

Lake County General Health District NEWSLETTER

Featured Highlights:

What is a Community Health Needs Assessment?

Breastfeeding Awareness Month with WIC

LCGHD Clinics

Lake County Connections & "Village to Village" Networks

Population Health & Emergency Planning

What is Environmental Health?

A Welcome from the Health Commissioner

Welcome to the Lake County General Health District!

This month, like every month, we at the Lake County General Health District (LCGHD) celebrate new goals and new opportunities for growth and improvement as we place our feet at the starting line for this new resource for Lake County residents and professionals.

Within each month's issue, you will find health data features regarding initiatives and assessment groups we are part of, district updates, a word from the Health Commissioner, information about community health services, clinics and more.

Inspiration for this newsletter was rooted in frequently asked questions from over the years and the curiosities of our community members. Because of our dedicated team, we are able to present this newsletter to our community as an opportunity for us to share, learn, stay transparent, and to stay informative.

Thank you for receiving our newsletter and we look forward to sharing more about the district with you each quarter!



**Lake County
General Health District**

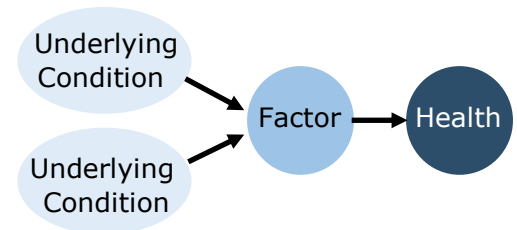
Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Health Data Feature

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)

What is a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)?

A Community Health Needs Assessment (sometimes called a Community Health Status Assessment) is one of four studies done every three years to identify and describe factors that affect the health of a community, and the underlying conditions that affect those factors.



This study is done using available health data, and by getting feedback from community surveys, group interviews, and talking to community leaders.

All of the data is put together and used by key stakeholders to decide which factors are the most important and need the most work. Later, a work plan called the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is made to create a plan on how to improve the important factors they found in the CHNA.

Here in Lake County, LCGHD, University Hospitals, and community partners who have a role in impacting the health of Lake County have been working on the 2022-2024 CHNA. The report is almost done, and will be released in the next few months!

Once the CHNA is complete, partners will start to work on the CHIP, which will be released in early 2023. From there, the partners will begin to track progress towards the CHIP goals, and make changes to strategies that are needed.



Look for these upcoming releases at www.lcghd.org/health-data

Health District Updates

WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)

August is Breastfeeding Awareness Month!

The Lake-Geauga WIC offers breastfeeding support to Lake and Geauga through one-on-one education, infant feeding classes, and breastfeeding support groups.

If you would like to learn more about Lake-Geauga WIC's breastfeeding services or about WIC in general, please contact the closest location.



WABA | WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2022

The services provided by Lake-Geauga WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) promote good health and help both mothers and children to live happy and healthy lives. Listed here are some of the services provided:

- Nutrition Education
- Infant feeding classes
- Dietitian check-ins for infants
- Breastfeeding peer helpers
- Breastfeeding support groups
- And more!



During these challenging times, more people than ever are eligible for supplemental food benefits through Lake-Geauga WIC.

Anyone who receives Medicaid, food assistance, or Ohio Works First already qualifies, no matter how much money they make.

Foster parents, custodial grandparents, and other legal guardians may also receive benefits for qualified children younger than five years old, according to WIC's guidelines.

Visit www.lcghd.org/wic to see if you qualify.

To sign up for WIC, please contact the closest clinic for more information:

WIC Painesville - 440-350-2552

WIC Wickliffe - 440-833-6007

WIC Madison - 440-428-2003

WIC Huntsburg - 440-636-5331

WIC Middlefield - 440-251-6522

More information on programs, services, and more can be found at www.lcghd.org/wic

Health District Updates

Community Health Services

The members of LCGHD's Community Health Services division are on the front lines working directly with the people of Lake County. Around 20 staff at the health district building and in local schools work hard to give out vaccines, lead tests, child safety seats, cribs, and more. They also help to educate and support the community through first aid trainings and state programs.

Here are some of the programs from the Community Health Services division:

- Routine immunizations
- Tuberculosis (TB) and lead testing
- Child safety seat distribution and checks
- Infant Safe Sleep
- School nursing with hearing and vision screening
- Taking communicable disease reports and coordinating care for diseases like Tuberculosis and Hepatitis B
- First aid educational classes
- The Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH) Program



A Note about Clinics

- All routine immunization and TB testing clinics are by appointment only
- The health district accepts individuals with or without insurance
- All payments are due at the time of your appointment
- **We will not turn anyone away due to financial difficulties**



More information on clinic dates and times can be found at
www.lcghd.org/clinics

Health District Updates

Lake County Connections

One new and upcoming program in the health district is Lake County Connections (LCC).

This is a new online senior outreach portal that has been added to the health district working to connect seniors to many different tools and resources. This includes coordinating and gathering networks for seniors through both in-person and virtual get-togethers.

Be on the lookout for Lake County Connections at fairs, senior centers, libraries, and more!

Listed here are some of the resources available to seniors:

- Community Organizations
- Senior Service Providers
- Transportation Providers
- Social Service Networks
- Access to Senior Centers



Village to Village Network

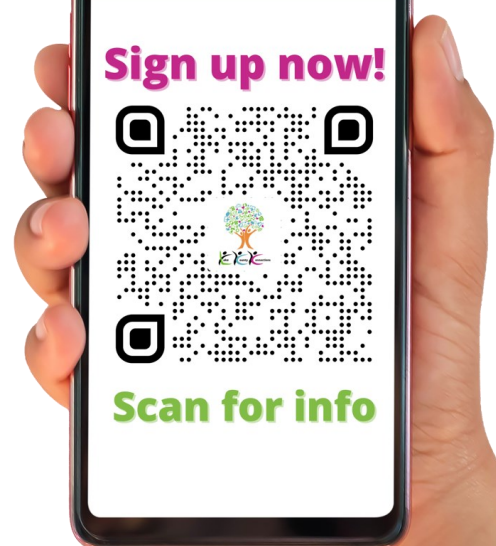
Lake County Connections is also a member of the national and international "Village to Village" network.

This provides seniors with a small network of support and assistance with other seniors.

This network creates peer groups that work toward healthy and purposeful lifestyles, interdependence, and connections to positively impact isolation.

Find details about LCC at www.motivatelakecounty.com/lake-county-connections

Senior Support Outreach



Health District Updates

Population Health & Emergency Planning

The Population Health and Emergency Planning Division is made up of ten staff members who are split between the two sections of this Division.

Those in population health strive to improve the health of broad groups of people by creating environments and communities that make it easier to make healthier choices. They work toward this goal through community resources and partnerships which build on what is available in the community to help improve health.

The emergency planning section collaborates with other community organizations to develop emergency plans. These plans help all community partners to be better prepared to serve the community during an emergency.



Reports from Population Health and Emergency Planning can be found at www.lcghd.org/health-data

Here are a few of the more specific programs and tasks that these divisions work on:

Population Health

- **Safe Communities:** Working to lessen the number of motor vehicle accidents and traffic fatalities
- **Conducting the Community Health Needs Assessment:** Assesses need and helps identify strategies for inclusion in the Community Health Improvement Plan
- **Project DAWN:** Local naloxone distribution program
- **Tobacco Use and Cessation Program:** Working toward promoting smokefree environments and tobacco cessation strategies

Emergency Planning

- **Emergency preparedness planning**
- **Medical Reserve Corps:** This is a team of local medical and non-medical volunteers who assist the community during widespread public health emergencies
- **Epidemiology Section:**
 - Performs disease investigations, outbreak investigations and follows up with these individuals
 - Analyzes health data and finds trends in the information
 - Develops data reports based on needs, such as flu or COVID-19 reports

Health District Updates

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health division has one of the longest lists of active programs in the health district. Around 30 regular and seasonal staff implement year-round inspecting programs like sewage and private water, air pollution, food service, and more.

Enforcement and education make sure that sewage systems are functioning properly; and that tattoo shops, and restaurants are kept up to standards to reduce the risk of illness, injury, and other problems.

When we talk about "environmental health," we mean the parts of the world around us that can affect people's health, such as air, water, food; and the places we live, work, and play

Here are some of the many programs and areas the Environmental Health division works on:

- Residential sewage and water
- Landfill and solid waste facility inspections
- Manufactured home park inspections
- Licensed tattoo and body art shop inspections
- Bathing beaches and public swimming pools
- Housing complaints
- Air pollution from asbestos, dust, and open burning
- Food service and food establishment inspections
- School inspections
- Rabies bite investigations
- Mosquito control
- Storm water pollution prevention

A list of all services can be found at
www.lcghd.org

Mentor Marsh Salt Fill Clean-Up

On July 7, 2022, a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the Mentor Marsh salt fill site.

This event kicked off the clean-up and removal of hazardous salt tailings and fly ash that was placed on this site in the 1960's.

Combined efforts between the City of Mentor, Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the Cleveland Natural History Museum, and our health district have culminated in this site finally being cleaned up, and all waste will be removed within one year.

Once finished, the restoration process will start to bring back the marsh into its original state.

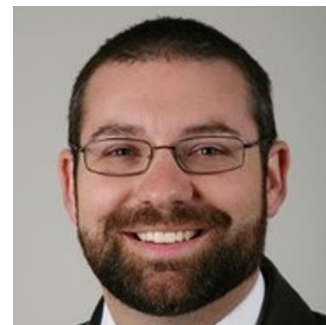
The Mentor Marsh is an important habitat and ecosystem for water quality and wildlife that directly affects Lake Erie.



A Note from the Health Commissioner

Dear Friends,

As we enjoy the rest of the summer and prepare for the start of the school year, the Lake County General Health District would like to welcome you to the Lake County General Health District Newsletter. This will be the first of many newsletters that aims to give additional health district information to the residents and professionals of Lake County. It is hard to believe what we have been through as a community the past few years, and we thank you all for your continued perseverance and support.



*Health Commissioner
Ron Graham*

We have always found importance in communicating the health district's information, goals and accomplishments, especially within the last few years. Although the pandemic still surrounds our community, I would like to take this time to thank our partners, specifically all the school faculty partners who have been vigilant in their responses to COVID-19. Since the start of the pandemic, the school's staff, board, and superintendents have made, and continue to make, incredible efforts and compromises to ensure the safety of the students and the community. We thank all these individuals for their continued dedication to maintain a healthy community.

We look forward to the start of the new school year with the celebration of National Immunization Awareness Month in August. As highlighted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we call attention to the importance of routine vaccinations and vaccines at every stage of life. The health district offers routine child immunizations and general immunization clinics to ensure that all Lake County residents have access to immunization services.

Again, we thank you for your support and strength during the past few years. We are hopeful that these newsletters help give more insight into the work the health district does to meet our mission to improve the health and quality of life for all of Lake County.

Sincerely,

Ron H. Graham

Get More Information from the Lake County General Health District!

www.lcghd.org



Upcoming Events

August

National Immunization
Awareness Month

National Breastfeeding Month

Children's Eye Health and
Safety Month

September

Healthy Aging Month

National Food Safety and
Education Month

National Childhood Obesity
Awareness Month

National Recovery Month



Birth & Death Records

The Office of Vital Statistics
offers birth and death records.

Cost: \$21.50 per copy

Walk-In Service is available
Monday through Friday,
between
8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m

More details available at
www.lcghd.org/birth-and-death-records/

Get our Newsletter
Online!
[www.lcghd.org/
newsletter](http://www.lcghd.org/newsletter)

