

# monthly NEWSLETTER



**Lorain County  
Public Health**

For the Health of Us All

Lorain County Public Health

January 2020

## 100 Years of Service

On December 19, State Representative Gayle Manning (R-North Ridgeville) visited LCPH in recognition of its 100 years of public health service to Lorain County and presented LCPH with an authenticated copy of House Resolution 234. The House of Representatives adopted Resolution 234 on September 24, 2019. Rep. Manning was the primary sponsor along with co-sponsors Rep. Joe Miller (D-Amherst) and Rep. Dick Stein (R-Norwalk).

In 1917, Ohio had a statewide smallpox epidemic, and in 1918, the Spanish flu pandemic killed millions of people worldwide and thousands of people here in Ohio. In response to these health tragedies, State Representative William L. Hughes of Lorain introduced legislation to create a structure for local public health services in Ohio. The Ohio General Assembly passed the Hughes-Griswold Act into law in 1919. This act set guidelines for the creation of public health districts, and LCPH was created later that year. Happy 100th birthday, LCPH!



## Lorain County CHIP

The Lorain County Health Partners released the 2020-2022 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) in December 2019. The CHIP guides health-related programs and initiatives in the county, and priorities for the new cycle include

- Chronic Disease – Reduce heart disease and diabetes.
- Maternal and Child Health – Help mothers carry babies to term. Work to ensure children get a healthy start to kindergarten.
- Mental Health – Prevent suicide deaths.
- Substance Abuse – Help people avoid using tobacco and binge drinking. Help youth understand the risks of marijuana use. Decrease unintentional drug overdose deaths.
- Cancer – Increase awareness and access to screenings that catch cancer early. Help cancer patients begin and continue treatment.

Read the full CHIP at <https://www.loraincountyhealth.com/cha>.

## Creating Healthy Communities

LCPH was awarded the Creating Healthy Communities grant after the latest competitive application cycle. We will be funded for 5 years at \$100,000 per year to increase healthy eating and improve the built environment through activities such as food systems planning, healthy food policies, Safe Routes to School, active transportation planning, and complete streets policies.

## Environmental Health Updates

January sees the final push to complete Food Safety Program inspections for the 2019 license year before renewals begin in February. ODH came to LCPH in late December to survey the Public Pools and Campgrounds Programs. While we don't have the full report yet, we were told we did very well. Many staff members attended 2-3 days of training for the OnBase data management system, which we'll implement soon. Eventually, this system will maintain a vast majority of our records as we continue to move toward a paperless agency. Finally, the newly revised Epi Team has begun work, and follow-up on communicable disease reports has already improved.

## Health Commissioner's Message

Happy New Year to all! As we move into 2020, we can enjoy the new building and by spring, there will be a new parking lot and finished landscaping. As with any new building, we have identified a few issues to fix and will continue to do so.

Hopefully you and your families had a wonderful holiday season. I think it's healthy to look back on the last year and be happy about what we accomplished and also what we learned. Most importantly, I look forward to our future successes.

May you & yours have a happy and prosperous 2020! - Dave

## 2019 Highlights

Here are some LCPH highlights from 2019.

- Moved into our new building
- Went live on our new website
- Received a House Resolution from Representative Gayle Manning for our 100th birthday
- Connected with the LGBTQ+ community for guidance on communication
- Advertised on completely new mediums, like Grindr and YouTube
- Started the transition to a paperless agency with OnBase

### Milestone Anniversaries

Mary Izzo, Nutrition Educator in WIC - 25 years on January 9

Marisa Wayner, WIC Director - 5 years on January 30