



# HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Caring today for a healthy tomorrow*

# 2012 Annual Report



[www.accesskent.com/Health](http://www.accesskent.com/Health)

## A Message from the Health Officer of Kent County

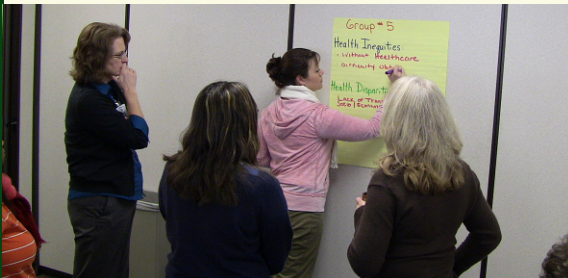


The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) continued to strive for excellence, promote social justice, highlight cultural awareness, and advance diversity and inclusion values in 2012.

Our dedicated staff worked to develop a five-year Strategic Plan. This plan defines roles, responsibilities and priorities through 2018. The Strategic Plan was formulated using the 2011 Community Health Needs Assessment, employee surveys, and analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges.

The Kent County Health Department worked with local law enforcement and state lawmakers in 2012, to inform the public about dangerous designer drugs. The products, previously called K2 and spice, look similar to marijuana, and can cause vomiting, increased heart rate, and convulsions. Staff worked with police, deputies, and state lawmakers to shed light on the problem, leading to the implementation of new state laws. These laws allow local law enforcement to keep up with the makers of these dangerous drugs.

Health Educators developed and delivered Health Equity and Social Justice Dialogue Workshops in 2012, required for all KCHD employees. Participants address cultural identity and multicultural self-awareness, perspectives on oppression and privilege, and the historical role public health has played in promoting social change. Moderators direct the dialogue and help participants think about their own perspective and bias. Workshops are open to the general public as well. The workshops are making KCHD a more inclusive and socially-just place for staff and clients alike. We anticipate 2013 will be a year filled with new challenges; our work in 2012 has prepared us to meet those challenges.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam London".

**Adam London, R.S., M.P.A.**  
**Health Officer**

## MISSION

The Kent County Health Department shall be responsive to the community health needs of the citizens of Kent County by continually and diligently endeavoring to prevent disease, prolong life, and promote the public health.

## OVERVIEW

The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) is responsible for continually assessing the health of the community and ensuring that mandated services are accessible for all residents. KCHD investigates the causes of disease, epidemics, morbidity and mortality, and environmental health hazards. The department plans and implements public education and enforces public health laws. KCHD assures provision of the following programs: vision and hearing screening, public water supplies, private and Type II groundwater supplies, food service sanitation, immunization, sexually transmitted infections, on-site sewage disposal and general communicable disease control.

## 2012 KCHD Leadership

Cathy Raevsky - *Health Officer\**

Mark Hall, M.D. - *Medical Director*

Bill Anstey - *Deputy Health Officer\**

Roberta Peacock, R.N., B.S.N. - *Community Clinical Services Director*

Joann Hoganson, R.N., M.S.N. - *Community Nursing Director*

Adam London, R.S., M.P.A. - *Environmental Health Director,*

*Promoted to Health Officer in 2013*

Gail Brink, C.P.A. - *Finance Director*

*\*Ended February 2013*





## Where to Find Us

KCHD's Main Clinic and Administrative Offices are centrally-located in Kent County, at 700 Fuller Avenue NE, Grand Rapids. This location near I-196 serves as headquarters for dozens of nurses, sanitarians, outreach workers, and educators. On the same campus, you will find our state-of-the-art animal shelter. Four satellite clinics provide easy access to many clinical services for residents county-wide.



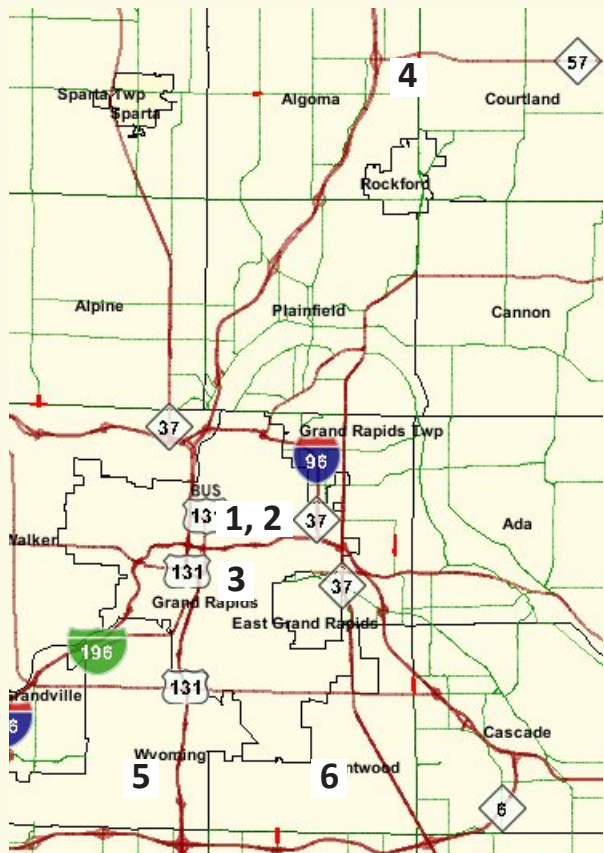
### 1. Main Clinic

700 Fuller Avenue NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
(616) 632-7100



### 2. Animal Shelter

740 Fuller Avenue NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
(616) 632-7300



## KCHD Satellite Clinics



**3. Sheldon Clinic**  
121 Franklin SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49507



**4. North County Clinic**  
4388 14 Mile Rd NE  
Rockford, MI 49341



**5. Wyoming Clinic**  
852 47th Street SW  
Wyoming, MI 49509



**6. Kentwood Clinic**  
1620 44th St SE  
Kentwood, MI 49508

## 2012 Community Health Advisory Committee

Shana Shroll - Chairperson & Commissioner

Candace Chivas - Commissioner

Mishelle Bakewell

Candace Cowling

Denise Garman

Barbara Grinwis

Ron Koehler

Norine Mulvihill

Dr. Lori Pearl-Kraus

Savator Seldon-Johnson

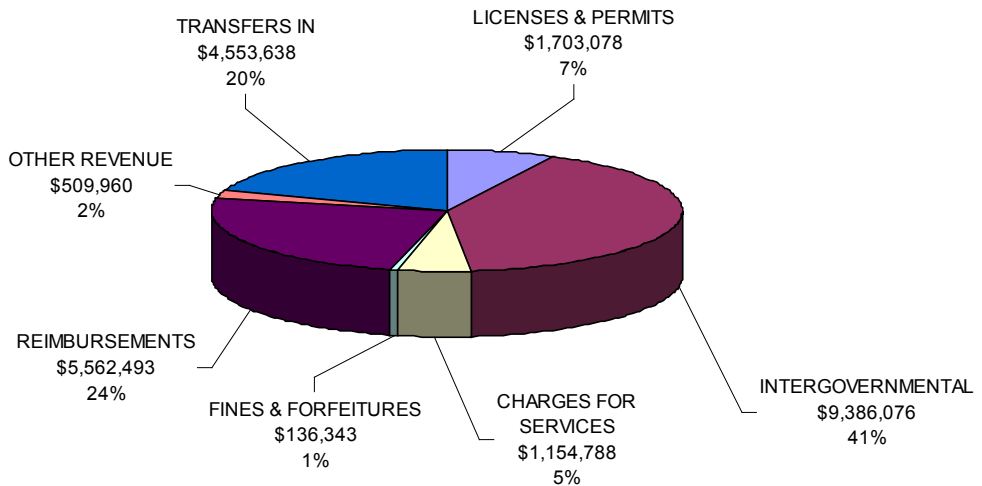
Dr. Mark Swan

## PROGRAMS

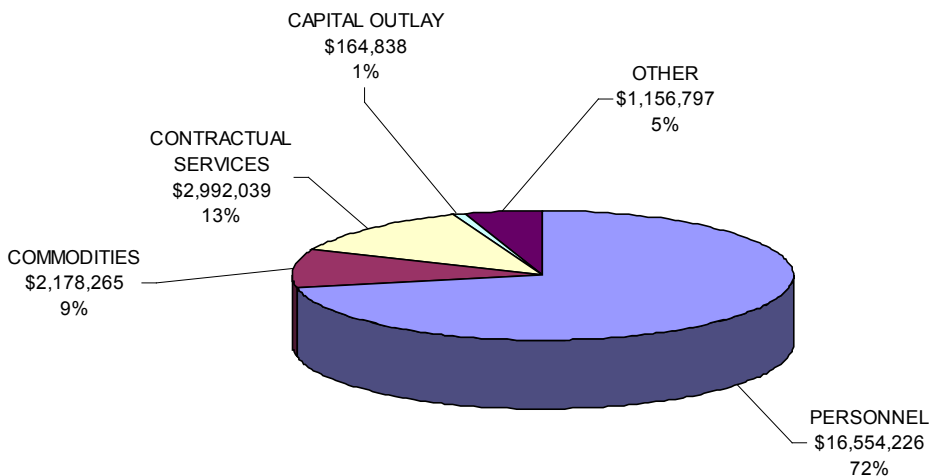
Administration	Community Clinical Services	Community Nursing	Environmental Health
Administration of Department	School Immunization Reporting	Maternal Infant Health Program	Animal Shelter
Central Supply	Immunization Nurse Educator Inservices	Nurse Family Partnership	Body Art Facility Inspections and Licensing
Cholesterol Screenings	Immunization Services	Children's Special Health Care Services	Campground Inspection
Community Nutrition	Public Health Clinics	Vision & Hearing Screening	Children's Environmental Health Initiative
Dog Bite Prevention	Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV Clinic	Infant & Child Death Counseling	Child Care/ Adult Foster Care Facility Inspections
Emergency Preparedness	Tuberculosis Control and Prevention	NICU Follow-up Visits	Food Service Sanitation
Epidemiology and Communicable Disease	Vaccine For Children Program	Lead Poisoning Prevention	Housing Program
Finance	WIC (Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children)	Refugee Health	Laboratory Services
Healthy Kent 2020	Travel Immunizations	Healthy Start	Land Development (Subdivisions and Site Condominiums)
HIV Provider Education	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The four divisions of the Kent County Health Department provide different services with common goals: preventing disease, prolonging life, and promoting the health of the community.</b></p>	Medicaid Enrollment and Coordination	Nuisance Control Program
Information Systems		Strong Beginnings	Private Water Supply
Kent County Infant Health Initiative - Interconception Care		Public Swimming Pools	Public Water Supply
Life Skills		Radon Testing	Sanitary Facility Evaluation
Obesity Initiative		Sewage Disposal System Regulation	Toxic Substance Control
Presentations		Vacant Land Evaluation	
Sexual Violence Prevention			
Substance Abuse Prevention			
School Illness Reporting			
Teen Pregnancy Prevention			
Women's Health Network			

## 2012 BUDGET

### 2012 KCHD REVENUES



### 2012 KCHD EXPENSES



## ADMINISTRATION

Oversight and planning starts in Administration. Epidemiologists, program managers, health educators, finance and information technology make up this division. Administration also sets quality improvement goals and establishes the overall direction and vision of the Kent County Health Department.

## EPIDEMIOLOGY AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

This division monitors the occurrence of specific diseases on a community-wide basis. Warnings about West Nile Virus (WNV) in southern states prompted news releases and social media messages about prevention and awareness in July, more than a month before the first cases were identified here. Local hospitals reported 41 illnesses and two deaths linked to WNV.

Each case required intense follow-up by a communicable disease nurse to gather details on the patient's illness and exposure history. Health Department staff also worked with local municipalities to map neighborhoods where the mosquito-borne illness was suspected. Those communities applied larvicide in these areas to control the mosquito population. The number of cases in Kent County ranked as the third highest count in the State of Michigan, behind Wayne County and the City of Detroit.



*Photo By: James Gathany/CDC*

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

This program enhances the health department's emergency response capability through collaborations with numerous partners during exercises and trainings.

KCHD participated in a full scale exercise with the Postal Service that included responders from multiple local and federal agencies. The Disaster Mental Health and Human Services Committee has brought KCHD and over sixty other agencies together to better prepare for a disaster, by building relationships and sharing best practices. Collaborations with regional partners also enhanced radiation response awareness and long term care facility resilience in disasters.





## ADMINISTRATION

### HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

These educators work in schools and workplaces to teach a wide variety of health topics. In 2012, they impacted:

- 81 new clients in the Interconception Care (IC) Program for mothers with a previous adverse pregnancy outcome, resulting in a 32% decrease in NICU admissions;
- 2,481 women who received services through the Women's Health Network: Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program;
- 300 women in substance use disorder treatment centers through Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention Education;
- 6 trainings to 495 healthcare providers and students on risk assessment, risk reduction and prevention services;
- 1,200 clients in 8 substance use disorder treatment centers and the Kent County Correctional Facility who received STI, HIV, and viral hepatitis Health Education Risk and Reduction Services;
- 4,711 students through 45 presentations for dog bite and responsible pet ownership;
- 2,259 students through 981 Life Skills Training presentations for substance abuse prevention;
- 12 blood pressure/cholesterol screenings for 238 clients;
- 47 cooking classes (right) and 35 grocery store tours.



3,000 *Message Sent* educational comic books (above) were delivered to 147 sites, educating teens on the many implications of sending sex-related content online or by cell phone.



### FINANCE

Efforts by our staff are leading the charge for technology advancements and innovations in public health. In one year, Kent saved nearly 1000 man-hours due to increased efficiency, reduced errors, and automated audit checks using *Insight* reports. Our effectiveness has been shared with other public health departments, including honors at a national conference (left).

## COMMUNITY CLINICAL SERVICES

Community Clinical Services provides immunizations, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), breastfeeding education, nutrition education, sexually-transmitted infection (STI) testing, and much more. Counseling and assistance from a variety of programs are designed to prevent disease and promote good health.



### VACCINATIONS

- 35,564 doses of vaccine administered;
- 99% reporting compliance achieved in 280 schools;
- 100% reporting compliance achieved in 230 childcare sites;
- 40.4% flu vaccination rate for ages 6 months-18 years; highest in state;
- 27.6% flu vaccination rate for ages 6 months and up; highest in state.

### CLINIC RECRUITED FOR NATIONAL STUDY



The Fuller clinic was chosen to participate in a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Bar Code study for vaccines. Of the 340 providers chosen nationwide, 30 were selected to be primary pilot sites, which includes a detailed process mapping session. Placement of the “2D bar codes” on vaccine vials and boxes allows users to scan identifying information, including lot number and expiration date, into our electronic medical records. This new process will eliminate user errors and save time.

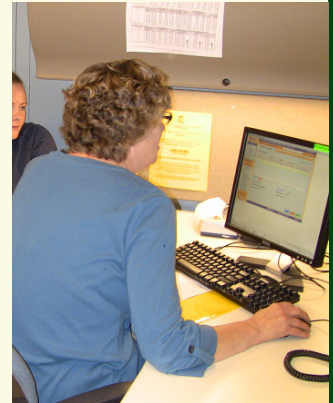
## COMMUNITY CLINICAL SERVICES

### WIC

The Michigan Department of Community Health WIC Division selected the Kent County Health Department as a pilot site for a program that could expand nationwide. Our WIC participants were the first in the country who could use their Cash Value Benefits (CVB) to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from participating farmer markets, in addition to grocery stores.

#### The WIC Program in Kent County saw:

- 93,322 client visits;
- 21,859 average monthly enrollment;
- \$12 million dollars in food purchases made by WIC participants;
- 8,439 mothers in WIC receive Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Support Services;
- 7% increase in breastfeeding initiation rates over the past year;
- 21% breastfeeding initiation rate increase since program in started in 2010.



### PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Counseling and services are provided for a number of communicable diseases through our Personal Health Services (PHS) Clinic. One unit of PHS, the Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic had 734 client visits; 16 active cases were detected.



#### HIV/AIDS/Sexually Transmitted Illness (STI) had:

- 6,568 clinic visits for HIV or STI;
- 4,604 HIV tests with 23 positive results;
- 101 ambassadors recruited others to get HIV tested;
- 34 off-site outreach and counseling venues.

PHS engaged in social network strategies for targeted outreach and increase testing for high risk populations, and recognized disproportioned HIV rates in minority populations.



## COMMUNITY NURSING

Community Nursing builds healthy foundations for youth and families in Kent County. Nurses, dietitians, social workers, clerks, community health workers, and vision and hearing technicians provide services to a broad and diverse population throughout Kent County. Staff members work with parents and children, often in their homes, to make sure they are leading healthy lives.



### Community Nursing completed:

- 94,269 children's hearing and vision screenings at 602 different schools and daycare sites;
- 1,200 home visits to over 180 different women enrolled in the Nurse Family Partnership program;
- 67 children's follow-up visits for lead exposure;
- 250 home visits completed to identify lead sources and teach parents how to reduce lead exposure;
- 200 young mothers' health, nutrition and education through the Strong Beginnings program;
- 700 people enrolling with Medicaid; 64% of them were referred to WIC and/or home visiting services through Medicaid Outreach;
- 2,200 children's services for an array of complicated medical needs through Children's Special Health Care Services.



## COMMUNITY NURSING



### Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP)

MIHP provides support to promote healthy pregnancies, good birth outcomes, and healthy infants. Expectant mothers in Michigan who have Medicaid health insurance and infants with Medicaid are eligible for the benefit.

#### In 2012, MIHP had:

- 13,632 encounters/appointments completed;
- 710 prenatal assessments completed;
- 989 women served;
- 1044 infant assessments accomplished;
- 1793 Infants received MIHP Services;
- 97% of visits reimbursed.



Photo By: Debora Cartagena/CDC

### NICU Follow-Up Program

In October 2012, the Kent County Health Department became active in a home-visiting pilot program, the NICU (Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit) Follow-up Program. Eleven families received home visits to prepare for a safe discharge of their infant, as well as make appropriate connections to various community resources.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Environmental Health (EH) programs cover a wide spectrum. The division focuses on health, safety and education through body art regulations, restaurant inspections, and well and septic inspections. This division also oversees a lab and the Kent County Animal Shelter.

### ANIMAL SHELTER

The Kent County Animal Shelter competed in the ASPCA/ Rachel Ray \$100K Challenge, completing a shelter record of 300 adoptions in 90 days. The shelter introduced a special website, [www.icpawz.com](http://www.icpawz.com), engaged the community in social media messages, and reached clients who had never visited the Kent County Animal Shelter!

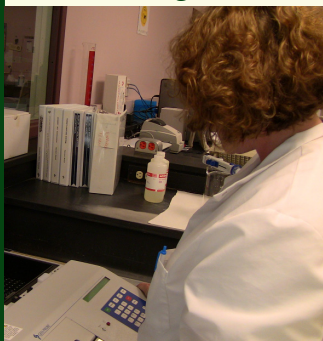


### The shelter saw...

- 6838 animals lost, stray or surrendered by owners;
- 789 dogs, cats, birds and rabbits adopted;
- 777 animals transferred to partner agencies;
- 624 pets returned to owners;
- 34% live release rate of adoptable pets, up from 29% in 2011;
- 8 investigations that resulted in criminal charges for animal cruelty/neglect.

### PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

The lab processed 21,091 clinical and environmental samples in 2012. These include drinking water tests for private individuals as well as public water supplies, surface water testing, pool testing, tests for sexually transmitted infections, and parasite screening for our refugee clinic. The laboratory was inspected by Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments for our clinical testing certification, the Department of Environmental Quality to renew our environmental certification, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for testing done in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Community Health and the CDC.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

### FOOD SAFETY

- 2069 food facilities inspected;
- 3624 routine audits conducted;
- 1046 follow-up audits completed;
- 620 temporary licenses issued;
- 245 general complaints investigated;
- 128 enforcement actions taken.

Adopted new FDA Food Code: Violations formerly categorized as “critical” and “non-critical” are now listed as “priority,” “priority foundation,” and “core” violations.

Formed the Kent County Food Safety Council: Fifteen restaurant owners and members of the Kent County Health Department aid the food program in better communications and regulation of food facilities.



### GENERAL SANITARIAN INSPECTIONS & INVESTIGATIONS

- 370 public swimming pools inspections completed;
- 32 public campgrounds inspections completed;
- 184 adult and childcare facilities inspected;
- 665 septic permits issued;
- 669 well permits issued;
- 352 inspections of wells and septic systems completed;
- 121 housing related complaints investigated;
- 47 Body Art complaints investigated and facilities regulated.





**HEALTH**  
DEPARTMENT  
*Caring today for a healthy tomorrow*

700 Fuller Ave. NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



FOLLOW KENT COUNTY  
**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
ON FACEBOOK



FOLLOW KENT COUNTY  
**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
ON TWITTER

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GRAND RAPIDS, MI  
PERMIT #806

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	(616) 632-7100
Toll-free from 616 or 231 area codes	(888) 515-1300
Administration/Director's Office	(616) 632-7280
Animal Shelter	(616) 632-7300
Community Clinical Services	(616) 632-7203
Community Nursing	(616) 632-7058
Environmental Health	(616) 632-6900
Health Education and Promotion	(616) 632-7290
Kent County Medical Examiner's Office	(616) 632-7247
Communicable Disease/Epidemiology	(616) 632-7228
Personal Health Services	(616) 632-7171
WIC/Vaccines	(616) 632-7200

*...a look at our efforts to keep Kent County Healthy!*