

# Grant County Health Department 2024



**“Prevent, Promote, Protect”**

*Public Health promotes and protects the health of people  
and the communities where they live, learn, work, and play.*

## Annual Report

# **GCHD – ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION**

**Annual Report 2024**

Authored by Jeff Couch

## ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

Jeff Couch

Josh Keller

Cassie Leech

The Environmental Division of the Grant County Health Department strives to promote and maintain a healthy environment for the residents and communities of Grant County.

Our responsibilities include overseeing the application, permitting and installation processes for residential on-site sewage systems. We review on-site soil surveys submitted by Certified Soil Scientists, develop minimum requirements for each system, review submitted construction plans, complete pre-permit site verifications and inspect all systems upon installation.

We investigate environmental complaints involving contamination of surface water, reports of diseases caused by water-borne pathogens, reports of animal bites, hazardous material spills, which might be a threat to public health, unfit housing in the county, hotels, as well as many other miscellaneous environmental concerns. We regulate the operation of tattoo studios as well as public and semi-public swimming pools and spas in the county and conduct public workshops for community awareness sessions.

The Environmental Division also works closely with the Grant County Area Plan to assist the residents of Grant County to obtain permits for their construction needs as well as to investigate complaints involving multiple issues.

In addition, we coordinate and work closely with the Marion City Building Inspectors, Marion Police Department, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Indiana State Police, Child protection Services and Adult Protective Services and assisted living facilities as well as Grant County EMA.

## BREAKDOWN of SERVICES FOR 2024

<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Applications/Soil Reports Processed	62	62
Septic Permits Issued	66	63
New Septic Sites	26	23
Septic Replacement Systems	29	33
Septic System Repairs	11	8
Commercial Sites	0	0
Septic Site Layout Inspections	60	60
Septic System Inspections	75	82
Septic Problem Assistance	3	3
Assistance with Contractor/or homeowner	10	12
Assistance with Soil Scientist	16	17
Wetness Check	29	21
Difficult sites with State Assistance	3	3
Dye Test	0	7
Area Plan Approval Letters	95	72
Bed Bugs	2	4
Clandestine Labs	0	0
Cockroaches	6	8
Follow Up Complaint	219	123
Mold	7	21
Public/Semi Public Pool Inspections	12	10
Railroad Car Inspection	0	0



## Breakdowns and Totals Continued:

<b>Services</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Sewage	29	27
Tattoo Establishments Inspections	28	14
Cease & Desist -Illegal Tattooing	2	0
Unfit Housing/ Housing	67	55
Housing posted uninhabitable	10	21
Mercury Spill	0	0

### Animal Bite Reports

Bat	1	2
Cat	44	38
Dog	172	119
Human	0	0
Mouse	0	0
Monkey	0	1
Pig	0	1
Raccoon	1	1
Rat	1	3
Squirrel	0	1
Bats Shipped to State Lab	1	9

## Environmental Division Revenues

2024

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### Septic Permits

New	\$3,900.00	\$3,600.00
Replacement	\$3,625.00	\$4,000.00
Repair Only	\$600.00	\$300.00
Installer Registration	\$1,170.00	\$690.00
Certification Test	\$225.00	\$225.00
Septic Application Fee	\$2,100.00	\$0.00

### Tattoo Parlors

Establishment (License)	\$2,600.00	\$900.00
Tattoo Individual (License)		\$600.00
Tattoo/Piercing (License)	\$1,620.00	\$420.00
Late Fees	\$250.00	\$50.00
Penalty Fee	\$500.00	\$0.00

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<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$16,590.00</b>	<b>\$10,785.00</b>
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## MEETING/TRAININGS

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IDOH Winter Meeting (Annual)

Indiana Environmental Health Association Meetings (Monthly)

Indiana Environmental Health Association (Fall Conference)

Indiana Onsite Wastewater Professional Association (Annual Conference)

LEPC (Bimonthly)

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## Certifications

ATL System	Jeff Couch, Cassie Leech, Josh Keller
CPO (Certified Pool Operator)	Jeff Couch, Cassie Leech, Josh Keller
Eljen Training	Jeff Couch
IOWPA Certificate	Jeff Couch
Lead Inspector/Assessor License	Josh Keller
Narcan	Jeff Couch
Presby System	Jeff Couch, Cassie Leech, Josh Keller

The Environmental Division of the Grant County Health Department continues to receive numerous housing complaints. Many complaints are concerning mold, roach infestations, hoarding, and sewage leaks among other issues. It has proven difficult at times to get homeowners, and landlords to take the necessary steps to correct violations. Clandestine Labs (Meth houses) in Grant County continue to be down, but other illicit drugs are steadily on the rise. Septic and tattoo/ piercing ordinances were rewritten in 2024. The septic ordinance was approved and took effect in April 2024, and the tattoo/piercing ordinance took effect in July 2024. There were changes made to the fee ordinance.

We in the Environmental Division look forward to another productive year in 2025; continuing to stay current with the newest technologies and proactive in all areas of our healthy environment for the citizens of Grant County by maintaining high standards in all areas that we inspect, while abiding by the County Ordinances, State Rules/Regulations, coordination and working with other agencies.

**We are asking everyone to respect our environment, because it is the only one we will ever have.**



Inspector Dean

## GRANT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### FOOD DIVISION

# 2024 Annual Report



Inspector Ange

Dean Small

Ange McCollum

April Legare

Lesa Dillion – Secretary

We are pleased to submit the annual report of our past year's accomplishments within the food division. We encourage the community to take a moment to read our annual report, sharing information about the important work the food division does to assure food safety success in Grant County. Featuring in detail the duties and services executed in 2024.

#### ***Duties executed by the Food Safety Inspection Officers (FSIO's)***

Inspect and advise entities about the sanitation requirements for restaurants, taverns, Marion General Hospital, schools, bed & breakfast, convenience and grocery stores, farmer markets, refrigeration trucks, mobile food trucks/vans, Micro Markets and concession stands at fairs and festivals throughout Grant County.

Both FSIO's issue food licenses to profit and non-profit entities, investigate food-borne illness cases and other complaints which may require the submission of food and/or fecal samples to the Indiana Department of Health or a local lab (including water samples). Additionally, the FSIO's coordinate and facilitate educational presentations and trainings upon request from establishments, organizations, and the community.

#### ***Memberships/Certifications***

- 1) Dean and Ange are both endorsed as Certified Food Handlers.
- 2) The FSIO's are members of the Indiana Environmental Health Association NE Chapter. (IEHA)
- 3) Dean is a member of the LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Commission-Grant County)
- 4) Dean is a member of the HCC (Health Care Coalition-ISDH)
- 5) Dean is Assistant Preparedness Coordinator and active in preparedness.

#### ***Services conducted in 2024:***

***\*License Issued*** –585 which includes Brick & Mortar / mobile vendors / Non-Profits serving public <15 days a year.

***\*Inspections*** – approximately 900

***Follow-up inspections*** – Total approximately 7% (up from 2023). I.

***Complaints-*** approximately 93 (many are disgruntled employees)

***Warning Letters*** – 1

***Closed Facilities*** – 8 (down from 2023)

***Hepatitis A Case*** – 0



## **Plan Reviews –8**

***Consultations/Walk-Thru Inspections – 20 (decrease from 2023)***

***Civil Penalties per Food/County Code Fines- 6 (same as 2023)***

***New Facilities*** – Carey Services (food court), Shamrocks, BINGO Kitchen, Sky-high Scoops, The Brew Life Coffee, Elevate Nutrition, Phil & Cheryl's, Los Amores, Quick Way (Marion), Habanero Grill, You & Me Café 5 Star Billard, King Buffet, Quick Way (Van Buren), Big H Sports Bar, Tipsy's LLC, Cumberland Market

***Closed Facilities*** – Roxie's Café, Luci's Drive Thru, 4 H Bingo, Midwest Coffee, Sender Café, B & B Restaurant, Circle K, Richards Restaurant, Circle K (Van Buren), Yeakel's Sports Bar, The Bridge Café, Imagine Burgers

### ***Fires, Floods, and Power Outages:***

Fires- 1

Power Outages- 0

No Water- 3

Boil Advisory- 2

Floods- 2

Water Samples- Failed 1 (was corrected)

**Approximately 35+ phone complaints/questions monthly (not recorded)**

## **USDA FOOD PROGRAMS MONITORED for the STATE**

### ***\*2024 Fairs & Festivals***

*Autism Awareness Day in Gas City (April)*

*Spotted Cow – IWU (April)*

*Music Festival-IWU (April)*

*Earth Days at Matter Park (April)*

*Mama Pearson's (Spring & Fall event)*

*Blush Beauty Bar – Fairmount (May)*

Great American Car Show at Matter Park (May)

Gas City First Fridays (May, June, July & Aug)

Concerts in the park – Gas City (June, July, Aug, Sept)

Concerts in the park – Fairmount (June, July, Aug)

Concerts in the park – Marion (June, July, Aug, Sept)

Abate Hog Roast (June)

Strawberry Festival in Upland (June)

James Dean Spring Car Show in Fairmount (June)

Grains & Grill French Market in Fairmount (June)

Grant County 4-H Fair, (June)

4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration in Marion, Gas City, Fairmount (July)

Swayzee Farm Days (July)

Popcorn Festival in Van Buren (August)  
Labor Day Celebration in Upland (September)  
Labor Day Celebration in Gas City (September)  
Matthews Covered Bridge Festival (September)  
James Dean in Fairmount (September)  
Ducktail Run in Gas City (September)  
River Bike Rally in Jonesboro (September)  
Boo Bash in Gas City (October)  
Mississinewa 1812 (October)  
Gas City Lights Parade (November)

***\*Farmer's Market Inspections***

Courthouse Square  
Upland Train Depot  
Gas City- Former Good Neighbor Pharmacy parking lot  
Fairmount-Grain / Grill parking lot

***Continuing Education for Inspectors***

IEHA monthly meetings- (Jan-June & Sept-Dec)	
IEHA / ISDH/PREPAREDNESS Educational Seminars (April & September)	
Preparedness District 6 Meetings (monthly)	Preparedness 800 Radio Drills (semiannual)
ICS Courses	
LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Commission) (Quarterly)	Pipeline seminar-Preparedness
Mississinewa 1812 vendor training (July)	

***Additional Information***

Challenges for the business industry are retaining employees. Various restaurants have either cut back on their hours or closed some shifts to help reflect the shortage.

The foods division brought in \$58,950 in revenue through licensing fees (up from 2023).

Foods division has been training on new software for licensing and should be in use midyear 2025.

April Legare resigned her position with the Health Department in June. Angela McCollum was hired in August and is learning and fulfilling the role very well.

**Respectfully**

*Dean Small*

*Ange McCollum*

*Lesa Dillon*

# GCHD – Nursing Division

Annual Report 2024

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING**

Authored by: Jane Hampton, RN



## **GCHD – Nursing Division**

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The following report reflects the services provided by the Nursing Division to the community. Our primary goal is to continue to improve public health by providing health education, immunizations, affordable, friendly, and convenient services to residents of Grant County.

Each staff member plays a vital role in the day-to-day functions of the Nursing Division. Teamwork is one of our strengths. We all work well together. Please find a list of our Staff Members below:

Dr. Brenda K. Woods MD FAAFP.....County Health Officer  
Jane Hampton, RN..... Public Health Nurse/Manager  
Diedre Hamilton, LPN.....Comm. Disease Nurse  
Beverly Penrod, RN.....Public Health Nurse  
Lorie Small, LPN.....School Nurse Liaison  
Deidre Miller..... Receptionist/Billing

### Clinic Vaccinators, Part-time:

Nancy Spencer, RN  
Patti Soultz, RN  
Amber Powell, CMA

## **Immunizations**

The Nursing Division offers all vaccines recommended by the CDC in our Vaccines for Children (VFC) inventory, as is required of VFC providers. This program makes vaccines available to families which could not afford to pay for vaccines on their own, including those with children on Medicaid, those who do not have insurance to cover the cost of vaccines, and American Indians or Alaska Natives. This program has allowed us to meet the vaccination needs of a significant part of our county residents. These vaccines cannot be used or sold for children who do not fall into those categories—including children who are covered by private insurance.

We began a partnership in March of 2023 with VaxCare, a private company which supplies our LHD with a stock of vaccines which are available to adults and children covered by private insurance. Our health department is not responsible for the cost of stocking these vaccines or the losses, if the doses expire before use. The company also manages all of our billing, both with private insurance companies and with Medicaid and Medicare. Because they accept almost all insurance providers, there are now very few people in

Grant County for whom we cannot provide vaccines. In 2024 we gave 2,775 vaccinations, 1,516 of which were paid for by private insurance carriers. VaxCare does reimburse our department an administration fee for each vaccine we administer, and these funds are returned to our county health fund.

Beverly Penrod continues to have the responsibility of managing the vaccines. There is a vaccine inventory completed every week, and vaccines are ordered when needed. She is also responsible for ensuring that vaccines from the correct inventory are used for each patient, and for maintaining appropriate vaccine amounts for the various seasons' needs, that that we do not have waste. We have an inventory that ranges from \$25,000-\$80,000 for private vaccines and \$30,000- \$50,000 in VFC /317 Grant vaccines, with the variances caused by seasonal needs, like back-to-school and flu seasons.

We partner with Indiana Wesleyan University and Taylor University to provide their international students with required vaccines. Most of these students don't have insurance so we utilize our VFC (18 years or younger) or the 317 State Adult Grant for students 19 years old or older.

### **RSV Vaccines**

- We offer Abrysvo for qualified adults and pregnant women. In 2024 we gave 60 vaccinations. We only offer this in our private stock, to be covered by private insurance or purchased by the client.
- We have Beyfortus, which is the RSV vaccination for infants, only in our VFC stock. We only gave nine vaccinations last year.

### **Covid-19/ Influenza Vaccination**

Covid-19 vaccinations and boosters have continued throughout this year, with the demand varying widely. We finished 2024 vaccination clinics in the first two weeks of December 2024 as the demand decreased dramatically. When the 2024-25 formulation of the Covid-19 vaccination was approved in August, there was public interest, but it was less than in past years. We offered walk-in flu and Covid-19 vaccinations on Wednesdays, through the end of the year. We were expecting and experienced a decrease in demand for Covid vaccines this year.

We provided 615 influenza vaccinations during the 2024-2025 flu season.



## **Billing**

Last year (2024) was our first full year utilizing VaxCare. With the ability to stock a greater variety of vaccines our revenue has increased by over \$12,700.

Nursing Division Revenues:

2023--\$34,005.00

2024--\$46,798.95

We continue to offer extended office hours during our busy vaccination months, and these have been much appreciated by those who we serve.

Most importantly, at the request of caregivers, we were able to go to private homes to vaccinate several homebound residents for Flu, Pneumonia, and Covid-19.

Again, this year, we have conducted off-site flu vaccination clinics at several locations, including:

Auto Owners' Insurance 10/18/24

Bridges to Health 10/7/24 & 10/8/24

World Gospel Mission 10/8/24

Marion City Schools 9/27/24

Marion City Utilities 10/19/24 thru 10/23/24

Paddock View Residential Care 11/7/24

Mississinewa Community Schools 12/7/24

Butterworth Industries 10/24/24

## **Health Fairs**

We have provided educational materials and awareness to the community by having tables at the Fall Health Fair at the YMCA 10/02/2024 and the Indiana Health Center on 10/30/2024. We also had tables at the Grant County 4H fair, and Mississinewa High School on 12/07/2024. Many educational materials were distributed, and questions answered, during these events.

## **Lead Testing**

The open case investigations for elevated lead blood levels in Grant County has remained fairly steady. The case investigations that Jane Hampton continues to monitor have been more complicated than in the past, involving children who have shared guardianship, which necessitates two different home visits in order to give education to both parents/caregivers involved in the child's lead level management. Capillary blood testing is offered at our offices and advertised in our waiting rooms, though more interest is expressed than is acted upon. This lead screening test has been very helpful to perform at the homes of some families who have children in need of screening.

Since May, we have made a major change in how we complete the risk assessment of the homes, which are required for confirmed cases. In the past, we depended on an IDOH environmental specialist to come and do our risk assessment. We now contract with Greentree Environmental to complete our risk assessments, and they have done an excellent job, with timely appointments and complete and detailed reports returned within 10 days after the inspections.

We have 34 case investigations of children who have had an elevated lead level., which needs to be confirmed, and most of the contact with these families is regarding educating them, answering questions about lead exposure and absorption and helping to arrange a follow up blood lead test, to either confirm or disprove an elevated screening test. Numerous letters have been sent, and phone calls made to educate, and urge follow up testing for open case investigations. It is very difficult to close a lead investigation. A case investigation can only be closed after all the state requirements are met, or the child is lost to contact, with numerous good faith attempts to follow up and contact the family.

## **Naloxone Distribution and Training**

Our Health Department again received a grant for Naloxone in a nasal spray format. The availability has been critical in helping to address opioid overdoses in our county. Naloxone was provided to the following organizations in 2024:

- Bridges to Health
- Marion Fire Department
- Swayzee Police
- IWU Police Department
- Grant County Sheriff's Department
- Jonesboro Police Department
- Upland Police and Fire Department
- Grant County Rescue Mission
- Grant County EMS

We are listed on the state website as a place to receive Narcan kits and training.

## **Committee Participation**

As a department, we have representation on several strategic county committees, including attendance and participation on these:

- Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review Committee (SOFR) (Monthly)
- Child Fatality Review Committee (CFR) (as needed)
- Fetal, Infant and Maternal Mortality Review Committee (FIMR) (Monthly)
- Community Opioid Response Endeavor (CORE) (Monthly)
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) (bi-monthly)
- Grant County Social Services Agencies Council (GCSSAC) (monthly)

## **Health Dept. Nursing Staff Trainings/Meetings**

We continue to precept senior Indiana Wesleyan University nursing students. This year, two students completed class requirements for a Public Health course in our office.

We continue to take advantage of training, connecting, and meeting opportunities online, including:

- Every other week state Health Department briefings/education sessions of Local Health Departments
- Monthly state Health Department briefings/education sessions of School Leaders
- CDC online courses on TB, Infectious Disease Prevention and Lead

We have been able to attend some live conferences and training, as well, including:

- Public Health Nurse Conference (June 26-27) Beverly and Jane
- Indiana Immunization Quality Improvement Plan (February, April, September)
- Mental Health/Suicide Conference (October 3) Jane
- Lead Deep Dive (October 29) Jane and Tara
- New Public Health Nurse Orientation (December-Lorie)



### **School Nurse Liaison-Lorie Small, LPN**

This year, we began in January with a new position: School Nurse Liaison. This position was required by the Health First Indiana provisions and greatly needed in our county. This is the report from Lorie Small, our School Nurse Liaison.

The School Nurse Liaison provides support and resources to all schools' Pre-K-12 within Grant County. Builds supportive relationships with all public, private, and parochial schools. I currently support 23 public and 3 private schools. Also partner with community agencies to provide wrap around support to the schools and students.

Meets with Grant County Schools' Nursing Offices on a routine basis. Assist with some of the following:

- Student Management and Treatment Plans
- Student Individual Health Plans (IHPs)
- Discussion/plan IN Immunization Coalition Mobile Clinic
- EpiPen order/delivery
- CHIRP data entry and reports
- School Nursing Closet Donations
- Visual Acuity Testing
- Sharps container disposable pick-up

I assist many schools with monthly food distribution. This is an after-school event that takes place once a month at each participating school. There are currently 10 schools in Grant County that participate in this program. Each school distributes food once a month to student families. I help with food set up and distribution. I also provide a vendor table with health department information and services provided. Answer questions that school staff and families may have.

I help and participate in the planning of school and community resources. That might include networking, attending events, webinars, in person conferences, and assisting with community events for school-age children. Included are some of the following:

- Indiana Summer EBT Community Partners Presentation (March)
- Best Practices in Youth Nutrition Education (April)
- Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars (April)
- IYI Youth Mental Health and Substance Use (May)
- IYI Youth Vaping: Understanding the 'Why' to Curb Use (May)
- Marion High School Freshman Orientation vendor table (August)
- Family Resource Center Community Baby Shower vendor table (August)
- Little Giants Family Picnic at Matters Park vendor table (August)
- Grant County Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Loads of Life Laundry and Back to School Event (August)

- Grant County PCA Fall Party at Emerald Laundromat (October)
- Trunk or Treat and Eagle's Nest vendor table (October)
- Family Resource Center Elftastic Christmas Party (December)

#### **Committee Participation**

- Little Giants Health Services Advisory Committee Meeting (Annual)
- Grant County Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) (Monthly)
- Tobacco Prevention Coalition Meeting (Monthly)
- Local Emergency Preparation Committee School Safety Meeting (Monthly)
- PCAIN Fall 2024 Statewide Council Meeting (Annual)
- Fall 2024 Health & Mental Health Services Advisory Committee Meeting (Annual)

#### **Lorie continues to take advantage of training, connecting, and meeting opportunities online, including:**

- School Liaison Office Hours-District 6
- Indiana Dept. of Health School Webinar
- School Liaison Education monthly education on different school related topics
- Practical Strategies to Respond to Youth Mental Health Challenges
- CDC Back-to-School Preparedness Webinar

#### **She has been able to attend some live conferences and training, as well, including:**

- CATCH My Breath Train-the-Trainer (April) Lorie
- Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) 2024 Youth Data Conference (April) Lorie
- Trauma-Informed Nutrition Security for Indiana Schools Training (April) Lorie
- Prevent Child Abuse Grant County Annual Training and Luncheon (April) Lorie
- Indiana School Health Network Conference (June) Lorie
- IDOH Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Training (June) Lorie
- IDOH 'Breathe' Training (July) Lorie
- Stop the Bleed Instructor Course (September) Lorie
- IYI Practical Strategies to Respond to Youth Mental Health Challenges (October) Lorie
- Train the Trainer. Water Awareness in Residential Neighborhoods (WARN) (November) Lorie



## Communicable Disease, Sti & Tb/Ltbi - Diedre Hamilton, Lpn

As the Communicable Disease Nurse, my role is to investigate and confirm cases of reportable conditions, as well as identify any outbreaks in our county. Hepatitis C remains the top condition on our list of communicable diseases in Grant County and is largely due to IV Drug use.

Disease/Condition	Case Status					Total
	Confirmed	Not a Case	Probable	Suspect	Unknown	
Campylobacteriosis	3	0	10	0	0	13
Candida auris, clinical	1	0	0	0	0	1
Candida auris, colonization/screening	3	0	0	0	0	3
Carbapenemase-producing organisms (CPO), clinical	3	2	0	0	0	5
Cryptosporidiosis	5	0	0	0	0	5
Giardiasis	1	0	0	0	0	1
Haemophilus influenzae, invasive	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hepatitis A, acute	0	3	0	0	0	3
Hepatitis B virus infection, Chronic	3	2	4	0	0	9
Hepatitis B, acute	3	3	0	0	0	6
Hepatitis C Virus Infection, past or present	30	4	10	1	21	66
Hepatitis C, acute	3	0	0	2	1	6
Histoplasmosis	0	1	3	0	0	4
Influenza-Associated Death	6	0	0	0	0	6
Latent Tuberculosis Infection	12	1	0	3	0	16
Legionellosis	2	0	0	0	0	2
Monkeypox	0	0	1	0	0	1
Pertussis	2	0	0	0	0	2
Salmonellosis, excluding S. typhi and S. paratyphi	6	0	0	0	0	6
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC)	1	0	0	0	0	1
Strep pneumoniae, invasive	13	0	0	0	0	13
Streptococcal disease, invasive, Group A	9	5	0	0	0	14
Streptococcal toxic-shock syndrome	5	0	0	0	0	5
Tuberculosis	0	1	0	0	0	1
Varicella (Chickenpox)	0	4	2	0	0	6
Vibriosis (non-cholera Vibrio species infections)	0	0	1	0	0	1
Yersiniosis	2	0	3	0	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>202</b>

In addition to case investigations, I administer the Gonorrhea and Chlamydia testing, as those are currently the infections we treat through a state funded program. We ship the specimen to the IDOH lab and receive the results in about a week. If testing or treatment beyond this is needed or rapid results are required, we direct them to Madison County

Health Department. They are in our district as well as have an entire division called Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) dedicated to STI testing/treatment.

I am responsible for TB/LTBI case management for the Grant County Health Department. I administer TB tests, investigate cases, arrange treatment and ensure treatment completion. I also assist the state with Immigration Class B Investigations.

### **TB Program**

- We offer TB skin tests for \$10.00. We continue to be a low-cost option for students and employees who are required to have this test every year. In efforts to help accommodate businesses within the community, we travel and administer employee TB testing on site when able.

- ❖ Total given: 445

#### **We follow IDOH protocol when taking care of active TB patients which includes giving medications by way of DOT**

- If a patient has a positive Tuberculosis (TB) skin test, the next step is to order a Chest X-ray. If the X-ray is negative, then it is considered “Latent Tuberculosis Infection” or LTBI. The IDOH provides free treatment for all LTBI patients. The Rx meds are ordered through Purdue University Pharmacy, then mailed to our Health Department so that I can make sure the patient receives them.

- ❖ Total cases/reports

- 0 Active TB patient
  - 0 DOT therapy
- 12 LTBI patients
  - 4 LTBI declined treatment
  - 6 LTBI treated
- 2 lost to contact

Respectfully submitted,

The Nursing Division



## Grant County Health Department

### Vital Records Division

### 2024 Annual Report



Morgan Lee – Lesa Dillon – Tara Street

2024 began with some minor technological changes for county government. The grantcounty.net domain was transferred over to the new state template (in.gov) for an updated and modern look. Morgan continues to keep up with social media training. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, she met with Emma Treibic from the Indiana Department of Health to discuss website issues along with how to revamp the Health Department's Facebook page. She also attended a web advisory committee on June 20<sup>th</sup> with numerous other health departments. This was extremely helpful as she got to see how other counties are utilizing their website and social media platforms.

Tara and Morgan attended the IVRA Spring Conference in Peru on April 26<sup>th</sup>. They both also attended the IVRA Fall Conference in Angola on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. There they were able to gain insight from IDOH staff and other local health departments about issuance and policies. There are still many counties who are not onboard with statewide issuance of certificates. Grant County currently allows issuance of death certificates regardless of location from 2021 to present. Since doing so, this has allowed us to help our citizens and funeral homes much more efficiently.

49% of births from Grant County residents occurred outside of the county and 24% of deaths also occurred outside of the county. These percentages are high and further explain the need for us to be able to issue all certificates regardless of where the birth/death took place. We are happy to be able to help our citizens get the most efficient service without having to travel to another county for their records.

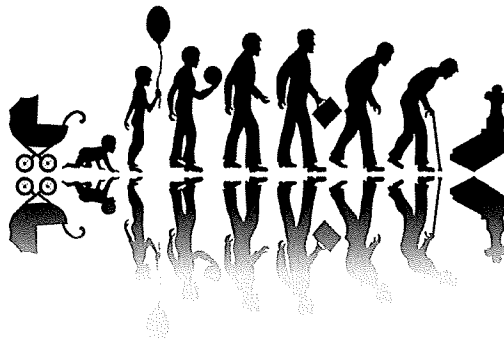
Due to the urgent need for records to be digitized, we were able to share our vital records program with Wabash County to help them get up to date. Morgan then traveled to Wabash County on August 5<sup>th</sup> to educate and demonstrate the ins and outs of the program.

For the year of 2024, the fatal overdose death rate was significantly lower than previous years. We did notice that the suicide rate for 2024 has also dropped significantly from the previous year. We have included a table to better compare the totals over the past few years.

	Fatal Overdose	Suicide
2024	19	8
2023	35	24
2022	36	7
2021	52	17
2020	29	6
2019	12	6
2018	23	12

Lesa continues to work part-time in the Vital Records Division to cover the office during absences of full-time staff due to vacations, trainings, meetings and illness. This allows the vital records office to remain open during times that it would otherwise have to be closed. Lesa also assists the Food Safety Division with filing, mailings, and many clerical duties. This position is funded through the Health First Indiana Initiative.

The Vital Records Division took in \$117,040 in 2024. Indiana Code requires that \$2.50 for each certified death certificate issued, be deposited into the Indiana Coroners Continuing Education Fund. The deposit for 2024 was \$11,427.50.







## 2024 BIRTH STATISTICS



Total Births Registered 370

Legitimate 114

Illegitimate 256

Males 193

Females 177

Home Births 12

Twins 10 sets

There were 5 Fetal Deaths for the Year of 2024

Paternity Affidavits Filed:	By Hospital at Time of Birth	185
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	At Health Department	19
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Certified Copies of Paternity Affidavits Issued	55
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Affidavit of Amendment Processed	10
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Court Order Determining Parentage Processed	25
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Court Ordered Legal Change of Name Processed	17
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Court Ordered Gender Change to Birth Record Processed	1
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Corrections by Notification Processed	9
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Adoptions Processed	41
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Certified Birth Certificates Issued	2,760
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Birth Certificate Protective Plastic Sleeves Sold	469
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Birth Verifications	2
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Birth Certificates sent to D.C.S.	5
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## **2024 DEATH STATISTICS**



Total Deaths Registered	705
Fetal Deaths	5
Neonatal Deaths (Birth to 1 Month)	3
Infant Deaths (1 Month to 1 Year)	2
Children 1 to 9 Years of Age	0
Adolescents 10 to 19 Years of Age	1
Adults 20 to 29 Years of Age	10
30 to 39 Years of Age	12
40 to 49 Years of Age	20
50 to 59 Years of Age	45
60 to 69 Years of Age	121
70 to 79 Years of Age	171
80 to 89 Years of Age	201
90 to 99 Years of Age	108
100 Years of Age and Older	6
Total Certified Death Certificates Issued	4,662
Government Copies of Certified Death Certificates Issued	23
Death Verifications Provided to VANIHCS	167

## Coroner Cases

Accident*	28
Homicide	5
Natural Causes	166
Suicide	8
SIDS	1
Undetermined**	5
TOTAL	213



\* 19 of these accidents were related to self-inflicted drug overdoses and the remaining 9 were related to motor vehicle accidents or smoke and soot inhalation.

\*\*For the year 2024, there were 6 undetermined causes of death. When a death is undetermined, either no cause of death could be found or the manner of death could not be deemed an accident, suicide, homicide, or natural. These deaths range from fetal to infants (0-1 year) and adults 35 to 55 years old. The causes of death range from sudden infant death syndrome with history of unsafe sleep, complications of traumatic hemorrhage of cerebrum, and fentanyl and other drug intoxications.



## Genealogy

Record Searches Requested:

Walk-In 35

E-Mail 6

Mail 2

# health first

## GRANT COUNTY

Grant County Health Department was provided \$804,561 in Health First Indiana Funds for 2024

This provided the Opportunity to:

- Hire a School Health Nurse Liaison.
- Transition the part time nurse to a full-time role.
- Hire an Environmental Health Specialist to target specific areas such as lead risk assessments, vector control, pool licensing and inspections.
- Create Community Partnerships:
  - **Bridges to Health CORE+** provided funding for a full-time Peer Support Specialist. Grant County Peer Support Specialist (PSS) continues to consistently meet with, on monthly average, 17 female residents of Grant County providing them various levels of peer support including recovery maintenance, recovery resources, accountability with recovery and wellness plans, providing network support with the courts and probation, locating recovery resources such as sober living, employment for felons and various other local resources. PSS also fills Naloxone boxes in the community, participates in county SOFR meetings, works closely with Marion Health ER, Marion Health OB Unit, Bridges to Health and Marion Family Practice to meet clients where they are and to help them begin the journey to recovery and wellness.
  - Partnered with **Purdue Extension** to offer 27 of our residents the Dining with Diabetes course. This program allowed Grant County citizens, at no cost to them, the opportunity to prepare healthy meals, try new recipes and alter their diets to help control their diabetes. Participants voiced their appreciation stating:
    - “This program helped me learn about adding more veggies and proper portion sizes”.
    - “Hearing everyone else’s journey with diabetes and having healthy recipes to use helps me a lot”.
  - Partnered with **Continuing Education Company** and the **Cleveland Clinic** to provide eleven local PCP’s a continuing education opportunity to take the Diabetes course to better equip them with the most up-to-date knowledge in treating their patients with diabetes and obesity. Primary Care providers across Grant County were offered the opportunity to enroll in the Diabetes Continuing Medical Education class which provided 8 hours of medical education around obesity and diabetes and

could be completed on their own timeline over 2024. Grant County seeks to maximize the impact of each face-to-face contact of PCP's along with their patients and improve the outcomes of our citizens with diabetes and obesity which leads to so many other chronic diseases. One practitioner who participated in the course shared "Thank you again for making this excellent course available. I just completed it and really appreciate the depth and breadth of the content, as well as downloading the slides and topical guides".

- **Postpartum Support International** – PCP's, along with various agencies and medical groups throughout Grant County were invited to participate in the Perinatal Mood Disorders: Components of Care course with four accepting the invitation. One participant stated "PSI provided me with a better understanding of the mental health needs during and after pregnancy for both the individual and their partner. I am so grateful to have learned about safe medications that can be taken during and after pregnancy to help address mental health needs and the importance of doing so. I have already started sharing PSI as a resource with other professionals as this information is so important to know and learn. Anyone who has the opportunity to go through this training definitely should especially if they provide care to families during and after pregnancy".
- **The Wellness Center** and the **YMCA** offered free walking programs. This initiative did not garner the results we had hoped for. We will seek better alternatives in 2025.
- Purchase three vehicles for health department staff. This alleviated the need for staff to use their personal vehicles for the health department business.

#### NOTE:

HFI funds allowed Grant County Government to reduce the *local* tax dollars deposited into the health fund by nearly \$60,000.

By" opting in" to the HFI funding counties were required to forfeit any tobacco trust fund grants that had been historically awarded. Grant County had previously received \$79,297 annually.

\$205,000 in HFI funds were carried over and will be appropriated for community partnerships in early 2025.

Grant County funding, budgeting, County Health scorecard, KPI's, activities, partnerships and success stories can be viewed by visiting <https://www.in.gov/healthfirstindiana/> .



# 2024

## Monthly Revenue

	Birth & Death	Nursing	Foods	Environmental	Interest	NSF &/or other fees	Total collections
January	10,970.00	6,773.73	11,140.00	1,540.00	0.18		30,423.91
February	10,400.00	2,252.75	2,170.00	400.00	0.09		15,222.84
March	11,613.00	2,083.68	1,270.00	395.00	0.08		15,361.76
April	8,338.00	1,380.65	3,160.00	1,085.00	0.55	22.54	13,986.74
May	12,121.00	1,064.13	2,915.00	1,135.00	0.09		17,235.22
June	7,647.00	1,884.26	3,400.00	1,830.00	0.07		14,761.33
July	10,185.00	1,565.41	1,570.00	1,030.00	0.11		14,350.52
August	8,635.00	2,524.89	3,380.00	2,010.00	0.10	35.00	16,584.99
September	9,215.00	3,030.73	4,435.00	960.00	0.10		17,640.83
October	9,975.00	7,165.00	805.00	1,780.00	0.47		19,725.47
November	8,220.00	8,411.22	5,665.00	1,955.00	0.11		24,251.33
December	9,725.00	8,672.50	19,040.00	2,470.00	0.17		39,907.67
TOTAL	117,044.00	46,808.95	58,950.00	16,590.00	2.12	57.54	239,452.61