

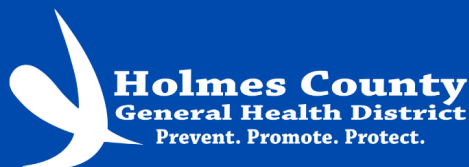
2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Holmes County
General Health District
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

holmeshealth.org

Public Health Saves Lives



HEALTH COMMISSIONER

If you remember from that last year into 2021 we adopted a mantra of what we could achieve each day as the Covid-19 pandemic continued to prove itself to be unpredictable. That mantra continued through 2021 of following simple task.

- 1.Be kind to someone today.
- 2.Check in on each other.
- 3.Do something good for yourself.
- 4.Be the positive influence for someone today (positivity is just as infectious as a disease)

It is now time to add to this and do something inspirational today because you don't know who is watching.

If we work to inspire, we can impact change and strengthen a community. It sets the groundwork for new leaders to step up and into action, it impacts positive change, it helps us remember our culture and where we have come from. I hope throughout our report you see how our staff have tried to inspire the community and work together to improve lives every day.

We know the world has been centered on Covid-19 talk for the greater part of two years and we would like to lay out other topics and programs we have adapted and worked through over the last year. We understand that Covid-19 has impacted everyone differently, and it is hard to continue to reflect on this as everyone has a different experience.

I hope that our community can remember public health saves lives. For every 10 percent increase in local public health spending, it reduces infants' deaths by 6.9%, cardiovascular deaths 3.2%, diabetes deaths 1.4% and cancer deaths 1.1%. Public health saves money. For every additional dollar spent on prevention programs and services, it saves \$5.60 in health spending. For every dollar spent on childhood vaccines it saves \$16.50 on future health care costs. Also 75% of moneys spent on health are spent on preventable conditions, but only 3 cents of every \$1 is spent on public health and prevention. This agency has been great stewards of resources and has seen tremendous impact with minimal dollars spent.

I could not be prouder of our fine staff and the supportive Board of Health the way they learned, adapted, supported, and implemented our programs and services in such a challenging time. As stated from Billy Graham, "Comfort and prosperity have never enriched the world as much as adversity has." This agency with support of our staff, board and community will continue to improve and strive for continued success by going through adversity so our community can prosper.

Thank you for saving lives,

Michael Derr,

MBA, HEALTH COMMISSIONER

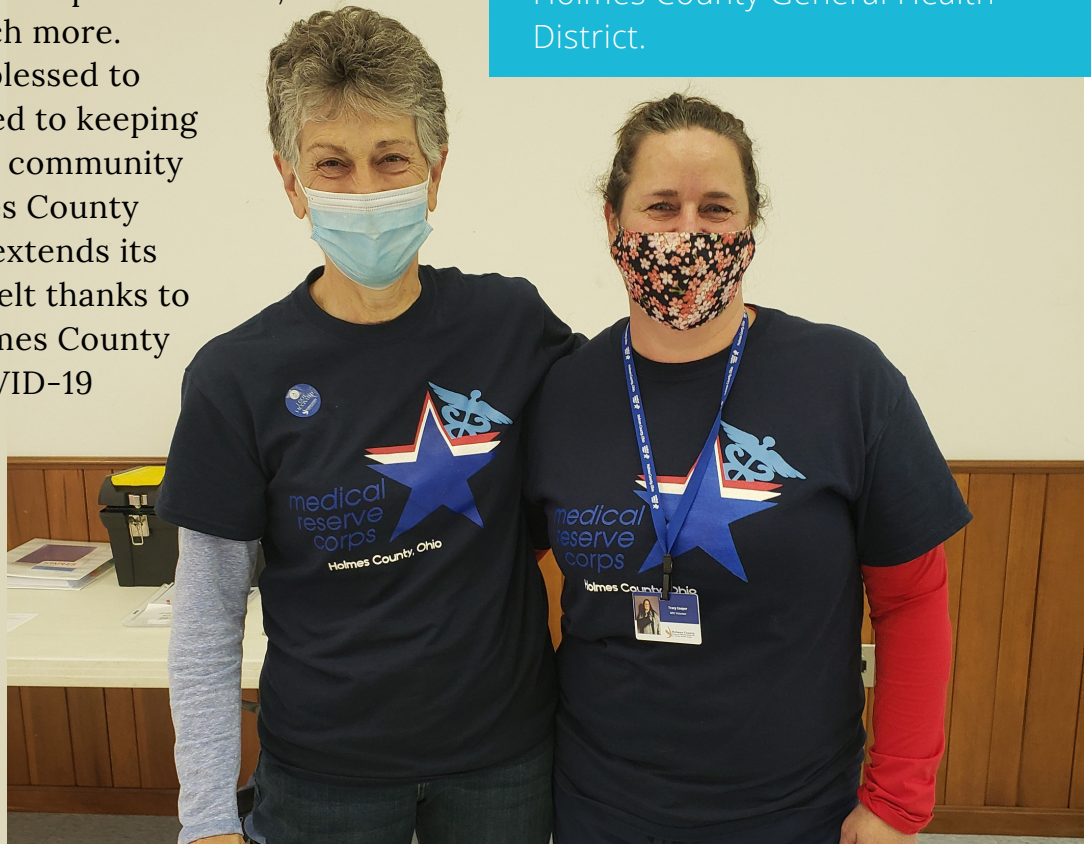
COVID-19

THE MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS (MRC)

In 2021 there were a total of 8,584 first and second round doses of the COVID-19 vaccine given, as well as an additional 450 COVID-19 boosters given by the Holmes County General Health District with the aid of the MRC.

A vaccine distribution effort of this magnitude would not have been possible without the countless hours contributed by Holmes County's MRC Volunteers. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a network of volunteers with both medical and nonmedical backgrounds, organized at the local level to improve the health and safety of their communities. In Holmes County this group is made up of Nurses, Doctors, EMTs, non-medical professionals, retired folks, and so much more.

Holmes County is truly blessed to have volunteers dedicated to keeping their family, friends, and community safe. For that, the Holmes County General Health District extends its deepest and most heartfelt thanks to the members of the Holmes County MRC. You made this COVID-19 response possible.



COVID-19 IN HOLMES COUNTY

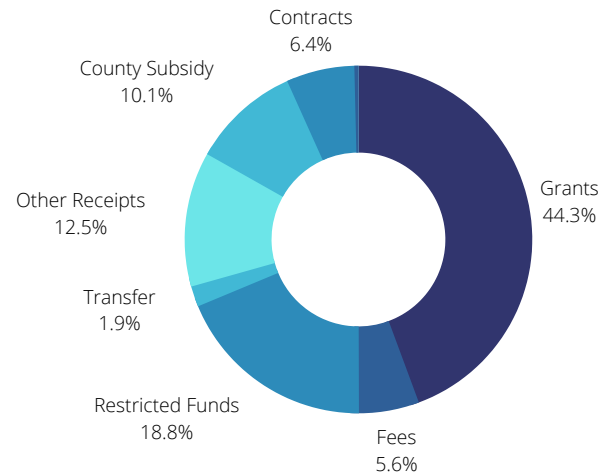
In 2021 the COVID-19 pandemic response quickly shifted to include prevention of COVID-19 through vaccination. The Holmes County General Health District carried out many COVID-19 vaccination clinics at schools, the Senior Center, a local church, and even a drive through vaccination clinic at Harvest Ridge, the home of the Holmes County Fair Grounds. In total, there were 9,034 vaccinations given at clinics organized by the Holmes County General Health District.

FINANCES

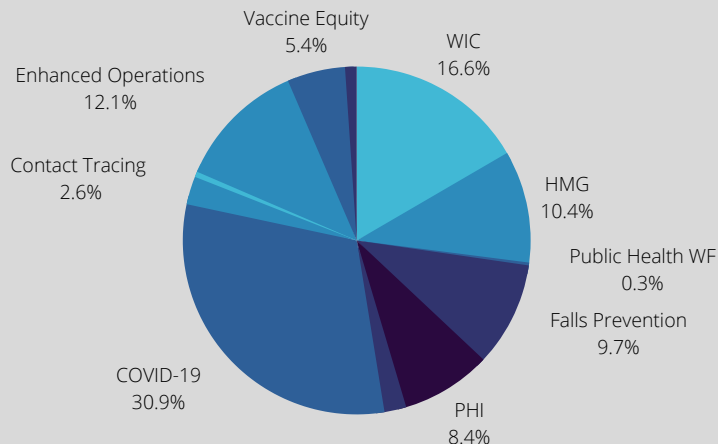
INCOME

Grants \$926,969.95
 Fees \$117,192.99
 Restricted Funds \$392,186.95
 Transfer \$40,000.00
 Other Receipts \$262,160.99
 County Subsidy \$211,038.82
 Contacts \$132,737.92
 State Subsidy \$7,910.94

Total Revenue \$2,090,198.56



PROGRAM GRANTS



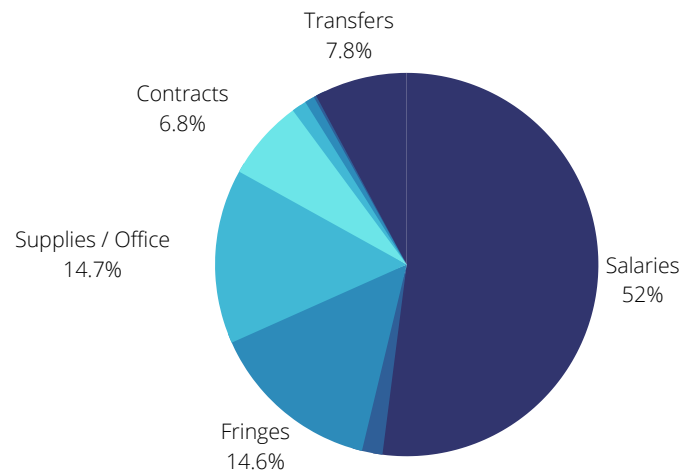
WIC \$153,942.59
 HMG \$96,631.59
 Public Health WF \$2,432.87
 Falls Prevention \$90,000
 PHEP \$77,815.58
 Get Vaccinated Ohio \$18,924.00
 Cause Connections \$4,700.00
 COVID-19 \$286,517.91
 Contact Tracing \$24,245.25
 Enhanced Operations \$111,760.41
 Vaccine Equity \$50,000.00
 MRC \$10,000.00

Total \$926,969.95

EXPENSES

Salaries \$1,058,860.39
 Other Expenses \$35,268.27
 Fringes \$296,396.45
 Supplies \$299,983.64
 Contracts \$138,669.96
 Office Space \$25,306.33
 Travel/Conferences \$16,894.84
 Equipment \$4,436.65
 Transfers \$159,507.95

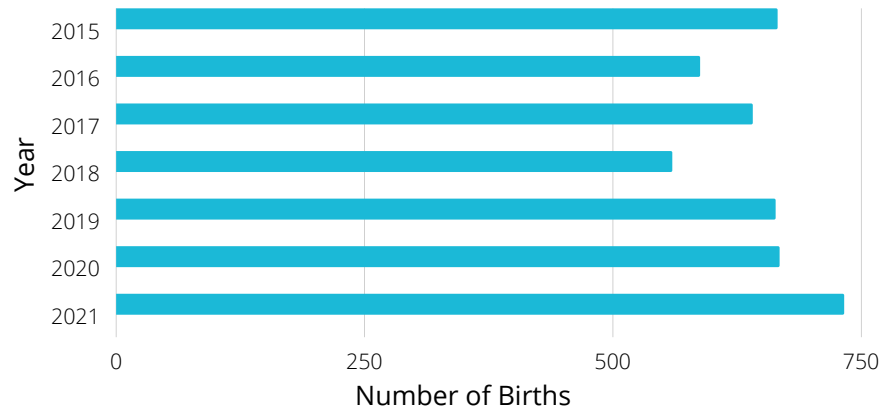
Total Expenses \$2,035,324.48



NUMBERS

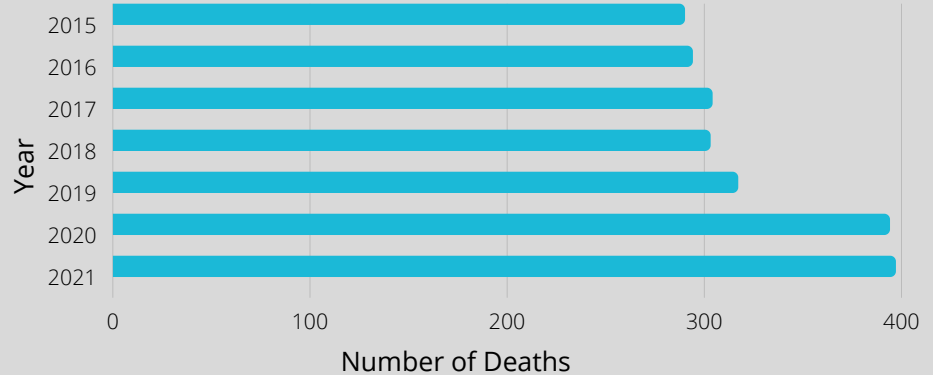
HOLMES CO. BIRTHS 2021

Birth Records (Holmes Co.): 732
Hospital Births: 630
Home Births: 74
Birthing Center 58
Out-of-County Births: 326
Certified Birth Certificates: 1,881



HOLMES CO. DEATHS 2021

Deaths Recorded: 397
Fetal Deaths: 6
Infant Deaths: 3
Deaths Under Age 18: 6
Injury Deaths: 12
Certified Death Certificates: 1052



PROGRAM CASELOAD

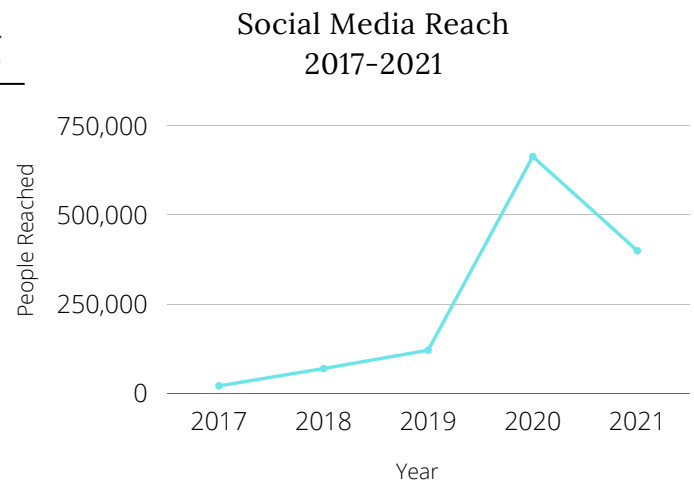
WIC- 323
 BCMH- 145
 HMG Early Intervention- 52
 HMG Home Visiting- 19

CLASSES

Infant Feeding - 2
 Car Seat Classes- 11
 Safe Sleep Classes- 25
 Matter of Balance Classes- 1
 Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes- 1
 Geri-Fit Classes- 2
 Stepping On- 1
 Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance- 1

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

2017	20,973
2018	69,607
2019	121,025
2020	663,154
2021	399,560



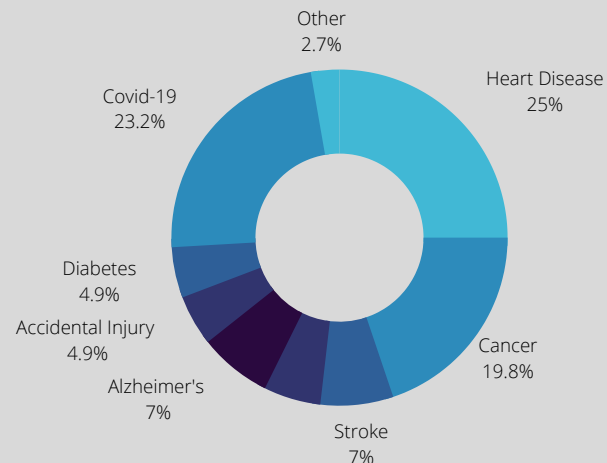
DISEASE PREVENTION & SURVEILLANCE

VACCINES PROVIDED 2015-2021



LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH 2021

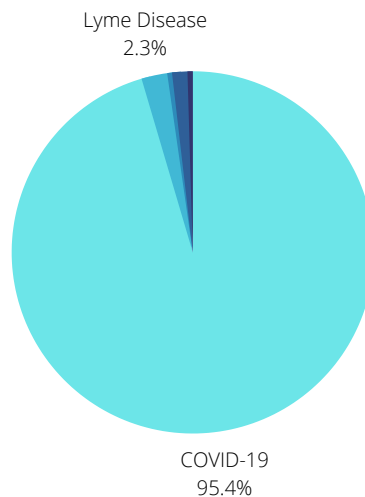
Heart Disease: 82
 COVID-19: 76
 Cancer: 65
 Alzheimer's: 23
 Stroke: 23
 Chronic Lower Respiratory: 18
 Accidental Injury: 16
 Diabetes: 16
 Other: 9



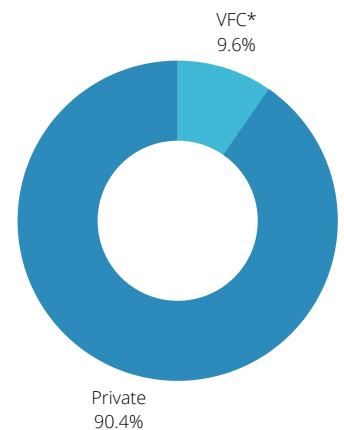
Data for 2021 is considered preliminary and changes in the numbers may occur as more deaths are reported.

TOP 5 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES 2021

COVID-19: 2,236
 Lyme Disease: 54
 Chlamydia: 32
 Gonococcal: 11
 Pertussis: 10



VFC & PRIVATE VACCINES ADMINISTERED 2021



*VFC: Vaccine for Children

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

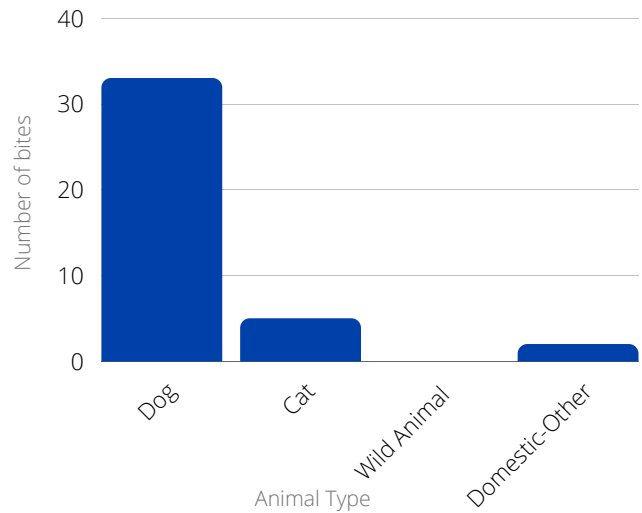
2021 provided many opportunities for the Environmental Health Division to serve our community. Vaccine clinics were a weekly occurrence throughout the first half of 2021 and the Environmental Health Division was honored to provide assistance to our Medical Professionals. The Environmental Health staff played an integral role in outdoor logistics such as traffic control, flow, parking, and appointment management.

The Holmes County General Health District was awarded a Recycling and Litter Prevention Grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency that allowed us to provide litter pick-up kits to volunteer groups throughout Holmes County. The Health District staff, along with numerous volunteer groups were able to collect 975 pounds of trash and 612 pounds of recyclables.

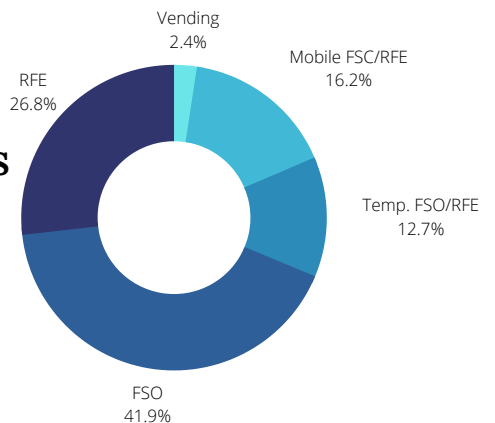


In addition to our community outreach efforts, the Environmental Health Division completed 1,939 inspections in our licensed and permitted programs and investigated 40 animal bites.

ANIMAL BITES REPORTED 2021



FOOD INSPECTIONS 2021



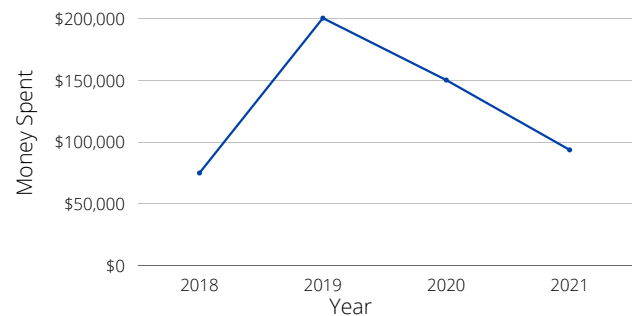
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

SEWAGE PROGRAM PATTERNS, TRENDS, AND COMPLIANCE

The Environmental Health Division is responsible for investigating sewage concerns in the community. The Sewage program is governed by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3718 and Ohio Administrative Code 3701-29. All categories of nuisance complaints increased sharply in 2020 due to the pandemic, and the sewage program was no exception. The goal of our Division is to investigate and abate public health nuisances without the need for escalated enforcement efforts. Since 2018, the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) has assisted 45 homeowners with replacing failing septic systems. In response to the upward trend of sewage nuisance complaints, the Environmental Health Division increased community awareness about the WPCLF by social media outreach and participating in community events. We were again awarded the \$150,000 grant in 2022 to continue offering solutions to environmental health issues in the community.

	Sewage Nuisance Complaints	Board of Health Enforcement Action
2018	3	0
2019	4	1
2020	8	0
2021	4	0

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND 2018-2021



SOLID WASTE PROGRAM PATTERNS, TRENDS, AND COMPLIANCE

The Environmental Health Division is responsible for investigating solid waste concerns in the community. The Solid Waste program is governed by Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3714, 3734, and 3745. Similar to the Sewage program, the Solid Waste program experienced an increase in nuisance complaints due to the pandemic. Even with the increase of solid waste nuisance complaints, our Division was able to successfully work with businesses and homeowners to initiate clean-up efforts without the need for escalated enforcement efforts. Only one property required Board of Health enforcement action in 2021. Each year, our Environmental Health Specialists respond to a variety of nuisance concerns, but the most common fall into the categories of household trash, construction and demolition debris (C&DD), and scrap tire. The Environmental Health Division has applied for a grant through the Ohio EPA that could award up to \$10,000 for clean-up efforts aimed at properties that are creating a mosquito-harboring nuisance. Grant awards will be announced in the Spring of 2022 and our Division is hopeful for another opportunity to offer solutions in lieu of enhanced enforcement efforts.

	Trash	C&DD	Scrap Tire	Total	Board of Health Enforcement Action
2018		50%	50%	2	0
2019	80%	20%		12	0
2020	83%		17%	16	0
2021	100%			6	1

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

EARLY INTERVENTION (EI)

Holmes County Early Intervention continued to uphold the highest of standards during 2021 and celebrated great growth and achievement with children and families enrolled in the program. The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) provided guidelines to support Early Intervention (EI) service providers in carrying out the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. DODD encouraged EI staff to take appropriate and reasonable actions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 during this time. With this guidance in mind, Early Intervention staff and families rose to this challenge with great determination, flexibility and creativity in order to provide uninterrupted services to the children. As Kim Tish, Developmental Specialist, recently highlighted, “everyone worked together in 2021 to ensure the safety of the families, children and staff. We received no negative feedback and families knew why we wore masks and took precautions.”

Local service providers quickly worked together with each individual family to learn revised methods of service delivery using various forms of technology and the expanded availability of printed and recorded educational materials. As explained by Kim, “When a visit was not possible, phone check-ins were important along with materials being mailed or dropped off to individual homes. There was a level of mutual respect and cooperation shown by all.” In summary, 2021 was truly a year of great change and growth in the Holmes County Early Intervention program.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Holmes County General Health District increased health education efforts by establishing two new programs, the Car Seat Program and the Safe Sleep Initiative. The Car Seat Program provides education to caretakers on safety and installation methods of car seats. This program had great success, it began accepting applications in November 2021 and distributed eleven seats by the end of the year. The Safe Sleep Initiative educates caretakers on safe sleep practices and provides pack 'n play style cribs to infants up to a year. This initiative has also flourished, distributing 25 pack 'n plays to caretakers throughout Holmes County.

HOME VISITING (HV)

Home Visiting saw many successes in 2021 including the continuation of diaper and other supplies distributions. In 2021, these funds were reallocated to an Emergency Fund by the Ohio Department of Health, to support Home Visiting families in need. Holmes County Home Visiting utilized the Emergency Fund in 2021 to assist one family who was in need of medical supplies such as a thermometer, baby Tylenol, and Ibuprofen. Another family was in need of child safety items such as, door handle locks, cabinet locks, stove knob covers, and outlet covers. Another success is that the Help Me Grow playgroups were able to resume in 2021 with health and safety precautions being taken. Playgroups included visiting The Farm at Walnut Creek, The Life Center for a Holiday party, and the trail in Millersburg for outside sensory exploration. 2021 was a wonderful year in Home Visiting and we are looking forward to more successes in 2022.

FALLS PREVENTION

The Injury Prevention Coordinator participated in COVID-19 vaccination clinics to provide a recognizable face to the 65+ population during a difficult time. Three new evidence-based programs (Stepping On, Tai Chi for Arthritis and Geri-Fit) were offered in 2021. A total of 46 individuals participated in these new programs. In July, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held with 30 individuals participating in the dedication of six pieces of outdoor fitness equipment that were placed at Deer Run Park. Equipment was purchased through grant funds from the HealthPath Foundation. The second annual ‘Walk Across Holmes County’ to promote ‘falls are not a normal part of aging’ was held in September with special trail walks at 5 sites throughout Holmes County during National Falls Prevention Awareness Week. There were 102 individuals who participated and walked a total of 2,378 miles. Every mile walked was a commitment to falls prevention!

HEALTH DISTRICT STAFF RECOGNITION

On behalf of the Board of Health, and all citizens of Holmes County, we felt again this year we couldn't recognize just one of our health districts staff members in our annual recognition. For our staff of unsung heroes who day in and day out worked tirelessly to serve our community. We often think of those we see on front lines of hospitals, law enforcement and first responders as heroes, but without the dedication of the staff of the Holmes County General Health District we would not have been able to navigate the pandemic in Holmes County. For many reasons we would like to recognize the entire staff of the Holmes County General Health District.

We would like to give our thanks to our Health Commissioner, Michael Derr, his amazing management team, and the staff for continuing to care about the health of our community. We have seen a year of "getting back to normal" even though for our team normal included pandemic response. If not for them working silently in the background, doing heroes' work, more members of our community would have become victims of this awful pandemic. Without this great team doing the disease investigation, contact tracing, vaccination and providing safety guidance and general education around the pandemic day in and day out, our community would have suffered tremendously.

We all owe these amazing, dedicated staff our gratitude for the sacrifices they have made to ensure our health and safety in the most challenging time for our department's history.

On behalf of the Holmes County Board of Health we send sincere thanks and appreciation and formally recognize our entire team for your selfless service to our community.

Thankfully,

Kurt Rodhe,

BOARD OF HEALTH PRESIDENT

Years of Service

Cathy Kick 30 years

Sue Gonter-Dray 20 years

Jen Menuez 15 years

Kerry MacQueen 5 years

Monique Jacobs 5 years

Colton Tennant 1 year

