



INVESTMENT IN HEALTH

Boone County Health Department Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report

The Board of Health is charged with providing the broadest possible health programs in Boone County with the resources available. Funding is secured from local property taxes, state grants and user fees. Funds are expended for goods and services necessary to carry out our mission to protect and promote health in Boone County.

Expenditures

Salaries	\$702,652	59.9%
Benefits	\$238,069	20.3%
Operating Expenses*	\$197,912	16.9%
Equipment	\$34,892	3.0%
Total Expenses	\$1,173,525	100.0%

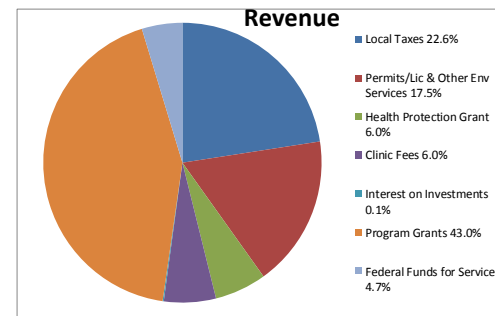
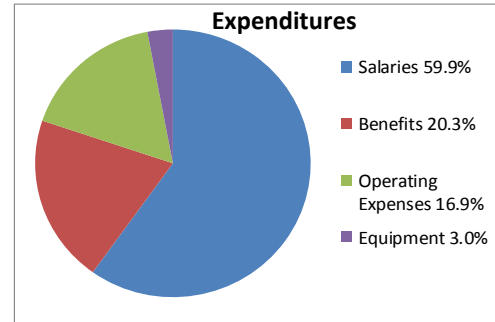
*Includes \$32,400 subsidy to BCSWCD

Revenue

Local Taxes	\$237,263	22.6%
Permits, Licenses & Other Env. Services	\$184,171	17.5%
Health Protection Grant	\$63,201	6.0%
Clinic Fees	\$63,382	6.0%
Interest on Investments	\$1,442	0.1%
Program Grants	\$452,020	43.0%
Federal Funds for Service (in interest acct.)	\$49,507	4.7%
Total Revenue	\$1,050,986	100.0%

Balance

Health Fund	\$191,692	50.7%
Grant Fund	\$186,337	49.3%
Ending Balances 11/30/16	\$378,029	



BOONE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Boone County Board Members and FOIA Officers

Board of Health Members

Jim Cox , President	Term Expires 7/1/2018
Liz Fiorenza , Vice President	7/1/2018
Dr. Bernard O'Malley , MD Treasurer	7/1/2017
Jeff Marrs , Secretary	7/1/2018
Dr. Dennis Corcoran , MD	7/1/2019
Dr. Dan Lendman , DVM	7/1/2017
Marshall Newhouse	7/1/2017
Dr. Pacita Pumilia , DDS	7/1/2019
Barbara Thrun	7/1/2018
Meredith Williams	7/1/2019
Sherry Branson, County Board Appointee	
Former 2016 Board of Health Members	
Dr. Michael Brechon, DDS; Dr. Kent Hess, MD; Kathleen Taylor	

County Board Members

Robert Walberg, Chairman	Dennis Ellingson
Sherry Giesecke *	Raymond Larson *
Cory Lind	Jeffrey Carlisle *
Karl Johnson	Catherine Ward *
Sherry Branson *	Kenneth Freeman
Jessica Muellner	Brad Stark

* Indicates membership on the Health & Human Services Committee

Boone County Health Department FOIA Officers

Amanda Mehl	Patricia Dashney
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FOIA request forms are available on our website at www.boonehealth.org

Protecting & Promoting Health in Boone County for 50 Years

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[www.boonehealth.org](https://www.facebook.com/BooneCountyHealth)
 <https://www.facebook.com/BooneCountyHealth>
<https://twitter.com/BooneCoHealth>

ADMINISTRATOR'S STATEMENT



Boone County Health Department Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report



This year marks the Boone County Health Department's 50th year providing services to our residents. What started as a Tuberculosis Board and two nurses administering medications and services from the trunks of their cars has grown into a strong and robust organization. It is a pleasure and a privilege to serve this department and this county as the seventh administrator to lead the department.

What we do is very rewarding but it is also hard. We are chronically underfunded and under recognized. We fly under the radar promoting health, preventing the spread of disease, and protecting the public. When we are doing our job, our community's water is safe to drink and food served to the public is safe to eat. Our families are protected from highly contagious and sometimes life threatening illness. We can tuck our children in at night knowing that in the event of an emergency of any kind be it natural disaster, power outage, epidemic or an act of terror, public health

"has our back" 24/7. It is hard to measure prevention, but even harder to put a price tag on health and safety.

With 19 staff aboard to serve the almost 54,000 residents of this county, some days it truly baffles me how we get it all done in one day. Seven of those 19 staff speak fluent Spanish and provide needed services to our Hispanic neighbors who make up almost a third of this community. We have registered nurses, nutritionists, licensed environmental health practitioners, breast feeding peer counselors, disease investigation specialists, emergency response personnel, outbreak investigators, hearing and vision screeners, lead based paint risk assessors, finance staff, front desk team members, health educators, and on and on and on. Collectively our staff has earned 63 years of post-secondary education, 481 hours of professional development in preparation to serve in times of crisis and 185 years of public health experience. These are the boots on the ground and these are the staff that serve this community on a daily basis and they do it with pride and integrity.

Public Health is a field I am proud to work in and the team here at the Boone County Health Department is a pleasure to serve. Chris Elias, our Office Coordinator, shared with me, "I work in public health because it's rewarding to be part of an agency that works to protect our environment at such a local level in my own hometown." Similarly, Sonia Eichstaedt, our Communicable/Chronic Disease Case Manager, articulated, "My favorite thing about working in public health is that I get to work with the public. I work *for* the community. I have the opportunity to work with churches, schools, long term care facilities, farmers markets and food pantries, just to mention a few. I enjoy educating and helping others live healthier lives".

We have a strong team here at Boone County who are all willing to work hard to make this community great. This truly is amazing work we do. I invite each and every one of you reading this to contact me and schedule a time to come in and learn more about the Health Department. Please help us as we continue to strive to promote and protect the health of this wonderful community where we all live, learn, work and play.

Amanda Mehl, Public Health Administrator

It is the mission of the Boone County Health Department :

To Protect and Promote Health in Boone County

It is the mission of the Boone County Board of Health:

To work in collaboration with the Boone County Health Department's Administrator to promote and protect the health of the residents of Boone County

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

Boone County Health Department Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report

Boone County Health Department's (BCHD) Personal Health Services Division employs two clerical staff, four nurses, one case manager, and a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor. With the expertise of current staff as well as support from our CDC PHAP Associate and a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Intern, our department continues with the goal of meeting the needs of our community. Below is a brief summary of the division's accomplishments:

WIC is a supplemental food program for Women, Infants and Children. The goal of the program is to improve pregnancy outcomes and early childhood development through nutrition interventions. All children turning one and two years of age in these programs are eligible for blood lead testing as well as nursing follow-up for children with elevated blood lead levels. In 2016, BCHD's WIC Program became one of two pilot sites in Illinois to offer the USDA Summer Feeding Program distributing a total of 397 free summer lunches to children in the county ages 2-18. Additionally, BCHD began a partnership with SwedishAmerican Hospital allowing our WIC staff to visit Boone County moms on the Mother Baby Unit after giving birth and to help them to achieve their breastfeeding goals while transitioning from hospital to home. From the program's inception in May until November 30th, BCHD WIC Clinic staff visited 75 moms and their newborns. Additionally, BCHD also began offering sessions of Eating Smart Being Active (ESBA) Prenatal Cooking and Nutrition classes in partnership with the Belvidere Family YMCA and U of I Extension.

Average Monthly Caseload	850
Food Packages Distributed	4230
Individual Education Interventions	697
Group Education Interventions	1242
Blood Lead Tests	304

The Family Case Management (FCM) program serves pregnant women, infants up to one year of age, and, through HealthWorks, Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS) wards. Our Case Managers provide referrals to community resources and screenings for maternal health and infant development. In 2016, BCHD added a walk-in pregnancy testing clinic providing low cost testing, support, and education to women of childbearing age. During the first five months 11 pregnancy tests were performed. Women learning they are newly pregnant have the option to register during that same visit for all BCHD Maternal Child Health Programs for which they qualify.

FCM Average Monthly Caseload	318
Home Visits	61
Office Visits	3168
HealthWorks Average Monthly Caseload	31
HealthWorks Encounters	61

BCHD offers a high risk infant program APORS (Adverse Pregnancy Outcome Reporting System). Infants referred to this program are provided with home visits on a periodic basis. A physical and developmental assessment is completed and referrals are made to other providers.

Average Monthly Caseload	16
Referrals	18
Encounters/Assessments	47

BCHD offers immunizations and other specific clinic services to children and adults. The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program subsidizes the cost of many of the Childhood Immunizations offered to Medicaid eligible, uninsured, and underinsured children. Walk-in appointments occur on Wednesdays and by appointment during the week. Seasonal clinics include School Physicals and Flu Clinics. BCHD continues its partnership with OSF School of Nursing to provide more opportunities for school physicals here on site.

Vaccines for Children	824
Vaccines for Adults	579
School Physicals	12

Besides WIC/FCM visits, screenings, and immunizations, BCHD provides some additional testing and screenings both in house and out in the community. BCHD offers vision and hearing screenings to children ages three and up who attend private / parochial schools, and to those in licensed day care facilities and preschools. Children who do not pass the screenings are referred to a physician or optometrist for further evaluation. BCHD also coordinates DNA testing as requested by various laboratory centers for paternity testing.

Hearing & Vision Screenings	315
DNA	27

BCHD is responsible for the identification of potential communicable diseases and the control of the spread of communicable disease within the community. Through the Communicable Disease and Tuberculosis programs, BCHD coordinates the investigation of communicable disease outbreaks, determines the scope of the resulting health threat, and initiates appropriate action.

Communicable Diseases Investigated	199
Outbreak Investigation	0
Tuberculosis Skin Tests	94
Positive Tuberculosis Follow-up	0
T-Spot Testing	7

BCHD's Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) clinic provides fast, confidential, and affordable testing every Thursday from 9am to 6pm and also by appointment during the week. BCHD's target population is young people 26 and under given that two thirds of all Gonorrhea and Chlamydia infections diagnosed nationwide are identified within this age group.

Gonorrhea/Chlamydia Tests	72
Hepatitis C Tests	16
HIV Tests	44
Syphilis Tests	45

BCHD was awarded the March of Dimes Becoming a Mom/ Comenzando Bien Community Grant for a second grant cycle allowing us to offer prenatal classes in English and Spanish to expecting moms and their families in the community. This year, we offered 4 six week sessions serving 48 women and their support person(s). Progress towards the goals and objectives for BCHD's 2012 IPLAN continued this year. The focus in 2016 was the expansion of the WIC Farmers Market and Health and Wellness Fair coordinated by BCHD along with the County Administrative office and the City of Belvidere and the continued growth of the Boone County Hunger Coalition to address food insecurity and promote better nutrition amongst Boone County residents.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

Boone County Health Department Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report

The goal of the Environmental Health Division is to safeguard the public health by preventing the occurrence of environmentally influenced infectious diseases. Although enforcement of state and local environmental health codes is the primary tool used to meet the goal, implementation of environmentally sound practices and education are equally important. Permits are issued and inspections are performed for compliance with the State Food Sanitation, Private Sewage Disposal and Private Water Well codes. In addition, public requests for service are investigated and enforcement action taken if violations of county or state health codes are identified. Consultations with the public concerning these and other codes as well as general public health topics are ongoing.

Foodborne illness (FBI) continues to be a major public health issue nationwide. The FBI incident rate per capita in Boone County has been kept very low through the ongoing efforts of staff to correct / enforce, and promote sanitary awareness during food handling. The Environmental Division not only issued food permits, inspected and enforced Sanitation codes and investigated complaints, but also spent many hours educating the public on legislation and how it impacts exemptions to the food codes for some organizations and events.

Food Education Events	8
Food Permits	514
Food Facility Inspections / Investigations	420
Food Consultations	1379

Those Boone County residences (approx. 50%) not served by public utilities, rely upon private sewage disposal systems and private water wells. BCHD issued system construction / repair permits, inspected and enforced state and county codes and investigated complaints for both private sewage and water well systems.

Private Sewage Disposal Permits	38
Private Sewage Disposal Inspections / Investigations	48
Private Sewage Consultations	2182
Private Water Well permits	56
Private Water Well Inspections / Investigations	45
Private Water Well Consultations	1515

BCHD is also contracted by property owners to perform well / septic evaluations to fulfill lending institution mortgage loan requirements.

Well and / or Septic Evaluations	208
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The public often requests service from BCHD to investigate other complaints that may be violations of the Boone County Health Codes. These complaints can range from trash and rubbish piles to vacant homes, rodents, etc. Fifty-eight health code complaint investigations were conducted in 2016.

In addition, mosquito traps were placed and monitored to verify the presence and location of West Nile Virus bearing mosquito pools in the County. This year a total of 37 mosquito pools were tested.

In an effort to reduce mosquito breeding locations, BCHD coordinated with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for a tire collection event for taxing agencies. Sixteen agencies participated in the October event which resulted in the collection of 1,750 tires. Events like these help reduce the spread of mosquito born illnesses.

Body Art facilities are registered through IDPH and inspected by BCHD. Facilities, equipment, and procedures are evaluated for compliance with applicable standards on an annual basis.

BCHD is responsible for permitting demolitions of structures in unincorporated areas of the County to ensure proper disposal of waste, filling of excavation cavities, and proper abandonment of water wells and septic tanks. In 2016, 17 demolition sites were inspected and approved for final compliance.

Through the Illinois Tobacco Free Communities Grant BCHD conducted many programs including 14 classroom presentations to over 350 freshman health class students at Belvidere North High School. Through the Illinois Tobacco Quitline County residents can access smoking cessation help. Public Health is also charged with the enforcement of the Smoke-Free Illinois Act (SFIA). We followed up on 5 complaints against Boone County establishments and conducted 121 random SFIA compliance checks in 2016.

Since Sept. 11, 2001 Public Health has been charged with planning for and responding to incidents of bioterrorism and disease outbreaks such as pandemic influenza. The primary role of BCHD's Public Health Emergency Preparedness program in an actual bioterrorism event is the distribution of antibiotics or vaccines to the residents of Boone County that may have been exposed to a biological agent. A secondary role is to address any public health issues which may follow a disaster event or an emerging infectious disease, such as Zika.

Childhood lead poisoning results in serious health problems and continues to be a public health concern. Exposure occurs primarily through paint hazards in homes built before 1978. BCHD continues to receive the IDPH Delegate Lead Grant. This year our three lead risk assessors were involved in seven investigations to determine the source of lead exposure for children with elevated blood lead levels. BCHD also partners with the Winnebago County Health Department in a federal Housing and Urban Development grant which promotes efforts to eliminate dangerous lead hazards from lower income homes, stimulate private sector investment in lead hazard control and educate the public about the dangers of lead-based paint. The HUD grant seeks to remediate lead based paint hazards in homes with at-risk children prior to an elevated blood lead level being detected. Both homeowners and rental property owners may qualify for remediation funding from HUD.

*** Note: Previously the Environmental totals in our Annual Reports reflected the calendar year (January-December). This year's report now aligns with the Health Department's fiscal year (December 2015-November 2016).