

PORTAGE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2012 Annual Report



A Message From The Health Commissioner

This year we have seen the beginning of change in public health in Portage County and the State. Like all forms of government, finances and tax payer support are decreasing and changes must be made to continue providing needed public health services. Last year, the legislature formed a "Public Health Futures Committee" to review health department services, funding and future public health needs in the State. Their findings were reported to the legislature. A noted recommendation was for collaboration and consolidation of local health departments and some health related State services. In this respect, the Portage County Health District, Kent, and Ravenna have been meeting for nearly two years to consider ways for the three departments to offer the best possible service to Portage County residents. The Health Departments in conjunction with the College of Public Health at Kent State University have been awarded grants from the "Local Government Innovation Fund" and the "Roberts Wood Johnson Foundation" to explore the options and needs for collaboration between health departments. We look forward to the findings of these studies. We have also recently been sent information from the Ohio Department of Health for proposed changes for grant and subsidy funding that will encourage regional collaboration. It also appears that the State will require all health departments in the State to become accredited by July 1, 2018. This is a time consuming and expensive process.

Good news for the trustees and villages is that we do not plan chargebacks in our 2014 budget. We have cut expenditures and have seen a slight upward trend in permits that has allowed us to maintain a stable budget. However, in order to maintain and increase the number and quality of our services and meet the financial demands of accreditation we will need to pass our replacement levy in May of 2013. We came very close in November of 2012 and hope with your continued support we can successfully pass this small levy which would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home approximately an additional \$10.00 a year.

Respectfully Submitted,

DuWayne O. Porter M.P.H., R.S.

DuWayne O. Porter, M.P.H., R.S.
Health Commissioner



Environmental Division



Administrative Division



Nursing Division

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Portage County Combined General Health District is to protect the health, safety and well being of the citizens of the Portage County Combined General Health District, to promote health, to prevent disease, and to assure that all persons are provided a better quality of life and increased longevity.

72nd Annual Report
to
District Advisory Council
of Portage County

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Portage County Health Department

449 South Meridian Street

Ravenna, Ohio 44266

330-296-9919

Nursing Clinic

330-298-4490

[www.co.portage.oh.us/
healthdepartment.htm](http://www.co.portage.oh.us/healthdepartment.htm)

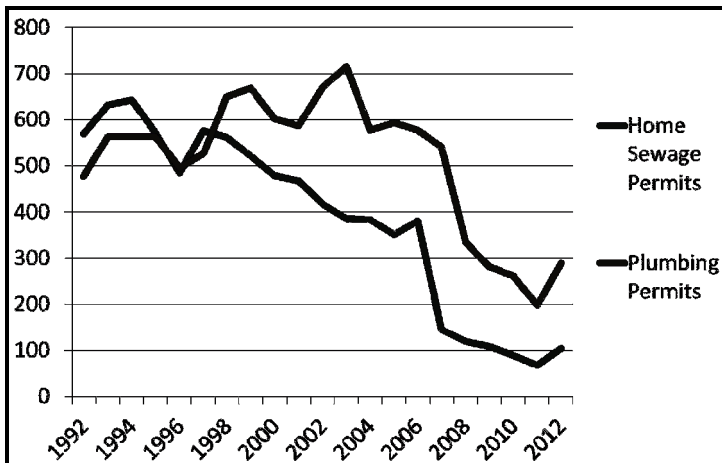


Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Board of Health Members

Robert Palmer, President
Dale Miller, Vice President
Bonnie Bailey, Member
Dr. Howard Minott, Member
Robert Howard, Member
James Bierlair, Member
Amy Hammar, Member

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



In 2012, there has been some indication that the economy of the building industry in Portage County is improving. There has been a 50% increase in the number of sewage system permits issued in 2012, compared with 2011, along with a 46% increase in the number of plumbing permits. While that is encouraging, the permit numbers are still very low when compared with statistics from before the economic downturn. There is still much more improvement needed in Portage County.

Environmental Programs

Programs	Sites	Inspection	Consultations
Sewage Systems	87	1636	1197
Septic Permits	105		
Lot Evaluations	747		
Aeration	1277	462	1
Home Sale Septic	130		
Water Supply Systems	108	344	199
Water Samples	448	600	82
Storm Water District		603	556
Sewage Nuisances	39	336	128
Telephone Consults			9147
Food Service	415	810	23
Food Establishment	131	271	4
Mobile Home Parks	34	35	5
Recreational Camps	38	24	1
Swimming Pools, Spas, & Beaches	61	67	66
Schools	38	65	
Motels/Hotels	21	11	
Solid Waste Facilities	7	1398	26
Infectious Waste	5	13	9
Solid & Animal Waste Complaints	72	218	719
Plumbing Inspections			
Total Number of Inspections	492		
Plumbing Permits Issued	289		
Clear Water Permits Issued	67		
Plumbers Registered	85		

PCHD Environmental Division:

Lloyd Groves, BS, RS
Environmental Director
Jack Madved, BS, RS
Registered Sanitarian
Beth Ahrens, BS, RS
Registered Sanitarian
Richard Lashley, BS, RS
Registered Sanitarian
Kevin Watson, BS, RS
Registered Sanitarian
Stanley Carlisle, MPH, RS
Registered Sanitarian
Amos Sarfo, MS, RS
Registered Sanitarian
Tom Brannon
Environmental Technician
Christopher Novelli, BS
Sanitarian-in-Training
Ken Dye
Certified Plumbing Inspector

The Ohio Legislature has again initiated changes in the home sewage treatment system regulations. Similar changes were enacted in 2007. Local health departments and the building industry adapted to these rules, but they were rescinded 6 months later. The Ohio Department of Health has developed proposed regulations and is currently in the process of conducting meetings with local health departments and building contractors to discuss the proposal in order to gather comments and information to be used in making the revisions. A final version of the rules will be developed for approval by the Legislature. The new regulations are expected to become effective before the end of 2013. Until the final version is developed and released, there is no way to determine how Portage County will be affected.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM: ENSURING THAT IT'S SAFE TO EAT IN PORTAGE COUNTY

The Environmental Health Division is responsible for inspecting facilities that serve or sell food. This includes every restaurant (dine-in and carry-out), convenience store, school, day care, nursing home, assisted living facility, bar, gas station, hotel/motel, catering facility, and temporary and mobile food service operations such as those at the Portage County Randolph Fair.

When sanitarians walk into facilities that sell or serve food, they concentrate on looking for proper handling of food: How food is stored? What temperature is the food stored at? Is the facility clean? Are the employees wearing gloves when handling the food? Is there cross-contamination when preparing or storing food? The sanitarian completes a food inspection report and shares it with the owners and managers of the food establishment.

INSPECTED

by the Portage County Health Department

www.co.portage.oh.us/healthdepartment.htm

330-296-9919

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

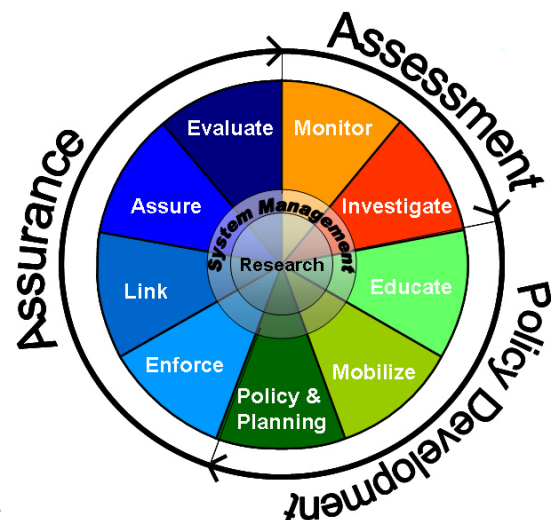


10 Essential Public Health Services

Public Health is charged with the mission of preventing epidemics and the spread of disease, protecting against environmental hazards, preventing injuries, promoting and encouraging healthy behaviors, responding to disasters and assisting in community recovery, and assuring the quality and accessibility of health services. With these goals in mind, public health established a core public health steering committee that developed the 10 Essential Public Health Services.

The 10 Essential Services provides a working definition of public health and a guiding framework for the responsibilities of local public health systems.

1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health issues.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships and actions to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure that provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.



In efforts to better meet the needs of Portage County residents, Portage County, Kent City, and Ravenna City health departments are collaboratively working together to conduct a comprehensive, county level community needs assessment. Upon recommendations of the Portage County Public Health Task Force, adoption of the 10 Essential Public Health Services is needed in order to pursue accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) within the next five years.

NURSING SERVICES

PCHD remains deeply committed to protecting and promoting the health and wellbeing of the residents of Portage County. This is accomplished through infrastructure, population-based services, enabling services, education, and health promotion activities.

Communicable Disease Control

PCHD is responsible for the investigation and follow-up of reportable infectious diseases for all of Portage County (except Ravenna City). The nursing staff continues to work with healthcare providers to ensure their understanding of disease reporting responsibilities.

2012 Top 3 Reportable Communicable Diseases in Portage County

- Chlamydia Infection 470 A sexually transmitted disease
- Hepatitis C 120 Virus that infects the liver, may become chronic
- Gonococcal Infection 65 A sexually transmitted disease

Immunizations

PCHD provides weekly immunization clinics for both children and adults. These services are for the prevention and protection of vaccine preventable diseases. A grant funded Immunization Coordinator provides education to both the public and healthcare providers. The Immunization Coordinator provided education and training to 7 immunization providers in 2012.

Bureau for Children With Medical Handicaps (BCMh)

BCMh is a program within the nursing division that links families of children having special healthcare needs to quality providers in the county. BCMh also help families obtain payment for diagnostic and treatment services.

Community Health Assessment:

PCHD is currently working on the third year of a five-year community health assessment of maternal and child health in Portage County. This project is funded by the Ohio Department of Health Child and Family Health Services grant. The process of collecting data has been completed and data analysis has begun. The ultimate goal of the assessment is to determine the priorities and needs within the community for maternal and child health. PCHD is continuing its relationship with key partners in Portage County service organizations to meet these goals.

PCHD Nursing Division:

Rosemary Ferraro, RN, BSN

Director of Nursing

Karen Towne, RN, BSN

Nursing Supervisor

Kim Villers, RN, BSN

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Angie Earle, RN, BSN

Public Health Nurse
Tier 1 Epidemiologist

Catherine Gellatly, RN, BSN

BCMh Public Health Nurse

Marianne Kitakis, RN, BSN

BCMh Public Health Nurse
Tier 1 Epidemiologist

Becky Lehman, BS

Health Educator
Public Information Officer

Judi Rettig, BA

Nursing Clerk

Julie Wrona

Nursing Clerk

Emergency Preparedness

With continued state and federal grant funding, PCHD continued to build relationships and engage community partners with the mission of developing emergency response plans and meeting capability benchmarks determined by ODH for the purpose of public health preparedness in Portage County.

PCHD coordinates emergency preparedness activities for all three local health departments in the county. All public health department employees are part of a combined response team. The activities for 2012 include:

- Alternate Care Facility Evacuation Drill
- Participation in a NECO Region Exercise through partnerships with Portage County Emergency Management and Robinson Memorial Hospital
- State request for Mass Antibiotic Dispensing Drill
- Incident Management Refresher Training for staff
- Medical Reserve Corps call-up for Influenza Community Clinics

Nursing Services Programs

Communicable Disease

- 893 Investigations

TB and TB Testing

- 353 TB Tests Administered
- 2 active cases

Childhood Immunizations

- 3695 Immunizations Administered

Adult Immunizations

- 970 Immunizations Administered

International Travel Clinics

- 113 Travel Clinics
- 311 Immunizations Administered

Seasonal Flu

- 41 Flu Clinics
- 1632 Flu Shots Administered

Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh)

- 455 Active Participants
- 403 Contacts

Medical Reserve Corps

- 145 Volunteers

FLIGHT Obesity Preventions

- 104 Consultations

Animal Bites/Rabies Control

- 256 Reports

School Nursing

- 5 Meetings



John Mason instructs alternate care facility staff and emergency preparedness responders during an evacuation drill.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL CLINIC

PCHD International Travel Clinic: A Popular Destination for County Residents

Before boarding an airplane for a trip to a foreign country, local travelers make a stop at the PCHD International Travel Clinic to get vaccinated and to be educated with the latest information on potential health threats in foreign countries. They know that this is an important visit to make in order to stay healthy while on vacation, on a mission trip, studying abroad, or on a business trip.

The PCHD International Travel Clinic is one of the few local providers for vaccines such as Typhoid, Yellow Fever, and Malaria prescriptions. Consultation services and immunizations are provided by the public health nurses who specialize in global travel health. Travel Clinics are available by appointment. Call 330-298-4490 to schedule an appointment.



Dr. Francis Dorsey, a professor at Kent State University, frequently travels with his students to many areas in Africa. He utilizes the expertise of the PCHD public health nurses to ensure that he is fully immunized for his travels.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

The Portage County Health Department's Health Education and Promotion office provides many programs for the community. These programs and activities include:

Safe Sleep/Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Community Education is provided by the Health Educator with funding from the Ohio Department of Health Child and Family Health Services grant. PCHD is partnered with the SIDS Network of Ohio to provide evidence-based education to Portage County residents and healthcare providers.

- Education provided to Portage County OB/GYN's and Pediatricians
- Education classes provided to Headstart and WIC participants
- Safe Sleep educational materials were provided to the Moms-in-Training participants at Robinson Memorial Hospital
- Educational materials given to health fair participants throughout the county

PCHD Health Educator and the Nursing Division provide immunization education and training to health care providers, the general public, schools, and community agencies. The education and training is based on the MOBI (Maximizing Office Based Immunization) Program funded by the Ohio Department of Health Immunization Action Plan grant. The focus of MOBI is to provide education of the importance of immunizations in order to increase immunization rates in Portage County.

The School Nurse Program consists of educational meetings scheduled by the Health Educator with the purpose of providing education, networking opportunities, and resources to the Portage County School Nurses. There were 5 meetings held in 2012. Topics included:

- Diabetes in children
- Mental Health-Teen Suicide and the Choking Game
- How-to training on obtaining local and clinical resources
- How-to training on working with different personalities
- Childhood Immunizations

The Ohio Buckles Buckeye Program is administered by the Health Educator. This program focuses on proper safety seat restraint use for children and provides car seats for residents who meet the income guidelines.

- Two Certified Car Seat Technicians on staff
- 58 Car seats distributed in 2012 with education classes
- Additional car seat education classes provided for Headstart and WIC participants and Children's Services staff

THANK YOU to The Portage Foundation!

Portage County Health Department was awarded a \$1,500 grant from The Portage Foundation in October, 2012. This grant was given for the purchase of car seats for families who could not otherwise afford them and for educational materials on car seats.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Administrative Services Division is made up of the administrative and the fiscal branches. They work together daily to provide high quality, efficient, and effective services for the county. The Health Department seeks to be an excellent administrator of county dollars, and as such seeks alternate sources of funding through state and federal grant funding whenever possible. In 2012, 81.7 percent of the Health Department's funding came from sources other than county dollars.

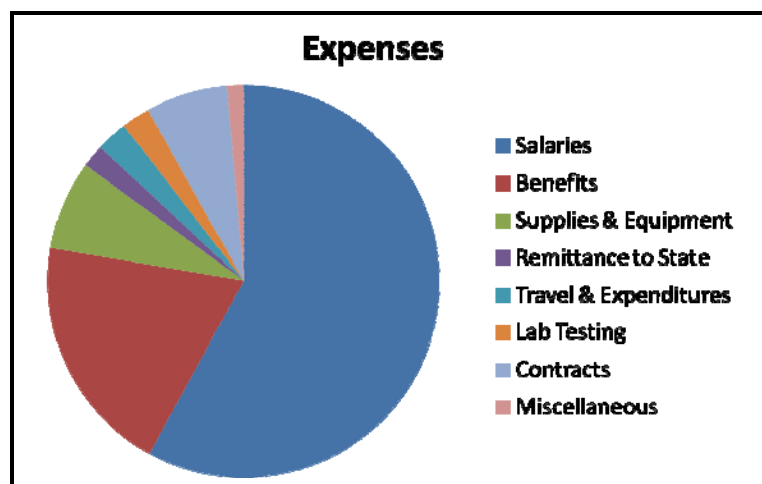
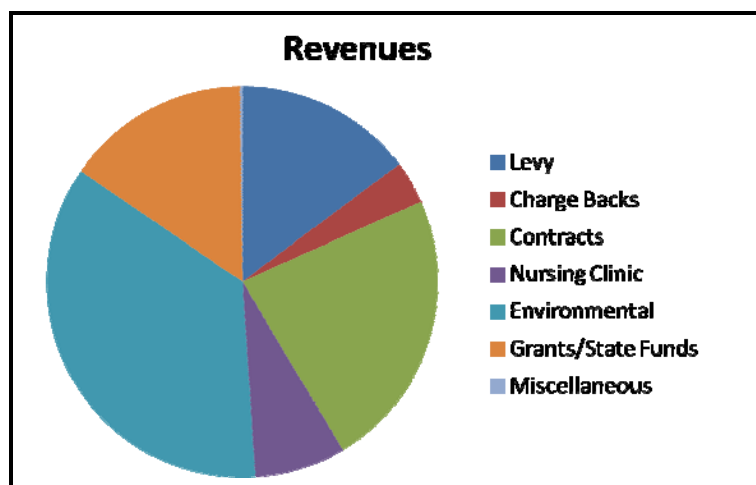
The administrative branch is responsible for ensuring the daily operations, which include personnel, personal and vocal interactions with the public, written correspondence to the public as a result of field personnel's investigations and inspections, and clerical support for environmental programs including the storm water program, food service, solid waste, plumbing, House Bill 110, septic, and water testing.

The fiscal branch is responsible for accounting and budgeting for the Health Department, reporting to the state for grant programs, and issuing licenses, registrations, and permits. The fiscal branch is also responsible for maintaining statistics of public health programs which is an essential activity that provides the foundation upon which all parts of public health programs are constructed.

Dorothy Filing
Administrative Director
Carol Pillsbury, BBA
Storm Water Clerk

Debbie Stall
Finance Director
Carey Meissner
Account Clerk

Revenues	
Levy	\$306,887
Charge Backs	\$73,500
Contracts	\$479,340
Nursing Clinic	\$156,296
Environmental	\$738,228
Grants/State Funds	\$316,572
Miscellaneous	\$4,387
Total 2012 Revenues	\$2,075,210



Expenses	
Salaries	\$1,115,554
Benefits	\$373,820
Supplies & Equipment	\$139,891
Remittances to State	\$35,736
Travel & Expenditures	\$49,155
Lab Testing	\$44,190
Contracts	\$128,167
Miscellaneous	\$26,455
Total 2012 Expenses	\$1,912,968

VOTERS ELECT

2012 Advisory Council

Chairman	James Eskridge
Vice Chairman	Diane Hargett Austin
Secretary	Bonnie Howe

Members: Chairmen of Township Trustees

Atwater	John Kovacich
Brimfield	Sue Fields
Charlestown	James Eskridge
Deerfield	James Wilburn
Edinburg	Thomas Repcik
Franklin	Mark Beckwith
Freedom	Roy Martin
Hiram	Jack Groselle
Mantua	Jason Carlon
Nelson	James Turos
Palmyra	Barbara McKenzie
Paris	Tom Smith
Randolph	Roger Klodt
Ravenna	Hank Gibson
Rootstown	Diane Dillon
Shalersville	Nancy Vines
Suffield	Thomas Calcei
Windham	Dann Timmons

Mayors of Cities and Villages

Aurora City	James Fisher
Streetsboro City	Glenn Broska
Brady Lake Village	Hal Lehman
Garrettsville	Rick Patrick
Hiram Village	Lou Bertrand
Mantua Village	Linda Clark
Mogadore Village	Michael Rick
Sugar Bush Knolls	James Beal
Windham Village	Rob Donham

Budget Commission

Prosecuting Attorney	Victor Vigluicci
Treasurer	Vicki Kline
Auditor	Janet Esposito

Portage County Commissioners

Chris Smeiles—President
Maureen T. Frederick
Tommie Jo Marsilio

Health Department Administration

DuWayne O. Porter, MPH, RS
Health Commissioner, Secretary to the Board of Health

Board of Health

The Board of Health consists of four members who are elected by the Advisory Council of the Portage County Combined General Health District, one member who is appointed by the Licensing Council, and two members who are appointed by the Mayors of Aurora and Streetsboro Cities, respectively. They are appointed for five-year overlapping terms. They meet monthly in open meetings. Among their responsibilities are the following:

- Appoint Health Commissioner
- Approve Health Department Budget
- Set Policies and Approve Health Regulations
- Hold Hearings on Complaints Regarding Regulations
- Promote Public Relations

Meet the Board of Health



Robert Palmer
President



Dale Miller
Vice President



Bonnie Bailey
Member
Streetsboro



Robert Howard
Member



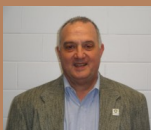
Howard Minott
Member
Aurora



James Bierlair
Member



Amy Hammar
Licensing
Council Rep.



A Message from the Medical Director

Public health is community health. Its goal is to promote the health of a population, prevent diseases and injuries, and provide services to improve the health status of the community. If the results from the November 2012 election are any indication, the mystery of public health is becoming clearer. You can feel the tides starting to turn and people are realizing what the Portage County Health Department does for them.

From H1N1 to children's immunizations to clean restaurants, public health is there. From water sampling to flu shots to rabies control and prevention, public health is there. From travel clinics to car seat safety to school inspections, public health is there. The Portage County Health Department is there for the residents of Portage County. We appreciate the public's enhanced support of our mission.

Daniel J. Raub, DO, MA, FACOFP
Medical Director

PORTAGE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT: WHAT WE DO FOR YOU!

- Adult Immunization Clinics
- Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps
- Car Seat Safety Inspection & Installation
- Child Fatality Review
- Childhood Immunization Clinics
- Communicable Disease Investigation
- Community Health Assessment
- Emergency Preparedness
- Flu Shot Clinics
- Food-borne Illness Investigations
- Food Protection Program
- Health Education & Promotion
- Infectious Waste
- Lead Testing/Head Start
- Obesity Education
- Mosquito Surveillance/Control
- Nutrition Education
- Plumbing
- Pool, Spa, and Beach Inspections
- Rabies Control and Prevention
- Restaurant Inspections
- School Inspections
- School Nursing Meetings
- Sewage Program
- Safe Sleep and SIDS Education
- Storm Water Program
- Tattoo/Body Piercing Inspections
- TB Tests
- Travel (International) Clinics
- Water Programs

Friends of Public Health

Portage County Health Department is pleased to announce Amie Cajka as 2013's Friends of Public Health recipient.

Amie serves the residents of Portage County as the Director of Community Relations for the Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County. She has been on staff since 1986. She is a graduate of Kent State University and started out her career as a reporter for the Record Courier. She spends most of her time communicating with Portage residents about how to access services and collaborating on behalf of the MHRB with other organizations to improve life for persons with mental illness and addiction in Portage County. One of her responsibilities is to make sure MHRB and its local agencies are ready to aid the community in times of disaster in order to reduce mental health/addiction problems resulting from these emergencies. Amie volunteers as a Public Information Officer with the Incident Management Assistance Team of Portage County. She is a long time member of the League of Women Voters of Kent, has served as president and is currently on the organization's board. Amie volunteers with a student theater group to help with marketing and also volunteers with the Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio. Personally, Amie is a resident of Munroe Falls, is married and has two adult children who are happy and pursuing careers in history and nursing. She studies Italian and loves to cook and travel whenever possible.

Many Portage County agencies utilize Amie's knowledge, strengths, and experiences in public information. Amie sits on many coalitions and committees that share the same goals as she has: Commitment to keeping the community prepared and informed during emergency and disaster situations. Amie is the backup public information officer for PCHD and has been called on during times of pandemic influenza and for emergency preparedness drills and trainings.

Public Health loses a Friend:

On July 17, 2012, public health lost a dear friend. John Mason was the Portage County's Assistant Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, a Suffield Township Paramedic-Firefighter, and a former director of the Medina Life Support Team. John was a recipient of the Portage County Health Department Friends of Public Health award in 2009.

John impacted the lives of every Portage County resident without them even knowing it. Our collective sadness upon his death is surpassed only by our profound gratitude for his legacy of leadership in public health; including education and emergency preparedness. Many testimonies to his accomplishments have been written and spoken over the past several months. We would like to add: John will occupy a singular place in history as a leader that we all followed and learned from during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. We are committed to carrying on his legacy to ensure that we make a positive difference in emergency preparedness and response within our community. The health department's Department Operation Center will be dedicated in his memory.



John Mason, Friend of Public Health recipient in 2009.