



Public Health Update

2022: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Another year for the history books and what an eventful one it was! 2022 saw many milestones and achievements from the Health Department. Here are some highlights from the past year!

The Health Department Mobile App

Our mobile app launched successfully and has allowed us to connect and communicate with the community more directly and more easily than ever! This feature-rich app has played a key role in helping many community members stay up to date on all the latest news in public health.

The Public Health Update

2022 also saw the beginning of this publication. Growing from our weekly COVID Updates, as the nature of the pandemic changed, so too did our efforts to communicate with the public. With 21 issues published since March, we hope everyone has enjoyed reading these and we hope you have been able to use these newsletters to help you stay healthy and stay well.

Healthy Start Home Visiting Expansion

The Healthy Start Home Visiting Program, one of the Health Department's key services, grew immensely this year! With the hiring of another home visitor and the expansion of services, this program is an excellent way to protect and promote the health of mothers and their children. Call us today if you're interested in participating!

Propio ONE

In 2022, the Health Department also greatly expanded its interpretation services through the use of Propio ONE, a telehealth, video-based interpretation service. With over 350 languages, including sign language and dialects, this service has helped us to better communicate with the community and connect people with the resources they need to stay healthy and well.



2023: NEW YEAR NEW PLANS

As 2022 comes to a close, we look forward to the new year of 2023. Next year promises to be a busy one with many new Health Department developments on the horizon!

Community Wide Baby Shower

Coming February 4th in 2023, the Community Baby Shower will be a fun-filled and educational event for expecting and new moms in the community. Make sure you mark your calendars so you don't miss out!

The Public Health Update Volume 2

Today's issue marks the end of *Public Health Update Volume 1*! Volume 2 will premiere on Friday, January 13th 2023 with some notable new updates and features! Stay tuned and get ready for a whole new version of the *Public Health Update*.

Health Department Patient Portal

The Health Department will be implementing a new patient portal in 2023. This portal will make the process of booking appointments, checking records, and updating information much easier for clients! Stay tuned for more information!

The Health & Safety Fair 2023

The Health & Safety Fair will be back in 2023! This time, the fair returns to the Winfield Fairgrounds on Saturday, May 6th! Mark your calendars and follow us on social media for more updates!

FEELING SICK?

If you do become ill, please do not participate in any group events until after you have fully recovered from your illness. For as long as the pandemic persists Cowley County residents are advised to take all necessary precautions to prevent the contraction and spread of ANY illness.

- Stay home if you feel ill.
- If you develop symptoms of illness, be tested to determine if you are infected.
- Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer.
- Clean high touch surfaces with disinfecting cleaners (doors, counters etc.).
- Wear a mask that properly covers your nose and mouth while in public.
- When ill stay home and isolate from others so you will not spread illness.

COVID AND ILLNESS DATA

As of December 28th, there have been **194 COVID cases** this month. This puts the **total for the year at around 5,177 cases**.

This year saw a marked increase in COVID cases, exceeding 2021's totals by over 1,000.

A new year does not mean the end of COVID nor the pandemic. COVID and other respiratory illnesses continue to circulate throughout the community. Only with the best practices can we all help to make Cowley County a healthier and safer place. Next year's new volume of the *Public Health Update* will feature some changes to this section in order to better inform the public of the current situation within the community.

With the new year, we promise to continue protecting the health of the community and to continue delivering the best information possible so that citizens can make the informed choices about their health.

Month to month new case information

New Cases	2021	2022
Month	2021	2022
January	828	2675
February	304	321
March	90	61
April	47	44
May	59	112
June	28	174
July	153	528
August	488	526
September	592	264
October	386	114
November	606	164
December	653	194*
TOTAL	4159	5177

Comparison of previous year, 2021, with current year to date

Year Total	2021	2022
Total Cases	4159	5177
% of cases	100%	124%