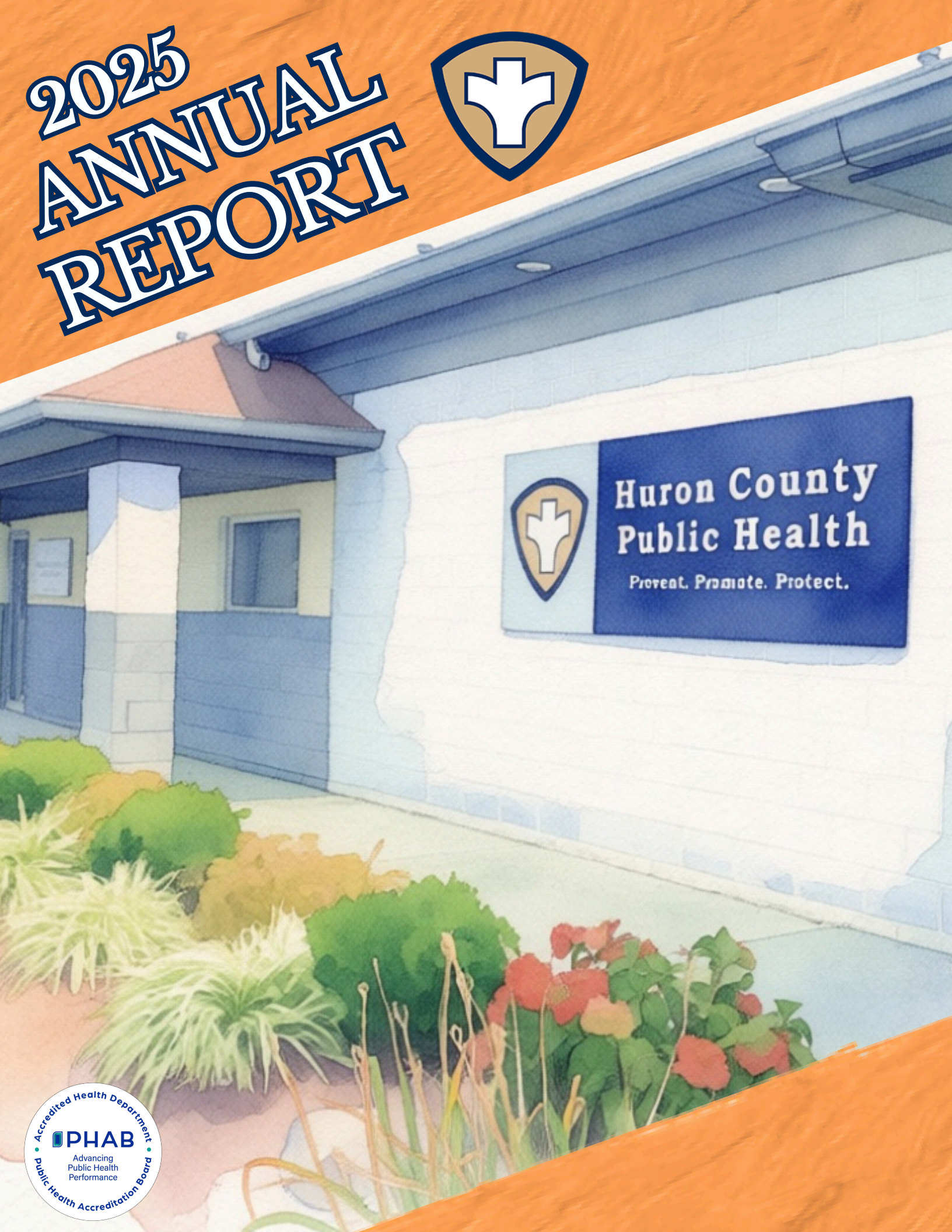


2025 ANNUAL REPORT



**Huron County
Public Health**
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



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2025 Annual Report Overview

Huron County Public Health’s (HCPH) mission is to achieve and sustain healthy people and healthy communities by providing public health services which promote health and prevent disease.

GOVERNANCE

The governing body for HCPH is the Huron County Board of Health. Elected officials of Huron County cities, villages, and townships appoint Board members. Health Districts must have a Board of Health consisting of at least five members:

- Four members appointed by the District Advisory Council
- One member appointed by the District Licensing Council
- At least one member must be a physician
- The Board of Health appoints the Health Commissioner



Board of Health <i>As of 2/20/2026</i>	Medical Director	Health Commissioner
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jeremy Loose, DAC, <i>President</i>• Greg Polachek, DAC, <i>Vice President</i>• Dr. Amy Browne, D.O., DAC (Physician)• Jessica Khaledi, Norwalk City• Stormie Prelipp, Willard City• Kimberly Stults, RN, MSN, Bellevue City• Ken Tkach, DAC• DLC Representative (<i>Vacant</i>)• DAC Pharmacist (<i>Vacant</i>)	Stephanie Gibson, M.D.	Nicole Marks, MPH

A Letter from the Health Commissioner

Dear Community Members,

On behalf of the Huron County Board of Health and the staff at Huron County Public Health (HCPH), it is my pleasure to present the 2025 HCPH Annual Report.

While public health faced significant challenges at the federal, state, and local levels in 2025, our staff remained steadfast in our mission to achieve and sustain healthy people and healthy communities throughout Huron County by providing public health services which promote health and prevent disease. Distributing hundreds of gun safes, supporting improvements at Willard City Park and Woodbine Park, expanding the Water Quality Division to better meet residents' needs and expectations related to sewage programming, and offering free portable cribs and car seats to families in need are just a few ways in which HCPH advanced this mission in 2025. I invite you to explore the remainder of this report to learn more about these initiatives and the other ways that our agency supported the health and well-being of Huron County residents throughout the year.

Internally, we welcomed four new staff members in 2025: Sydney Raifsnider (Creating Healthy Communities Grant Coordinator), Paige Snyder (Prevention Grant Coordinator), Carl Riems (Environmental Health Specialist in Training), and Hunter Blessing (Registered Environmental Health Specialist), who have each brought fresh perspectives and new ideas to our team. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to not only our new staff, but all HCPH staff for the dedication and hard work that they demonstrate every day in service to our community.

One of the most significant changes for our agency at the close of the year was a transition in leadership as former Health Commissioner Tim Hollinger retired on November 30th. HCPH extends our sincere gratitude to Tim for his 20 years of dedicated service to Huron County and wishes him the very best in his retirement. I am grateful to the Board of Health for the opportunity to serve as Huron County's next Health Commissioner and look forward to my first full year in this role in 2026.

This coming year will be an active one as we complete a new Community Health Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan, and agency strategic plan; prepare for a levy on the November ballot, and continue adapting our services to best fit the evolving public health landscape. I encourage residents to stay connected with these efforts throughout the year by following HCPH on Facebook and Instagram at @HuronCoHealth.

Respectfully,

Nicole Marks, MPH
Health Commissioner

Community Programs Division

The Community Programs Division (CPD) coordinates HCPH’s public education, emergency preparedness and response, epidemiology, surveillance, communication efforts, and accreditation. CPD also coordinates the Huron County Community Health Assessment (CHA), the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), HCPH Strategic Plan, and HCPH’s health promotion programming and grants.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION



HCPH has been nationally accredited through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) since November 2015 and walked through the reaccreditation process in 2023. In August 2023, HCPH completed the pre-site visit review, and in November 2023, HCPH staff participated in a virtual site visit with PHAB. In March 2024, HCPH received continued accreditation status. Following this determination, limited additional progress toward the next reaccreditation cycle has occurred, as PHAB has indicated it plans to release updated standards and measures for 2026.

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP)

HCPH was awarded the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant for Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025). In 2025, the PHEP grant covered expenses for in-house staff trainings on PODs, development of administrative preparedness annex plan, CHEMPACK interactive training, biostatistics and epidemiologic training, regional chemical surge tabletop exercise, LEPC attendance, quarterly regional epidemiologist and emergency response coordinator meeting attendance, all health hazards committee, and quarterly northwest healthcare coalition meetings.

2025 Preparedness Summit, San Antonio, TX

In 2025, the PHEP Grant funded HCPH’s Epidemiologist/Emergency Planner attendance at the 2025 National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Preparedness Summit in San Antonio, TX. The Summit encompassed 150+ learning sessions, demonstrations, and workshops to aid attendees in enhancing their ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and other emergencies.



Photo courtesy of HCPH Epidemiologist, Kristian McCallen (left).

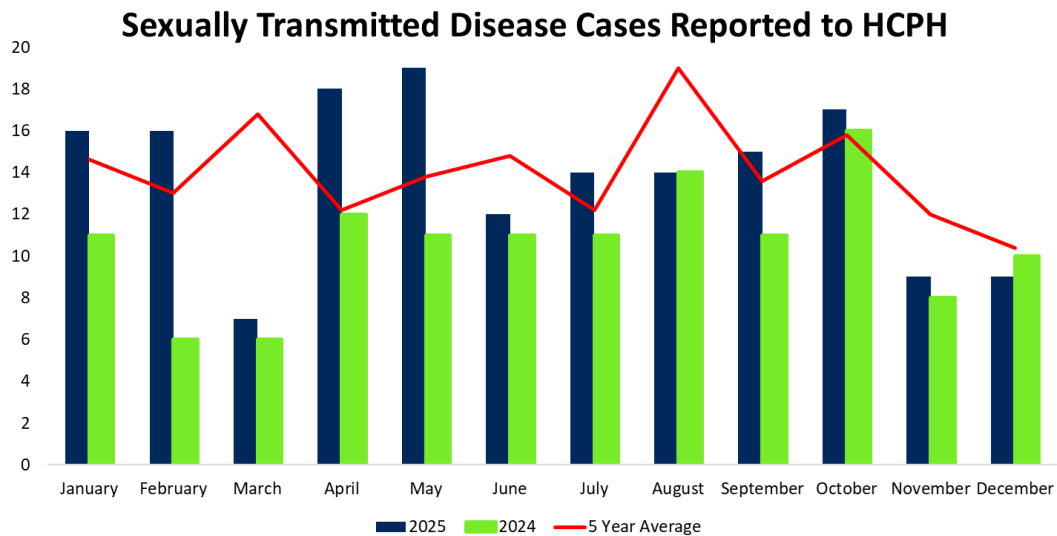
Community Programs Division

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED TO HCPH

By law, cases of certain diseases must be reported to local health departments. Reportable diseases are of public health concern due to their severity and the potential for epidemic spread. In 2025, there were 345 communicable disease cases (excluding COVID-19) reported.

Top 5 Communicable Diseases in 2025 (excluding COVID-19):

- 1 Chlamydia
- 2 Flu-associated Hospitalizations
- 3 Hepatitis C
- 4 Salmonellosis
- 5 Gonorrhea



HURON COUNTY SCHOOL ABSENTEE SURVEILLANCE

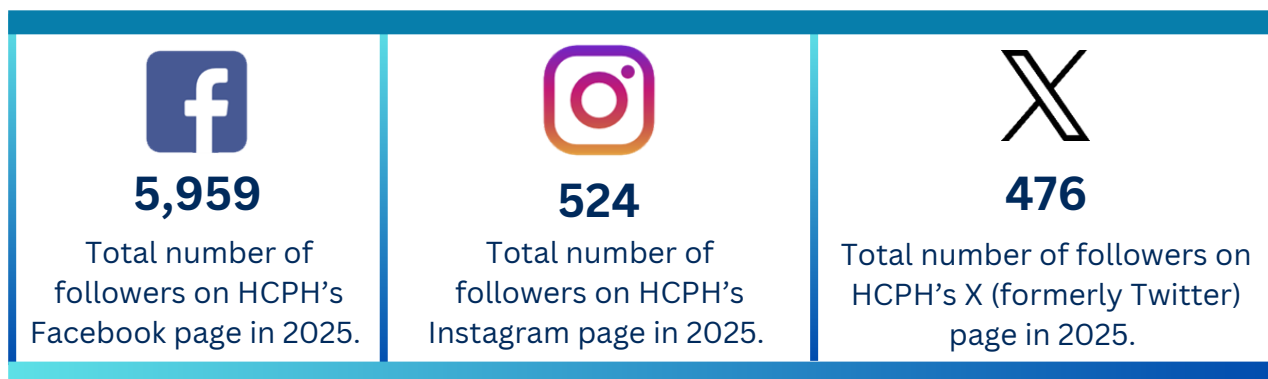
School Absentee Surveillance is a way to track illness in schools for students that may not see a doctor. School Absenteeism Surveillance is beneficial for schools because it can identify suspicious health events in specific schools or school districts. HCPH partnered with 10 Huron County schools in 2025 to conduct school absentee surveillance.

Community Programs Division

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

HCPH’s Public Information Officer (PIO) had the opportunity through grant funding to virtually attend the 2025 Government Social Media (GSM) Conference in May 2025. The GSM Conference hosted guest speakers and training sessions led by experienced professionals providing guidance to internal and external communication methods in all levels of government agencies throughout various social media platforms. HCPH’s PIO applied information learned at the GSM Conference to HCPH’s social media platforms and has seen growth in the audience of each of the agency’s platforms, as depicted in the graphics below.

Communicating effectively is important to HCPH’s mission: to achieve and sustain healthy people and healthy communities throughout Huron County. HCPH primarily uses three social media platforms to communicate with the population.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS DIVISION GRANTS

Creating Healthy Communities Grant

In 2024, HCPH received notification from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) that Huron County was had received another 5-year grant cycle for the Creating Healthy Communities Grant program. The continued annual funding will help support healthy eating and active living projects through 2029.



Community Programs Division

New CHC Projects in 2025



- **North Fairfield Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry** – CHC funds were used to purchase four carry-out carts and two refrigerators to upgrade the pantry, in addition to Supporting Wellness at Pantries (SWAP) nutrition materials.



- **Greenwich Bike Infrastructure** – In partnership with the Village of Greenwich, Huron County CHC contributed funds for improvements made at the Greenwich Grand Slam Park and Huron County Library. Funds were used to purchase two hydration stations, two bike racks, and new crosswalk paint and signage between the library and park.

Sustained CHC Projects in 2025

- **Willard Kiddie Land Park** – CHC funding contributed to the renovation of Willard City Kiddie Land Park. In 2025, CHC funds sponsored a new slide and an inclusive spinner.
- **Nourishing Huron County Community Garden** – With the support of Town & Country Garden Club, HCPH also sustained the Nourishing Huron County Community Garden into 2025. The 2025 garden included:
 - Zucchini, giant jalepeno peppers, sweet banana peppers, Big Bertha sweet peppers, jet set tomatoes, paste tomatoes, lemon-basil herb, cilantro herb.
 - All produce harvested from the garden was donated to the Norwalk Area Food Bank for the community to enjoy.



PEP+ Grant

Each year, HCPH applies for the PEP+ Grant through the Public Entities Pool (PEP) of Ohio. This grant is intended to cover safety items wherein the primary purpose of the item is prevention or reduction of liability claims or property losses, as well as risk control trainings. In 2025, the PEP+ Grant was used to secure \$1,000.00 in funding toward the replacement of an exterior door at the rear entry of HCPH's building. The pre-existing door was not a steel door, and sagged on its hinges, making it difficult to lock. It was replaced with a steel door, in a steel frame and was equipped with a steel anti-theft strike plate. The PEP+ grant paid for \$1,000.00 of the \$6,750.00 expenditure.

DRUG OVERDOSE AND SUICIDE FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE 2025

The Huron County Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review Committee conducts structured, quarterly reviews of adult suicide and overdose deaths to better understand contributing factors and identify opportunities for prevention. Cases are reviewed approximately two quarters after the death certificate is finalized. This built-in delay allows the Committee sufficient time to gather investigative findings and collect relevant information from agencies, organizations, healthcare providers, and others who had contact with the deceased.

In 2025, the Committee reviewed six suicide deaths and four overdose deaths involving Huron County residents. Findings from these reviews are used to guide local prevention and postvention strategies aimed at reducing suicide and overdose in the community.



If you or someone you know is struggling, help is available.

- **'988' Suicide and Crisis Helpline**
Call or Text '988'
- **SAMHSA Helpline**
1-800-662-4357
- **Disaster Distress Helpline**
1-800-985-5990

Community Programs Division

PREVENTION GRANTS

Formerly known as Providing Resources and Opportunities Sustaining Prevention and Education for Resilience (PROSPER), the Huron County Prevention Coalition aims to promote the health and well-being of our community by utilizing effective strategies that support community partner efforts to reduce alcohol and substance use while improving the mental health of the community. In 2024, HCPH hired a full-time Prevention Coordinator to spearhead HCPH's prevention grants and oversee the implementation and progression of the Huron County Prevention Coalition through monthly coalition meetings, and various collaborative efforts with community partners.

Drug Free Communities (DFC)

The DFC grant is contracted through Huron County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services (MHAS). The DFC program goals are to establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, public and private non-profit agencies, and federal, state, local, and tribal governments. This program supports the efforts of community coalitions working to prevent and reduce substance use among youth and, over time, reduce substance use among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increase risk for substance use and promoting factors that minimize risk for substance use.



Official DFC Logo

Suicide Prevention Framework (SPF)

HCPH has a contracted partnership with Sandusky County Public Health for the SPF grant. The purpose of this program is to help reduce the onset and progression of substance misuse and its related problems by supporting the development and delivery of community-based substance misuse prevention and mental health promotion services. The program is intended to expand and strengthen the capacity of local community prevention providers to implement evidence-based prevention programs. HCPH's substances of focus are nicotine vaping and marijuana.

Community Programs Division

Youth Suicide Prevention (YS)

The Youth Suicide Prevention grant is directly funded from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). HCPH's areas of focus include reducing access to lethal means, Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) training, and Signs of Suicide training. For Reducing Access to Lethal Means, HCPH partnered with area agencies to give out free gun safes and cable locks, distributing over 200 safes and more than 100 gun locks in 2025. HCPH has contracted with CALM America to provide training to area medical providers. HCPH is working to implement Signs of Suicide Training in our local Huron County schools.



Image of Bulldog Standard Digital Pistol Vault distributed by HCPH, August 2025

Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) is a powerful addition to existing strategies to reduce the risk of suicide death in at-risk people while respecting their rights and autonomy. It helps keep at-risk clients safe by teaching providers how to collaborate with them to implement safe storage of firearms and dangerous medications. This training is great for mental health clinicians, primary care providers, substance abuse counselors, and hotline responders for crisis intervention services.

Signs of Suicide (SOS) is an evidence-based youth suicide prevention program that teaches middle and high school students how to identify warning signs of suicide and depression. It is provided in school as a classroom lesson with educational videos, discussions, and depression screenings. In 2025, SOS was implemented in schools, funded by HCPH's Prevention funds.

Check out photos below from some of the various community events attended by Prevention Coordinator, Paige Snyder.



August 21, 2025

Paige Snyder, Prevention Coordinator, and Cyleen Sharpe, Public Information Officer (PIO) attended Western Reserve Elementary's Back-to-School event. Paige and Cyleen distributed information from HCPH to families regarding programs available, and the prevention grants.

Community Programs Division

August 29, 2025

Paige Snyder, Prevention Coordinator, and Cyleen Sharpe, Public Information Officer (PIO) participated in the annual Overdose & Awareness Prevention Event at Sofios Park in Norwalk, hosted by Let's Get Real. Paige and Cyleen distributed information, as well as 8 gun safes at this event.



September 6, 2025

The Huron County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services (MHAS) hosted the 5th Annual Recovery Walk at Veteran's Memorial Lake Park in Norwalk.

At the event, Paige and Cyleen distributed information from HCPH to families regarding programs available, and distributed 16 gun safes at this event.

October 1-2, 2025

Lakeside Book Company in Willard invited HCPH to attend their 2-day employee health fair. At this event, Paige and Cyleen distributed information to employees regarding prevention programs and services, and distributed 99 gun safes at this event.



Additional Prevention Trainings Attended

- A Seat at the Table: Advocacy and Prevention Networking; April 15, 2025.
- Mental Health Awareness Walk (hosted by MHAS); May 1, 2025.
- Ohio School Safety Summit; June 9-10, 2025.
- Street Smart Ohio (hosted by Sandusky County); August 5, 2025.

Community Programs Division

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS DIVISION EVENTS

2025 Huron County Fair

Huron County Public Health had a booth at the 2025 Huron County Fair, held August 11th - 15th, 2025. At the fair, HCPH's Environmental Division conducted inspections of all food locations at the fairgrounds to ensure proper food safety precautions. HCPH's Nursing Division was in attendance and conducted free blood pressure screenings. The Community Programs Division carried out a variety of activities throughout the week including daily freebie giveaways, the Creating Healthy Communities (CHC) Heart Walk, distribution of free fruit/flower/vegetable seeds through the CHC grant program, provided by a partnership between the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and Marc's Grocery Store, and gun safe distribution provided through the Ohio Department of Health's Youth Suicide Prevention Grant. Additionally, individuals age 11+ could complete a community feedback survey for a free t-shirt, provided thanks to the generous donations from our fair sponsors!

View some of our photo gallery from the 2025 Huron County Fair!



Daily Giveaway Items in 2025

- T-shirts designed by HCPH staff
- COVID-19 at-home test kits
- Gun locks and Lock boxes
- Naloxone and Fentanyl test strips
- Roth ID Tags for car seats
- Band-Aid dispensers
- Pens
- Stress relief cows
- Mini pig cold packs
- Med minders

Thank You to all 2025 Sponsors!

Medical Division

The HCPH Medical Division provides a variety of medical services to Huron County residents, including immunizations, reproductive health services, school health services, alcohol and opioid addiction services, as well as numerous other public health-focused nursing services. Many of the services listed above may be offered in our Norwalk office, Bellevue office via a contract with the City of Bellevue, our New London location at the New London Alliance Church, generously provided by the New London Alliance Church. Additionally, services provided in 2025 were also offered in the previously owned HCPH Willard office, which was sold in January 2026. HCPH is partnering with the Willard Memorial Library/Huron County Community Library to continue offering services to families in Willard and surrounding locations at the library's Annex. Home visits, curbside, and drive-thru options are also available for certain services.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Immunizations are provided by HCPH to persons 6 weeks of age and up, following all current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.

HCPH continues to participate in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, and in 2025, HCPH provided vaccinations to 666 VFC-eligible children. Children birth through age 18 years, who are insured by Medicaid, have no health insurance, are Native American or Alaskan Native or are underinsured, are VFC-eligible. No child is turned away for their family's inability to pay for these vaccinations.

A total of 57 uninsured adults 19 years and older received 317 vaccines. These are provided to adults that do not have insurance that covers vaccinations. Vaccines provided through this program are more limited than those provided privately or through the VFC program.

There were a total of 93 home visits for vaccinations for special populations and Complex Medical Help (CMH) case managements provided. Additionally, the Registered Nurses offer to provide curbside vaccinations to those who prefer to come to the office but have difficulty ambulating.

In 2025, there were 328 doses of influenza (Flu) vaccines administered to individuals ages 6 months and older. HCPH provided a total of 9 onsite flu vaccinations at the request of employers and group housing residents. Additionally, there were 195 Tuberculosis (TB) skin tests placed in 2025. While not a vaccination, many people in healthcare, starting certain medications, or potentially exposed to TB, may obtain TB skin tests.

Medical Division

The total number of immunizations administered at HCPH in 2025 was 4,327 (including COVID-19 and flu vaccines). In 2024, the total was 3,383. The top five immunizations administered by HCPH in 2025 are summarized below.

TOP 5 IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED BY HCPH IN 2025

781 Tetanus, Diphtheria, & Pertussis (Tdap)

371 Hepatitis B

520 Meningitis ACW-Y & Meningitis B

328 Influenza (Flu)

420 Polio

OHIO BUCKLES BUCKEYES/CAR SEAT SAFETY

HCPH distributes infant and child car seats and booster seats to eligible Huron County families with the support of the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes grant. Designed for low-income families in need of safety seats for their children, this car seat instruction, distribution, and education service can help families who qualify by providing child passenger safety seats for children from all of Huron County. HCPH has Certified Passenger Safety Technicians available on staff to provide car seat checks, as well as provide a new car seat/booster seat to WIC-eligible families.



2025 Car Seat Safety Stats

HCPH Distributed:

- 53 car seats
- 2 high-back boosters
- 1 belt-positioning booster

HCPH Inspected:

- 14 car seats

DRIVE-THRU FLU SHOT CLINICS

Since the mid-2000s, HCPH has offered adult influenza vaccinations through drive-thru clinics held around the county. These clinics allow persons to be vaccinated in a convenient location quickly, without having to get out of their vehicle. In addition to being convenient to the public, drive-thru clinics also allow staff to practice emergency plans for emergency vaccination and medication distribution. In 2025, HCPH offered one drive-thru flu shot clinic in Norwalk.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

As required by Ohio Revised Code 3313.69, vision and hearing screenings for children in preschool, kindergarten, and grades 1,3,5,7,9, and 11 were completed (as well as children referred from other grades for concerns) in the following schools: Celeryville Christian School, Monroeville St., Joseph Catholic Elementary, Norwalk City Schools and preschool, T Squared Honors Academy, T Squared Honors Academy North, and Western Reserve Local Schools. This includes initial screening, and rescreening children that did not pass the initial hearing screening or did not have their glasses/contacts with them at the initial vision screening. HCPH also provides referrals (and follow-up referrals) home to parents for children who did not pass the initial or subsequent screening. Aggregate data is reported to the ODH by June 1st of every year, as required by Ohio Revised Code 3313.50. The Registered Nurses (RNs) also assist the schools in ensuring children are up to date on their vaccinations for school attendance per the Ohio Revised Code 3313.671 and report aggregate data to the ODH by October 15th of each year. RNs may also screen preschool-age children for height and weight twice per school year to ensure they are growing as expected. Schools may also request that RNs provide health education on various topics to students and staff.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND WELLNESS

HCPH provides reproductive health and wellness services to men and women of all ages in need of sexual health care through the Reproductive Health Grant. In calendar year 2025, which covers parts of two grant years, there were 314 visits for reproductive health exams, screenings, treatments, education and referrals. HCPH saw 90 new clients for this program. Screenings include pregnancy, postpartum complications, HIV, syphilis, Hepatitis C, pap/HPV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and mammograms. In 2025, 27% of clients seen were covered by private insurance.

Medical Division

Services are provided to those with or without insurance, and a sliding fee scale is available. In the calendar year 2025, HCPH served 169 unduplicated clients throughout 314 visits for the year. Medical services provided included contraception, sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing and treatment, vaccinations, breast exams, blood pressure checks, mental and behavioral health and substance use referrals, and cholesterol screenings, amongst others.

VIVITROL AND MEDICATION-ASSISTED THERAPY

Medication-assisted Therapy (MAT) is another service offered by HCPH's Medical Division. MAT is the use of medications, including Vivitrol, used in combination with counseling to treat substance use disorders. Clients are encouraged to obtain counseling and frequent check-ins are required with a Medical Provider. In 2025 HCPH served 17 unduplicated patients.



17

Number of clients that participated in the MAT program in 2025.

COMPLEX MEDICAL HELP (CMH) PROGRAM

Complex Medical Help (CMH), formerly known as Children with Medical Handicaps, is a financial assistance program for families with children with special healthcare needs. CMH provides financial services to rule out a handicapping condition, determine a diagnosis, or establish a plan of treatment for a child already diagnosed with a medical condition. HCPH assists families with applications and provides information on CMH-approved providers and case management for those approved for the program.

In 2025, approximately 180 families received Public Health Nurse case management services through the CMH program. These services may be offered after-hours and on weekends to best meet the needs of families whose children have complex chronic medical needs.

CRIBS FOR KIDS

This grant-funded program is sponsored by the Ohio Department of Health's Bureau of Maternal, Child and Family Health, Maternal Child Health Program's Cribs for Kids® Safe Sleep Program, and a sub-award of a grant issued by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). This program is offered to Women, Infant, and Children (WIC)-eligible families in Huron County and Bellevue City. HCPH provides eligible families with a portable crib and a Safe Sleep Kit that includes a fitted sheet, sleep sack, and pacifier, along with education on making sure infants are sleeping safely. In 2025, HCPH assisted 14 families with cribettes and Safe Sleep packs.

CHILD FATALITY REVIEW

Deaths of Huron County children under the age of 18 years are reviewed in the year after the death unless an investigation is still underway. While mortality data provides HCPH with information on child deaths (by number and cause of death), it is from careful study of each and every child's death that HCPH learns how to best respond to a death and how to best prevent another. Participants from public health, law enforcement, education, mental health, social services, pediatric specialists, and the county coroner are involved in these reviews. The deaths of 9 Huron County children were reviewed in 2025. These reviews help to identify trends of preventable injuries or illnesses, harmful locations, and dangerous situations to children in our community. HCPH and the review committee are now partnering with the Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review (SOFR) committee, as some cases overlap. The goal is to prevent future deaths and ensure that there are support systems in Huron County for families affected by the death of a child.

PROVIDING STAFF EDUCATION

The Registered Nurses provided yearly education to staff regarding bloodborne pathogens and confidentiality, and participated in planning for emergency response and communicable disease management and reporting.

PATERNITY SPECIMENS

Paternity specimens were collected from 56 people at the request of Child Support Enforcement Agencies locally and elsewhere. *Self-referred paternity specimens are not currently gathered at HCPH.*

SENIOR CENTER BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS AND EDUCATION

HCPH was pleased to join the Golden Agers group monthly at the New London American Legion Post 292 to offer blood pressure screenings and education on the second Wednesday of each month. HCPH Nursing Division made 11 visits to the Golden Agers group in 2025.

Environmental Division

The Environmental Health Division of HCPH promotes public health by addressing many of the environmental factors that can affect human health. The primary role of the Environmental Health staff is to prevent human illness or injury through public health functions which include inspection, regulation, and enforcement of food facilities, sewage, and private water systems (PWS), beaches, swimming pools, tattoo/body art establishments, and by investigating nuisance complaints and animal bites.

2025 HEALTH INSPECTIONS

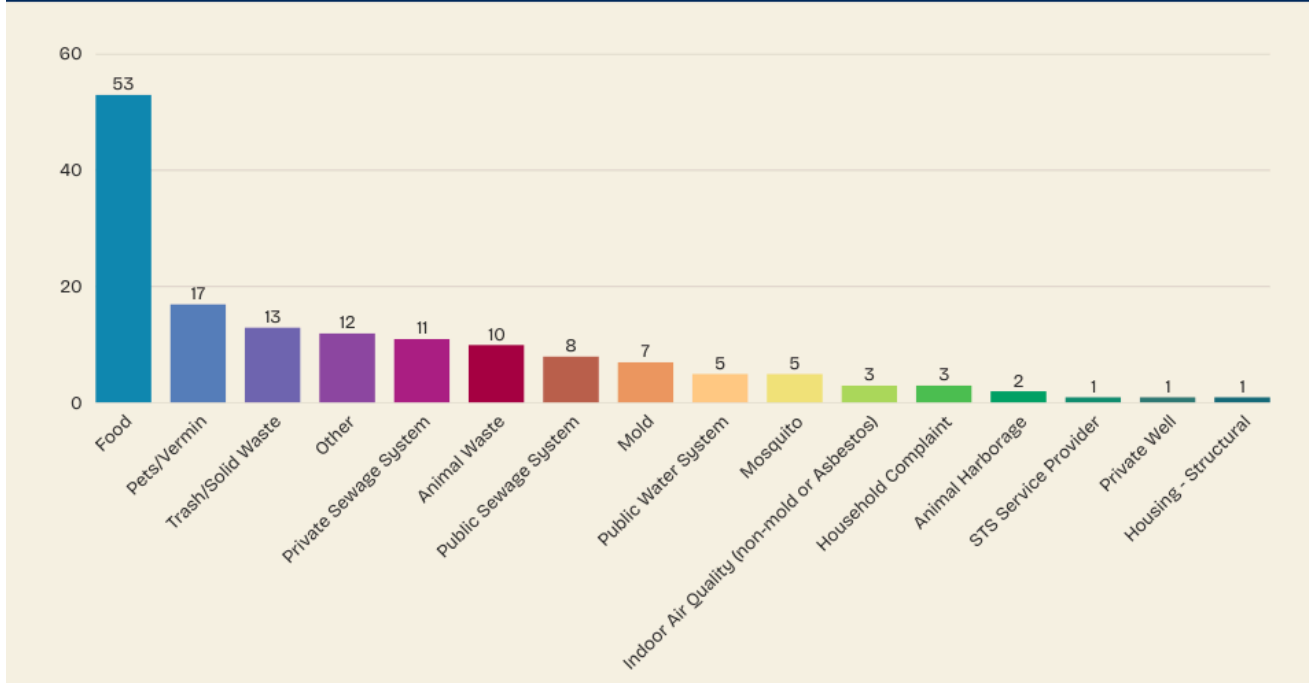
There were a total of 1,072 health inspections in 2025. The number of inspections by facility type can be seen below.



PUBLIC HEALTH COMPLAINTS

Complaints can be submitted to HCPH regarding a licensed and inspected facility or provider, which may include public bathing areas (beaches), campgrounds, food facilities, manufactured home parks, tattoo and body piercing facilities, swimming pools, plumbers, or other service providers. Complaints may also be made regarding a public health nuisance. Nuisance conditions that HCPH has jurisdiction over include solid waste and trash, rodents, insects, animal feces, sewage system malfunctions, water system issues, mosquito breeding, and mold (rental properties only). A total of 84 public health complaints were made to HCPH in 2025, as outlined on the next page. Note that one complaint may involve multiple concerns (*ie.*, *Trash/solid waste and mosquitos*).

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPLAINTS BY TYPE 2025



WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF)

In 2025, HCPH announced another round of funding available to assist Huron County residents in replacing or repairing failing household sewage treatment systems (HSTS) through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA)'s Water Pollution Loan Control Fund (WPCLF). Funds were made available to assist residents in covering 50% - 100% of the cost of repairing or replacing their septic system. There were a total of 20 applicants for the program in 2025 for Spring and Fall. Of the 20 applicants, 2 recipients had 100% of the cost covered, 2 recipients had 85% covered, and the remainder of Fall applicants are still under review at the time of this report.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

In January 2015, the Ohio Department of Health adopted new rules regarding private sewage treatment systems (STS) in Ohio. These new rules mandate that all health districts in Ohio develop and implement a local Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Program to ensure all STSs in their jurisdiction are monitored for regular maintenance, service, pumping, and proper function. To fulfil the requirements within Ohio Revised Code: 3718, and the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3701-29, Huron County Public Health implemented a sewage O&M Program that became effective March 25, 2019. Permits issued through the O&M Program create a standard timeline for review, ensuring systems are maintained on a

Environmental Division

regular basis, and ultimately addressing failing systems. Proper maintenance and timely replacement of sewage treatment systems directly influences the general health of our local waterways and groundwater supply. These water sources are used by all county residents, and protecting their usability is a vital public health concern.

RABIES PROGRAM

Ohio laws require mandatory reporting of possible human rabies exposure to the local health department in the jurisdiction in which the exposure occurred in. In 2025, there were 103 animal bites in Huron County, with 123 incident reports made to HCPH regarding animal bites and possible rabies exposure in Huron County.

FOOD STANDARDIZATION GRANT

In 2025, HCPH applied for and was granted a renewal of funding from the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Retail Flexible Funding Model (RFFM) Grant Program. The program provides funding to State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) retail food regulatory agencies as they advance conformance with the Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards (VNRFRPS). This grant period was in effect from April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026, and allowed Huron County Public Health funding to offset wages and education expenses incurred with completing the Nine Standards of the RFFM Program.

GOLD PLATE AWARDS

The Gold Plate Award is an acknowledgment given by Huron County Public Health to food services that have excellent food safety practices. This award is given annually based on the facility's performance throughout the current licensing year. This is a voluntary program and each facility must apply each year to be considered. There were 18 recipients for the Gold Plate Awards in 2025.





Huron County Public Health would like to congratulate the following Huron County restaurants and retail food service facilities for receiving the 2025 Gold Plate Award

Bellevue

- First Church Childcare and Pre-School
- Fraternal Order of Eagles 490
- Mickey Mart #24

Collins

- Western Reserve High School

Greenwich

- East of Chicago
- Mickey Mart #15
- South Central Local Schools

New London

- Gas Depot/Subway
- New London Local Schools
- New London Wildcat Cafe

Norwalk

- Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC)
- Mickey Mart #55
- Sheri's Coffee House
- Taco Bell
- Vargo's Drive-In

Willard

- Domino's Pizza
- Dunkin Donuts #364425
- Mickey Mart #59



Administrative Division

PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE GRANT (PHWG)

In addition to overseeing Vital Statistics, the Administrative Services Division oversaw the receipt and execution of the PHWG. The purpose of this funding is to support activities related to recruitment, retention, and development of the agency's workforce needed for delivery of quality public health services.

VITAL STATISTICS

The Administrative Service's Vital Statistics Office issues birth and death certificates for anyone that was born or passed away in the state of Ohio. HCPH is able to assist the public in obtaining certified copies of a birth or death certificate. The following options are available:



Online Ordering

Available at www.huroncohealth.com/vital-records



Walk-In/Same-Day Service

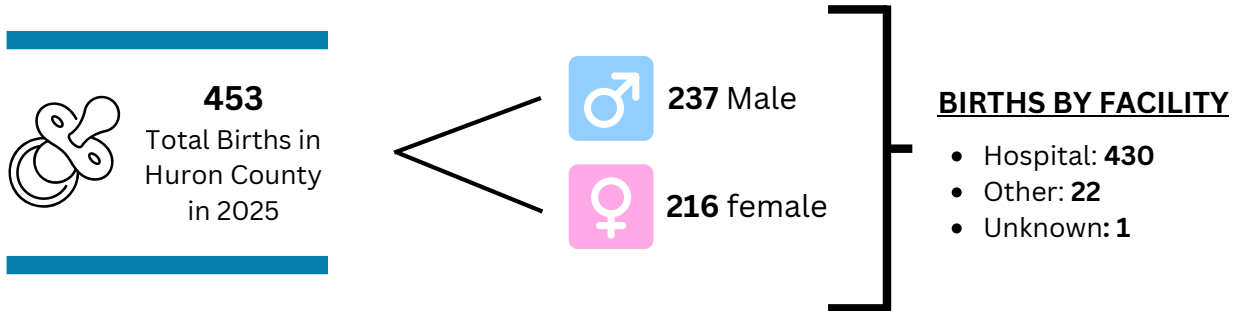
Available at HCPH main office at 28 Executive Drive in Norwalk



Mail-In Request

Administrative Division

HURON COUNTY BIRTHS



BIRTHS IN HURON COUNTY BY MOTHER’S COUNTY OF RESIDENCE

The following charts depict births in Huron County by the mother’s county of residence and facility.

Births by Mother’s County of Residence	Number of Births
Ashland	12
Erie	58
Huron	300
Lorain	12
Ottawa	11
Richland	21
Sandusky	22
Seneca	6
Total	453

HURON COUNTY DEATH STATISTICS FOR 2025

**Both resident and non-resident*

Gender	Number of Deaths (%)
Females	257 (48.58%)
Males	272 (51.98%)
Total Deaths	529

2025 Financial Statement

Statement of cash receipts, cash disbursements, and changes in fund balances. All funds listed below are for the period of January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025.

2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENT			
Statement of cash receipts, cash disbursements, and changes in fund balances. All funds for the period through December 2025.			
Fund Cash Balance 12/31/2024	\$930,713	\$661,870	\$1,592,583
2025 Cash Receipts			
	General Fund	Special Funds	Total
Local Taxation	\$940,464		\$940,464
Charges for Services	\$452,786	206,327.00	\$659,113
Fines, Licenses and Permits	\$436,220		\$436,220
Donation Revenue (Fair, Copies CHP)	\$3,354		\$3,354
Contract & Misc Revenue	\$141,901	1,311.00	\$143,212
Federal Grant Funds	\$0	\$782,025	\$782,025
State Grant Funds	\$18,986	\$60,229	\$79,215
Total Cash Receipts	\$1,993,711	\$1,049,892	\$3,043,603
2025 Cash Disbursements			
	General Fund	Special Funds	Total
Salaries	\$778,622	\$531,216	\$1,309,838
PERS/Workers Comp/Medicare	\$121,978	\$78,422	\$200,400
Health Benefits	\$88,615	\$84,430	\$173,045
Travel	\$1,997		\$1,997
Supplies	\$30,408	\$0	\$30,408
Vaccine	174,744		\$174,744
Project Expense		\$413,013	\$413,013
Principal Retirement	\$70,000		\$70,000
Contracts-Services/Repairs	\$312,691		\$312,691
Advertising and Printing	\$1,195		\$1,195
Other Expenses (Meeting/Training Expense, Client Refunds, Liability Insurance, Cable/Phone, Postage, Electronic Health Records, Lab Fees)	\$49,368		\$49,368
Equipment	\$730		\$730
State Fee Remittance	\$66,803		\$66,803
County Health Assessment Costs	\$0		\$0
Total Cash Disbursements	\$1,697,151	\$1,107,081	\$2,804,232
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$296,560	(\$57,189)	\$239,371
Transfers/Advances In	\$250,000	\$40,000	\$290,000
Transfers/Advances Out	\$40,000	\$250,000	\$290,000
Fund Cash Balance 12/31/2025	\$1,324,403	\$555,066	\$1,879,469
Reserve for Encumbrances	\$61,033	\$2,397	\$63,430
Available Cash Balance January 1, 2026	\$1,324,400	\$520,274	\$1,844,674

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**Huron County
Public Health**
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



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