
Rock Island County Health Department

Annual Report

2019



2112 25th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

www.richd.org

309-793-1955

2019 Year in Review

It is with pleasure that I present the 2019 Rock Island County Health Department Annual Report. This report is an overview of public health programs and activities taking place over the past 12 month period. Our strengths are not only the programs and services that we offer, but also a very strong sense of community with an emphasis on collaboration with partners in the entire Quad City area.

Change is a constant in the world of public health, and this year was no exception. While we have had struggles in the last year, we have also made significant strides for improvement. While we have many long-time, dedicated public health employees, we did have our share of staff turnover last year. Our Medical Director and Pharmacist resigned, however we were able to quickly sign Dr. Donald Ford on as our Interim Medical Director avoiding any disruption in services to clients. We also secured an agreement with Jim Perry, RPh for our pharmacy needs. We added new Chief Nurse, Sharon Widick in September to round out the management team.

A significant highlight of the year was a visit by the Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Dr. Ngozi Ezike in October. This was the first visit by the IDPH Director in several years. Dr. Ezike joined in the 20th anniversary event for the Quad City Health Initiative, participated in a roundtable of partners and stakeholders from both Iowa and Illinois hosted here at the health department and toured the Rock Island County Health Department building learning the programs offered here in our county. We plan to continue to focus on quality improvement into 2020; developing a new mission and vision for Rock Island County Health Department for the future.

The Rock Island County Health Department is working to improve the health and wellbeing of all county residents.

Visit our website at www.richd.org or find us on facebook.

Nita Ludwig
Public Health Administrator
Rock Island County Health Department

INFECTIOUS DISEASE PROGRAMS

Communicable Disease

Rock Island County Health Department nurses interview county residents who are reported to have or have been exposed to certain diseases and conditions deemed reportable by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Nurses investigate any outbreaks and refer for medical follow up as needed. Disease on the list as reportable have specified time period in which they must be reported to the local health department. Some require immediate notification 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Physicians, laboratories and other providers can reach health department staff at any time for disease reporting.

Refugee Health & Immigration/Naturalization

Medical examinations and referrals are provided to refugees resettling to Rock Island County or to individuals applying for a change of status under immigration and naturalization laws. Numbers have decreased in the last few years due to a reduction of refugees allowed into the United States. RICHD was without a physician on site after July 2019, resulting in the suspension of exams. New Medical Director Dr. Cheryl True is currently in the process of obtaining her Civil Surgeon designation. RICHD plans to resume clinics in early 2020.

INS Immigration Applications

New Arrivals: 20

Changing Status

Adults: 17

Children: 9



Immunizations

RICHD offers all types of immunizations for adults and children to prevent disease and promote optimal health and wellness. Each fall we provide flu shot clinics throughout the county ensuring that all residents have access to an annual flu vaccination. In 2019 we held 49 off site clinics in addition to holding flu shot walk in clinics at the health department every Tuesday from October 22 through November 26, 2019.



Abby L, RN transports vaccine to a community flu clinic

| | |
|---|-------|
| Total Flu Shots given: | 1,517 |
| Total of all other immunizations given: | 1,974 |
| Total of child immunizations: | 1,167 |
| Total of adult immunizations given: | 807 |

Tuberculosis (TB)

RICHD's TB program provides nursing consultation regarding TB treatment, contact investigations and education on infection control. RICHD administers and reads TB skin tests. Medications are dispensed to TB active and latent clients. Medications help prevent TB from becoming active in people who test positive for the germ and those with family members or are in close contact to someone with active tuberculosis.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| TB Skin Tests: | 284 |
| Quantiferon Gold TB tests: | 32 |
| Total positive TB tests: | 59 |
| Chest X-Rays: | 29 |
| Patients on preventative Meds: | 15 |
| Active TB Cases: | Average of 2 in 2019 |



Sexually Transmitted Infections

STI's remained high throughout 2019 both nationally and in Rock Island County. Two quarters of the year Gonorrhea was considered in outbreak status. Gonorrhea numbers have declined so that it is not currently considered an outbreak status although still higher than we would like. Syphilis is considered to be in early outbreak status. RICHD promotes safe sex practices in order to prevent the spread of diseases and infections to protect the health of the general public. Clinics have been on hold without a provider, but our plan is to resume weekly clinics by March 2020 with our new Medical Director, Dr. Cheryl True.



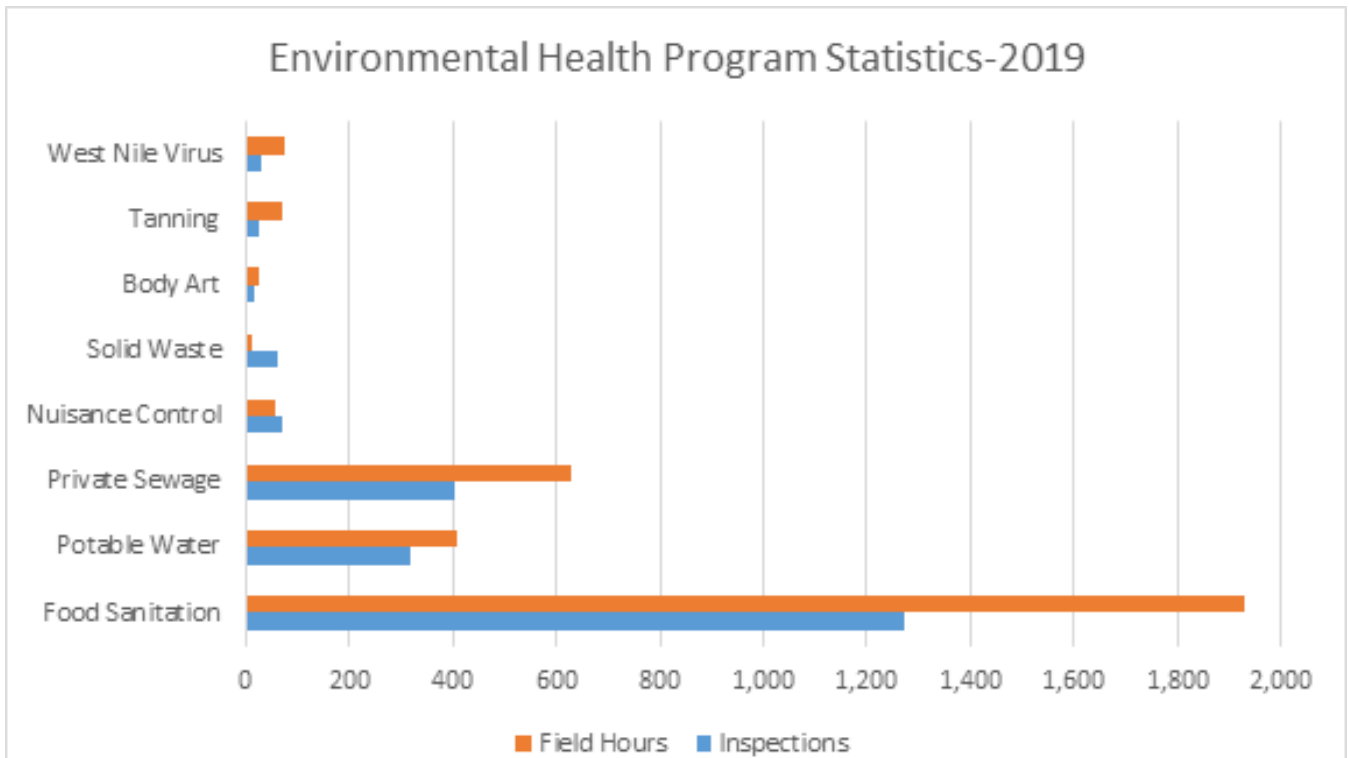
A microscopic view of Syphilis

Other Reportable Infectious Diseases-2019

| | |
|---|-----|
| Chickenpox: | 7 |
| Haemophilus Influenza: | 11 |
| Hepatitis A | 2 |
| Hepatitis B | 39 |
| Hepatitis C | 89 |
| Histoplasmosis: | 16 |
| Legionellosis: | 8 |
| Lyme Disease: | 19 |
| Shigellosis: | 7 |
| Staphylococcal: | 3 |
| Streptococcal: | 2 |
| Whooping Cough: | 4 |
| Investigated cases-determined "not a case": | 248 |
| Rabies investigations (potential human exposure): | 46 |
| Influenza (Adult with ICU admission): | 13 |

Environmental Health

Rock Island County Health Department sanitarians work to protect the health and safety of the public by regulating food service establishments through inspections and education. They also issue permits and inspect on-site wastewater treatment systems and handle testing of well water samples. Other areas include solid waste and nuisance regulation, tanning and body art facility inspections and seasonal mosquito surveillance to detect West Nile Virus.



Food Inspections by sanitarians protect the health of the public.

Emergency Planning and Response

Rock Island County Health Department collaborates with many local community response partners in both Rock Island and Scott County (Iowa) to plan for all types of potential emergencies. Exercises give us valuable information which we use to improve our response plans which in turn increase preparedness levels. If there was a release of a biological agent such as anthrax or smallpox, the Rock Island County Health Department would be responsible to distribute medication or vaccinate all the residents of Rock Island County (over 144,500 people).

In September, Administrator Nita Ludwig and Emergency Planning and Response Manager Kate Meyer were selected to attend training for the distribution of medications through the strategic national stockpile (SNS). The training was held at the Center for Domestic Preparedness which is operated through FEMA. Students from across the country at the local, state and federal levels attended this course. Participants shared knowledge and practiced SNS response capabilities within facilitated group activities. RICHD also coordinates and trains the Rock Island County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers to assist in a public health emergency. In 2019, our MRC volunteers contributed 352 hours which included volunteer orientation and training, flood response, CPR and First Aid classes.

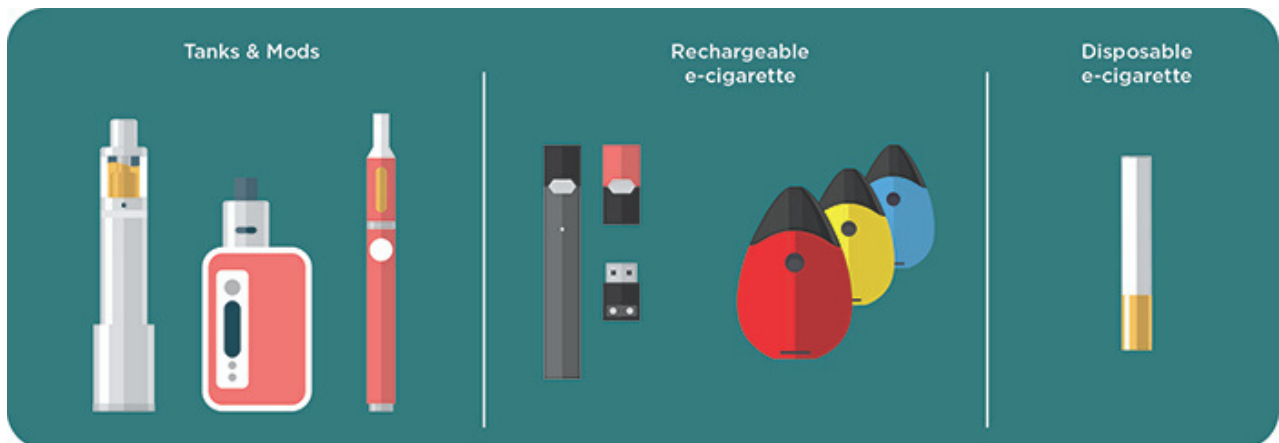


Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, AL

Health Education and Promotion

The health department's health educator promotes healthy behaviors in a variety of ways, including presentations to community schools, churches, businesses and other organizations. Education is also provided by other health department staff at clinic visits, home visits, inspections, media events and health fairs. Our health educator is an active member of community coalitions including the Quad Cities Youth Conference, the Coalition Advocating for Underage Substance Elimination, and Tobacco-Free Quad Cities.

Our health educator provides tobacco cessation education and resources through the Illinois Tobacco-free Communities grant. The grant also includes promoting implementation or strengthening of smoke-free and tobacco-free policies for public places such as parks, college campuses, and public housing. Due to these efforts, the city of East Moline passed a tobacco-free parks ordinance. Additionally, our health educator worked closely with the Tobacco-Free Quad Cities coalition to develop a campaign to raise awareness about the harms of vaping/e-cigarettes. The campaign included social media outreach, community presentations, and developing an informational booklet titled "Clearing the Air: The Truth About Vaping".



Vital Records

The local Registrar's office of Vital Records (birth and death certificates for Rock Island County is located at the Rock Island County Health Department). Certified copies of birth certificates dating back to 1985 can be obtained at our office. Death certificates dating back to 1999 can also be obtained at the health department office.

FY 2019



Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening (IBCCP)

The Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program provides low or no cost breast and cervical cancer screenings to income eligible women. Rock Island County serves as a lead agency for a seven county area..

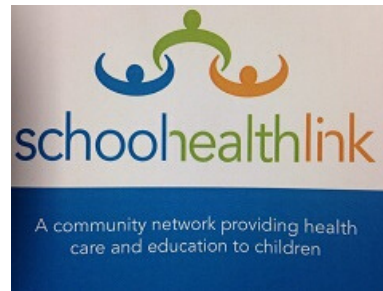
Women Screened: 92



School Health LINK

The School Health LINK Inc. is a non-profit organization with 501 (c) 3 status and provides year-round sick care visits, yearly well child visits, school physicals, immunizations, mental and behavioral health counseling. The program decreases school absenteeism and keeps children well by preventing health risks through education and intervention. We work in collaboration with the following entities:
Rock Island County Health Department
Rock Island/Milan Schools
Transitions Mental Health Services

Client visits: 1,782



Maternal and Child Health

Family Case Management

Family Case Management works to lower infant mortality by connecting pregnant women and their infants to health care resources and any other community resources that the family might need throughout the child's first year. Case managers emphasize the importance of safe-sleep practices and on-time immunizations, while also conducting screenings to ensure babies are reaching developmental milestones. WIC and Family Case Management staff work collaboratively with clients at the Moline and Rock Island sites.

Home Visits: 863

Office Visits: 7,944

Developmental Screenings: 1,433

Post-partum Depression Screenings: 1,535



Women, Infants, Children (WIC)

WIC's mission is to assure healthy pregnancies, healthy birth outcomes, and healthy growth and development for women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk. WIC positively affects Rock Island County in many ways, including offering nutritional education and breastfeeding support, bringing money and food into the community, supporting local farmers, and fostering community partnerships that improve access to healthy foods and social service needs. In 2019, Rock Island WIC clients spent more than \$2 million in local stores and pharmacies.

In an effort to make WIC more convenient for our clients, we opened the Rock Island clinic to walk-in hours every day on July 1 and saw an immediate 7 percent increase in the first two months. We have found that our clients prefer not to make appointments. We also have staggered staff work hours to see clients later in the day. We continue to offer a late clinic once a month in Moline, which is popular with our working parents.

Our breastmilk depot at our Moline site continued to accept donations from mothers with extra breastmilk. We made several shipments over the year to the Milk Bank of the Western Great Lakes in Elk Grove Village, near Chicago. From there, the milk is tested for safety, pasteurized, and then shipped to medically fragile babies in neonatal intensive care units at hospitals in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Clinic Visits: 12,708

Breastfeeding Initiation Rate: 69.2 percent

Nutrition Education Sessions: 1,625



Jessica T assists clients in the WIC program

Healthworks of Illinois

Healthworks is a case management program for children in foster care. In partnership with the Department of Children and Family Services, the health department serves as a lead agency for a 10 county area. Case managers, including one serving exclusively Rock Island children ages 45 days to 6 years, work to ensure foster children have regular physician and dental visits and that any other medical needs are met.

Foster Children Case Managed: 465 (monthly average)

Lead Poisoning Prevention

The Rock Island County Health Department saw a large increase in the number of children affected by blood lead level poisoning after the state in July 2018 lowered the intervention level from 10 micrograms per deciliter to 5. As a result, we added lead case management hours to the program. In addition to doing home visits of children who test high for lead and offering education and case management services, the department collaborated with the cities of Rock Island, Moline, East Moline and Silvis in a \$2.4 million federal grant to mitigate lead hazards from homes. Work is ongoing with our partners.

Children Screened: 4,284

Children with elevated lead levels: 425

Home visits completed: 52

People Educated: 6,550

High Risk Infant Follow Up

Local hospitals refer high-risk infants to the health department through the adverse pregnancy outcome reporting system, or APORS. A public health nurse then provides targeted case management to the family until the child turns 2 years old. This is medical case management that includes pediatric physical assessments, developmental assessments, annual home visits and referrals to specialists or other community services as needed.

Infants Receiving Follow Up: 80



Genetics

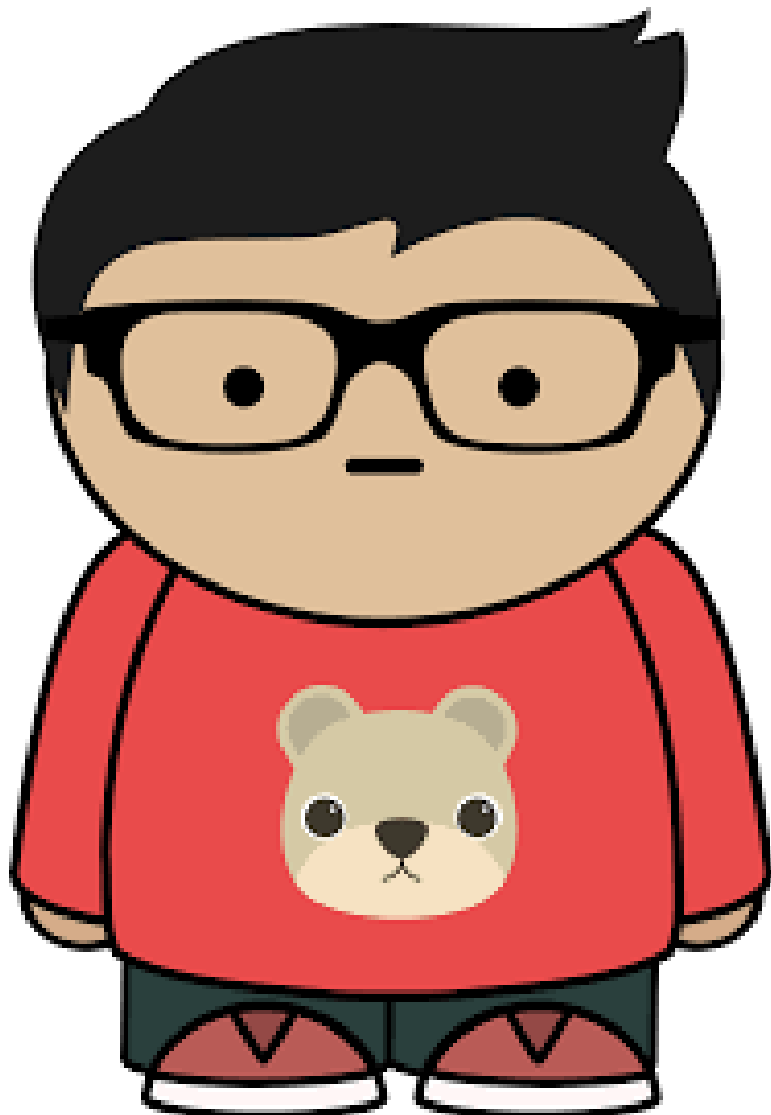
Newborns are tested by the hospitals for metabolic diseases and conditions. They also have a newborn hearing test. If issues are detected, RICHD then follows up with the family to provide education and referral assistance. RICHD hosts clinics several times per year for children with sickle cell disease and other blood disorders. These clinics are a collaboration with OSF Medical Center in Peoria. Dr. Kay Savings conducts the clinics at our health department.

Number served through OSF clinic at RICHD: 79

Vision and Hearing Screening

Vision and hearing screenings are conducted at preschool and daycare facilities throughout Rock Island County by our program.

Hearing Screenings: 2,976
Hearing Referrals: 43
Vision Screenings: 2,906
Vision Referrals: 34
Children wearing glasses: 65



2019 Fiscal Report

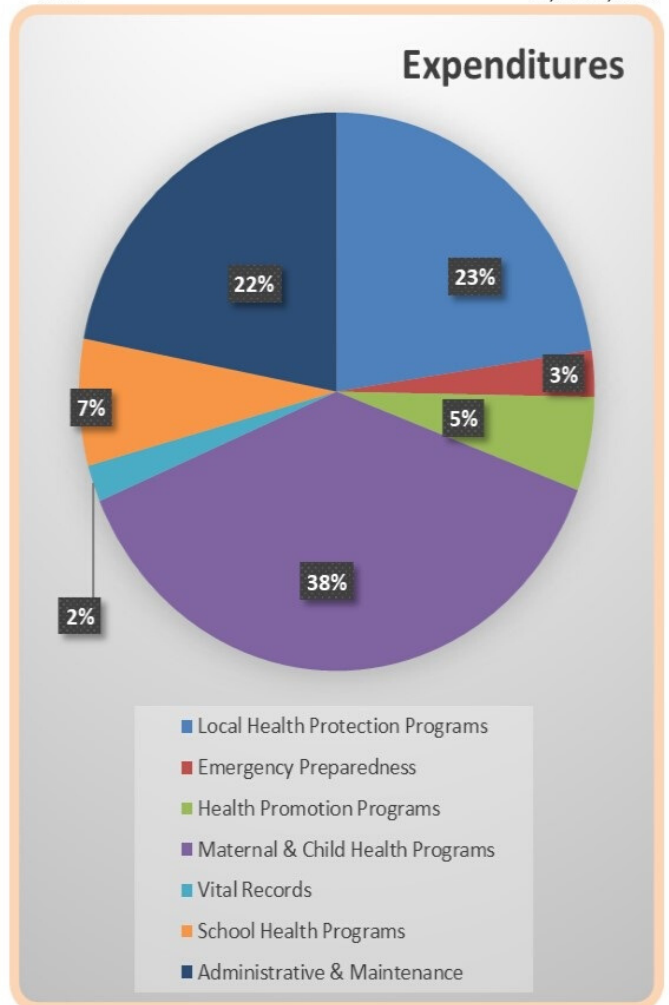
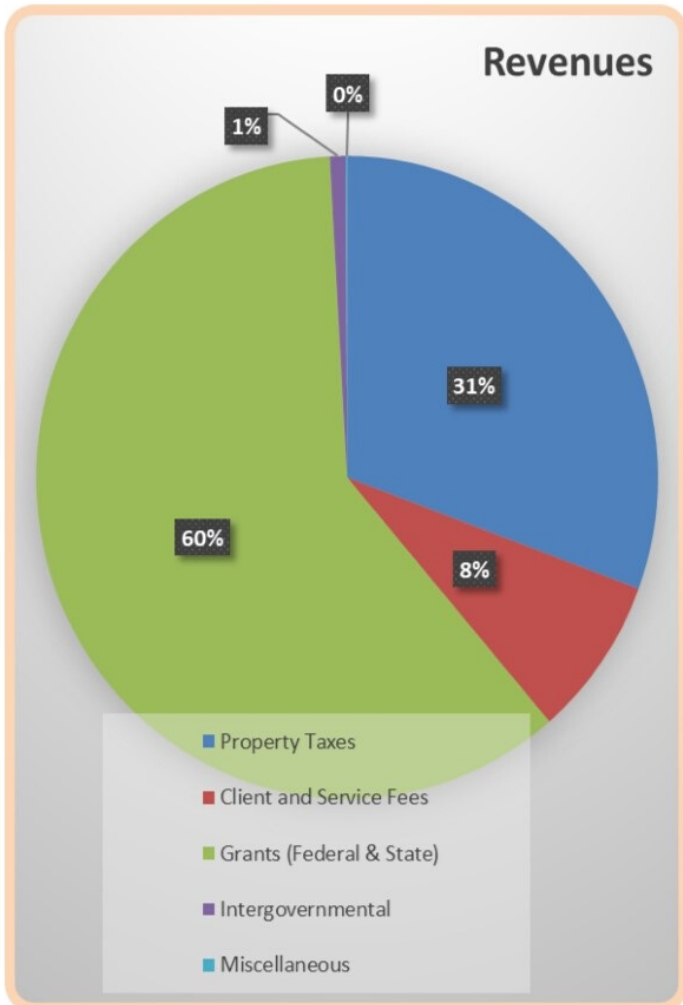
Fiscal Report

Revenues

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Property Taxes | 1,278,960 |
| Client and Service Fees | 337,975 |
| Grants (Federal & State) | 2,521,934 |
| Intergovernmental | 33,453 |
| <u>Miscellaneous</u> | <u>3,178</u> |
| Total | 4,175,500 |

Expenditures

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Local Health Protection Programs | 870,809 |
| Emergency Preparedness | 103,257 |
| Health Promotion Programs | 209,279 |
| Maternal & Child Health Programs | 1,456,926 |
| Vital Records | 81,883 |
| School Health Programs | 282,316 |
| <u>Administrative & Maintenance</u> | <u>844,896</u> |
| Total | 3,849,367 |



2019 Board of Health Members

President: Mr. Doug Vroman
Vice President: Mr. Randy Jacobs
Secretary: Sue Beswick, MSN, RN
Naurin Ahmad, MD
Patricia Barron, MD
Mark Bollaert, DDS
Ms. Lauren Boswell-Loftin
Ms. Deborah Freiburg
Mr. Leon Gibson
Mr. Andrew McClarity
Ms. KJ Whitley

Full-Time Employees:

40

Part-Time Employees:

6