



65th ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 2025

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 65th Annual Report of the Franklin-Williamson Bi-County Health Department presents a summary of activities for the fiscal year of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. 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

Curtis Overton

Franklin 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
Jeanette Keel, R.N. Public Health Nurse
Katy Kuh, R.N.* MCH 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
Michelle Rickard, LPN Public Health LPN
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

CLERICAL SERVICES

Keshia Bowling WIC Clerk
Carrie Eberhardt PH Clerk/Billing
Deronda Lemmon WIC/ PH Clerk/Billing
Vicki Norris PH Clerk/Billing
Dawnette Raubach WIC/ PH Clerk
Whittney Simmons Peer Counselor
Brenda Triplett WIC Clerk
Caitlin Won* WIC Clerk

Shelley Alexander. Home Health Biller
Carey Cain Home Health Clerk/Biller

Paige Beck, ST Home Health PRN ST
Olivia Barker RN* Home Health RN PRN
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
Joyce Cotton, LPN Home Health LPN
Bailie James, PTA Home Health PTA
Jared Johnston, PT Home Health PT
Courtney Jones, R.N. Home Health Nurse
Callie Opp, B.S.N. Home Health Nurse
Levi Porter, PTA Home Health PTA
Jason Rimini, PT Home Health PT
Alayna Sullivan, PTA Home Health PTA
Trevor Wiedman, R.N. Home Health Nurse
Aubrey Winter, B.S.N. Home Health Nurse

CUSTODIAL SERVICES

Thomas Richard Custodian

^Retired

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

Ending Balance July 1, 2024		8,866,841.28
<u>Income</u>		
Federal and State Grants	1,340,499.84	
County Taxes	792,398.00	
Fees	2,381,188.29	
Miscellaneous/Interest/ transfer	424,133.58	
Total Receipts		4,938,219.71
<u>Expenses</u>		
Personnel	2,469,573.88	
Contractual	438,877.19	
Commodities	490,938.70	
Travel	105,825.70	
Equipment	4,816.71	
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund	43,195.72	
Social Security	175,362.69	
Insurance	72,151.28	
Total Expenditures		3,800,741.87
Ending Balance June 30, 2025		10,004,319.12

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, and participated in regional IPPW planning as well as for Franklin and Williamson counties.

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.

953	Food Service Inspections
1746	Consultations
753	Permits Issued
0	Food Handler Training Sessions
0	Attendance
262	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.

976	On-Site Inspections
17	New Cases Opened
1002	Consultations
148	Permits Issued
95	Literature Distributed
8	Warning Citations Issued
0	Citations Issued
0	Court Appearances
5	Sewage Violations Abated
147	Private Sewage Disposal Systems Installed
141	Aeration Units
2	Buried Sand Filters
1	Oxidation Lagoons
0	Seepage Fields
3	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
- 334 Consultations
- 197 Animal Bites Reported
 - 160 Dog
 - 30 Cat
 - 7 Other
- 6 Animal Heads Taken To Carbondale Lab
 - 3 Dog
 - 1 Cat
 - 2 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.

- 57 On-Site Inspections
- 99 Consultations
- 5 Water Samples Taken
 - 1 Dug Well
 - 0 Cistern
 - 4 Drilled Well
 - 0 Pond or Lake
 - 0 Other

Results of Water Samples Taken:

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
0	1	Dug Well
0	0	Cistern
3	1	Drilled Well
0	0	Pond or Lake
0	0	Other
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3	2	TOTAL

NUISANCE CONTROL PROGRAM

There are many types of nuisances that are commonly found in our health jurisdiction. Types of nuisances include open wells, high weeds, junk vehicles, abandoned refrigerators, solid waste and dangerous buildings. The Health Department responds to all complaints and conducts surveys to identify nuisance conditions.

1712	Investigations
82	New Cases Opened
527	Consultations
65	Warning Citations Issued
4	Citations Issued
11	Court Appearances
2	Buildings Repaired/Enclosed
5	Buildings Demolished
34	Violations Abated

COMPLAINTS

During the past fiscal year, the Environmental Health Division received numerous complaints concerning environmental health conditions. All complaints were investigated. If violations were present, the violator was notified to take corrective measures in a reasonable amount of time. If corrective measures were not taken the violator was issued a citation requiring him to appear in court.

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
79	73	General Nuisance
15	14	Food
14	13	Private Sewage
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108	100%	TOTAL

Body Art

Sanitarians perform annual inspections at each body art facility to verify compliance with the state code and ensure the public's safety.

41	Inspections & Consultations
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Tanning

Sanitarians perform annual inspections at each tanning facility to verify compliance with the state code and ensure the public's safety.

28	Inspections & Consultations
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*EH Staff also assisted in other grant programs such as Tobacco.

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 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 and Firearm Safety and Suicide Prevention. The Health Education Division actively contributes to eight of the ten action teams: Positive Youth Development, Franklin County Substance Misuse Coalition, Williamson County Substance Abuse Action Team, Diabetes Today Resource Team, Access to Care, Cancer Action Network, CAT Core Action Team and Healthy Seniors. We also started a new grant that is Firearm Safety and Suicide Prevention.

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.

159	Meetings
62	Presentations
750	Attendance
23	Health Fairs
5,500	Attendance
8	Media Interviews
4	News Releases/Paid Ads
49	Social Media Posts
17,249	People Engaged
401	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.

4155	Skilled Nursing Home Visits
0	Home Health Aide Visits
0	Occupational Therapy Visits
5534	Physical Therapy Visits
334	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

	Carbapenem resistant organism	1	Babesiosis
4	Campylobacteriosis	1	cryptosporidiosis
337	Chlamydia	3	E. Coli Unspecified
		12	Enrichia chaffeensis (formerly HME)
107	Gonorrhea	26	Haemophilus influenzae invasive
3	Hepatitis A	182	Hep C chronic
17	Hepatitis B Chronic	4	HIV
10	Histoplasmosis	50	Influenza/ICU
2	Legioelloisis- legionnaires disease	11	Lyme Disease
10	Measles	1	Mumps
8	Pertussis	12	Rabies, Potential Human Exposure
5	Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) with ICU Hospitalization	1	Rubella
9	Salmonellosis	17	SARS-CoV-2 infection (COVID-19) with ICU Hospitalization
3	Shiga toxin-producing E.		

	coli (STEC)- Shiga toxin pos, not cultured or serotyped		
22	Spotted Fever Rickettsioses	143	Syphilis
1	Streptococcal Disease Invasive Group A	2	Streptococcus Pneumoniae – Non Drug Resistant invasive Disease (< 5 years)
1	Active Tuberculosis	72	Latent Tuberculosis
2	Varicella (Chicken Pox)		

IMMUNIZATIONS GIVEN

536	Dtap	103	HIB
1114	Flu Vaccine	199	IPOL
63	HPV	398	MEN ACWY
209	HBV	15	MEN B
136	Pneumonia	111	HAV
40	Rotavirus	142	Varivax
86	RSV	101	Zoster
		227	MMR
		918	COVID

4,028 Total Immunization given to 2,325 people. The above numbers add up to 4,398 which is the total number of antigens given.

CLINIC ACTIVITIES

We have continued to have clinics in each county 5 days a week	24	Public Health Late Clinics
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TUBERCULOSIS

1	Patients under Supervision	1578	Skin tests Given
0	*Chest x-rays	0	Skin Tests Positive

Provided

* X-rays provided under contract with Deaconess Medical Center in Marion, IL. FWBCHD is the payer of the last resort.

STD\HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING

298	Chlamydia/Gonorrhea Tests
202	Syphilis Tests
181	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.

24	Pregnancy Tests	1,226	Office Visits to Mothers
80	Home Visits to Children	300	Office visits- High Risk
4,276	Office Visits to Children	22	High Risk Infant Follow-up home visits
15	Home Visits to Mothers	1,560	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.

1,834	Average Monthly Participation
2,000	Nutrition Education Attendance
22,009	Total Client Contacts
1,848	Pregnant
1,427	Breastfeeding
1,630	Postpartum
6,021	Infants
11,083	Children

LEAD POISONING PROGRAM

163	LeadCare II Capillary tests in house for lead testing
6	Lead tests sent out for confirmatory venous testing to State of IL
20	Case Managed for High Lead

Blood Screening Program

279 Patients seen for 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