

annual report

BENZIE-LEELANAU
DISTRICT HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

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2019

LETTER FROM HEALTH OFFICER AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR

"It is our pleasure to present the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department 2019 Annual Report to the Community. As you browse the pages that follow, you will see many examples of our dedicated staff in action striving to assure that all residents are able to attain their highest level of health. Our work is grounded in the roots of public health, where we recognize that wellness reflects the health of the environments and circumstances in which we live, work, and play. It is this commitment to understanding the root causes of health and disease that helps us continue to analyze data and then formulate strategies to develop healthy, resilient, and thriving communities. It is the dedication of our Board of Health and our highly skilled team that will continue to lead us into a healthy future in Benzie and Leelanau Counties!"



Lisa M. Peacock

Lisa Peacock, MSN,
RN, WHNP-BC
Health Officer



Joshua Meyerson

Joshua Meyerson,
MD, MPH Medical
Director

ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Medical Director: Joshua Meyerson, MD, MPH
Health Officer: Lisa Peacock, MSN, RN, WHNP-BC
Personal Health Director: Michelle Klein, RN, MA, PH-C
Personal Health Supervisor: Debbie Aldridge, R.N.
Director of Administrative Services: Dodie Putney, B.S.
Environmental Health Director: Eric Johnston, R.S.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Chairperson: Melinda Lautner
Vice Chairperson: Gary Sauer

Members:
Carolyn Rentenbach
Casey Noonan
Dr. George Ryckman
Roger Griner

HIGHLIGHTS

- Eric Johnston was named Environmental Health Director.
- Community Connections Team was awarded 2019 Community Health Hero Award.
- Snap-Ed Grant providing nutrition education and physical activity to local food pantry and Laundry facility users
- 31 County MiThrive Community Health Needs Assessment completed with leadership from our district
- Achieved Fall Accreditation by the Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Program, including special recognition for meeting and/or exceeding requirements in multiple program areas, including Quality Improvement.
- Implemented a new Electronic Medical Record system, a new Environmental Health Record system, and new financial management software.



Photo: Community Connections Team with the 2019 Community Health Hero Award.

PROGRAM NUMBERS

IMMUNIZATIONS:

1,332 APPOINTMENTS AND 2,304 IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED

HEARING SCREENING:

1,560 SCREENINGS COMPLETED

VISION SCREENING:

2,824 SCREENINGS COMPLETED

INFECTION DISEASE CONTROL:

256 CASES INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED

HEALTHY FUTURES:

234 CLIENTS ENROLLED AND 195 HOME VISITS

MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH PROGRAM (MIHP):

332 MOM AND INFANTS ENROLLED AND 1,162 VISITS

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH:

287 CLIENTS, 320 VISITS, 9 BCCCP VISITS

WORKSITE WELLNESS:

3 WORKSITE WELLNESS SITES

WOMEN, INFANT, AND CHILDREN (WIC):

1,319 CLIENTS ENROLLED, 139 LEAD TEST COMPLETED, AND 223 FLUORIDE VARNISH APPLIED

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS:

809 REFERRALS, 4,213 CONTACTS

CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES:

135 CLIENTS SERVED, 68 PLAN OF CARES COMPLETED

MOM POWER:

18 CLIENTS, 78 VISITS

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

Debbie Aldridge was awarded the Public Health Nursing Excellence Award for her outstanding contribution to Public Health Nursing leadership in April 2019 by Michigan Public Health Association (MPHA).



Photo: Debbie Aldridge with the Personal Health Staff after receiving the award.

SNAP EDUCATION GRANT

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department was awarded the SNAP Education Grant from Michigan Fitness Foundation to provide education to the community at a local laundry facility, baby pantry, and food pantries. Over the summer, our Health Educator and Registered Dietitian provided education at four sites 2-3 times per month in Benzie and Leelanau County. The lessons included topics like water intake, fruits, vegetables, and physical activity tips.

The grant helped provide the funding to allow the health educator and registered dietitian to provide healthy snacks and promotional materials to the clients at the laundry facility, food pantries, and baby pantry. Clients were able to sample healthy snacks and had the opportunity talk staff about how to improve their health habits. These opportunities were available to all residents and migrant farm workers.



Photo: Health Educator Rachel Pomeroy at Benzie Area Christian Neighbors

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS HIGHLIGHTS

Chloe Willetts, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, joined the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department in November 2018 after completing an internship with Northern Michigan Public Health Emergency Preparedness (NMPHEP) in 2018.

The NMPHEP team consists of Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department, Health Department of Northwest Michigan, and Grand Traverse County Health Department. The team spent the year preparing for a full-scale distribution node exercise including writing and updating plans, making sure employees were trained in the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and submitting state-issued deliverables.

Photo: Xavier Gagne assembling boxes for the emergency preparedness exercise



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

- November 7, 2019, NMPHEP Preparedness team in addition to external partner such as Grand Traverse Industries, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Father Fred and Food Rescue participated in a full-scale distribution node exercise. The exercise tested the health departments' capacity as well as providing donated food to local food banks.
- December 13, 2019, BLDHD staff practiced an emergency preparedness exercise to identify and perform their emergency preparedness roles.



Photo: Vicki Houdek organizing donated food for the emergency preparedness exercise

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

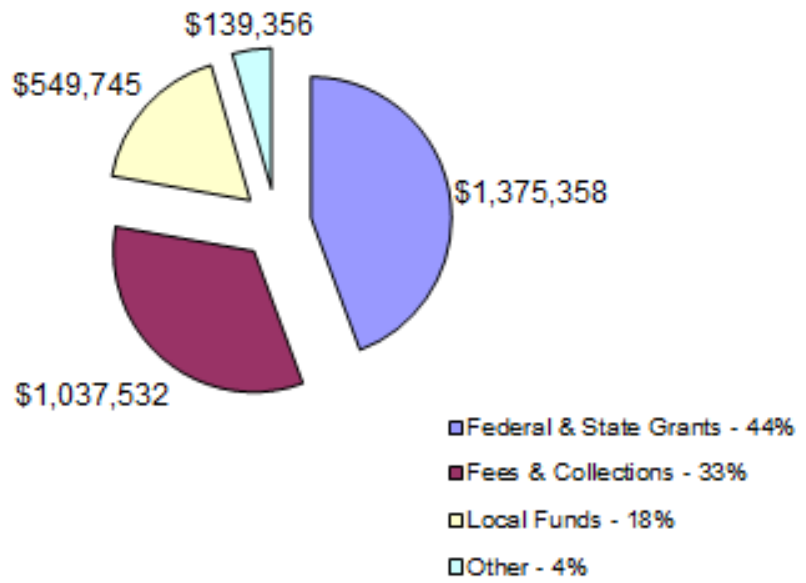
- Nick Dow, Food Program Supervisor, became a MDARD Standardized Trainer in the state of Michigan.
- Implemented an offsite Food Safety Manager class & testing to provide more outreach in the community.
- Implemented a new Environmental Health software system (HealthSpace) to replace the antiquated EH program tracking system.
- Adjusted staffing work area and duties to increase work efficiency and turnaround time.
- Provided a credit card payment option to increase convenience for the public
- Partnered with the Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay to have 11 Benzie and Leelanau County public beaches monitored for E. Coli levels from late June to mid-September.
- William Crawford retired in October and his position in the Leelanau County office was filled by Jim Reardon.
- Xavier Gagne' was hired to fill the vacant sanitarian position in the Benzie County office.
- Xavier Gagne' attended Emerging & Zoonotic Infectious Disease Vector-Borne Disease Training and is the resident vector borne disease expert.

PROGRAM NUMBERS

RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS:	491
FOOD LICENSE/TEMPS:	87
FOODBORNE ILLNESS REPORT FOLLOW UP:	1
WELL PERMITS ISSUED:	340
SEPTIC PERMITS ISSUED:	362
VACANT LAND EVALUATIONS:	97
EXISTING WELL AND SEPTIC SYSTEM INSPECTIONS:	455
SWIMMING POOL AND SPAS INSPECTIONS:	42
SWIMMING BEACH MONITORING:	11
CAMPGROUND INSPECTIONS:	29
SEPTAGE HAULING VEHICLE INSPECTIONS:	18
SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY INSPECTIONS:	11
TATTOO PARLOR INSPECTIONS:	2
SUSPECTED RABIES ANIMAL TEST SUBMISSIONS:	19

BUDGET:

FY 18/19 Revenues \$3,555,904



FY 18/19 Expenditures \$3,097,833

