

**Pike County General Health District**

116 S. Market Street  
Waverly, Ohio 45690

*Serving the Citizens of  
Pike County*

*Monday through Friday  
8:00am until 4:00pm*

**ADMINISTRATION:**

**Health Commissioner,  
Matthew Brewster, MS**

**Medical Director,  
David Kessler, MD**

**Director of Environmental  
Health, Ryan Williams, REHS**

**Director of Nursing,  
Nikki Spencer, RN, BSN**

**Phone: .....947-7721**

**Fax.....947-1109**

**pcghd@pike-health.org**

**2021 Board of Health**

*Julie Thornsberry*

*Kathy Williams*

*Dr. Greg Montavon*

*Dr. Sean Stiltner*

*Braydon Bevens*

**Pike County**

**Commissioners**

*Tony Montgomery*

*Jerry Miller*

*Jeff Chattin*

**Waverly Mayor**

*Greg Kempton*

**Piketon Mayor**

*Billy Spencer*

**Beaver Mayor**

*William J. Roberts, JR.*

**District Advisory**

**Council**

*Lewis Pritchett, Chairperson*

*Chip Moore, Secretary*

***www.pike-health.org***

# 2021 Annual Report

## Pike County General Health District

**Dear Citizens of Pike County,**

On behalf of the Pike County General Health District Board of Health, it is my pleasure to present the 2021 Annual Report. The Pike County General Health District has safeguarded our community and protected our citizens for over 100 years. Our mission is to improve the quality of life of individuals and families in Pike county by preventing disease, promoting health, and providing environmentally safe surroundings.

The majority of 2021, much like 2020, was spent on COVID-19 response with the added focus on vaccination. Our response during the first half of the year, still included consulting with businesses, schools, local government, and numerous other entities related to the public health orders and everchanging guidance from the state. Once most of the public health orders were lifted in June, our response shifted to working mainly with schools, group homes, long-term care facilities, and other congregate care settings. We also dealt with contact tracing and case investigation including isolation and quarantine of those individuals who tested positive or who were exposed throughout the year. We were able to secure several grants to assist with overtime, supplies, equipment, and a few contract employees. In 2021, we gave 18,659 doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

As you are aware, we were finally able get a health levy passed in November — 55% to 45%. I would like to sincerely thank all those that supported our levy efforts and voted for the levy. The health district has not received any levy funds since 2015 and has been funded through inside millage from the municipalities as required in the Ohio Revised Code. With the passage of this tax levy, the financial burden has been completely removed from the townships and villages.

Please take a few moments to review the 2021 Annual Report of the Pike County General Health District. This report demonstrates the hard work and effort shown by our dedicated staff. We welcome the opportunity to serve you and your family throughout the upcoming year. Thank you again for your support and please join our efforts to see Pike County as a healthy community living, working, playing, and learning in a safe environment.



Matthew D. Brewster  
Health Commissioner



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Pike County General  
Health District

	<b>Fund:</b>	<b>Revenue:</b>	<b>Expenses:</b>
<b>Financial Report</b> <b>2021 Revenue and Expenses</b> To provide public health services in Pike County, the financial support of the community is necessary. Funding sources for the health district include: grants, contracts, fees for services, and the most important being the recently passed tax levy mentioned above that has now removed the financial burden from the municipalities.	General Health	\$485,562.37	\$417,873.72
	PHEP	\$81,702.97	\$52,047.87
	Hospital Disaster	\$15,029.17	\$13,400.21
	Safe Community	\$23,149.63	\$23,629.60
	Environmental	\$243,273.78	\$201,829.80
	WPCLF	\$256,632.25	\$149,363.80
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,105,350.17</b>	<b>\$858,145.00</b>

### The Role of the Pike County General Health District

The health district is truly the only county agency that is directly involved in the lives of our community from the cradle to the grave – we issue the birth certificate, provide childhood immunizations, provide a car seat if you can't afford one, make sure that the food you and your family eat and the water you and your family drink is safe, make sure your waste is properly disposed, ensure that the roadways are safer while you are on your way to work or taking your kids to school, make certain that the school your child attends is free of safety hazards, make sure the city pool your kids are swimming in all summer and the campground you frequently visit is safe, help you to enjoy the outdoors without worrying about mosquitos biting, monitor that dog for rabies that bit you while you were taking a walk, ensure that the produce you bought on your way home from work at the farmer's market is safe, provide that TB test for your new job, provide the meningitis vaccine for you to go to college, design your septic system for your new house, make certain that the rural road you live on doesn't become a tire dump or that your new neighbor doesn't litter the neighborhood with trash, set up a shelter during the power outage from the ice storm so you and your family can stay warm, provide adult immunizations, and then we issue your death certificate.

## Public Health

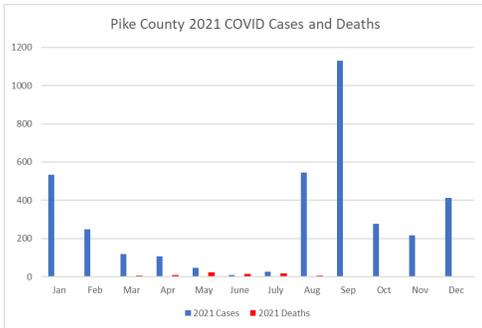
The Public Health Division of the Pike County General Health District remains dedicated to promoting and protecting the health of our community. To achieve this goal, our public health nurses focus on disease prevention, wellness promotion, and risk factor reduction. The Public Health Division also works in collaboration with other disciplines and agencies such as epidemiology, environmental health, Pike County Job and Family Services, Help Me Grow, Community Action, Partnership Against Domestic Violence, Pike County Drug Abuse Prevention and Re-entry Coalition, Pike Health Lifestyle Initiative, OSU Extension, Ohio Department of Health, and our local schools to ensure that the citizens of Pike County receive the resources they need to achieve optimal health and wellness.

The Public Health Division includes Nikki Spencer, RN, BSN, Director of Nursing, who coordinates the day-to-day operations and administrative duties. Autumn Osborn, LPN, handles our Immunization and Communicable Disease Investigation Programs. Sarah Ehrhart, LPN, and Bruce Colburn manage our COVID-19 vaccination efforts, off-site clinics, and education outreach. Sarah Spradlin, RN, runs our BCMH program that provides public health nursing services to children with special needs. Heather Taylor is our front desk clerk and assists with all public health operations.

The primary focus of 2021 was once again spent on COVID-19 response – contact tracing, case investigation, education, and robust vaccination efforts. One of our main goals was to ensure in-person learning by working closely with our schools, including offering vaccine clinics as soon as possible for school staff. During 2021, our nurses investigated 3,691 cases of COVID-19 including 14 outbreaks. Contact tracing was completed on 6,937 individuals. We also provided PPE and COVID-19 test kits throughout the community, including schools, businesses, group homes, and long-term care facilities.

The Public Health Division continues to offer an array of services to the community. We still participate in the Vaccines for Children Program, so no child is ever refused vaccines due to the inability to pay or a lack of insurance — no insurance, no problem. Our clinic is currently open Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm. In 2021, we administered 1,453 immunizations with 667 of those being flu shots and 18,659 being COVID-19 vaccines. We gave out 39 car seats through the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes Program. We continue to provide Naloxone to local law enforcement and EMS.

If you have questions regarding any of our services or need more information regarding health matters, our staff is dedicated to connecting you with the answers or resources you need.



## Accreditation

According to the Ohio Revised Code, each local health district in Ohio must become accredited. Failure to become accredited can result in loss of state and federal funds. Nichole Smith, BSH, is our Accreditation Coordinator.

The health district submitted over 220 documents, including a Community Health Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan, Strategic Plan, Performance Management Plan, and a Quality Improvement Plan to the Public Health Accreditation Board on 2/29/20. Our virtual site visit is scheduled for the week of April 19th, 2022. The accreditation process is a very time demanding, labor intensive, and expensive process that will require a total team effort to become accredited.

## Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Division is a team of professionals who work to protect you and your families from external hazards that negatively affect human health. This division includes: Ryan Williams, REHS, Director of Environmental Health, who oversees the day to day operations, administrative duties, and environmental inspections, Nichole Smith, SIT, who is responsible for inspecting all food service operations, retail food establishments, mobiles, and temporary licenses, and Kayla Hartley, RS, who oversees our Solid Waste Nuisance Abatement Program.

This division facilitates numerous programs required by the state that are essential to the public health of the county. These state-mandated programs include the inspection of food service operations and retail food establishments, residential sewage and septic systems, small flow commercial sewage systems, private water systems and wells, parks and camps, manufactured home parks, farmer's markets, schools, pools and spas, tattoo and body piercing establishments, animal bites and vector control, solid waste facilities, construction and demolition debris facilities, and public health nuisances. Every housing, sewage, and solid waste complaint is investigated to safeguard the community and environment.

The Environmental Health Division not only issues permits and conducts inspections, it is your local resource for advice, information, and services pertaining to all things environmental. From water pollution to subdivision planning, you can be assured our staff is here to serve and protect our county. We strive every day to make Pike County a healthier and safer place to live.

The Environmental Health Division continues to work on the household sewage system repair grant and received an additional \$150,000.00 for 2021. This division also reapplied for the mosquito control grant for 2021. These are strictly pass-through funds that cannot be used for salaries or other expenses.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Environmental Health Division was in charge of enforcement of the rules set in place by Gov. DeWine and Ohio Department of Health. This included investigation of mask complaints and indoor dining rules. Environmental Health Division has supported the Public Health Division during the pandemic. The staff assisted with positive COVID-19 cases, contact tracing, answering COVID-19 calls, scheduling COVID-19 vaccinations, and working our vaccination drive-thru clinic. Even with all the extra workload, the Environmental Health staff completed all state mandated inspections by their deadlines.

## Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Preparedness Program is funded through a grant administered through the Ohio Department of Health, to ensure the county is prepared and can effectively respond in the event of bioterrorism, communicable disease, chemical emergencies, mass fatality events, or any other public health emergency including natural disasters.

Ginny Dickerson, Emergency Response Coordinator, is responsible for managing the program. In the event of a serious or catastrophic event, the Pike County General Health District's emergency response plan has instructions to execute functions not typically planned for by other agencies.

## Vital Statistics

The health district maintains birth records for those who were born in Ohio from 1908 to present and death records for those who died in Pike County from 1919 to present.

Tabatha Tong, BA, is the registrar and is responsible for recording and managing birth/death records for those who have been born in or passed away in Pike County.

## Grants

The health district manages the following grants: Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Hospital Preparedness, Sewage Treatment System Repair, and several COVID-19 grants. Emily Hines is the coordinator for our Safe Communities Grant that focuses on traffic safety.

## Communicable Diseases

### Investigated

Babesiosis.....	0
Campylobacter.....	8
Chlamydia.....	68
COVID-19.....	3691
CP-CRE.....	3
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.....	0
Cryptosporidiosis.....	0
E. coli.....	1
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis.....	0
Giardiasis.....	0
Gonorrhea.....	24
Group A Streptococcal Disease.....	0
Haemophilus influenza.....	0
Hepatitis A.....	0
Hepatitis B.....	14
Hepatitis C.....	94
Influenza.....	1
LaCrosse Virus.....	0
Legionellosis.....	1
Listeriosis.....	0
Lyme Disease.....	2
Meningitis - Aseptic/Viral.....	0
Mumps.....	0
Mycobacterial Disease Other than TB.....	0
Pertussis.....	0
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.....	1
Salmonellosis.....	3
Shigellosis.....	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae.....	10
Tuberculosis.....	0
Varicella.....	0
West Nile.....	0
Yersiniosis.....	0

### Clinic Services

COVID-19 Vaccines.....	18,659
TB Testing.....	140
Immunizations.....	1453
BCMh Units.....	118
Pregnancy Tests.....	3
Head Checks.....	5
Project Period.....	48
HIV Testing.....	0
Car Seats.....	39
Birth Certificates Issued.....	1727
Death Certificates Issued.....	908

## Environmental Health

### Inspections

Animal Bite Reports.....	44
Food Protection.....	420
Lot Splits/Subdivisions.....	24
Nuisance Complaints.....	107
Pools.....	24
Parks & Camps.....	9
Tattoo.....	5
Sewage Certifications.....	45
Sewage Permits.....	82
Site Evaluations.....	97
Schools.....	16
Private Water.....	0
Water Samples.....	4
Solid Waste Inspections.....	52
Septage Hauler.....	18