

# Joint City-Cowley County Health Department



## 2016 Annual Report of Activities

**City-Cowley County Health Department**  
**320 E 9th, Suite B**  
**Winfield, KS 67156**  
**620-221-1430**

The report of activities and accomplishments of the Joint City-County Health Department for the year ended December 31, 2016. This report is provided to the elected representatives and citizens of Cowley County, Kansas.



City-Cowley County  
Health Department

Prevent~Promote~Protect

115 E. Radio Lane  
Arkansas City, KS  
67006

320 East 9<sup>th</sup>, Suite B  
Winfield, KS  
67156



***From the Administrator/Public Health Officer:***

***2016 was in many ways a remarkable year in Cowley County. Aside from the excitement generated by elections, it was a year in which the Health Department worked to make significant impacts and improve health in the community. Historically 2016 marked the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Health Department on July 1st 1946. What began as a local demonstration project designed to combat tuberculosis, contagious disease and improve the health of children has grown into a full spectrum public health organization focused on improving and protecting the health of all Cowley County residents.***

***During the past year we have worked hard to make evident the value of the services that the Health Department provides. We aid community members of all ages, we strive to keep you thriving through multiple means, we toil to prepare and plan for emergencies of all kinds, we track health threats that are well established and those that are new and evolving. Your well-being is of paramount importance to us for we know that healthy people create healthy homes and healthy communities. As always we accomplish our work in the most cost effective manner possible. We protect the funding we receive and leverage it with partnering sources so that we have the necessary means to meet the challenges and opportunities to provide service as they arise.***

***Over the past 70 years many things have changed but many things have also remained the same; the need to stop and prevent the spread of disease, the need for improved health of mothers and children, the need to have a healthy workforce, the need to educate people and protect our surroundings and use proper sanitation methods. The work seems never ending but never is the work unrewarding.***

***Health Department accomplishments are the result of the hard work of the dedicated staff that we employ. It is also achieved with the guidance and input of the Board of Health, a devoted group of volunteers who give of themselves to benefit others and I am humbled to be able to work with them. Of course I am also very thankful for our city and county managers and the elected commissioners who represent and live in our communities. Your support of the Health Department indicates that you take good health seriously and that you value the work being accomplished.***

***In the coming months we look forward to providing continued services to you. I am pleased to provide you this annual report; so you may stay informed about what the Health Department does and how our efforts help us all enjoy healthier lives. Please continue to join us as we work to make Cowley County one of the healthiest counties in Kansas.***

***Stay Well;***

***Thomas Langer  
Administrator/Public Health Officer***



## City~Cowley County Health Department

### *Our Vision:*

Cowley County residents enjoying healthy lives, exercising personal responsibility for their health and the health of their family members.

### *Our Mission:*

The City-Cowley County Health Department works to promote excellent health, prevent disease, and to protect the environment to benefit all our citizens.

**Prevent~Promote~Protect**

# **CITY-COWLEY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

## **2016 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**

In 1946, a joint resolution was adopted by the Cowley County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Commissioners of the cities of Arkansas City and Winfield and was joined by additional health and nursing boards and formed the Joint City-Cowley County Health Department to be governed by a local Board of Health. Each of the local governing bodies appointed the members. Our Board of Health was one of the first eighteen within all of the state of Kansas and to this day retains the same structure that was designed by the founders.

Today more than seventy years later the City-Cowley County Health Department remains committed to public health service and can be characterized as a multi-disciplinary organization that includes physicians, nurses, environmental officers, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, dietitians, health educators and communication professionals; that assess common health measures and work to improve community health and the quality of life by providing interventions and promoting healthy behaviors.

This constitutes the Annual Report of Activities to the local appropriating units of government for the City-Cowley County Health Department as required in our founding Constitution and the Bylaws of the Board of Health. This report is evidence that we are continuing to fulfill our mission and within the community. While a report such as this strives to be comprehensive it cannot detail everything that occurred but it does present as record of our activities during 2016 as summarized below:

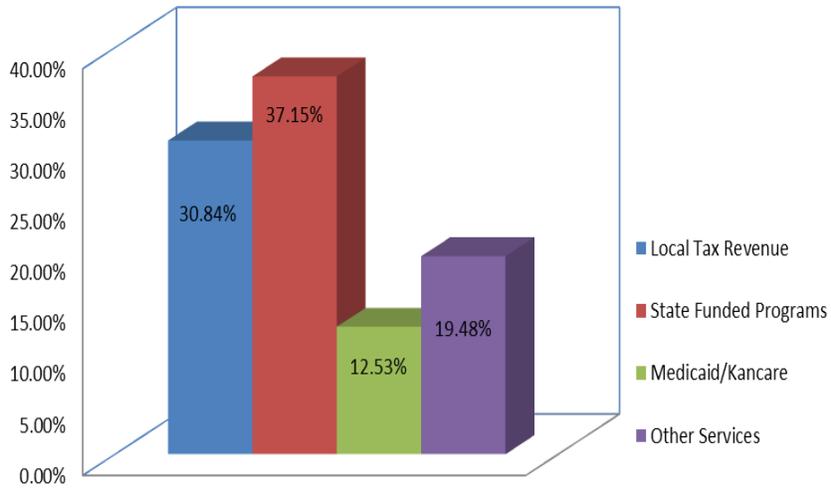
### **2016 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Health Department management and the Board of Health are committed to operating efficiently while providing excellent service to all county residents. We are pleased to report that the fiscal condition of the City-Cowley County Health Department is stable. During 2016 Jarrett & Norton CPA provided audit services to insure that all accounting practices connected to the department are consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for governmental entities and public law.

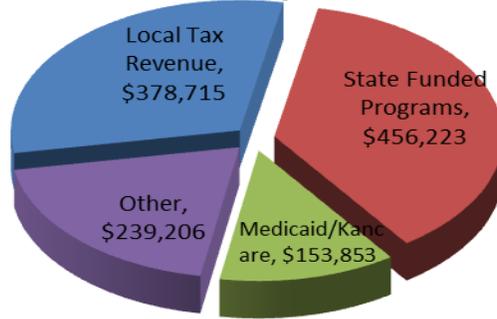
A Balanced budget for the year 2016 was set at \$1,120,160.00. The final income for the year was \$1,228,000; which was 2.32% or \$27,841 more than budgeted. Management was able to leverage funding successfully as increased revenues were a direct result of newly negotiated grant payments and for collection and reimbursement for services provided. 2016 income was \$121,498 more than 2015 income of \$1,106,503. Carryover funding is held in reserve for future needs of the health department specifically associated with facilities and emergency public health operational needs. Expenditures for the year were tightly controlled and did not exceed original budgeted income levels. Expenditures specific to medical services expanded over previous years but were matched by offsetting income for services. The Health Department is fiscally sound and continues to apply prudent fiscal policy while working to continually improve the health of county residents.

Key comparisons of income sources are provided in graphic form on the following page:

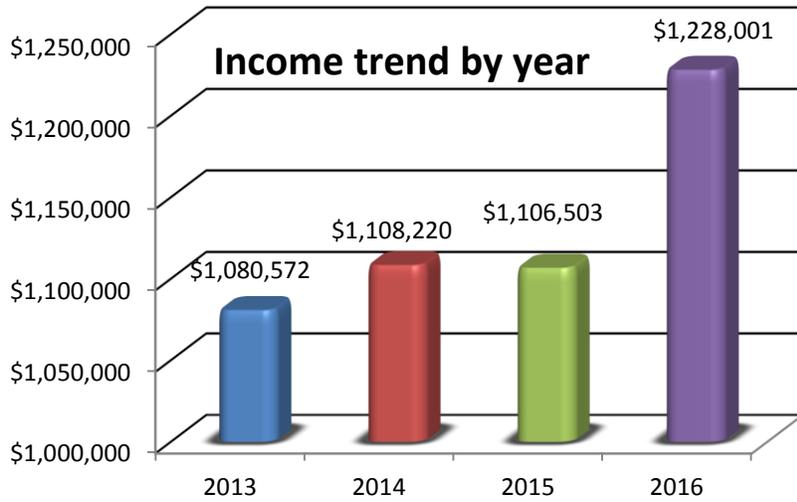
**2016 income by source as %**



**2016 Income by source as \$**



**Income trend by year**



## **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS - 2016**

Your health department is a vital member or sponsor of numerous partnerships and coalitions in the County. We understand that as a single organization we can accomplish some things and make a difference but as part of larger groups we can contribute to lasting worthwhile changes. Keeping with the tradition of being a community citizen we proudly participate in and strongly support the Cowley County Healthy Communities Coalition, Safe Kids Cowley County, Breastfeeding Advocates of Cowley County, Clean Air Cowley County and the Local Environmental Protection Committee.

A major component of our mission is to perform outreach and conduct public health education in the community. The following list details some of the more visible ways in which we fill that purpose in our County.

- The Cowley County Health and Safety Fair, an event that continues to grow in popularity and participation.
- The promotion of driver safety and seatbelt use is strongly supported by the Health Department and the police departments in our communities.
- The Breastfeeding Advocates of Cowley County a leading organization in the State that helps and supports mothers and children as they seek to begin life in the healthiest manner possible.
- Safe-Kids Cowley County we continue to support child safety in both motor vehicles and on bicycles through car seat checks and helmet give away promotions. No child in Cowley County should have to be at risk for injury during these activities.
- Annual influenza clinics throughout the County including the annual “Drive-Thru” opportunities in Arkansas City and Winfield.
- The annual Community wide “Baby Shower” for all new and expectant parents.
- Safe walking to school practices for children and adults as the school term begins.
- Safe “Trick or Treating” practices for children.





(Safe Kids Cowley County)



(County wide Baby Shower)



(Walk to School Day)



(Drive thru Flu Clinic)

Public Health is permanently engaged in Emergency Preparedness. In today's fast changing world we are continually faced with emerging threats to our health and safety. Severe weather, vector borne or other contagions, manmade disasters and accidents can strike with little or no warning. To prepare for the worst you must first imagine the unimaginable. It is grim work considering the devastation that emergency events can inflict upon our communities we spend the serious time to contemplate our community structures and develop all hazards plans to protect and preserve life. Your Health Department works diligently with the Cowley County Emergency Management staff and the local first responders. We partner with health care providers to plan and practice as best we can to prepare for a moment none of us hopes to ever face. The Health Department receives funding from Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to work on such plans and keep them updated annually. In 2016 we prepared plans for dealing with a mass loss of lives, we practiced our ability to respond rapidly to an epidemic, we reviewed our severe contagion outbreak response and also spent time to review the threat to our community of the Zika virus and other vector borne illnesses and diseases. In both the Spring and Autumn of 2016 the Health Department served the community during times of flooding and in support of events that brought large crowds to Cowley County.

Your Health Department works closely with both local hospitals, South Central Kansas Medical Center (SCKMS) and William Newton Hospital (WHN). During 2016 as part of our continuing support we worked to identify key areas of concern that will help guide the efforts of the Health Department now and in the future as we continually seek to make Cowley County a healthier place to live, work and raise a family.

## **PROGRAM AND PROJECT REPORT**

### **Immunizations**

This is a priority service area that is focused to move to action people of all ages in order to protect individual and community health. The Health Department is a vaccination provider and works hard to vaccinate the population against the following known diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, varicella (chicken pox), haemophilus influenza type b (Hib), pneumococcus, and hepatitis A. The department also provides annual influenza vaccinations and travel vaccinations including typhoid and yellow fever.

To gauge success in the area of vaccination administration the overall rates of population vaccination are tracked. Three key groups are examined. The first is children up to 36 months old. Data provided by the Kansas Health Institute indicates that Cowley County has an 82% immunization rate meaning that 82% of children in this age group are fully immunized against known disease and have received the complete series of early childhood vaccinations. That rate is 3% higher than the overall state average of 79% and 3.1% higher than similar type counties in our state. The unvaccinated and under vaccinated people in our population present a risk which has become increasing evident with outbreaks of measles, mumps and Pertussis (whooping cough) in our state. Cowley County has been fortunate to this point and has not had a serious outbreak but luck is not a factor we wish to rely upon.

The Health Department continued close collaboration with local school districts in 2016 to ensure that Kansas statutes and regulations that require immunizations be up to date or proof of disease be documented are adhered to. Even as the department maintains consistent immunization rates and our unified school districts complete annual immunization audits, some members of our Cowley County community avoid or find exemption for the use of vaccines.

This choice increases the risk of vaccine preventable disease outbreaks within Cowley County. We are working hard to identify and notify families needing to obtain or remain current upon preventative vaccinations. We offer all vaccines to families and especially to children regardless of ability to pay – so there should be no barrier to the service. Just as it was in 1946 when our Health Department was first organized the need to keep children healthy remains a major focus of our work.



(Courtesy of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment)

The second population group we look at in the areas of vaccinations and wellness are teenagers and young adults. Sadly a misconception exists that once a child has been vaccinated and enters school all is well and further vaccinations are no longer needed. The reality is that the preteen and adolescent age group is at very high risk for specific preventable diseases such as meningococcal disease, hepatitis and human papillomavirus. Parents and teen aged children need to be aware that to remain fully protected that well person visits and immunization reviews should occur annually. The Health Department can help in this regard and work with you to insure that you stay healthy during a time in life where health risks flourish and change happens rapidly.

The final age cohort that we look closely at is adults. As we age we become more affected by illness and diseases. The need to monitor and maintain health is more vital as we age and part of that monitoring is adherence to a routine schedule of vaccinations such as yearly influenza and if needed pneumonia. Many adults are also concerned about Varicella (chickenpox and shingles). The Health Department can assist any adult that has questions about vaccinations and provides easy access to them. We also process all types of insurance claims and can help families figure out what insurance covers and pay for and if need be we can work on simple payments for needed immunizations not covered. We will work with you to help you understand health care and control the cost as well.

In 2016 the Health Department administered 6016 vaccinations to Cowley County residents of all ages, an increase of nearly 500 vaccinations from 2015.

## **Flu Immunizations**

In 2016 the department administered more than 1500, doses of seasonal influenza vaccine. For the tenth straight year, the health department provided drive-thru flu clinic events in both Arkansas City and Winfield. This mode of distribution offers a quick and extremely convenient way for individuals to receive preventative or protective pharmaceuticals. It is particularly suited for those who have the following: physical mobility challenges, disability or poor health status and young children (who can remain in the vehicle). Other positive factors for this activity include over coming time constraints which do not allow easy access to a medical appointment and limited disease transmission, as people remain in their vehicle.



Additionally the Health Department partnered with the County to assist in providing vaccinations for county employees. This arrangement allowed easy access for employees and a lower cost to the county health insurance plan. We also worked with the office of the County Clerk to host Vote & Vax in Cowley County. This opportunity was underwritten by a local not for profit foundation and allowed any voter who was unable to pay for a vaccination to have one free of charge. These clinics provide ease of access and allow anyone who wants or needs the flu shot the opportunity to get one. The distribution process also allows the Health Department to practice our Point of Dispensation (POD) plan for vaccine or antibiotic distribution that may be implemented for emergency response in a pandemic or terrorist event.

## **Communicable Disease Control**

In order to protect the public's health, the City-Cowley County Health Department provides epidemiological services in conjunction and collaboration with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology. Health Department staff utilizes the Kansas Electronic Disease Surveillance System, (EpiTrax) for managing all reportable diseases. Our department investigates communicable diseases by identifying source cases of infection, ensuring treatment, investigating transmission to other individuals, electronically reporting case data and providing immunizations to prevent additional spread of infection. To date the department maintains six staff members able to perform epidemiological services.

Health Department investigations and State of Kansas data reveals that Cowley County has a higher than expected rate of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI). Sadly it is not uncommon for more than 26% of Cowley County teenagers to become infected with a sexually transmitted disease. The Health Department continues to target this area of concern to gain improvements in population health, reduce the rates of teen pregnancy and lower the rate of newborn children at risk of serious health outcomes.

## **Family Planning Services**

The Family Planning Program is designed to prevent unintended pregnancies by offering affordable methods of birth control accompanied by education and counseling. In addition, pap smears, breast exams, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases are provided. Depending on the client's needs, they are served by a physician, physician assistant or public health nurse.

## **Early Detection Works**

The Early Detection Works Program serves more than 5,300 Kansas women annually providing nearly 20,000 screening and diagnostic services. Women who are diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer through Early Detection Works are able to receive treatment in Medicaid through the "Treatment Act." Cowley County has had several cases diagnosed and women have been successfully treated thanks to this service.

## **KAN Be Healthy**

KAN Be Healthy Assessments (KBH) are provided to Medicaid recipients from birth to 21 years of age. The KBH medical screens include vision, hearing, and dental assessment. The KBH screen follows the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment guidelines and is considered an important tool in preventive health care and developmental screening.

## **Tiny Teeth Program**

The Tiny Teeth Program provides education on oral health in conjunction with fluoride varnish applications to children that receive Kan-Be-Healthy Assessments or request service. Fluoride has been scientifically demonstrated to be a safe and effective means of reducing dental carries. Good oral health practices that are initiated early help to ensure good oral health outcomes for life. Fluoride varnish applications can begin as early as 6 months of age or initial eruption of the first tooth. The fluoride is "painted" onto the baby teeth by a public health nurse. This application is repeated every 6 months with a possible total of five applications.

## WIC

The Woman, Infants and Children Program provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women; and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk. Our WIC nutritional supplement program is one of the health department's most utilized programs. The goal of the program is to prevent or correct health problems associated with poor nutrition. This equates to better health, contributing to lower infant mortality in the county, as well as providing a boost to our local economy due to food vouchers exchanged at local grocery stores. Annually the WIC program adds over \$800,000.00 to the Cowley County economy and provides nourishing healthy food to 1200 families.



The WIC food packages have changed to better meet the nutritional needs of WIC participants. The recent food packages align with the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and infant feeding practice guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics. WIC foods are intended to "supplement" participants' food intake and should be consumed along with other wholesome foods needed for a balanced diet.

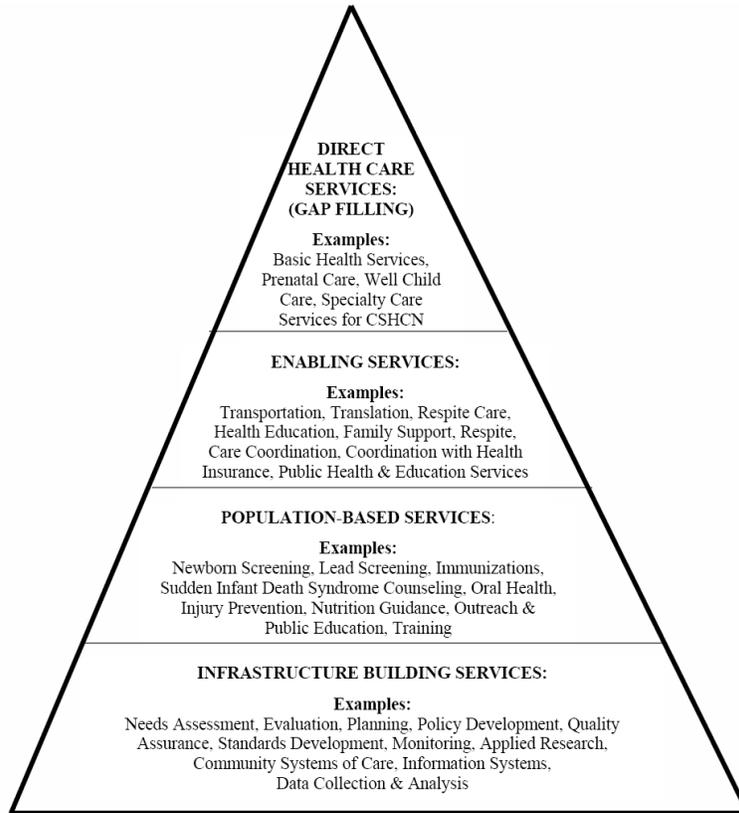


(WIC exclusive breastfeeding food package)

### **Maternal Child Health-Prenatal Risk Reduction- Healthy Start Home Visits**

The goals of the Maternal Child Health Program (MCH) are to reduce the incidence of poor pregnancy outcomes, reduce child abuse and neglect, and ensure early identification of infants and families at risk. Integration with other health and social services such as family planning, immunizations and child health assessments, supplemental food and nutrition programs (WIC), genetic and substance abuse counseling, pediatric health services, and prenatal care, general health assessments, basic health education and parenting education is emphasized. Enhanced services are available through the Family Planning Program for pre-pregnancy counseling and annual health screenings. MCH services provided through the MCH Block Grant include four tiers of services for MCH populations. The model below illustrates the uniqueness of the MCH

Block Grant, which is the only federal program that provides services at all levels of the pyramid. These services are direct health care services (gap filling), enabling services, population-based services and infrastructure building services. Public health programs are encouraged to utilize their funding to provide more of the community-based services associated with the lower-level of the pyramid and to engage in the direct care services only as a provider of last resort.



(MCH Services Pyramid: Source KDHE)



In Cowley County MCH home and hospital visits are provided to families expecting or with newborns. This program is a major area of emphasis moving forward and the Health Department has established goals of contacting every expectant mother in Cowley County to offer the home visitor service. The most recent data (2014) indicates that in Cowley County 50% of babies are born to single mothers; further 12% of babies are born to teenage mothers. Cowley County’s birth rate for live births county-wide remains at approximately 456 per year. Risk factors reveal that of this birth cohort 25% or 114 babies annually will be at high risk for health

problems. Our goal is to reduce this number and work with mothers during pregnancy and post partum to insure that their babies get off to a healthy beginning in life.



### **Child Safety Seat Program**

The health department currently employs six certified Child Safety Seat Technicians. The Child Safety Seat Technicians distribute and install nearly 100 car seats to eligible families in Cowley County each year.

The Safe Kids Cowley County car safety seat ticket forgiveness program continues to be a model for all of Kansas. Participant's misdemeanor violations are forgiven, on a one-time basis, if violators attend the health department's child safety seat class. This class is offered at a minimum of once a month in Arkansas City and Winfield.

### **Child Care Facility Licensing Program**

The regulation of child care facilities is designed to reduce the risk of predictable harm to children while in out of home care settings. Public regulation represents a basic level of protection for all children. Further, effective public regulation provides basic consumer protection. The health department employs two full time surveyors to carry out inspections of daycare providers to ensure that Cowley County Children are being cared for by qualified providers in a safe and healthy environment. Cowley County has more than 70 regulated child care facilities which consisted of licensed daycares, group daycares, child care centers and pre-schools. The total capacity of all of these regulated providers is nearly 900 children.

Through an agreement with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Cowley County also regulates the Child Care Licensing and Registration Program in Elk, Chautauqua Harper and Sumner Counties. Our expertise in this field extends to children and families in a large portion of South Central Kansas.

## Environmental Health Services

The City-Cowley County Health Department is responsible for ensuring enforcement of the Cowley County Sanitary Code. Implementation of the code is supported by user fees through the Local Environmental Protection Program. This code provides oversight to and the permitting of private wastewater systems throughout the county. Department staff works with numerous residents as they buy and sell or look to build and improve property and install or repair wastewater systems.

## Nuisance Abatement

The Public Health Officer has statutory authority and shares responsibility with the Cowley County Board of Commissioners to carry out Nuisance Abatement for the non-incorporated areas of Cowley County. The Environmental Health Officer is assigned the duty to investigate complaints and report back to the Cowley County Board of Commissioners. These efforts continue as we work to keep our County free of health and safety hazards. On properties where nuisances are found the Health Department works with property owners to resolve the issues.

## Lead Inspections

Due to the age of many residences and to parental occupational exposures, lead poisoning continues to be a health risk to many children in Cowley County. Lead is common in our environment and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) classifies lead poisoning as today's major preventable environmental health problem. Blood lead levels (BLLs) as low as 5 micrograms per deciliter (ug/dL) are associated with harmful effects on children's learning and behavior. Blood lead levels as high as 70 ug/dL can cause seizures, coma and death. You cannot just look at a child and determine if they have been exposed and are at risk. The only sure way to know is through a low cost blood lead screen that the Health Department can perform. All children in Cowley County should be checked at least 3 times once at 12 months of age or as they begin to crawl, then again when they are 2 years old and a final follow up before they start pre-school or kindergarten.

Adults who work in construction and remodeling, welding, oil and gas industries or who engage in hobbies that use leaded products should also be tested routinely to insure that you are not at risk or taking lead home to your families.

Annually over 600 lead tests are given to children who were considered at risk for lead exposure. Children who test above (>5mg/l) and considered at high risk. An environmental home visit is conducted when a child is diagnosed to be lead poisoned which occurs when the blood lead level is greater than 10 ug/dL and has been confirmed by a second test. Our department is fortunate that the Public Health Officer has extensive expertise in this area.



## **Chronic Disease Risk Reduction/Enhancement Grant**

The Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Grant is funded through the state from a block grant and funds obtained through the state's tobacco settlement. This program works with local coalitions to develop and carry out strategies to meet the goal of improving nutrition, increasing physical activity and reducing tobacco use. Program staff continues to support the activities of Clean Air Cowley County and is integral in the Health Communities Cowley County Coalition.

Chronic diseases account for roughly 75% of health care costs each year in the U.S. These costs represent greater than \$10 billion per year in Kansas. As states struggle to meet the staggering costs of providing health care to those in need, the most cost-effective interventions are often overlooked. Population health improvements are possible by reducing the prevalence of risk factors that underlie chronic disease and injury. The Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Grant priorities are improved nutrition, physical activity and tobacco prevention; these are modifiable behavioral risk factors for chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease.

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in Kansas. Annually, cigarette use alone causes approximately 3,800 deaths in Kansas, costing more than \$927 million in medical expenditures and \$863 million in lost productivity from an experienced workforce that dies prematurely. Currently 22% of Cowley County residents smoke and 24% of expectant mothers smoke during pregnancy!

More than 30% of children living in Kansas are overweight or at risk for becoming overweight. Healthcare costs related to obesity are excessive. In Cowley County during the year 1946 are concerns centered on malnourishment of children, in 2016 some 70 years later we must face the reality that we are in many cases still not consuming a healthful diet.

## **Bioterrorism and Emerging Infectious Diseases**

The department's Public Health Emergency Planning Program promotes all-hazards planning, defined as planning in the absence of a specific threat for capabilities that would be required to respond to any emergency regardless of the causative factor. The department receives Public Health Emergency Program (PHEP) funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to be used to maintain, refine and to the extent achievable, enhance the health and medical systems in Cowley County, including local exercising and improvement of preparedness plans for all-hazards. In addition, this program builds public health preparedness response capabilities through associated planning, personnel, equipment, training and exercise capabilities.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFFING:**

The City-Cowley County Health Department is staffed with 21 members. Our personnel carry out program activities in the department offices located in Arkansas City, Winfield and in outreach settings across the County. The Administrator maintains an open door policy with staff and creates a work environment where personal achievement is encouraged and rewarded and organizational improvement is required. We foster a learning environment where we constantly evaluate needs, create programmatic response, monitor results and evaluate our outcomes. The entire group of staff members value the public health principles stated in our mission. They work each day to better the lives of the citizens of Cowley County and continually look to find new ways to create a sense of pride and realization within the community that the Health Department is a vital resource for all of Cowley County.

Working in public health is a true calling and the citizens of Cowley County can take pride in the commitment to health that the staff exhibits each and every day.

### **MOVING AHEAD IN 2017:**

The City-Cowley County Health Department is consistently seeking new avenues and methods to provide public health service to our citizens. During 2017 the Health Department is taking on the role of Travel Health provider in Cowley County. This will allow individuals that travel abroad to take care of the required vaccinations, including Yellow Fever, needed locally and consult with a medical professional about health risks that can occur when traveling. The expansion of dietary counseling is also being considered as an extension service allowing local patients access to service that they otherwise may need to travel out of the area to receive. As always we will work to provide the best service at the lowest cost to everyone. Join us please as we help to make Cowley County a healthy place to live.

Prevent~Promote~Protect!



City-Cowley County  
Health Department

## **CITY-COWLEY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

The Cowley County Health Department was originally established in 1941, being among *the first eighteen health departments formed in the State of Kansas. In July, 1946 the cities of Arkansas City and Winfield* joined with the county to form the Joint City-Cowley County Board of Health.

The City-Cowley County Health Department is governed by the Joint Board of Health, with the local governing bodies appointing the following nine members:

Cowley County Commission, 3 at large appointments

City of Arkansas City, 1 appointment

City of Winfield, 1 appointment

USD #462, 1 appointment

USD #471, 1 appointment

Cowley County Licensed Physician – Approved by County Commission

Cowley County Licensed Dentist – Approved by County Commission

Members of the Board serve three-year terms. The Board annually elects a President and Vice-President in January. The Department's Administrator serves at the pleasure of the Board, is an ex-officio member of the Board, and serves as Secretary – Treasurer. A Licensed Physician is contracted to serve as Medical Consultant to advise the Public Health Officer/Administrator on medical matters. The Board maintains two offices, one in Winfield and another in Arkansas City.

### **2016 Board of Health Members:**

Bob Mathews, Arkansas City

President

Mary Benton, Arkansas City

Vice-President

Thomas Langer, MPA, (Administrator)

Secretary/Treasurer (Ex Officio)

Tessa Rohrberg, M.D., Winfield

Lorri Greenlee, R.N., Winfield

Nick Rogers, D.D.S., Arkansas City

Sharon Eggen, R.N. (retired) Arkansas City

Kelle Thompson, R.Ph. Winfield

K.C. Colvin., Dexter

Becky Meyers, Burden

## **2016 City-Cowley County Health Department Personnel:**

Bryan Dennett M.D., Medical Officer  
Ginger Bahruth P.A. Family Planning  
Van Coble, D.P.H., Consulting Pharmacist  
Thomas Langer MPA, Administrator/Public Health Officer  
Marsha Donals, R.N., Director of Nursing  
Kelli Waggoner, R.N., PHN, WIC Coordinator  
Kathy McKimens, R.N., B.S.N., PHN, Lead Investigation,  
Cheryl Huguley, R.N., PHN, Outbreak Investigation  
Karen Sattler, R.N., PHN, MCH Coordinator,  
Christina Pingry, Fiscal Accounts Manager  
Teri Bruner, Medical Services Accounts Coordinator  
Lorrie Gordon, Office Manager  
Jody Pew, Office Assistant  
Rylee Blanton, Office Assistant  
Ariel Lynn, Office Assistant  
Charissa Wall, Public Health Educator/Preparedness Coordinator  
Ruth Bumgarner, CDRR Coordinator  
Amber Benavides, MCH Health Educator  
Carol Misora, Environmental Health Officer  
Josephine (JoJo) Tijerina, Healthy Start Home Visitor  
Karen Knowles, Child Care Licensing and Registration Surveyor  
Patricia Wimmer, Child Care Licensing  
Alicia Ramey, R.D., Dietician, WIC Nutritionist

### **Acknowledgements for Content:**

- *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*
- *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases; Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) -*
- *World Health Organization*
- *US Health and Human Services*
- *Public Health Administration and Practice, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1990, Pickett/Hanlon*
- *Essentials of Public Health, 2007, Bernard J. Turnock*
- *US Homeland Security*
- *Kansas Department of Health and Environment*
- *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*