard requirements.



Medical Director Update



*Mark Hamed, MD
MBA MPH FAAFP
Huron County
Medical Director*



Rural public health is personal. In a county like Huron, the work of the Huron County Health Department reaches into nearly every part of community life. It supports families, protects children, helps schools and businesses, strengthens emergency readiness, safeguards our environment, and provides trusted guidance when residents need it most.

As an emergency physician, I see firsthand how closely public health and frontline medical care are connected. By the time someone arrives in the Emergency Department, many factors have already shaped their health, access to care, safety, and ability to recover. The work of the Huron County Health Department helps prevent illness before it becomes an emergency, supports families before problems worsen, and strengthens the systems that Huron County residents depend on every day.

This annual report reflects another year of dedicated service by the Huron County Health Department. The work is broad and often happens quietly in the background, through immunizations, communicable disease follow-up, maternal and child health services, environmental health, emergency preparedness, health education, and outreach to residents across the county. These efforts may not always be visible to the public, but they are essential to the health and safety of our community.

Under the solid leadership and clear vision of Health Officer Tip MacGuire, the department continues to serve Huron County with purpose, professionalism, and a strong commitment to local needs. Nursing Administrator Mitzi Koroleski's clinical leadership and passion for public health helps guide important services that directly impact residents and families. It takes an entire team to deliver solid results, and Huron County is fortunate to have so many valuable staff members who show up every day with dedication, skill, and compassion.

I am also grateful to the Huron County Commissioners and the Board of Health for their continued support of local public health. Their commitment helps ensure the department has the backing needed to serve residents, respond to challenges, and plan thoughtfully for the future.

Strong public health also depends on strong partnerships. I appreciate the continued collaboration with local hospitals, EMS, schools, mental health partners, the Michigan Thumb Public Health Alliance, community organizations, and state agencies. These relationships help strengthen our ability to respond to community needs, improve coordination, and support the well-being of Huron County residents.

As Medical Director, I am proud to support this department and grateful for the people behind the work! Their efforts make Huron County safer, healthier, and better prepared.

~ Mark Hamed MD MBA MPH FAAFP

Medical Director of Michigan Counties of: Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac, Tuscola and District Health Department #2 (Alcona, Iosco, Ogemaw and Oscoda Counties)

Dr. Mark Hamed has served as Medical Director of the departments of Emergency and Hospital Medicine at McKenzie Health System in Sandusky. He serves as Associate Medical Director of Sanilac County EMS and Medical Control Authority. Dr. Hamed is also an attending staff physician with Henry Ford Health System and an associate clinical professor for the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and Central Michigan University College of Medicine. Dr. Hamed has been appointed to the Michigan Board of Medicine as well as the Physician Representative to the Michigan Physician Assistant's Task Force. The Michigan Board of Medicine works with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to oversee the practice of medical doctors in the state.

Dr. Hamed was named to the Michigan Stroke Advisory Committee. He has also earned national recognition for his work in rural trauma care. Dr. Hamed was elected as the Region 3 Trauma Advisory Committee Chair and to the Physician Leadership Council of the Michigan Trauma Coalition. Dr. Hamed is a past President and Chair of the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians and is currently on their Board of Directors. He is the Past President of the Michigan Association of Preventive Medicine and Public Health Physicians.

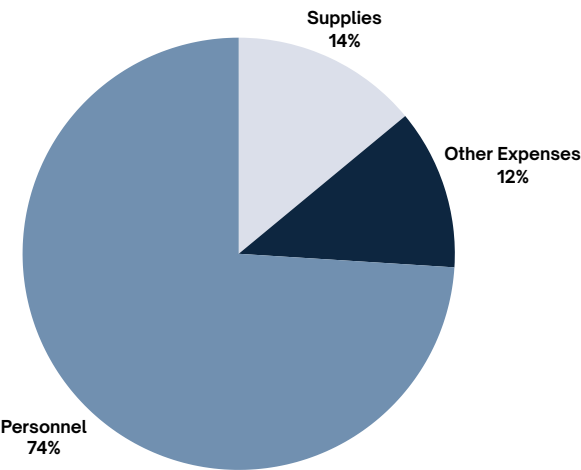
Budget/Financial Summary



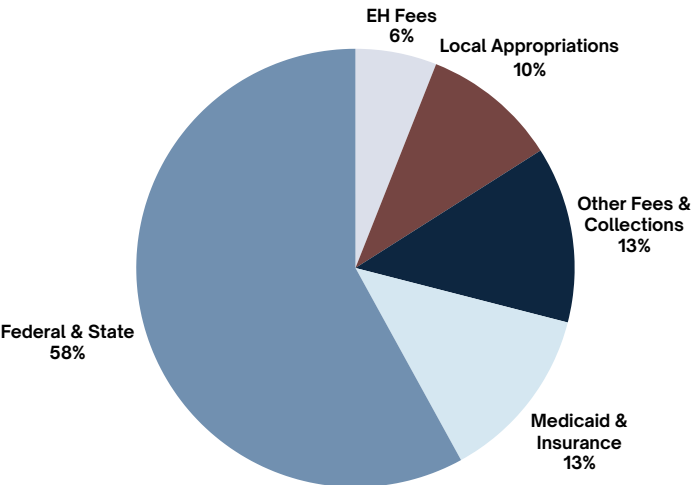
The Finance Division of the HCHD performs all general accounting functions, including accounts receivable, accounts payable, budgeting, purchasing, payroll and financial reporting. The financial operation of this agency conforms to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units.

~ DeLilah Sheldon, Finance Director

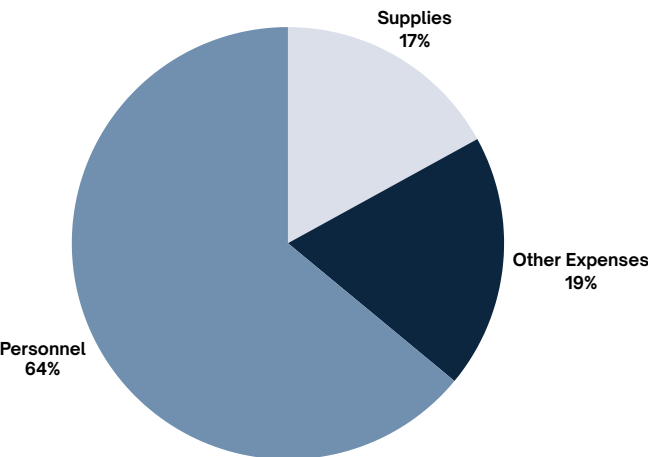
HCHD Expenditures FY24/25



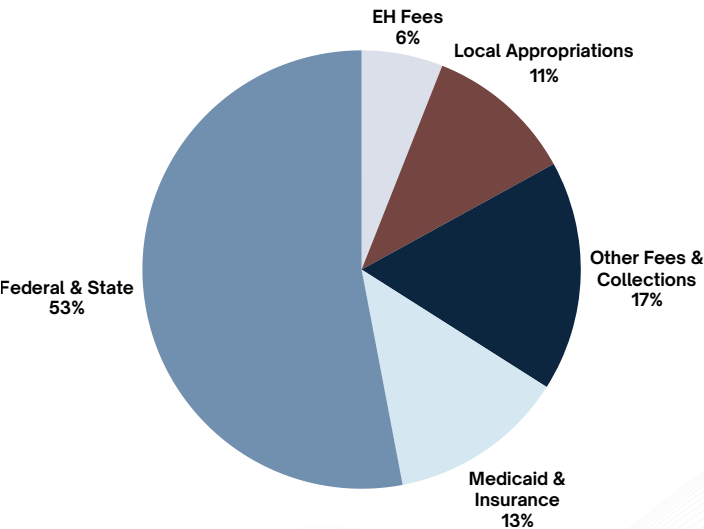
HCHD Revenues FY24/25



HCHD Expenditures FY23/24



HCHD Revenues FY23/24



Environmental Health Services



Food Service Program

The Food Service Program's main objective is to enforce the Food Law of 2000 as amended, and the 2009 Food Code. Enforcement of the Food Law and Food Code includes inspecting licensed food establishments and completing plan reviews. Foodborne illness in the U.S. is a major cause of personal stress, preventable death and avoidable economic burden.

**Huron County completed
452 inspections of Food Service
Establishments this past year, and 87
Temporary Food permits were issued.**

Campgrounds & Swimming Pools

Public swimming pools and campgrounds are inspected by our local health department annually, and are required to be licensed through Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE)

Swimming pools and spas are of significant importance with regard to public health, as they can be the source of disease(s) due to contact with contaminated water, or injuries as a result of slips, falls or accidental entrapment. By completing annual inspections along with review of water samples and operational reports, safety measures, etc., Environmental Health staff can identify and correct any violations of the Michigan Public Swimming Pool Rules.

Local Health inspections of campgrounds help to achieve goals, such as eliminating public health conditions or hazards, and minimizing conditions that could pose a nuisance - with an overall objective that everyone has a safe and enjoyable camping experience in the Thumb.



**Number of Campgrounds
Inspected - 30
Number of Swimming Pool's
Inspected - 20**

Summer Beach Testing

County beaches are tested beginning around Memorial Day, through about Labor Day. At each beach, the Beach technician will take 3 samples and collect them in a small plastic jar. A total of 100 milliliters of water is collected in each jar for testing. Should a beach show a composite of the 3 samples exceeding 300 E.coli colonies per the 100 ml. of water, the beach is deemed unsafe for swimming and is closed. The beach must be retested until the bacteria counts improve to acceptable limits.



**Summer 2025 Beach Testing:
Number of Samples Collected - 531
Number of Beach Closures - 7**

On-Site Sewage Disposal

Commonly called septic systems, they are a significant component of the State's wastewater infrastructure.

On-Site sewage systems can be an effective option for protecting health and the environment if properly designed, installed and managed. They can be a significant threat to public health and the environment, if they are not.

The Environmental Health Division provides the regulatory oversight of the design, construction, performance and the operation of the on-site sewage systems. The estimated annual volume of on-site sewage in Michigan is 96 billion gallons (264 million gallons per day).

The enacted standards, all seek to protect the safe treatment of domestic and other non-industrial wastewater in Huron County, that is not served by municipal sewage treatment.



Huron County issued 100
On-Site Sewage System permits
this past year, and
completed 185 inspections.

Private Groundwater Supplies

- 💧 The Private Groundwater program's main objective is to protect groundwater.
- 💧 Safe drinking water is the most important element to sustain life.
- 💧 Groundwater is extracted from aquifers beneath the ground's surface using water wells.
- 💧 Michigan has more wells in service than any other state.
- 💧 The location, construction, testing and abandonment of water wells are regulated through the State Well Construction Code (Part 127, 1978 PA 368 as amended).
- 💧 These services help ensure that water wells remain a safe and reliable source of drinking water for future generations.



Huron County issued
61 Well Permits this past fiscal year,
and completed 97 inspections.

It is very easy to see that Environmental Health affects everyone, everyday. It starts with the water you use to make your coffee in the morning, to the steak you eat at dinner. It is a major part of Public Health, and a mandated program which will always need to be funded.

Public Health Programs

Childhood Lead Education & Screening

The Lead Prevention and Intervention Program seeks to eliminate childhood lead poisoning by increasing awareness regarding the hazards and sources of lead. MDHHS recommends all children less than 6 years of age be tested for lead exposure. This can be completed at the health department or at a primary care provider's office. The health department performs lead screening with a capillary (finger stick) sample. If the capillary result is 3.5mcg/dl or greater, a venous (blood draw) sample for confirmatory testing is completed. The Huron County Health Department provides this service for all children beginning after 1 year of age and annually until age 5 if enrolled in our Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program. Elevated lab results conducted by primary care physicians are reported to the health department. A public health nurse provides education and follow-up testing. If the venous result is 3.5 mcg/dl or greater, the nurse will offer case management services and work with environmental health staff as needed.



Hearing & Vision Program

The HCHD provides free hearing and vision screenings for all public, rural and parochial schools, as well as Head Start, Pre-Schools and Day Care Programs. This is done by our certified technicians Katlyn and Olivia, and meets requirements for kindergarten entry. The goal of the program is to prevent permanent repercussions of vision and hearing impairment by providing age-appropriate screenings and follow-up. If a child cannot see or hear well, this can affect them educationally, emotionally and socially.



	Vision		Hearing	
Fiscal Year	23/24	24/25	23/24	24/25
Preschool	379	296	377	338
School Age	1530	1492	891	951
TOTAL	1909	1788	1268	1289

Emergency Preparedness

The goal of the EP Program is to plan, prepare and train HCHD staff, Huron County First Responders, and the local community for potential disasters. We regularly meet with area hospitals, health care facilities, schools and other community partners to help identify and address gaps that may exist in EP plans. Collaboration between Region 3 Health Care Coalition and other Region 3 health department staff, allow for greater resources and assistance in the event of a disaster.



Maternal Infant Health Program

Maternal Infant Health Program is a home visiting program that provides evidence-based interventions to Medicaid eligible pregnant women and infants through a team approach. This team includes public health nurses and social worker. The purpose of the MIHP program is to promote healthy pregnancies for positive birth outcomes and healthy infant development.



Maternal Infant Health Program Data	2023/2024	2024/2025
Number of New Maternal Enrollees	36	28
Number of New Infant Enrollees	45	36

Breastfeeding Support Program



The Huron County Breastfeeding Program provides free support and assistance for all women who are breastfeeding or planning to breastfeed in Huron County, regardless of insurance status or income. A referral is made for families who are identified as WIC eligible during a breastfeeding contact and not on WIC. Clients are not required to have WIC or Medicaid to receive services for breastfeeding support and assistance from the WIC trained Peer Counselor (PC) or International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) nurse. Clients may self-refer or primary care physicians may refer to the program. Clients may contact the program via the Breastfeeding Warm Line (989-269-2140) or by texting the Peer Counselor or Lactation Consultant, who are available every day, including weekends, holidays and extended hours. Hospital visits to McLaren Thumb Region are offered to women in the OB unit. We have begun offering “drop-ins” for moms to bring their babies in for weight checks, advice, education and/or support when needed.

Children’s Special Health Care Services

The Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Program provides case management and care coordination to children from birth to age 26, who have a qualifying medical diagnosis. This program helps families and children get medical care and equipment, without the worry of how they will be able to pay for it. Referrals are made for specialty care and/or other community resources.

Children’s Special Health Care Program Data	FY24	FY25
Number of Families Enrolled	120	121



Public Health Programs

Women, Infants & Children

WIC is a federally funded program that provides nutritious food, nutrition education and assistance with community referrals for pregnant women, infants and children under the age of five. Eligibility is at or below 185% of poverty, which services low to moderate income families. Families receive nutrition counseling, as well as access to other support services offered through the Health Department and local community agencies.

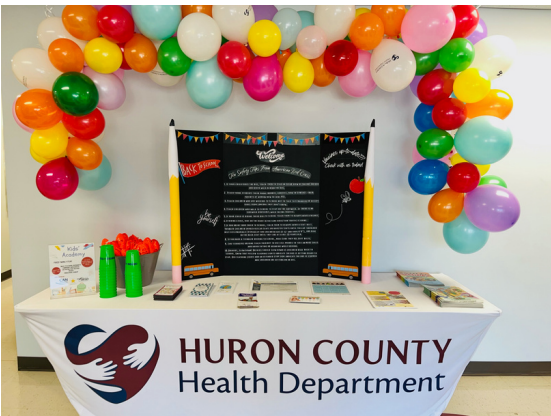
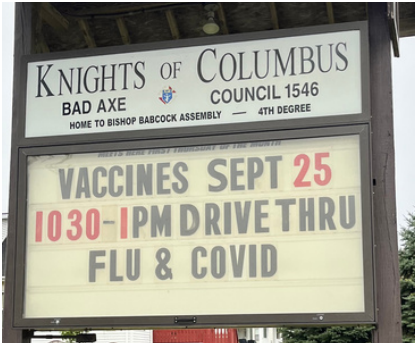
Michigan WIC introduced Produce Connection, a new version of Project Fresh. Benefits are provided electronically vs. paper coupons. The intent was to streamline distribution, but the change has led to fewer Farmer's Markets/Grower's accepting WIC benefits.



Huron County WIC provided \$560,583 in food dollars to the local community in 2025, supporting local WIC families and businesses. This is an increase of \$48,769 from the previous year.

WIC Program Data	2023/2024	2024/2025
Close Out Participation	686	684
Initial Participation	685	684
Enrollment	699	709

HCHD Loves Supporting our Community!



Immunization Program

The Immunization Clinic provides immunizations to individuals in the community with an emphasis on the pediatric and senior population. The Immunization Clinic puts in considerable time and effort to ensure that children in Huron County are vaccinated according to schedules developed by the AAP and AAFP. Clinics were provided to the community in Sebewaing and Harbor Beach regularly, in addition to Senior Flu & Covid vaccination clinics.



Substance Use Prevention

HCHD offers in-school programming to Huron County students on Substance Use Prevention, including alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Program staff also provide education to tobacco vendor personnel on laws regarding tobacco sales to minors. Annually, a random sample of vendors is selected to provide compliance checks, as required by Mid-State Health Network. These checks are conducted to monitor adherence, and results are reported out to Mid-State Health Network (MSHN) for program requirements.

HCHD staff are also active in many community groups, some of which include Suicide Prevention Coalition, Child Abuse & Neglect Council, and Prevention & Recovery Coalition. We participate in many community events to increase awareness of substance use and promote harm reduction activities.



VACCINES PROVIDED	FY24	FY25
Dtap	57	76
DtaP/IPV	75	92
DTaP-Hep B-IPV-Hib	148	165
DTaP-Hib-IPV	69	74
Hep A (Adult)	23	28
Hep A (Pediatric)	147	167
Hep A/Hep B	37	26
Hep B (Adult)	24	33
Hep B (Pediatric)	19	24
Hib	36	54
HPV	145	156
Influenza (seasonal)	1074	1013
COVID Vaccine	967	658
Men B-4c (Bexsero)	94	98
IPV Dose	28	45
Meningococcal Conjugate	178	219
MMR	89	121
MMRV	77	91
Mpox	1	1
Pneumococcal Conjugate PCV 13/20	300	343
Rabies	9	0
Rotavirus	120	108
RSV (Pediatric)	18	50
RSV (Adult)	167	34
TB Testing tuberculin skin test	164	221
Tdap	232	241
Varicella	93	111
Zoster	126	70

Public Health Programs

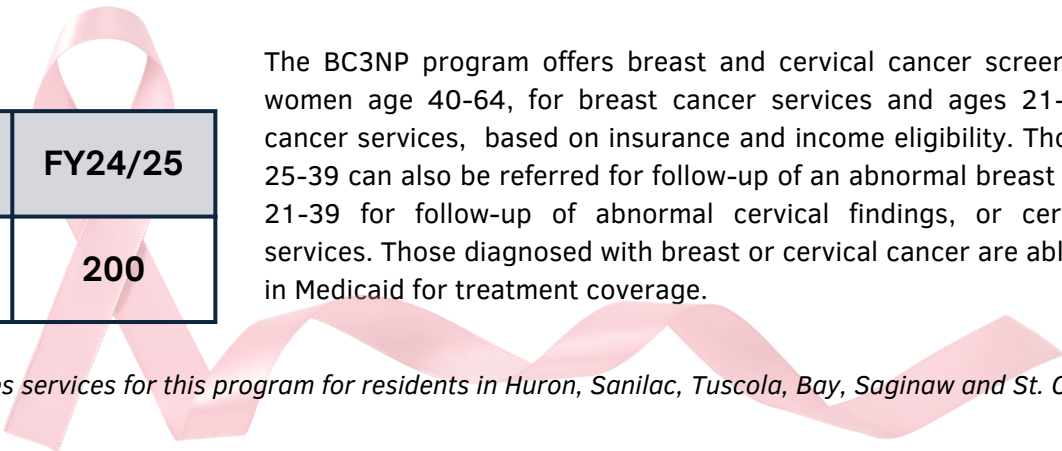
Personal Health Center



The Huron County Health Department offers services related to reproductive health, including contraception initiation and management, pregnancy testing and counseling, health screenings, and STI testing. Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) testing at our agency includes chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and trichomonas, as well as rapid HIV (results within 20 minutes). In addition to our in-clinic services, our staff follow up on all positive reportable STI's in the county, to ensure individual and partner treatment has been completed.

Unduplicated Clients Served	
Calendar Year 2024	Calendar Year 2025
130	111

Breast and Cervical Cancer Control & Navigation Program



FY23/24	FY24/25
153	200

The BC3NP program offers breast and cervical cancer screening services to women age 40-64, for breast cancer services and ages 21-64 for cervical cancer services, based on insurance and income eligibility. Those clients aged 25-39 can also be referred for follow-up of an abnormal breast exam, and ages 21-39 for follow-up of abnormal cervical findings, or cervical screening services. Those diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer are able to be enrolled in Medicaid for treatment coverage.

HCHD coordinates services for this program for residents in Huron, Sanilac, Tuscola, Bay, Saginaw and St. Clair Counties.

Geriatrics

Our agency is represented on the Senior Committees to help plan events for the seniors, such as the Senior Fair. We attend Council on Aging meetings regularly to provide relevant information to the board members and public.

We are a community partner under MDHHS for Senior Project Fresh, and a local resource for Seniors applying. The program provides a card to purchase fresh produce from Farmer's Markets that participate in the program. Funds are put forth to provide more for our county's seniors that utilize it. It is an income based program.

We are active in the senior community to provide blood pressure checks, exercise sessions, educational presentations and other activities based on the needs and requests of the senior population.



HCHD staff also provide blood pressure screenings and educational presentations to participants at our Huron County Meal Sites.

Communicable Disease Program

The communicable disease program continues to see stable and consistent numbers over most of the illnesses that we track. One exception to that would be the county's Lyme Disease cases. In prior years, we would see up to four (4) cases, at most. During the last year, we saw a total of ten (10) cases. This is likely to continue at these levels as Michigan and Huron County were declared high risk and endemic for Lyme Disease. With this in mind, the CD department has worked to put out information on tick bite prevention, as well as how to get a tick identified to help determine the risk of it carrying Lyme Disease.

During the past year, we did not have any positive rabies animals within the county. Animal bites continued being most prevalent during the spring and summer seasons. The majority of reports are related to dogs and cats. Bats are the next most common animal reported. HCHD continues to provide education to the public and local health care providers on how to handle animal bite incidents.

We have seen an increase in respiratory virus reporting including flu, covid and RSV. This is primarily due to the increase in facilities using an updated tracking system of transferring records. This will ultimately lead to more accurate and timely reporting of illnesses, allowing for quicker follow-up when needed.

What do we do?

- Monitor and track trends in the County, as well as around the globe
- Work with local healthcare and infection prevention staff
- Monitor and follow-up on all required reportable diseases
- Answer questions for the public
- Provide education

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Campylobacter	3	5	4	5	6
Cryptosporidiosis	0	1	4	5	1
Giardiasis	3	1	2	1	0
Salmonellosis	1	4	4	1	3
MENINGITIS DISEASE GROUP					
Aseptic Meningitis	1	0	4	1	2
Bacterial Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER DISEASE GROUP					
Animal Bite - Rabies - Potential Exposure PEP	14	14	23	16	11
Influenza	1	34	159	89	282
Legionellosis	0	0	0	6	1
Lyme Disease	1	3	3	4	10
Norovirus	0	2	0	0	0
Shigatoxin producing E-coli 0157	2	3	4	0	2
Shigellosis	1	0	1	0	0
Streptococcal Dis.Inv. Group A	2	0	1	3	3
STD GROUP					
Chlamydia	61	51	37	43	38
Gonorrhea	9	6	5	7	6
VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASE GROUP					
Shingles	1	0	0	0	0
Varicella	1	0	0	3	3
VIRAL HEPATITIS					
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	1	3
Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	0	1	0	0
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	1	2	2	0	0
Hepatitis C (Acute)	2	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	3	10	6	0	8
OTHER					
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	3214	4826	814	928	305

Safer Disposal Now Available for our Community!

In an effort to reduce the health and safety risks posed by improperly discarded needles and syringes, we partnered with Huron Behavioral Health to offer a secure drop-off location right outside the Health Department.



Sharps - such as needles, syringes and lancets must be in sealed containers. Containers must have sealed lids secured with heavy duty tape. For those who do not have a biohazard container, a small laundry detergent bottle or other small hard sided plastic container may be used.

ACCEPTED

Needles
Syringes
Lancets
Infusion Sets
Connection Needles/Sets
Auto Injectors
(Epi & Insulin Pens)

NOT ACCEPTED

Prescription Medications
Aerosol Cans
Inhalers
Liquids
Garbage
Hazardous Chemicals & Waste



HURON COUNTY Health Department

MISSION: *We are dedicated to promoting and protecting the health of individuals in our service jurisdiction by providing a wide range of quality health, human and environmental services.*

VISION: *The Huron County Health Department will sustain partnerships with the community and other stakeholders to provide an innovative approach to health promotion and protection.*

Contact & Connect with us:



Huron County Health Department
1142 S. Van Dyke
Bad Axe, MI 48413
Phone: 989-269-9721
www.hchd.us



FOLLOW US ON

Instagram