



**AUGLAIZE COUNTY**  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*prevent. promote. protect.*

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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Auglaize County  
Health Department

 419-738-3410

 [www.auglaizehealth.org](http://www.auglaizehealth.org)

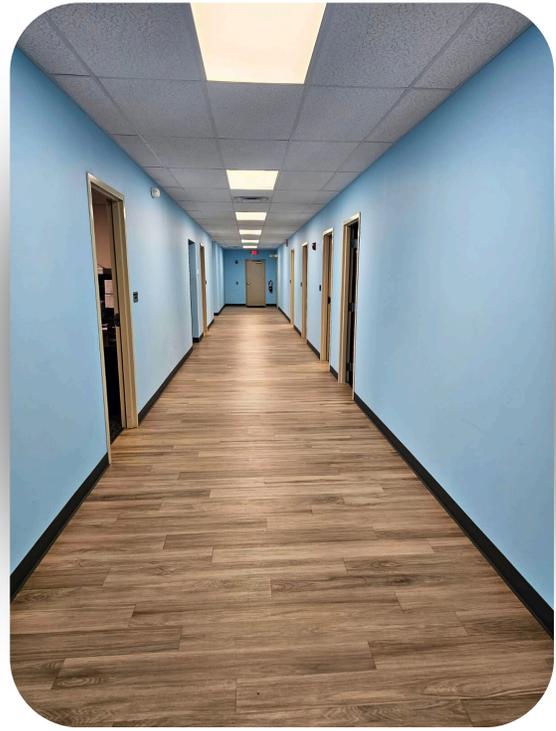
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## MISSION AND VISION:

Auglaize County Health Department will be a leader in guiding the community to a healthier and safer future.

To create a healthier Auglaize County through exceptional public health services focused on promoting health, preventing disease, and protecting those who live, work, and visit our community.



## YEARS OF SERVICE:

[Jenny Boroff](#) celebrated her [30<sup>th</sup> year of service](#) with the Auglaize County Health Department in 2025. Her current role is Director of the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. Jenny can be found helping WIC clients, organizing state program changes, and supporting other WIC staff. Thank you for your dedication, Jenny!

In 2025, [Jessica Whetstone](#), our director of nursing, celebrated her [5<sup>th</sup> year of service](#) at ACHD. Jessica is responsible for management of all nursing staff and programs, coordinating with community partners, and providing on-site and off-site clinics. Thank you for your leadership, Jessica!

[Polly Downing](#) celebrated her [5<sup>th</sup> year of service](#) at the health department! Polly currently serves as the Complex Medical Help (CMH) program coordinator. Polly assists with connecting clients to much needed diagnostic care and treatment. Thank you for your compassionate work, Polly!

### Board of Health Members

President	Daniel Harpster, DVM	Waynesfield
Vice President	Kimberly Prueter	New Bremen
Members	Kyle Maus, DO	Wapakoneta
	Kay Schmiesing	Minster
	Dawn Gabel, MHA	St. Marys

As established by Ohio Law, the Board of Health is the policy making body with authority to adopt regulations and implement programs to promote public health within the district.

Members are appointed by the District Advisory Council (DAC), which has the responsibility of appointing Board of Health members and bringing concerns and recommendations on health issues to the Board's attention. The DAC meets annually and is composed of the chairman of each township trustees, the mayor of each municipality, and the president of the Auglaize County Board of Commissioners.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

This past year marked a significant milestone in our ongoing commitment to protecting and improving the health of our community. Through efforts in expanding community engagement and strategic planning, we laid a durable foundation for public health in Auglaize County.

One of the most impactful achievements of 2025 was the approval of the [Public Health Levy](#). This community-backed investment reflects our residents' trust in our public health services and ensures sustainability for all our essential programs. The levy will allow us to maintain core services, respond more effectively to emerging health needs, and invest in prevention-focused initiatives that improve long-term outcomes for Auglaize County.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the community members who took the time to learn about the public health levy and participate in the vote. I also thank my dedicated staff, whose professionalism, transparency, and commitment to public service helped build understanding and trust throughout the process. This achievement would not have been possible without the combined efforts of our staff and the community we serve.

In 2025, we have significantly expanded our outreach efforts to meet people where they are. Our staff increased their presence at community events, schools, workplaces, and neighborhood gatherings. This increase has been essential to developing long term community partnerships, expanding health education services, and improving access to public health resources for all residents. Throughout the year, we have been able to reach new audiences and reduce barriers to services.

Another 2025 accomplishment for the Auglaize County Health Department was the completion of our newest [Community Health Improvement Plan \(CHIP\)](#). Developed through community input, data analysis, and cross-sector collaboration, the CHIP provides a roadmap for addressing priority community needs over the next 3 years. The CHIP pairs our local community needs with evidence-based strategies and reinforces our commitment to preventing disease and promoting health and safety for all residents of Auglaize County.

These achievements are just highlights in a pivotal year of progress. With stable funding, strong community connections, and a shared vision for improvement, our staff at the Auglaize County Health Department are well positioned to advance local public health for years to come. I remain deeply appreciative of our staff, our community partners, and the residents for their support and collaboration that makes our work possible.

Sincerely,  
Oliver Fisher, MS, REHS  
Auglaize County Health Commissioner

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Following several years of rigorous preparation, 2025 marked the inaugural year of the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) program for non-mechanical sewage systems. We are pleased to report that the program has been exceptionally well-received. Our office has engaged in numerous meaningful discussions with residents, the majority of which have been overwhelmingly positive, reflecting a high level of community support and cooperation. We truly appreciate the engagement and feedback from the residents of Salem and Noble townships which were the first townships to receive O&M permitting which began in January 2026. A total of 673 permits were issued to residents of these townships. We remain committed to addressing all inquiries as we continue to roll out this new permitting process to our residents. Currently, there is no fee (\$0.00) for this permit, which remains valid for an eight year term.

## O/M Township Rollout Schedule:

2026: Salem, Noble	2030: Logan, Pusheta
2027: St. Marys, German	2031: Duchouquet
2028: Washington, Jackson	2032: Union, Goshen
2029: Moulton	2033: Wayne, Clay

Staffing levels have remained stable throughout the year, providing the consistency necessary for providing high-quality services to the residents of Auglaize County. Our environmental health clerk, [Amy Jump](#), continues to provide indispensable administrative support with her ability to manage the complex nuances of our various programs. Amy's positive demeanor is vital to our daily operations. [Russel Polk](#) remains dedicated to his professional development as he prepares for the Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) credentialing exam. [Kent Martz](#) continues to serve as a cornerstone of the division, providing expert oversight and stability for our newest programs. [Aaron Longsworth](#) serves as the Environmental Health Director and is responsible for leading staff and maintaining essential programs that benefit the residents of Auglaize County.

The environmental health staff wishes to extend its sincerest gratitude to our community and partners for their continued support throughout the past year. We look forward to continuing productive conversations as the O&M program rolls out to all townships in Auglaize County.

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATISTICS

Community Health and Recreation:		
Retail Food	Restaurants	159
	Grocery / Convenience	111
	Food Trucks	23
	Festivals / Fundraisers	65
	Vending	18
	Inspections	501
Parks / Camps	Campgrounds Licensed	7
	Resident Day Camps Licensed	2
	Inspections	29
	Temporary Camps	1
Public Swimming Pools	Pools Licensed	31
	Inspections	96
Schools	Facilities Inspected	14
	Number of Inspections	26
Body Art	Facilities Licensed	4
Rabies Control	Animal Bites	97
	Tested Animals	9
	Positive Rabies Tests	0
Health Nuisances	Investigations	13

Sewage and Water		
Household Sewage	Site Evaluations	29
	Permits to Install	35
	Aeration Operation Permits	205
	Inspections	198
	Consultations	21
	Service Providers	10
	Installers	21
	Private Water	New Well Permits
Private Water	Alternation Permits	2
	Inspections	44
	Water Samples Requested	30
Liquid Waste	Sealing Only Permits	5
	Liquid Waste Haulers	16



# HEALTH PROMOTION AND PLANNING

As the newest program to the Auglaize County Health Department, the Health Promotion and Planning department had big goals in 2025. Our team set out to increase community knowledge of health department programs and staff, diversify our community partnerships, and reestablish trust in public health.

Our Community Outreach Coordinator, [Alesia Hume](#), joined the Auglaize County Health Department in January of 2025. She kicked off her career with us by completing an in depth overhaul of our social media accounts. This revamp was essential to providing easily recognizable, accessible, and evidence-based health information to the community. Throughout the year, we have used our social media to highlight green spaces in Auglaize County, provide health education, and promote various events and programs at ACHD. We also used social media to showcase our staff and the expertise they bring to the field of public health.

Throughout the summer, our Health Promotion and Planning team attended several community events including the Auglaize County Fair. At each event, we shared health education, provided hands on demonstrations, and highlighted the programs and services offered at the health department. In October, we hosted our annual Auglaize County Health Department Halloween Bash where we provide a safe controlled environment for people to trick or treat and participate in themed activities. For our local schools, our Health Promotion and Planning team provides in-class demonstrations on hand washing and nutrition.

in 2025, we participated in a grant funded coalition with several regional counties to provide trauma-informed care training to community members at no cost; this coalition is referred to as the Northwestern Ohio Resilient Youth coalition or NORY. The training provided was developed by Nationwide Children's Hospital and called [Building Resiliency with Youth: A How-To-Guide for Safe Adults](#). Through this training, our team developed several new partnerships across the county including partnerships with several faith based organizations.



The Health Promotion and Planning team looks forward to another year of sharing our expertise, building strong connections and highlighting resources across Auglaize County.

# WIC

## (WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN)

The goal of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is to improve the health of pregnant women, infants, and children up to age of five who are at nutritional risk. WIC provides nutrition and breastfeeding education paired with a monetary stipend designated for only highly nutritious foods. Supplemental highly nutritious foods include fruits, vegetables, eggs, whole grains, milk, cereals and iron-fortified formula. Over the past year, our WIC support specialist, [Pam Polk](#), has worked to increase her understanding of Spanish to better serve our Spanish speaking clients. Additionally, the Auglaize County Health Department's WIC program provides referrals to local healthcare services and support programs.

Within the past year, our WIC staff participated in several community events including community baby showers and health fairs. Our breastfeeding peer helper, [Michelle Langmeyer](#), has been essential in providing WIC and breastfeeding information to local businesses and healthcare providers. She has also promoted the Mamava app which is a free tool that helps breastfeeding parents find safe, comfortable, and private lactation areas for infant feeding. Additionally, we offered infant feeding stations at the Auglaize County Fair and Wapakoneta Summer Moon Festival. During the fair, we were able to provide two separate locations to allow families more convenient access to safe and comfortable lactation areas.

The WIC director, [Jenny Boroff](#), shares that 2026's goals are to continue participating in community events and sharing education with community partners and residents of Auglaize County. In addition, we plan to highlight nutritional resources and recipes with our clients and the public throughout the next year. We hope to increase the knowledge and use of our breastfeeding tent, which can be borrowed for community events at no charge!

WIC 2025 Monthly Averages	
WIC Clients	605
Breastfeeding Moms	51



# PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

The primary goal of the Auglaize County Health Department's nursing department is to promote health and prevent disease for all residents of Auglaize County. With this goal in mind, the nursing program consciously focused our efforts on increasing community based education efforts, expanding local partnerships, and improving access to all services provided at the health department.

Our public health nurse, [Polly Downing](#), was essential in accomplishing this goal by growing our blood pressure program. Routinely monitoring your blood pressure is a great way to prevent serious complications of uncontrolled hypertension which sometimes include damaged arteries, heart attacks, and stroke. Cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of death in Auglaize County and high blood pressure can impact heart health. Throughout the year, our blood pressure screenings were offered at local libraries, health fairs, council on aging, and even the Auglaize County Fair!

Director of Nursing, [Jessica Whetstone](#), and Immunization Co-Coordinator, [Samantha Hunter](#), were able to provide mobile immunization clinics throughout 2025. This service was expanded to alleviate access to care barriers left by recent pharmacy closures across Auglaize County. Through these mobile clinics, we were able to create new partnerships and ensure the residents we serve had access to timely and essential immunizations. Clinical Support staff, [Kim Hoying](#) and [Lisa Trego](#), assist with all paperwork and billing associated with onsite and mobile clinics. We hosted vaccine clinics at local schools, businesses, and long term care facilities. In addition to mobile clinics, our LPN, [Priscilla Evans](#), attended community events to provide nursing education to residents throughout the county.

Throughout the last year, we have provided communicable disease newsletters and disease education fact sheets to local schools and daycares. Developed by communicable disease nurse, [Briana Fisher](#), these one page informational flyers provide a quick guide to disease management and reporting.



Through a partnership with the Ohio Department of Health, Assistant Director of Nursing, [Renee Zwiebel](#), has offered Maximizing Office-Based Immunizations (MOBI) and Teen Immunization Education Sessions (TIES) to local physicians offices.

The nursing department looks forward to continuing our community-based services throughout the next year!

# PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS

Nursing Services		
School Nursing	Vision Screenings	202
	Kindergarten Screenings	25
Complex Medical Help (CMH)	Average Monthly Caseload	167
	Total Client Visits	227

Immunization Clinics	
Onsite Clinics	172
Mobile Clinics	12
Clients Served	1,931
Immunization Services	
Routine Immunizations	2,738
Seasonal Flu Vaccine	535
Seasonal COVID-19 Vaccine	34
TB Skin Tests	166

Health Education Services	
Convertible Carseats	30
Booster Carseats	4
Cribs	3
Help Me Grow Home Visits	629



# HELP ME GROW HOME VISITING

Help Me Grow Home Visiting is an evidence-based program that promotes healthy growth and development for babies and young children under the age of three. Auglaize County Health Department is accredited by Healthy Families of America to provide home visiting services. Our Family Support Specialist, [Kathy Moellenkamp](#), has more than 24 years of experience in providing guidance, education, and services to our Auglaize County families. Our program now has the ability to serve families who live outside of Auglaize County if they have the capacity to meet with Kathy within the county. This has been vital in allowing families from Auglaize County to remain supported throughout relocations. In 2025, Kathy completed more than 600 home visits.



# VITAL STATISTICS

The Vital Statistics Department is responsible for filing and preserving Auglaize County's birth and death records from December of 1908 to present. If a person was born or passed away in Ohio, certified copies of their birth and death certificates can be purchased in our office. The Auglaize County Health Department's Registrar is available to assist with all record requests by phone or in person. She is the first person to greet the public when they visit ACHD.

This year marked a period of significant change for vital statistics. In August, the new Ohio Vital Records System (OVRs) was implemented; this system modernizes the processing of birth and death certificates. For the first time, our staff has the ability to issue death certificates regardless of the county in which the death occurred. Auglaize County and surrounding county funeral homes are utilizing this new change to conveniently order all certificates through our office.

In 2025, House Bill 96 revised the fees required for burial and cremation permits in Ohio. This increased the cost from \$3.00 to \$10.00 while keeping the portion retained by local health departments at fifty cents. It is a requirement in Ohio for every deceased individual to have a burial or cremation permit.

Certificates Issued	
Birth	1377
Death	1877
Burial Permits	110

# PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS

## Vital Statistics, 2025

Births	Female	152
	Males	153
	Homebirths	11
	Sets of Multiples	3
Deaths	Female	226
	Male	198
	Fetal Death	4

## Disease Prevention, 2025

Class A	0
Class B	668
Class C / Outbreaks	18
Non-Confirmed Case Management	89
Lead Case Management	0

## Leading Causes of Death, 2025

Ranking	Cause	Total
1	Heart Disease	122
2	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	81
3	Cancer (Malignant of Neoplasm)	77
4	Alzheimer's Disease	22
5	Cerebrovascular Disease	20
6	Accident (Unintentional Injuries)	20
7	Diabetes Mellitus	13
8	Essential Hypertension and Hypertensive Renal Disease	8
9	Suicide	7
10	Parkinson's Disease	6

## Leading Reportable Diseases, 2025

Ranking	Cause	Total
1	COVID-19	370
2	Hospitalized Influenza	114
3	Chlamydia	74
4	Campylobacteriosis	21
5	Strep Pneumoniae	10

\*\*Beginning October 2025, only Hospitalized COVID-19 cases are reportable\*\*



