

# ANNUAL

— 2025 —

# REPORT



*Healthy People, Healthy Places*

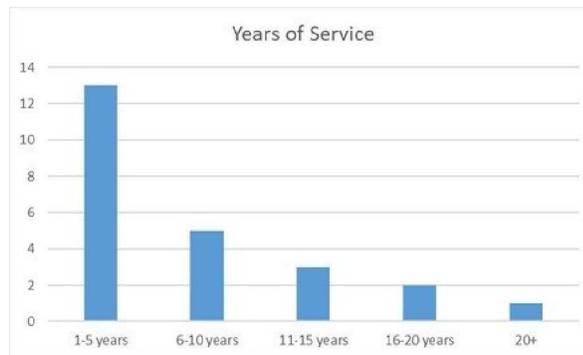
The **mission of Marion Public Health** is to create a culture of health by providing all people the opportunity to reach their greatest health potential at every stage of life.



# ABOUT MARION PUBLIC HEALTH

MPH is an accredited local health department serving Marion County, Ohio. Our divisions include Nursing, Environmental Health, WIC, and Community Health. Our activities are guided by state laws, national standards, and community needs.

<h2>Mission</h2> <p>To create a culture of health by providing all people the opportunity to reach their greatest health potential at every stage of life</p>	<h2>Vision</h2> <p>Marion is a healthy place to live, work, and play</p>	<h2>Values</h2> <p>Acceptance All-In Credibility Creativity Positive Energy</p>
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## Staff by Job

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1 Health Commissioner         | 2 WIC Nutritionists                                  |
| 4 Directors                   | 2 WIC Support Staff                                  |
| 1 Fiscal Coordinator          | 1 Breastfeeding Peer Helper                          |
| 3 Administrative Staff        | 2 Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS) |
| 3 Public Health Nurses        | 1 REHS in Training                                   |
| 2 Health Educators            | 1 Environmental Health Tech                          |
| 1 Community Health Specialist |  |



of staff are satisfied or highly satisfied with employment at MPH according to the 2025 employee satisfaction survey

## Board of Health

The Board of Health is made up of 7 members. 3 members are appointed by the District Advisory Council, 3 members are appointed by the Mayor of Marion City, and 1 member alternates between them.

## Members

- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sherrie Bosely Litscher, President | Lora Troutman, Vice President |
| Rob Lill                           | Mick Williams                 |
| Dr. Leonard Janchar                | Dana Martin                   |
| Em Russell                         |                               |

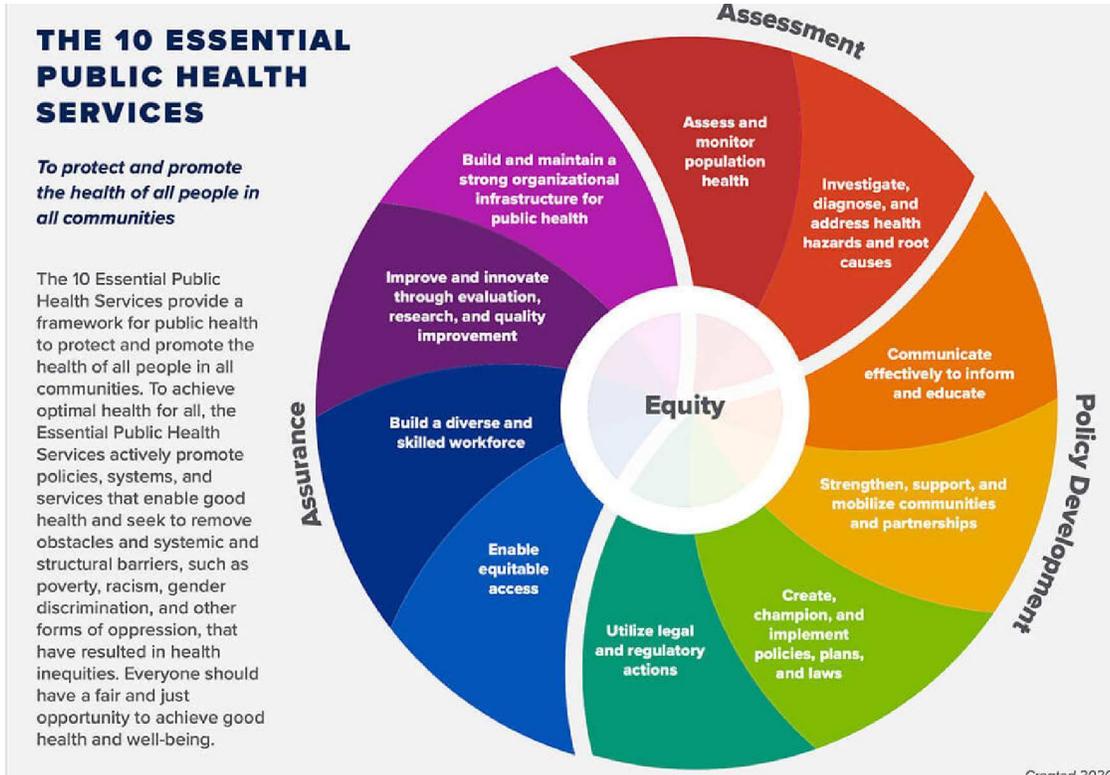
## Medical Director

Dr. Michael McCleese



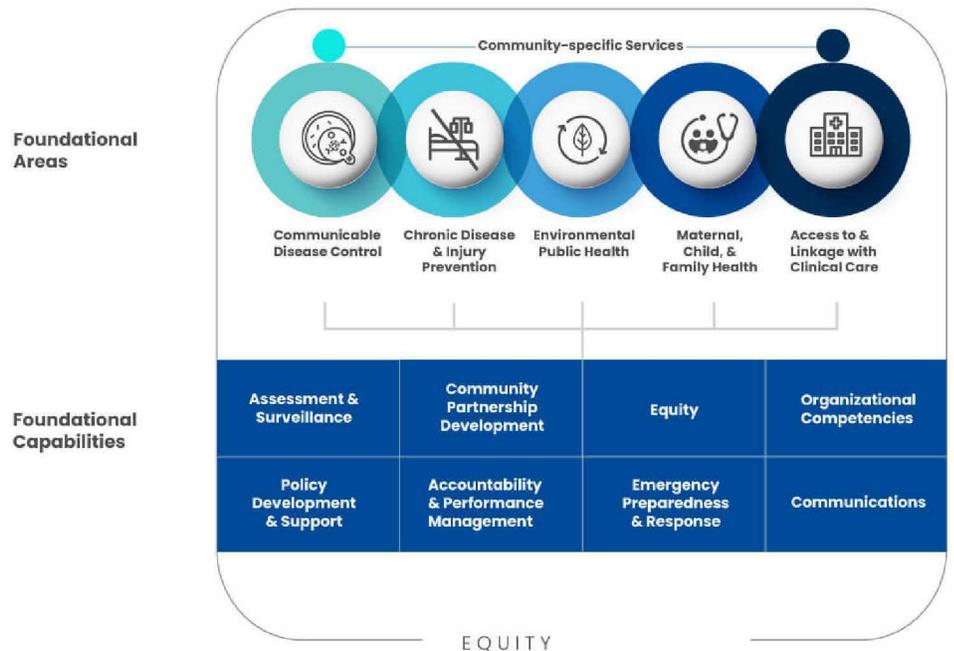
# GUIDING FRAMEWORKS

Marion Public Health bases its work on 2 national frameworks: the 10 Essential Services and the Foundational Public Health Services



## Foundational Public Health Services

The Foundational Public Health Services provide the minimum package of capabilities and programs that all local public health departments should provide. They focus on the unique responsibilities of governmental public health that are necessary for a thriving community. We combine these minimum services for all health departments with our own community specific services that are unique to Marion County.



# FISCAL REPORT

Fund	Beginning Balance	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Balance	Encumbrances	Cash Balance
9013 General Fund	\$265,534.44	\$1,389,250.34	\$1,224,878.93	\$429,905.85	\$70,067.89	\$359,837.96
9014 Campgrounds	\$10,025.56	\$2,861.32	\$2,962.73	\$9,924.15	\$830.00	\$9,094.15
9015 Private Water	\$37,618.50	\$23,936.00	\$28,525.59	\$33,028.91	\$4,772.50	\$28,256.41
9016 Solid Waste	\$46,460.84	\$50,775.76	\$60,705.67	\$36,530.93	\$0.00	\$36,530.93
9017 Nursing	\$61,041.32	\$369,984.43	\$389,389.57	\$41,636.18	\$6,956.07	\$34,680.11
9018 Food	\$87,210.46	\$169,092.88	\$155,665.62	\$100,637.72	\$7,925.32	\$92,712.40
9033 WIC Contingency	\$2,010.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,010.24	\$0.00	\$2,010.24
9050 Swimming Pools	\$23,980.64	\$12,045.00	\$20,023.72	\$16,001.92	\$1,295.00	\$14,706.92
9152 Sewage	\$119,098.62	\$297,783.43	\$292,277.08	\$124,604.97	\$4,969.75	\$119,635.22
9202 WIC	\$38,652.56	\$457,152.43	\$431,418.36	\$64,386.63	\$3,558.62	\$60,828.01
9213 CHC	\$13,445.62	\$134,141.47	\$140,714.17	\$6,872.92	\$817.65	\$6,055.27
9227 Facility	\$173,328.67	\$68,925.55	\$233,102.13	\$9,152.09	\$9,002.26	\$149.83
9237 Body Art	\$3,306.24	\$3,560.00	\$2,661.63	\$4,204.61	\$0.00	\$4,204.61
9243 PHEP	\$11,938.95	\$74,439.00	\$54,698.64	\$31,679.31	\$4,445.04	\$27,234.27
9269 Naloxone	\$5,847.36	\$254,000.00	\$192,430.21	\$67,417.15	\$10,403.14	\$57,014.01
9292 Public Health Workforce	\$1,805.57	\$304,969.54	\$279,180.18	\$27,594.93	\$6.04	\$27,588.89
9294 EO22	\$49,026.46	\$40,692.83	\$89,719.29	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
9295 Lead	\$77,722.07	\$0.00	\$46,771.58	\$30,950.49	\$0.00	\$30,950.49
9298 OHIZ	\$599.88	\$0.00	\$599.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
9311 GVO	\$19,149.12	\$12,569.00	\$31,718.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,047,803.12</b>	<b>\$3,666,178.98</b>	<b>\$3,677,443.10</b>	<b>\$1,036,539.00</b>	<b>\$125,049.28</b>	<b>\$911,489.72</b>

## NURSING

### Birth and Deaths

In 2025, we had 746 births occur with 3,516 birth certificates issued. We had 795 deaths occur with 3,078 death certificates issued.

### Children with Medical Handicaps

In 2025 our CMH program had an average of 189 active participants with 1,465 encounters and 29 home/office visits.

### Lead Case Management

In 2025 we had a total of 10 cases with a blood lead level of 10+ and 61 cases that had a blood lead level of 3.5-9.

**\*Reminder\* No level of lead in blood is safe!**

### Immunizations

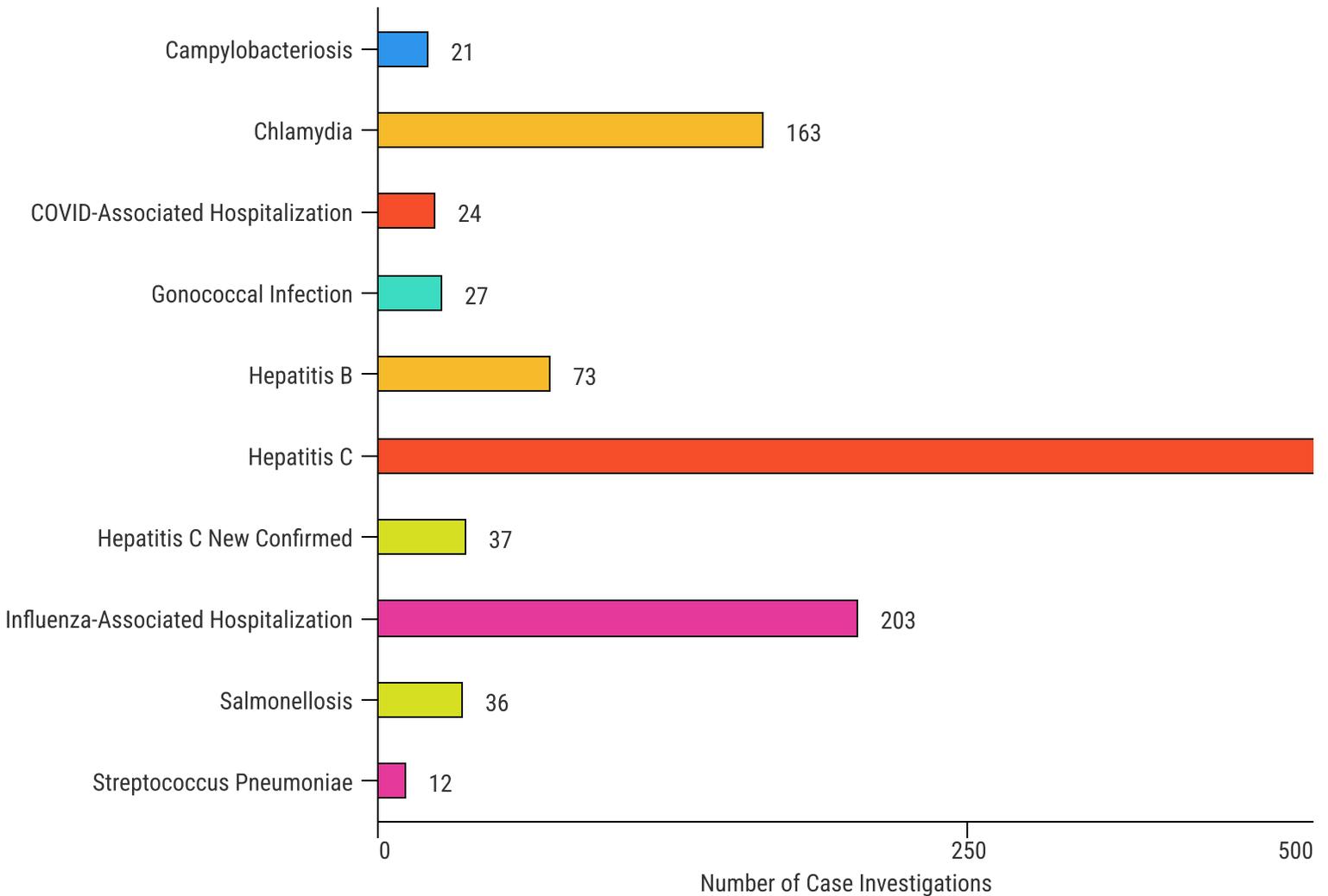
Marion Public Health provides weekly immunization clinic. Clinic days and times vary throughout the year based on the needs of the community. Additionally, our nurses work closely with local community partners to provide immunizations off-site to help keep our children and families healthy. In 2025, our immunization clinic serviced 867 clients, with a total of 1,671 vaccines and 115 tuberculin skin tests administered.

### Sexual Health Clinic

Marion Public Health partners with Galion City Health Department to provide sexual health services such as annual pap smears, breast exams, birth control, and more. In 2025, this program saw 253 patients for these services.

# NURSING

## Marion County Communicable Disease Investigation Case Counts 2025



\*\*Counts fewer than 10 are not displayed to protect client confidentiality and privacy.\*\*

### Communicable Disease

Chlamydia continued to be the highest rate of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) in Marion County at 166 cases in 2025. This is a decrease of 15 cases from 2024.

Hepatitis C was the highest reported communicable disease. Influenza-associated hospitalizations was the second highest in the county with 203 cases.

In total we had 1,146 reports of communicable diseases in 2025.

### Safe Syringe Program

In 2025, Marion Public Health continued to offer a syringe exchange program which provides clients with access to sterile syringes and needles, and aims to reduce the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis, and bacterial infections. This program also serves as a link to other important services such as needed vaccinations, STI testing, referral to treatment, education about overdose prevention, and referral to substance use disorder treatment programs.

In 2025, 29,916 syringes were exchanged with 1,027 client interactions and 58 of those being new clients. A total of 3,180 fentanyl test strips were distributed. Additionally, 779 naloxone kits were provided to clients, resulting in 92 reported overdose reversals.

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

## 2025 Solid Waste/Nuisances

<u>Political Subdivision</u>	<u>Number of Complaints</u>	<u>Number of Inspections</u>	<u>Referred for Prosecution</u>
Big Island TWP	2	1	0
Bowling Green TWP	0	0	0
Caledonia Vil	1	2	1
Claridon TWP	4	5	1
Grand Prairie TWP	1	1	0
Grand TWP	1	3	0
Green Camp TWP	0	0	0
Green Camp Vil	0	0	0
Larue Vil	6	7	0
Marion City	157	213	25
Marion TWP	22	22	6
Montgomery TWP	3	1	0
Morril Vil	1	1	0
New Bloomington Vil	0	0	0
Pleasant TWP	8	8	2
Prospect TWP	1	1	0
Prospect Vil	5	5	1
Richland TWP	4	12	3
Salt Rock TWP	0	0	0
Scott TWP	0	0	0
Tully TWP	16	7	0
Waldo TWP	1	2	0
Waldo Vil	2	2	0
WRONG STATE	4	0	0
TOTAL	239	293	39



# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

## 2025 Licensed Food Facilities

**2,253**

Violations Cited in All Facility Types

**329**

Risk Level I - IV Licenses Issued

**914**

Number of Food Inspections Conducted

**38**

Mobile Food Licenses Issued

**~1,816**

Non-Critical Violations Cited

**~5,868**

Pounds of Food Discarded by Facilities at Time of Inspection

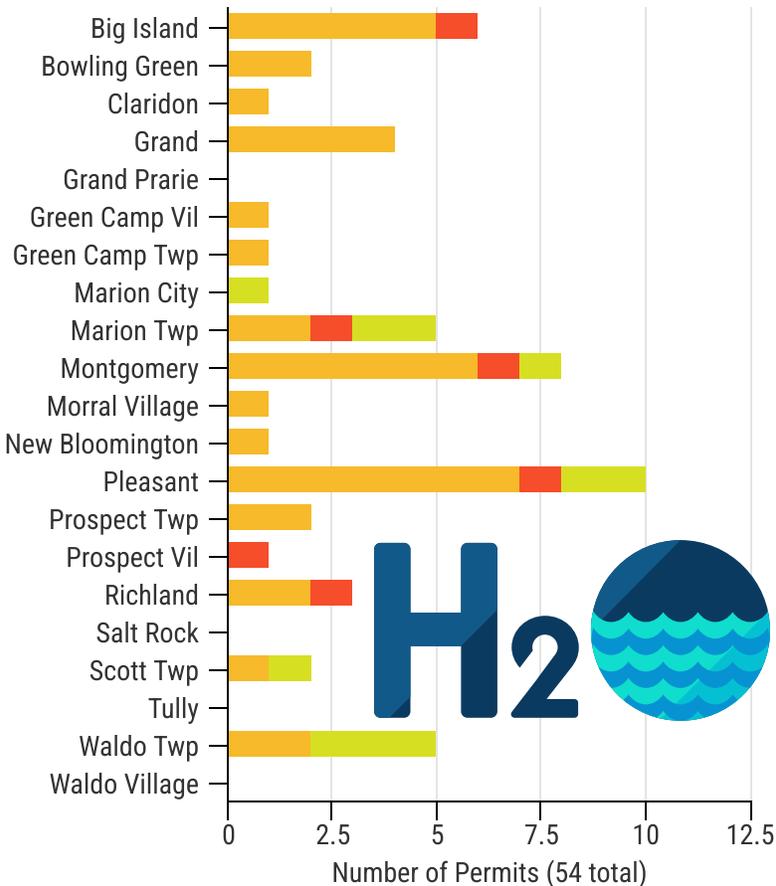
**~437**

Critical Violations Cited

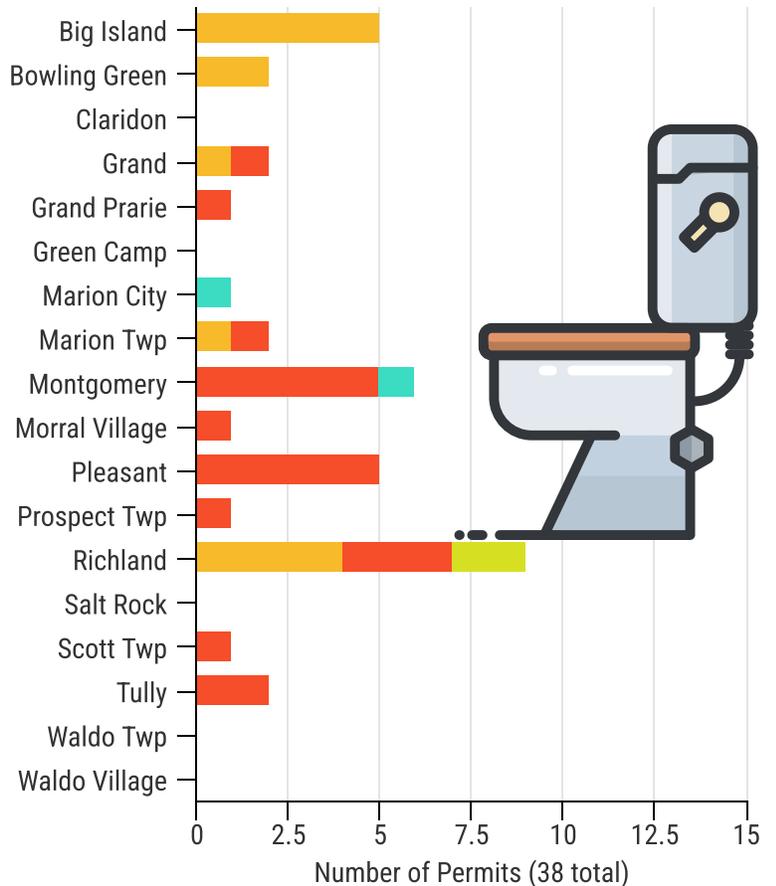
**2.5**

Number of Employees Working in the Food Program

### 2025 Private Water System Permits



### 2025 Household Septic Permits



● New ● Replace ● Alteration ● Sealing

● New ● Replace ● Alteration ● Abandonment

# WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN

WIC saves lives and improves the health of nutritionally at-risk women, infants, and children.  
\$1 invested in WIC saves about \$2.48 in medical, educational, and productivity costs.



1,563

average number of residents served, an increase of 76 from last year.



63%

of women start breastfeeding. A 2% increase from last year.



\$137,287,931.00

worth of foods redeemed, 2% increase from last year.

## 2025 Most Redeemed Foods



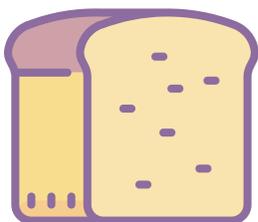
#1 - Fruits and Vegetables  
325,076 in cash value vouchers



#2 - Breakfast Cereal  
204,483 ounces



#3 - Low & Non-Fat Yogurt  
147,584 ounces



#4 - Whole Wheat Bread or Grains  
133,456 ounces



#5 - Canned Beans  
55,944 ounces



#6 - Infant Fruits and Vegetables  
44,420 containers

**Want to learn more about Marion County's WIC redemptions?**

**[Click here!](#)**

**Note: set the "Effective Year" to 2025 and set "County" to only Marion**

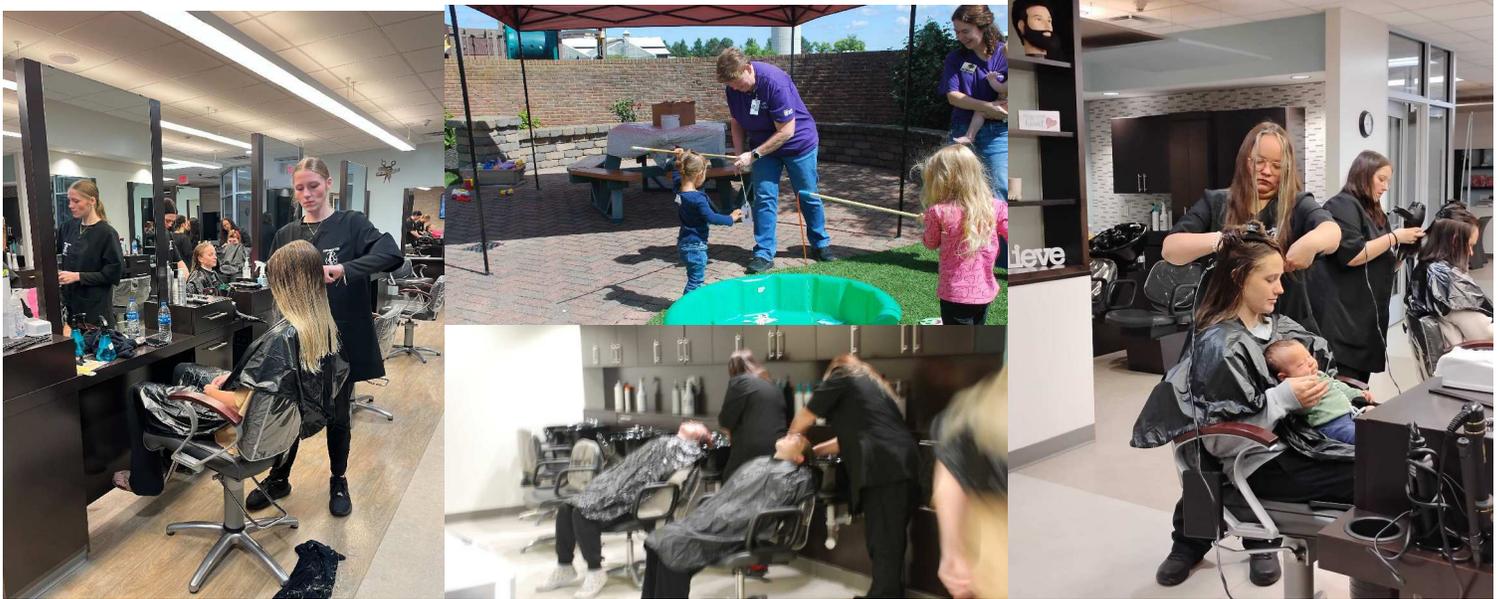
# WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN



Through our continued partnership with Center Street Community Health Center, we hosted four WIC Dentist Days and connected 76 WIC children out of 128 scheduled, for preventative dental exams. Nineteen of those children were referred for further dental work.



In 2025, we screened 119 children for lead exposure using the LeadCare II machine. 10 children tested positive for lead and were referred to their primary doctor for further testing. Lead testing in the WIC clinic is voluntary; parents can decline testing.



In honor of Breastfeeding Awareness Month, we partnered with Tri-Rivers Cosmetology students to offer our moms a special spa day. Many moms received haircuts, facials, and massages, and shared stories about their families. Thanks to the Tri-rivers students who made it a very special day. For moms who could not come, they received gift certificates to use throughout the year.



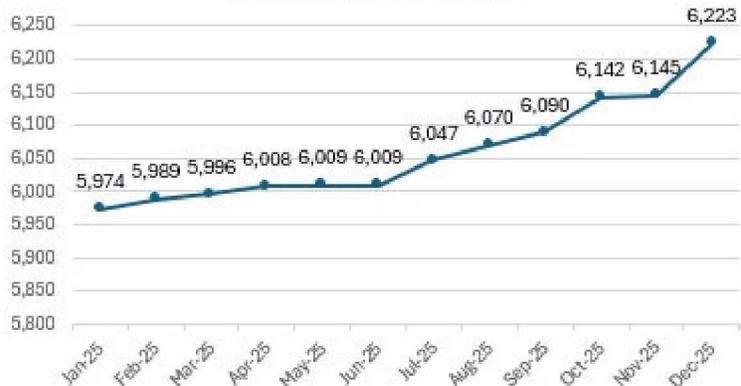
Thank you to Help Me Grow for working with us to host such a great event in 2025. Our Marion County Community Baby Shower helped connect families to services. We had 18 vendors and 51 women and their support people. Everyone left with a raffle item, diapers, wipes, baby crocs, and LEAD educational books. The majority of the families heard about the event on social media. Our next baby shower is scheduled for April 30th, 2026 at Emanuel Lutheran from 4-6.

# COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION

## Communication

Since the creation of the MPH Communication Team in May of 2024, the MPH social media pages have continued to improve and garner more residents following the pages. We are now posting nearly 22 times per month as compared to only 9 posts per month before the team was created. Additionally, MPH averaged over 30 new Facebook followers every month. This has cumulated in MPH posts garnering over 500,000 views on Facebook in 2025.

Facebook Page Followers

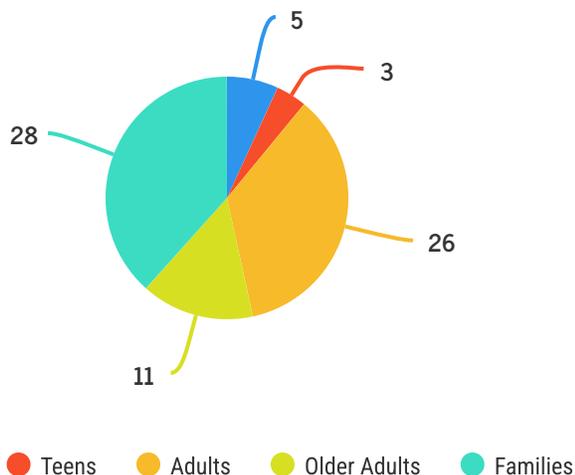


The MPH Communication Team has been able to accomplish this remarkable growth through deliberate meetings once a month to discuss relevant health topics to share. Each division of MPH is represented on the team and equally have the opportunity to provide input on social media posts. This collaboration has resulted in targeted messaging on information that is crucial for Marion residents to achieve their greatest health potential.

## Community Outreach

In 2025, Marion Public Health experienced significant growth in community outreach and resident engagement. We participated in 74 events, representing a 42% increase from the previous year, and engaged with nearly 4,000 residents.

### Targeted Audience by Event



## Outreach Continued

This past September, Marion Public Health hosted an outreach event in conjunction with the Marion Popcorn Festival. Our goals were to increase awareness of MPH services, gather resident feedback, and build community resiliency through health education.

### Key Takeaways

- MPH connected with nearly 200 residents throughout the event
- 89% of surveyed residents found the information provided at the event was highly useful
- 83% of surveyed residents had a positive perception of safety in their neighborhood
- Participants identified 23 different topics they learned about including CPR, Narcan, lead poisoning, community programs and resources, emergency kits, nutrition, blood pressure, immunizations, and more!
- 42 residents were trained to give Narcan and received a Narcan kit
- 40 residents were trained to give CPR and received a Hands-only CPR kit
- 2 residents signed up for HyperReach alerts and followed the MPH Facebook page

## Partnership Development

In fall 2025, Marion Public Health (MPH) launched MAPP 2.0. MAPP 2.0 (Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships) is a community-driven evidence-based process for community change. This framework reinforces our agency's commitment towards meaningful partnerships, authentic resident engagement and improved transparency and accountability.

### Current Progress & Next Steps

**Building the Foundation:** MPH established the "MPH Steering Committee" in 2025. This initial phase focuses on building the public health system and brings together diverse multi-sector partners to establish a shared vision centered around health equity and community health improvement.

**Future Phases:** Once the foundation is set, the committee will then move into **Phase 2** (conducting the **Community Health Assessment**) and **Phase 3** (developing the **Community Health Improvement Plan**) to identify and address the county's most urgent needs.

In order to support this process, MPH invested in a data software system. This interactive platform will provide the public and partners with real-time access to local health data to support these initiatives.

# COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION

## PSE Support

### River Valley Microfarm

Starting in 2023, MPH's Creating Healthy Communities program began work with River Valley Local Schools and the construction of an on-campus microfarm. This microfarm would go on to provide fresh fruits and vegetables for students in the classroom and cafeteria, as well as for residents in the community. In 2025, work continued with River Valley through the update of their School Wellness Policy to include language and initiatives surrounding the microfarm. Initiatives identified in the policy included School Wellness Nights, Summer Wellness Camp, Garden Club, and farm education for second and fifth graders. This work led to a feature story being published by the Ohio Department of Health recognizing the achievements of CHC and River Valley.



## CHC Potential Reach

Creating Healthy Communities utilizes a systematic approach to identify a defined geographic area (i.e. school, park, food retailer, etc.) and compares the number of residents, patrons, etc. that can potentially benefit from improved access from healthy eating and active living projects.

In 2025, the estimated potential reach includes:

- Healthy Eating Assessment - 64,851 residents
- Active Living Assessment - 64,851 residents
- Partnership Building - 64,851 residents
- School Wellness Policy - 17,453 residents
- New / Repaired Parks and Playgrounds - 673 residents

## Leveraged Funding

The Community Health Division was able to successfully leverage over **\$2 million** from community partners and organizations for policy, system, and environmental support including playground improvements, trails, built environment, school wellness policies, and more.



## Emergency Preparedness

MPH's integrated preparedness plan (IPP) outlines how we identify, develop, and implement key public health emergency preparedness (PHEP) and response training/exercise activities to better prepare Marion County for public health threats or emergencies.

**Core Priorities:** Community Resilience, Surge Management, Countermeasures & Mitigation, Incident Management, Information Management, and Bio-surveillance.

*These priorities are all linked to corresponding PHEP Capabilities, strategic plans, threat assessments, and corrective actions from previous incidents, events, drills, and exercises.*

**PHEP** facilitated &/or participated in these activities in 2025:

- Medical Surge and Response Exercise (MRSE) Full Scale Exercise (FSE)
- Prepared4ALL Whole Community Inclusive Emergency Planning training
- Chempack Workshop
- Chemical Surge Tabletop Exercise (TTX)
- Public Information in an All-Hazards Incident training
- Debris Management training
- De-escalation training
- Disaster Epi and Non-Infectious Disease Response Workshop
- Shelter-in-Place Tabletop Exercise (TTX)
- Communications drills



# COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION

## Harm Reduction

Year	Total Naloxone Distribution	Total Non-Fatal Overdoses	Total Fatal Overdoses	% of Overdoses where Naloxone was admin
2021	812	-	24	-
2022	1659	200	36	69.7%
2023	1189	169	27	52.5%
2024	2075	83	18	60.4%
2025	2408	56	19	-

Overdose education and naloxone distribution is conducted through community outreach events, the syringe service program, and community-based secondary distribution partners. Additionally, this project provides naloxone to any public safety or first-responder entity and works to implement leave-behind naloxone programs.

The IH program uses data from the CDC Social Vulnerability Index to target areas most affected by health inequities. We have identified Census Tracts 2 and 9 as high-priority zones, both with SVI scores exceeding 0.75. Using this data, we can focus our efforts on disproportionately affected areas by partnering with local organizations, agencies, and businesses. Our goal is to coordinate naloxone training, host community discussions, participate in events, and maintain a naloxone supply for emergency use within these groups. The project can also help partners place NaloxBoxes stands, or emergency access cabinets.

## Community-Specific Programming Added

### Matter of Balance

Matter of Balance is an evidence-based, 8-session class designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity in individuals at risk for falls. In January 2025, our health educator was trained as a Master Trainer through grant funding, which allows her to teach the class as well as train new trainers. In the first year of this program, we have had 22 participants complete the matter of balance class and have trained 5 additional trainers in our community.

### Diabetes Education Empowerment Program (DEEP)

The Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP) is a free, six-week workshop that teaches diabetes management through a hands-on, interactive approach.

DEEP uses tools such as:

- Interactive visuals to understand blood sugar levels
- Activities to develop skills to decrease risks of complication
- Tips to improve eating habits and increase physical activity.

Our health educator was certified to teach this through the area agency on aging and has completed 2 workshops in 2025 with 16 participants.

### Community Blood Pressure Hubs

High blood pressure is the leading risk factor for cardiovascular disease, which remains the primary cause of death both nationally and here in Marion County, where 40% of adults are affected. Often called the “silent killer,” high blood pressure is a major contributor to heart disease and stroke.

In collaboration with the American Heart Association and our community partners, we are pleased to offer free blood pressure screenings at several hubs throughout Marion. In addition to these screenings, residents can connect with healthcare professionals and access educational resources to help manage their health.

Free blood pressure checks are available at the following locations:

- Marion Towers
- Brownstone Terrace
- Logos Christian Ministries
- Marion Senior Center
- Seton Square

In 2025, a total of 453 screenings were completed.