

# Annual Report

## 2023-2024



**Huron County  
Health Department**



# A Message from the Health Officer...

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



Huron County Health Department's Annual Report shows an overview of the programs and services we provide to make our community healthier. Our staff is passionate about the work we do in our community and are proud to be able to work towards strengthening partnerships, and providing the best community service available.

All health department divisions continue to expand on client focused post-pandemic work, with an emphasis on vaccine hesitancy. Staff continue to be present at local events, including co-sponsorship of a day at the Huron Community Fair with DTE, Senior Fairs, school open houses, Kindergarten Round-ups, and the annual Community Baby Shower.

I would like to express our most sincere thanks, gratitude, and admiration for all health department employees and their tireless efforts and commitment to serving the residents and workers of Huron County. I would also like to thank the Huron County Board of Commissioners and the Huron County Health Department Board of Health, for their continued support of the Health Department. To all our community collaborative partners ~ schools, hospitals, physicians, townships, mental health agencies, non-profits, community businesses, restaurants and law enforcement ~ that all contribute to promoting a healthy environment, we thank you.

*Sincerely, Tip MacGuire*

## Public Health Programs offered at HCHD



*Mitzi Koroleski, R.N., B.S.N.  
Deputy Health Officer  
Nurse Administrator*

- **Breastfeeding Peer Counselor**
- **Children's Special Health Care Services**
- **Communicable Disease**
- **Empowering Youth Today (EYT)**
- **Emergency Preparedness**
- **Environmental Health**
- **Family Planning**
- **Geriatrics**
- **Hearing & Vision**
- **Immunizations**
- **Lead**
- **Maternal Infant Health Program**
- **Sexually Transmitted Infections/HIV**
- **Substance Use Prevention**
- **Women, Infants & Children (WIC)**
- **Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Navigation Program (BC3NP)**



# Huron County Board of Health



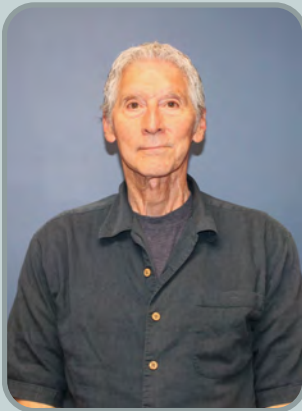
**Vicki Koglin**  
*Chairman*



**Joseph Murphy**  
*Vice Chairman*



**Carol Majeski**  
*Secretary*



**Robert Siver**  
*Member*



**Cindy Rochefort**  
*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  
Huron County  
Medical Director*

As a physician dedicated to the well-being of rural communities, I extend my deepest gratitude to the team at the Huron County Health Department for its steadfast commitment to public health. Under the steadfast and thoughtful leadership of Health Officer Tip MacGuire, the department has continued to uphold its mission of promoting health, preventing illness, and protecting life across our county. Nursing Administrator Mitzi Koroleski's invaluable public health experience and leadership, helps to ensure the highest standards of care in services such as immunizations, maternal and child health, and communicable disease control. These efforts are essential in ensuring our residents receive the timely, quality care and education they need to stay well.

Year after year, the Huron County Health Department continues to shine as a model of rural public health excellence. Notably, the department has expanded its oral health initiatives by offering free Kindergarten Oral Health Assessments for all children entering their first year of school. This program ensures early detection and prevention of dental issues, setting the foundation for lifelong oral health. Through robust disease surveillance, health education, and community outreach, the department has demonstrated adaptability and professionalism in responding to both everyday health needs and emerging public health challenges. These accomplishments are a testament not only to the department's hardworking staff, but also to the invaluable support of the Huron County Commissioners and the Board of Health, whose leadership and vision empower the department to succeed.

Equally important is the department's vital role in safeguarding our natural resources. Through environmental health programs focused on water quality, septic system oversight, and food safety, the department helps preserve the health of our environment and agriculture—both critical pillars of life in Huron County. As we look to the future, we look forward to enhancing collaboration with key stakeholders in our public health efforts such as Michigan Thumb Public Health Alliance, our local hospitals, EMS teams, mental health providers, schools, and other community organizations. Strengthening these relationships will further enhance our ability to respond to evolving health needs and build a more resilient, unified system of care.

Thank you to the entire team for your tireless work in building a safer, healthier future for all who call Huron County home.

~ Mark Hamed MD MPH MBA

Dr. Mark Hamed is the Medical Director of rural health departments in eight northeast Michigan counties - Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac, Tuscola, and District Health Department #2 (Alcona, Iosco, Ogemaw, and Oscoda counties). For more than 10 years, he 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.

In November, 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.

His focus is on protecting the public and promoting safe, high quality, and equitable care to all of Michigan's residents. Besides his interest in public health, his other interests include health policy, primary care, pre-hospital (EMS) care, emergency medicine, and management of trauma patients.

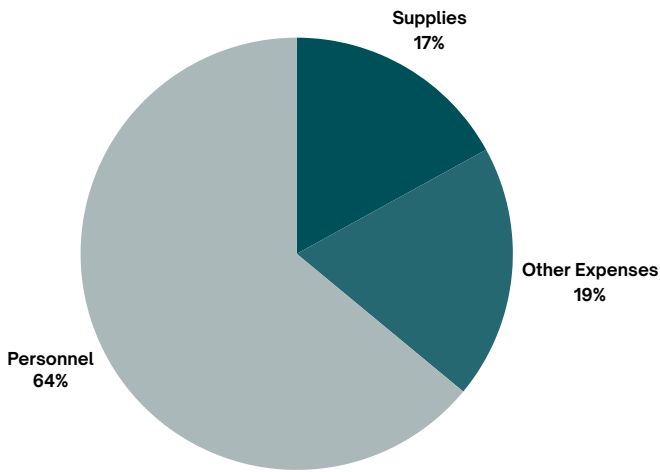
# Budget/Financial Summary



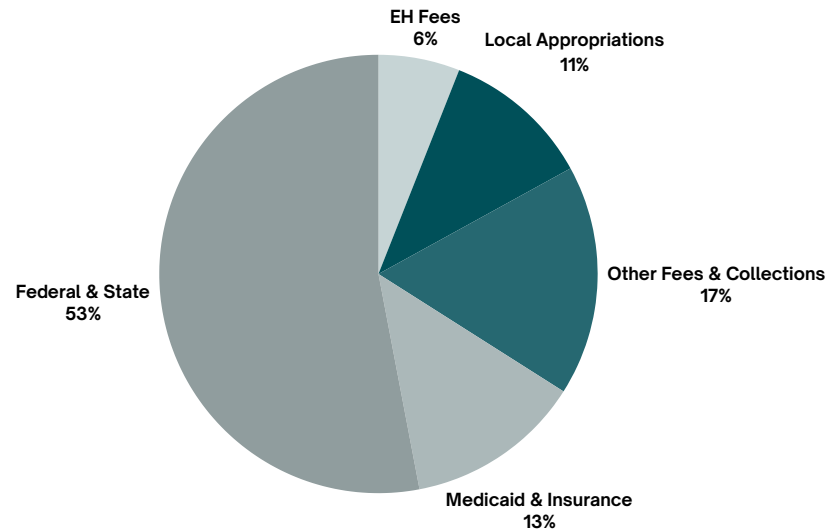
The Finance Division of the HCHD performs all general accounting functions, including accounts receivable, accounts payable, budgeting, purchasing, payroll and financial reporting. The financial operation of this agency conforms to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental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

~ DeLilah Sheldon, Finance Director

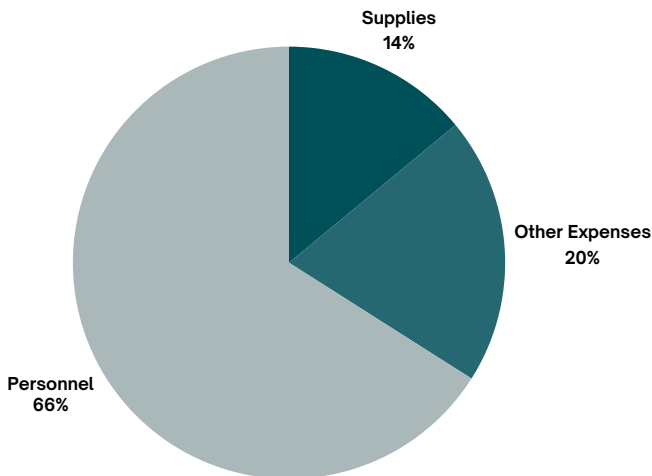
## HCHD Expenditures FY23/24



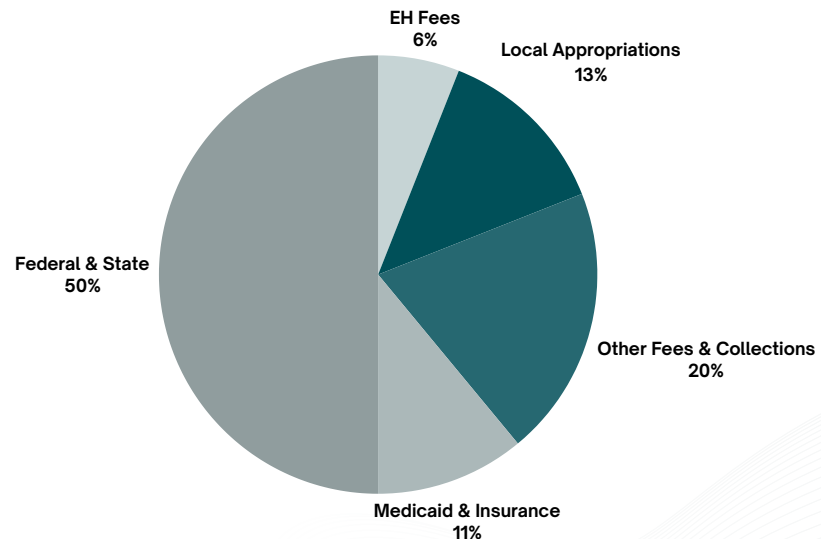
## HCHD Revenues FY23/24



## HCHD Expenditures FY22/23



## HCHD Revenues FY22/23



# 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 413 inspections of Food Service Establishments this past year.**

## 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 - 29**  
**Number of Swimming Pool's Inspected - 27**

## 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 2024 Beach Testing:**  
**Number of Samples Collected - 501**  
**Number of Beach Closures - 5**

# Environmental Health Services

## 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 111 On-Site Sewage System permits this past year, and completed 218 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 grounds 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 Obstruction 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 51 Well Permits this past fiscal year, and completed 92 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 certified technicians 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	22/23	23/24	22/23	23/24
Preschool	364	379	349	377
School Age	1435	1530	957	891
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1799</b>	<b>1909</b>	<b>1313</b>	<b>1268</b>



## 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.

# Public Health Programs

## 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	2022/2023	2023/2024
Number of New Maternal Enrollees	43	36
Number of New Infant Enrollees	36	45

## 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-in’s” 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	FY23	FY24
Number of Families Enrolled	119	120



# 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. In 2024, Huron County had no Markets participating; as a result clients had to travel outside the county to use their benefits.



WIC Program Data	2022/ 2023	2023/ 2024
Close Out Participation	628	686
Initial Participation	620	685
Enrollment	651	699
Actual Monthly Participation YTD	634	692

Snapshot of Enrollees for WIC on average for:		
Fiscal Year	October 2023	October 2024
Number of Partially Breastfed (BF) Infants	17	22
Formula Fed Infants	74	81
Exclusive BF Infants	43	38
Post-Partum Non-BF	37	29
Exclusive BF Women	37	33
Partially BF Women	16	20
Pregnant Women	53	78
Children 1 year to age 5	351	385
<b>TOTAL PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>686</b>



*Huron County WIC provided \$511,814 in food dollars to the local community in 2024, supporting local WIC families and businesses. This is an increase of \$106,791 from the previous year.*

# An Average Day in the Huron County WIC Program

48.2% of babies born in Michigan, enroll in Huron County WIC\*

\*Based on county level 2022 data from WIC and vital records



28% of pregnant mothers enroll in Huron County WIC during their First Trimester\*

Huron County WIC families purchased over \$405,024 in healthy foods



28 clients are served per day.



14.6% of Huron County WIC women have pregnancy induced hypertension\*

12.4% of Huron County WIC women have gestational diabetes\*

Good nutrition, education and resources are essential for a Healthy Mom, and a Healthy Baby.



Huron County WIC families redeemed 70.9% of their fresh fruits and vegetables benefits

\*Indicates data from 2022 PNSS Report. No asterisk indicates 2023 data.

# Public Health Programs

## 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 ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice).

Vaccines Provided in FY24			
DTap	57	IPV Dose	28
DTaP/IPV	75	Meningococcal Conjugate	178
DTaP-Hep B-IPV-Hib	148	MMR	89
DTaP-Hib-IPV	69	MMRV	77
Hep A (Adult)	23	Mpox	1
Hep A (Pediatric)	147	Pneumococcal Conjugate PCV 13/20	300
Hep A/Hep B	37	Rabies	9
Hep B (Adult)	24	Rotavirus	120
Hep B (Pediatric)	19	RSV (Pediatric)	18
Hib-ActHib	36	RSV (Adult)	167
HPV	145	TB Testing tuberculin skin test	164
Influenza (seasonal)	1074	Tdap	232
COVID Vaccine	967	Varicella	93
Men B-4c (Bexsero)	94	Zoster	126



## Empowering Youth Today (EYT)

HCHD is a subcontractor of Tuscola County Health Department in providing abstinence-centered sexual risk avoidance education at Laker School district. Staff provide in-school curriculum as well as work with students to facilitate service learning projects in the community. They also provide, as a parent component, an educational opportunity/speaking event.

## 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 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.

~ Shelly Grifka, HCHD Substance Use Prevention Educator



# 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 2023	Calendar Year 2024
138	130

## Breast and Cervical Cancer Control & Navigation Program

FY22/23	FY23/24
138	153

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. 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 and Spring Fiesta. We attend Council on Aging meetings regularly to provide relevant information to the board members and public.

Senior Project Fresh coupons are ordered and distributed by our office annually. These coupons allow seniors to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from the local farmer's markets.

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.*

# Public Health Programs

## Communicable Disease Program

The Communicable Disease program has seen relatively stable disease trends in the county. There was a big shift to monitor and educate the public on respiratory protection, including Influenza and RSV, versus just Covid. There was an increase in the number of chickenpox cases in the county that were monitored to ensure there were no outbreaks among the school age populations.

We continued to monitor the evolution of the H5N1 outbreak, watching to ensure any human cases were caught quickly.

In the last year, the county had no cases of human bird flu. Also, there were no positive rabies cases, although 16 people did receive rabies prophylaxis due to not being able to test the animals. We continue to provide education on animal bites and what to expect to both providers and to the public.



Communicable Disease	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Campylobacter	3	3	5	4	5
Cryptosporidiosis	1	0	1	4	5
Giardiasis	1	3	1	2	1
Salmonellosis	3	1	4	4	1
<b>MENINGITIS DISEASE GROUP</b>					
Aseptic Meningitis	0	1	0	4	1
Bacterial Meningitis	1	0	0	0	0
<b>OTHER DISEASE GROUP</b>					
Animal Bite - Rabies - Potential Exposure PEP	0	14	14	23	16
Influenza	23	1	34	159	89
Legionellosis	0	0	0	0	6
Lyme Disease	0	1	3	3	4
Norovirus	0	0	2	0	0
Shigatoxin producing E-coli 0157	0	2	0	4	0
Shigellosis	0	1	0	1	0
Streptococcal Dis. Inv. Group A	0	2	0	1	3
Streptococcus Pneumoniae INV	0	2	0	4	4
<b>STD GROUP</b>					
Chlamydia	58	61	51	37	43
Gonorrhea	11	9	6	5	7
<b>VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASE GROUP</b>					
Shingles	0	1	0	0	0
Varicella	0	1	0	0	3
<b>VIRAL HEPATITIS</b>					
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	0	1
Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	0	0	1	0
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	1	1	2	2	0
Hepatitis C (Acute)	0	2	0	0	0
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	8	3	10	6	0
<b>OTHER</b>					
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	199	3214	4826	814	928

### 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

# Staff in Action



Employees participated in a Walk during Lunch fundraiser for the Child Abuse and Neglect Council



Katlyn & Misty help distribute filled totes of household supplies to County senior citizens



HCHD employees Connie & Kris, represent at Scheurer Hospital's Annual Wellness Day, held during the Caseville Cheeseburger Festival



MIHP staff - Jenny, Laechen & Olivia, represent HCHD at the annual Community Baby Shower



Misty & Olivia greet guests at a school Open House and provide information on our public health programs



'Elf on the Shelf' was a big hit at the Annual Christmas Parade in Bad Axe. HCHD staff love this tradition to kick off the holiday season.



# HURON COUNTY Health Department

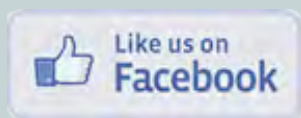
***MISSION:*** *We are dedicated to promoting and protecting the health of individuals in our service jurisdiction by providing a wide range of quality health, human and environmental services.*

***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](http://www.hchd.us)



FOLLOW US ON  
**Instagram**