

FRANKLIN-WILLIAMSON **BI-COUNTY** HEALTH DEPARTMENT

64th ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024

Our Mission

Empowering individuals and communities to actively pursue healthier lives through health promotion, disease prevention, environmental protection, and emergency preparedness for all people in Franklin and Williamson Counties.

Our Vision

We strive to be an organization where good health is valued. Therefore, we endeavor to promote health by looking for ways to build upon our services and expand where needed.

Our Values

Responsibility - we are entrusted to be good stewards by wisely managing our human and material resources.

Compassion- we strive to be client-centered by treating others with kindness, courtesy, respect and empathy, treating others as we would want to be treated.

Equality – we respect diversity by valuing and accepting others in a non-discriminatory, non-judgmental way

Integrity/Accountability – being honest, consistent and confidential as we provide quality care and service

Community Centered – show leadership in excellence of public health practice by promoting health, wellness and emergency based education through professional conduct, good communication and collaboration.

This 64th Annual Report of the Franklin-Williamson Bi-County Health Department presents a summary of activities for the fiscal year of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. These statistics cover a broad array of programs and functions directed toward prevention of disease and promotion of health and safety on a community-wide basis.

The Health Department has an important role in every resident's daily life by providing food safety, sewer compliance, immunizations, health screenings, labs, disease surveillance and preventative health services to monitor mothers and children.

The Administrator of the Health Department is the appointed official registrar for Franklin and Williamson counties by the State Registrar of Vital Records. The Administrator appoints deputy registrars in Franklin and Williamson counties to better serve the public.

In addition to the activities described within this Annual Report, the department maintains an active support function. This includes overall department administration, fiscal management and program promotion.

The Board of Health and the staff wish to express their appreciation to all state and local governments, official agencies, health professionals, schools, and citizens for their support.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Eric Graham, M.D., President

Williamson County

Dennon Davis, M.D., Vice-President

Franklin County

Tim Atkisson

Williamson County

Clark Dixon, D.M.D.

Franklin County

Dallas Duty

Williamson County

Angela Evans

Franklin County

Justin Settle, D.M.D.

Williamson County

Kevin Weston, Secretary

Franklin County

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Kevin Kaytor, F.A.C.H.E. Administrator
Megan Taber, B.S. Director of Accounting
Ashley Clinton Account Clerk

HEALTH EDUCATION

Debi Johnson Director, Health Education

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Shelley Alexander Director, Emergency Prep.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Laurie Allen, R.N. Nursing Supervisor
Jennifer Overturf, R.N. MCH Coordinator

Hannah Ferguson, LPN Public Health LPN
Michelle Hamm, R.N. MCH Nurse
Sandra Heckwine, R.N.* Public Health Nurse
Jeanette Keel, R.N. Public Health Nurse
Pam Lukens, R.N. Public Health Nurse
Cynthia Metcalf, R.N. Public Health Nurse
Haley Mickey, R.N. MCH Nurse
Lynn Nagele, R.N. Public Health Nurse
Cheryl Walston, R.N. MCH Nurse

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

Tony McEntire, M.S., L.E.H.P. Director, Environmental Health
Christopher Kane, B.A., L.E.H.P. Supervisor, Environ. Health

James Blake Kearney, B.S. Sanitarian
Richard Weaver, B.A. Sanitarian
Kirsten Easley, B.S. Sanitarian

HOME NURSING DIVISION

Tara Ferguson, R.N. Clinical Manager
Jennifer McSparin, R.N. Clinical Supervisor

Shelley Alexander. Home Health Biller
Olivia Barker, R.N.* Home Health Nurse
Paige Beck, ST Home Health PRN ST
Brittany Benedict Home Health Clerk
Elphie Busayong, PT Home Health PRN PT
James Butler, PTA Home Health PTA
Emily Carver, R.N. Home Health Nurse
Travis Chapman, PT Home Health PT
Baillie James, PTA Home Health PTA
Jared Johnston, PT Home Health PT
Courtney Jones, R.N. Home Health Nurse
Alayna Nelson, PTA Home Health PTA
Callie Opp, B.S.N. Home Health Nurse
Levi Porter, PTA Home Health PTA
Jason Rimini, PT Home Health PT
Trevor Wiedman, R.N. Home Health Nurse
Aubrey Winter, B.S.N. Home Health Nurse

CLERICAL SERVICES

Deronda Lemmon WIC/ PH Clerk/Billing
Vicki Norris PH Clerk/Billing
Dawnette Raubach WIC/ PH Clerk
Whittney Simmons Peer Counselor
Ashtyn Sturgeon* WIC Clerk

Brenda Triplett WIC Clerk
Carrie Wallace PH Clerk/Billing

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

Thomas Richard Custodian

*Resigned

^Retired

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

Ending Balance July 1, 2023		7,421,578.60
Income		
Federal and State Grants	2,001,736.04	
County Taxes	736,833.56	
Fees	2,071,461.38	
Miscellaneous/Interest/ transfer	447,072.14	
Total Receipts		5,257,103.12
Expenses		
Personnel	2,246,585.78	
Contractual	547,961.90	
Commodities	549,710.29	
Travel	87,726.74	
Equipment	78,011.46	
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund	68,823.12	
Social Security	156,139.36	
Insurance	78,888.02	
Total Expenditures		3,813,846.67
Ending Balance June 30, 2024		8,864,835.05

SERVICES PROVIDED BY YOUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Immunizations, Pediatric and Adult
Cholesterol Screening
Diabetic Screening
HIV/AIDS Testing, Counseling & Education
Lead Poisoning Testing, Counseling and Education
Metabolic and Liver Screening
Pregnancy Testing
Prostate Specific Antigen screening
Sexually Transmitted Disease Treatment/Follow-up
Thyroid Panel Screening
Titers and FIT testing (Fecal Immunochemical Test)
Tuberculosis Detection, Treatment/Follow-up
Vitamin D screening
Complete Blood Count
Communicable Disease Control
DCFS Case Management
Emergency Preparedness
Food Inspections
Food Handler Training Courses
Health Education
Housing and Dangerous Buildings
Hypertension Screening
Illinois Department of Public Aid Paternity Testing
Maternal/Child Case Management
Newborn and Premature Infants Visits
Nuisances
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Private Sewage Disposal
Private Water Supply
Prostate Specific Antigen screening
Rabies Control
Skilled Nursing Care in the Home
Solid Waste
Speech Therapy
Vital Records
Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Program

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Emergency Preparedness Division works across Health Department sectors and in partnership with others to reduce exposure to hazards, decrease vulnerabilities and increase the resiliency of residents in public health and other emergencies.

Featured Health Department Emergency Responses (not all-inclusive)

Updating Essential Facilities list to be up to date and current. Completing a Hazard Risk Assessment for Williamson and Franklin County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans as well as completing Mitigation Strategies Exercise for both Williamson and Franklin Counties and updating the HVA reports for both counties. Updated the staff phone tree as well as performing a Staff Notification Call Down drill for both Williamson and Franklin Counties. Completed Starcom radio Drills monthly as well completing biannual Starcom Inventory for both Williamson and Franklin Counties. Completed Emergency Preparedness Training for all employees of Franklin Williamson Bi County Public Health Department as well as Home Health Employees.

Featured Capability Building Activities

Conducted educational/outreach activities that increased the health department's ability to meet its mandate of providing health and life saving information and medication to residents in severe public health emergencies. Continuing education for health department employees for any new or upcoming concerns or threats.

Emergency Drills

12 Starcom radio communication drills, 2 emergency staff/volunteer alert drills, 1 health department call down list drill. One I PH MAS Drill hosted through SIREN per year with participation in IPHMAS Drills from other agencies as they are done throughout the year, participation in SPARC meetings quarterly, participated in regional IPPW planning as well as for Franklin and Williamson counties, participated in a real time exercise with Williamson County Emergency Management Agency during the "Odin's Dawn" Eclipse on 4/8/2024.

Staff Training

Employee training day where 36 employees completed training with refreshers on tornado, earthquake, active shooter, fire and bomb threats and the call down list as well as handing out emergency preparedness backpacks to each employee. Each backpack will provide the needs for one person for 72 hours after an emergency and has been distributed to each employee, so they are able to have the capabilities to be a response in each of their neighborhoods in both of our counties in the event of an emergency or event. During the training day all items were explained, and everyone was educated on the use of each item in the preparedness backpacks. We also provided timely emergency and routine notifications and training to healthcare facilities serving vulnerable populations through the Franklin Williamson Public Health and Medical services Coalition members.

Franklin Williamson Medical Reserve Corps (FW-MRC)

Founded in 2015 it is a local community-based group of medical and non-medical volunteers trained to help in emergency and non-emergency events throughout our two counties. Today we have 103 members currently which is down from last year, the MRC is focusing on spreading awareness with billboards and other marketing being put up locally and streamlining the education process for the MRC members in an effort to grow our numbers. We have had Quarterly MRC drills through Illinois Helps website as well as sending out requests for volunteers to update their information and status so that the list is the most up to date and we can send out educational opportunities for our MRC members.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Division of Environmental Health is continually working to achieve its goal of preventing disease through proper sanitation. Environmental health problems are common due to the heavily populated and rural nature of our area.

FOOD SANITATION PROGRAM

Sanitarians inspect all food-service establishments under this program. Food-service establishments include restaurants, day care centers, schools, taverns and retail food stores. Food-service establishments meeting the requirements of the Franklin or Williamson County Food Ordinance are issued a permit for a period of one year. This permit is to be displayed where the public can see it, and may be temporarily or permanently suspended whenever major sanitation problems are found by the sanitarian.

1135	Food Service Inspections
1346	Consultations
742	Permits Issued
0	Food Handler Training Sessions
0	Attendance
295	Literature Distributed
0	Food Samples Taken to Lab
0	Suspected Food Poisoning Cases
0	Confirmed Food Poisoning Cases

PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Sanitarians are concerned with assuring that all sewage is discharged into a properly designed and operating private sewage system. All private sewage systems installed serving fifteen people or less must have a permit through this department before construction begins.

956	On-Site Inspections
13	New Cases Opened
2004	Consultations
165	Permits Issued
112	Literature Distributed
7	Warning Citations Issued
0	Citations Issued
0	Court Appearances
5	Sewage Violations Abated
170	Private Sewage Disposal Systems Installed
167	Aeration Units
1	Buried Sand Filters
2	Oxidation Lagoons
0	Seepage Fields
0	Other

RABIES CONTROL PROGRAM

All animal bites must be reported to the Health Department. Sanitarians are also appointed Deputy Animal Control officers by the Rabies Control Officer of each county and work closely in keeping the Rabies Control Officers informed of animal bites in each county.

0	Investigations
355	Consultations
157	Animal Bites Reported
127	Dog
22	Cat
8	Other
10	Animal Heads Taken To Carbondale Lab
1	Dog
5	Cat
4	Other
0	Rabid Animals

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM

Samples of private water supplies are taken to determine if the supply is safe to drink. Water samples must be taken by the sanitarian in a sterilized bottle. There is no cost for this service. Should the water supply be unsafe, the sanitarian will provide information to the owner about how to make the supply safe for drinking purposes.

58	On-Site Inspections
96	Consultations
4	Water Samples Taken
1	Dug Well
0	Cistern
3	Drilled Well
0	Pond or Lake
0	Other

Results of Water Samples Taken:

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
0	1	Dug Well
0	0	Cistern
2	1	Drilled Well
0	0	Pond or Lake
0	0	Other
<hr/>		
2	2	TOTAL

HEALTH EDUCATION & PROMOTION

The purpose of public health education is to encourage healthier lifestyle options through community assessment, policy, systems, and environmental changes, collaboration, and education. Community health education is provided by each staff member in his/her daily professional duties, as well as by the Health Education Division.

The Health Educators work cooperatively with staff personnel in the planning, organizing, and implementing of comprehensive public health education programs and services. The health department also participates in the Franklin/Williamson Healthy Communities Coalition (FWHCC), whose mission is to actively pursue a healthier community through community assessment, planning, programs, collaboration, and advocacy. Members of this coalition provide technical assistance and teacher training to school districts who are interested in improving or replacing health or physical education curriculum and/or programs. FWHCC has action teams to address priority health problems in our two counties: Access to Care, Positive Youth Development, Healthy Seniors, Franklin County Substance Misuse Coalition, Williamson County Substance Abuse Take Action Today, Diabetes Today Resource Team, Smoke Free Illinois Act, CAT core action team with policy change for outdoors tobacco and Cancer Action Network. The Health Education Division actively contributes to seven of the nine action teams: Positive Youth Development, Franklin County Substance Misuse Coalition, Williamson County Substance Abuse Action Team, Diabetes Today Resource Team, Access to care and Cancer Action Network and CAT Core Action Team and Healthy Seniors.

Public awareness and health promotion activities that provide information on health department services, as well as information on a variety of health topics, are presented through news releases, presentations, exhibits, pamphlets, posters, clinics, and patient education sessions.

Health education programs are developed and implemented based on priority health problems that are identified in the Illinois Project for Local Assessment of Needs (IPLAN), five-year community health plan. The health department completed this process in 2022, and the following priority health problems were identified: Mental / behavioral health, obesity, and chronic disease. In addition to the work of the FWHCC action teams to address these problems, Health Educators promote, participate, and support other initiatives. These include education to those requesting to quit smoking, education to prevent diabetes and creating sustainable change in communities that supports healthy living, prevents chronic disease, and improves health outcomes.

174	Meetings
63	Presentations
950	Attendance
12	Health Fairs
5,000	Attendance
3	Media Interviews
4	News Releases/Paid Ads
32	Social Media Posts
19,651	People Engaged
599	SFIA (Smoke-Free Illinois Checks Act) Compliance Checks

HOME HEALTH NURSING

The Home Nursing staff provides intermittent skilled nursing services to clients who are homebound due to their medical condition. Client referrals are accepted from any source; however, the client's private physician must certify the need and plan of care.

- 3802 Skilled Nursing Home Visits
- 0 Home Health Aide Visits
- 1 Occupational Therapy Visits
- 4451 Physical Therapy Visits
- 10 Speech Therapy Visits

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Public Health nurses provide services to residents of all ages in an assigned geographical area. Client referrals are accepted from any source; however, in some instances, the patients' private physician must certify the need and plan of care.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Communicable disease surveillance is a continuous activity and conducted in cooperation with school authorities, private citizens, physicians and hospitals.

POTENTIALLY REPORTABLE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

22	Carbapenem resistant organism	9	Babesiosis
33	Campylobacteriosis	2	Carbapenemase producing organism
366	Chlamydia	2	cryptosporidiosis
3	Cyclosporiasis	54	Enrlichia chaffeensis (formerly HME)
128	Gonorrhea	32	Haemophilus influenzae invasive
11	Hepatitis A	1	Hep B Acute
116	Hepatitis B Chronic	1	Hep C Acute
34	Histoplasmosis	3	Influenza/ICU
1	Malaria	4	Pertussis
7	Q fever unspecified	1320	COVID/ICU
8	Shiga toxin producing e coli	6	Shigellosis
87	Spotted fever rickettsioses	27	Streptococcal disease invasive
9	TB disease	11	Tularemia
1	Trichinosis (trichinella spiralis)		
5	Varicella (chicken pox)	4	Vibriosis
1	West Nile Virus Neuroinvasive dx		

IMMUNIZATIONS GIVEN

273	Dtap	108	HIB
1272	Flu Vaccine	196	IPOL
121	HPV	494	MEN ACWY
190	HBV	77	MEN B
158	Prevnar	138	HAV
48	Rotavirus	138	Varivax
407	Td/ Tdap	193	Zoster
0	Mpox	151	MMR
264	RSV	562	COVID

4,790 Total Immunization given to 3,287
people

CLINIC ACTIVITIES

Increased clinics 5 days week at each location	24	Public Health Late Clinics
---	----	-------------------------------

TUBERCULOSIS

1	Patients under Supervision	1459	Skin tests Given
0	*Chest x-rays Provided	0	Skin Tests Positive

*x-rays provided under contract with a local hospital.

STD\HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING

242	Chlamydia/Gonorrhea Tests
105	Syphilis Tests
90	HIV Tests

MATERNAL-CHILD HEALTH

Services are provided to women and children through the Family Case Management Program. Our goal is a healthy start for every infant, through promotion and facilitation of early prenatal care, infant care and risk reducing lifestyles.

Health Department nurses provide services that include case management and outreach along with educational and promotional activities aimed at developing a community-based system of primary care and associated support services. Follow-up and services are provided in cooperation with D.S.C.C., Early-on 0-3 Program, D.C.F.S., Head Start, and various other agencies.

28	Pregnancy Tests	2,069	Office Visits to Mothers
180	Home Visits to Children	400	Office visits- High Risk
6,002	Office Visits to Children	10	High Risk Infant Follow-up home visits
47	Home Visits to Mothers	2,163	DCFS Wards of the State Case Management

WIC PROGRAM

Franklin-Williamson Bi-County Health Department provides WIC (Women, Infants, Children) services. This program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and is administered through a grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services.

The WIC Program provides health assessment, nutrition education and health care referrals to each client. WIC serves pregnant, lactating and postpartum women. They also serve infants and children up to age five to help prevent health and nutrition problems during the most critical time of growth and development.

Special emphasis is given to teen and other high-risk pregnancies to work toward the reduction of infant mortality. Breastfeeding is the preferred method of infant feeding and is encouraged through individual counseling and group education.

1,265	Average Monthly Participation
1,173	Nutrition Education Attendance
21,625	Total Client Contacts
1,794	Pregnant
961	Breastfeeding
1,383	Postpartum
5,114	Infants
7,691	Children

LEAD POISONING PROGRAM

Health Department nurses provide follow-up counseling to families who have children with elevated blood lead levels. Nurses also collect blood specimens on adults whose occupation is high risk for lead intoxication.

312 Lead assessments

Blood Screening Program

120 Adults tested for various blood work through QUEST diagnostics at FWBCHD.

This includes CBC, CMP, cholesterol, Hep B titers, MMR titers, varicella titers, PSA, thyroid panel and other thyroid tests, Vit D, and B-12 blood tests at a reduced cash only price.

**Williamson County Office:
8160 Express Drive
Marion, IL 62959
618-993-8111**

**Franklin County Office:
403 E. Park
Benton, IL 62812
618-439-0951**

Visit our Web Site at:

www.bicountyhealth.org