

A message from your Health Commissioner

Lorain County Public Health (LCPH) works hard every day to identify where we can make the biggest positive impact on residents' health. We pride ourselves in understanding community issues and how they affect the lives of everyone here in Lorain County.

We partner with our hospital systems, public entities and community groups to collectively improve quality of life throughout the county. The first step to improve our community is to gain a deeper understanding of it. We analyze local data, assess gaps in services, and identify areas for improvement. Taking time to measure program results helps us understand how to help the community as efficiently and as effectively as possible.

LCPH looks forward to a future in which we identify even more ways to improve the community. Focusing on areas most in need of improvement will help us make Lorain County a healthier place to live, work, and play.

-- David Covell, MPH, RS

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LCPH Retiree

Thank you for your service!

- Susan Kuncel, 4 years

LCPH serves ALL of Lorain County!

2019 Top local causes of death ➤ and some examples of what LCPH is doing about them



Cancer - 634 deaths

➤ LCPH administered 486 vaccines against human papillomavirus, also known as HPV. HPV can cause cervical cancer, throat cancer, and other cancers.



Heart disease - 595 deaths

➤ LCPH helped local child care facilities pass 2 healthy eating policies and 2 healthy menu changes to help start healthy habits in young ones.



Chronic lower respiratory disease - 220 deaths

➤ LCPH passed a policy to make our campus tobacco-free. This helps prevent respiratory diseases and models the way for a healthy workplace.



Accidents - 184 deaths

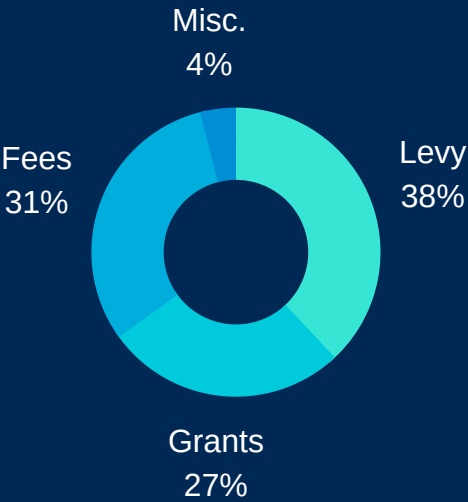
➤ LCPH helped put on the Zero Proof Mix Off, an event that encouraged over 600 people to practice sober driving and offer nonalcoholic options at parties.



Stroke - 168 deaths

➤ Blood pressure self-monitoring became easier when LCPH provided blood pressure monitors to 14 Lorain County libraries. Blood pressure management helps reduce the risk of stroke.

Funding sources



- Levy & other taxes: \$4,341,545
- Grants: \$3,120,374
- Fees for services: \$3,512,772
- Miscellaneous: \$503,006

Disbursements

- Contracts: \$1,172,085
- Distribution to state: \$493,267
- Equipment: \$669,369
- Medical supplies: \$418,979
- Salaries & benefits: \$8,638,813
- Other expenditures: \$601,346
- Total disbursements: \$11,993,859



**Lorain County
Public Health**

For the Health of Us All

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Some of the data points in the 2019 Annual Report were provided by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). The ODH specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations or conclusions.

Lorain County Public Health

2019 Annual Report



**Lorain County
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For the Health of Us All

following TRENDS



Decrease in tobacco use

In 2015, 22% of Lorain County residents self-reported as a current smoker. In 2019, only 12% of Lorain County residents self-reported as a current smoker. Quitting tobacco reduces the risk for heart disease, stroke, and some cancers. In 2019, LCPH...

- Secured over \$120,000 to help continue this trend.
- Reached over 14,600 people on Facebook about e-cigarette use among youth.
- Conducted 53 store audits of local tobacco retailers, who are doing a great job following the new Tobacco 21 law (which raises the age to purchase tobacco to 21).

Tobacco use impacts...

heart disease rates, infant mortality, and quality of life.



Increase in heart disease death for ages 35-54

Although lower than the state average, the heart disease mortality rate among Lorain County residents ages 35-54 years is trending in the wrong direction.

- To help make it easy for residents to stay active and reduce heart disease, LCPH teamed up with partners to offer free fitness in 113 locations. 73% of those are in underserved areas.

Decrease in infant deaths



In 2019, fewer babies died before their first birthday. African American infant deaths in Lorain County have decreased by about 50% since 2011.

- To help give babies a healthy start, LCPH secured a \$134,000 grant in 2019 for Mercy Health Resource Mothers, a program that connects new moms with community health workers (CHWs). CHWs guide new families through pregnancy and a baby's first year.

More action in 2019:

- Administered 9,160 vaccines
- Distributed 350 Cribs for Kids
- Screened 11,981 students' vision
- Screened 10,514 students' hearing
- Served 7,472 WIC clients
- Reached 11,885 community members at health fairs
- Licensed 1,574 food facilities
- Inspected 38 body art facilities
- Investigated 459 animal bites
- Collected 405 beach water samples

driving ACTION



Preventing disease through tire cleanups

Tire dumps provide an ideal breeding site for mosquitoes, which can infect humans with diseases like West Nile Virus and La Crosse Encephalitis. LCPH monitors and treats mosquito breeding sites throughout the season.

- 290 tons of tires removed from a single dump
- 5 dump sites identified for cleanup
- 100,000 tires at the largest dump site (that would cover 13 football fields!)



Promoting families & farmers

In the summer of 2019, WIC distributed farm market vouchers to pregnant and breastfeeding WIC clients and to WIC families with children in the program. A family that chose to receive the vouchers got 4 coupons worth \$5 each to use at local WIC-approved produce stands.

- 303 vouchers redeemed
- \$1,515 spent on local farmers' healthy food
- 2 farmers + 1 farm market participated



Protecting all people

Lorain County is a unique community with diverse and sometimes hard-to-reach populations. LCPH strives to protect all of Lorain County by using data, evidence-based best practices, and community input to reach out to unique populations.

- 425 rural residents educated on new septic system operation and maintenance requirements
- 345 individuals screened for HIV
- 1,800 handwashing signs distributed in English and Spanish
- Over 1,400 food facilities inspected