

Grant County Health Department 2025



“Prevent, Promote, Protect”

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

Annual Report

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Grant County Health Department

Workforce



The Grant County Health Department strives to strengthen the health and wellness of our citizens and the communities where they live, learn, work and play. Every individual is treated with respect, kindness and compassion in our quest to educate, protect and promote a healthy environment.

Grant County Health Board:

Dr. Denise Pearson – Board President

Sarah Seward – Board Vice-President

Dr. Jeffrey Bragg

Kathy Glickfield

Dr. Jeanette Hoeksema

Dr. Barbara Ihrke

Brandy Poling

Health Officer:

Dr. Brenda Woods MD FAAFP

Administrator:

Tara Street

Environmental Health Division:

Jeff Couch – Supervisor

Josh Keller

Cassie Leech

Food Safety Division:

Angela McCollum

Dean Small – Supervisor

Lesa Dillon – Secretarial

Preparedness Coordinator:

Bruce Bender

Public Health Nursing Division:

Sarah Cox, RN – Communicable Disease Nurse

Diedre Hamilton, LPN (separated)

Jane Hampton, RN

Lorie Hornaday, LPN – School Nurse Liaison

Amber McCollum, RN

Deidre Miller

Beverly Penrod, RN - Supervisor

Patricia Soultz, RN

Nancy Spencer, RN

Vital Records Division:

Debra Brooks

Lesa Dillon

Morgan Lee – Registrar

Katie Kikendal (separated)

2025 Finances

Fund	Name	Beginning Balance 1/1/2025	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance 12/31/2025
1159	County Health Fund	\$969,681.85	\$1,703,817.60	\$402,627.54	\$1,301,190.06
1161	Health First Indiana	\$205,859.62	\$1,758,805.80	\$1,205,507.03	\$578,298.77
1168	Local Health Maintenance	\$102,759.84	\$0	\$0	\$102,759.84
1206	Local Health Dept. Trust	\$67,542.87	\$0	\$0	\$67,542.87
8201	Bioterrorism	(\$4,123.93)	\$28,093.16	\$22,219.21	\$5,873.95
8906	COVID VAXX	\$12,627.85	\$0	\$0	\$12,627.85
8908	COVID Test	\$51,903.95	\$0	\$30,342.50	\$21,561.45

Health Department Revenue and Tax Proceeds

Property Tax	\$448,467.98
License Excise Tax	\$26,182.59
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax (CVET)	\$2,112.73
Financial Institution Tax	\$2,573.30
Interest	\$42,738.74
Environmental Division Revenue	\$19,080.00
Food Safety Division Revenue	\$49,335.00
Vital Records Fees	\$119,549.00
Nursing Fees	\$20,793.05
Interest from Checking/Savings	\$2.12

EMERGENCY PREPARADNESS DIVISION

Budget Period 1

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

All 13 Grant requirements were concluded and approved by the IDOH.

1. PHC and Back-up submitted or updated required information such as PSID Number, FEMA SID number, and IDHS Acadis Portal Reg.
2. All required ICS courses were taken and/or approved previously.
3. Bi-annual plan with LHD staff to review SVI to ensure residents have access to vaccines and other medical countermeasures.
4. Maintain and update MOU's and EOP plan.
5. Review and update annexes to the EOP plan.
6. Participate in IDOH Jurisdictional Risk Assessment (JRA).
7. Completed by HCC capabilities at the district level.
8. Attended Integrated Preparedness Plan Workshop aimed at enhancing regional and state preparedness capabilities.
9. Quarterly meeting with LHD staff on preparedness and situational awareness.
10. Quarterly meetings were held with ESF-8 partners to review plans, share information, and situational awareness.
11. PHC and back-up will maintain EMResource, Serv-IN, and WebEOC databases
 - a. 11a. Two redundant drills with LHD staff using email, 800MHz, text, and phone call. (Use at least 3).
 - b. Conduct drills using SERV-IN database for LHD Staff
12. Conduct drills using SERV-IN database for Mass Notification for volunteers and/or POD staffing.
13. Conduct Medical Counter Measures drill at a POD location.

Report authored by Bruce Bender, Public Health Coordinator

GRANT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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, mosquito surveillance, mosquito larvicide treatments, tick surveillance 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 City Code Enforcement, 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.

In January 2025, Josh Keller completed Lead Risk Assessor and Lead Inspector testing and is now a licensed Lead Risk Assessor and Inspector and is inspecting/ assessing lead case houses along with the Nursing Division. HFI (Health First Indiana) made this possible and we also were able to obtain an XRF machine for these inspections. This accomplishment has and will continue to save money for Grant County.

ENVIROMENTAL DIVISION

BREAKDOWN of SERVICES FOR 2025

SERVICES	2025	2024
Applications/Soil Reports Processed	71	62
Septic Permits Issued	72	66
New Septic Sites	18	26
Septic Replacement Systems	39	29
Septic System Repairs	13	11
Commercial Sites	1	0
Permanent Holding Tank	1	0
Septic Site Layout Inspections	62	60
Septic System Inspections	130	75
Septic Problem Assistance	3	3
Assistance with Contractor/or homeowner	14	10
Assistance with Soil Scientist	9	16
Wetness Check	21	29
Difficult sites with State Assistance	2	3
Dye Test	26	0

Breakdowns and Totals (continued):

Services	2025	2024
Area Plan Approval Letters	90	95
Education on Bed Bugs	~15	2
Clandestine Labs	0	0
Cockroaches/ Mice	21	6
Follow Up Complaint	297	219
Mold	16	7
Public/Semi Public Pool Inspections	25	12
Railroad Car Inspection	0	0
Sewage	33	29
Tattoo Establishments Inspections	28	28
Cease & Desist -Illegal Tattooing	1	2
Unfit Housing/ Housing	51	67
Housing posted uninhabitable	9	10
Mercury Spill	0	0
Animal Bite Reports		
Bat	0	1
Cat	32	44
Dog	133	172
Human	0	0
Raccoon	0	1
Rat	0	1
Bats Shipped to State Lab	0	1

Revenue

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<u>Septic Permits</u>		
New	\$2,850.00	\$3,900.00
Replacement	\$5,000.00	\$3,625.00
Repair Only	\$650.00	\$600.00
Permanent Holding Tank	\$100.00	n/a
Installer Registration	\$930.00	\$1,170.00
Certification Test	\$300.00	\$225.00
Septic Application Fee	\$4,050.00	\$2,100.00
<u>Tattoo Parlors</u>		
Establishment (License)	\$3,000.00	\$2,600.00
Tattoo/Piercing (License)	\$2,200.00	\$1,620.00
Late Fees	\$0	\$250.00
Penalty Fee	\$0	\$500.00
Total Revenue	\$19,080.00	\$16,590.00

GCHD – ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

MEETING/TRAININGS

2025

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)

Vector Control Conference (Annually)

4H Fair Public Relations

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 ³ , Cassie Leech ³ , Josh Keller ²
Lead Inspector/ Risk Assessor License	Josh Keller
Narcan	Jeff Couch, Cassie Leech, Josh Keller
Presby System	Jeff Couch, Cassie Leech, Josh Keller

GCHD – ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

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.

Environmental Division staff spearheaded a campaign to purchase (using their own money and donations from health department staff), collect donations and put backpacks together to distribute to our homeless citizens during the harsh winter months.



We, in the Environmental Division, look forward to another productive year in 2026; 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, and in coordination and working with other state and local agencies.

We ask everyone to respect our environment,

It is the only one we will ever have.

Environmental Division report authored by Jeff Couch



Inspector Dean

GRANT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOOD SAFETY DIVISION

2025 Annual Report



Inspector Ange

Dean Small

Ange McCollum

Lesa Dillon – 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. Features detail the duties and services executed in 2025.

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 State 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 provided in 2025:

License Issued –791 which includes Brick & Mortar / Mobile Vendors / Non-Profits serving public 15 days (or less) a year.

Inspections – approximately 987 (Does not reflect all complaints, follow ups, power outages, plan reviews, walk-thru).

Follow-up inspections – Total approximately 3% (down from 2024).

Complaints- approximately 98 (many are disgruntled employees)

Warning Letters – 3

Closed Facilities – 9 (down from 2024)

Hepatitis A Cases – 0

Plan Reviews –24

Consultations/Walk-Thru Inspections – 32 (increase from 2024)

Civil Penalties per Food/County Code Fines- 2 (decrease from 2024)

New Facilities – The Old Fitz, Grounded, Tipsy Owl, Pana Donuts, Starbucks, Jersey Mikes, Add on Los Amores Cantina, 7 Brew, The aMPersand, Sip & Snack, Shell Station in Gas City, Highway 9 Shell in Marion, 7 Brew, Marion Fish & Chips, Nanas Playroom, Boston Hill Event Center, Hewitts Ice Cream & Mamas Hometown Market, K & M Petroleum in Swayzee, Moore 2 Luv Soul Food, Cumberland Market

Closed Facilities – The Coffee Brew, Cumberland Market, Boys & Girls Club, AMC Theatre, Mama's Market, Pompelli Italian Restaurant, Circle K Jonesboro, Drakes Fast Lane

Fires, Floods, and Power Outages – (January thru December)

- Fires- 5
- Power Outages- 1
- No Water- 9
- Boil Advisory- 4
- Floods- 0
- Water Samples- Failed- 0

USDA Food Programs are monitored for IDOH.

2025 Fairs & Festivals

Autism Awareness Day in Gas City (April)
Food Truck Fridays – Center Twp Fire (April, May, June and July)
Spotted Cow – IWU (April)
Music Festival-IWU (April)
Earth Days at Matter Park (April)
Annual Spring Market – Fairmount High School (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)
Walk of Hope (May)
Upland Market – (May, June, July, August, September and October)
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)
Lunch in the Courtyard – Ashley’s Courtyard (July & Aug)
4th of July Celebration in Marion, Gas City, Fairmount (July)
Swayzee Farm Days (July)
Popcorn Festival in Van Buren (August)
Gains & Grill Farmers Market (September)
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)
Mississinewa 1812 (October)
IWU Homecoming (October)
Taylor Home Coming (October)
Gas City Lights Parade (November)

Farmer's Market Inspections

Courthouse Square

Upland Train Depot

Gas City- Former Good Neighbor Pharmacy parking lot

Fairmount-Grains & Grill parking lot

Continuing Education for Inspectors

IEHA monthly meetings- (Jan-June & Sept-Dec)

IEHA / IDOH/ 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)

Tuesdays Training with IDOH Foods

Additional Information

Indiana's new food code rolled out in April 2025 and was introduced to businesses throughout the year. We also started using a new food license program (Schnider GEO Permits). It was very bumpy starting out however I feel we've worked through a lot of the issues and find this program to be very beneficial.

The Food Safety Division brought in \$49,335 in revenue through licensing fees (down from 2024).

health first

GRANT COUNTY

Health First Indiana funds were utilized to support several partnerships throughout our community. A summary of these programs and their successes is provided below.

Taylor University – Invitation to Health

Overview:

The invitation to Health and Wellness program is a diabetes/chronic illness prevention program that focuses on positive behavior change for patients and prepares students for a variety of work opportunities in healthcare. Working one-on-one with patients, trained health educators help patients make dietary, exercise, sleep, and stress changes to achieve a healthier lifestyle by meeting weekly/twice weekly for 50-minute sessions. Students complete a semester long training class and observations prior to beginning supervised work in clinic with patients.

New Program Success:

- With the Grant County funding, a 10-week intensive wellness program was piloted during the summer/fall. 45 community members participated in addition to the regular 30 community members who were still active in the program.
- Over the summer, 80 total patient sessions a week for 11 weeks totaling roughly 880 contact hours with community members took place.
- For the community members in the intensive program:
 - Average weight loss for the cohort (N=45) exceeded the CDC year end goal of 5% of starting bodyweight
 - Enrollees attended approximately 75% of their sessions
 - Average number of sessions per person was 15 in the 10-week period
 - The most notable finding was that all enrollees lost weight within the 10-week period
 - On average, BMI decreased by 1.4 points in the 10 weeks
 - Average A1c decrease over the 10 weeks was .27 points (4 individuals have moved from pre-diabetic to normal ranges)

Purdue Extension

The purpose of this partnership was to allow all Grant County citizens the opportunity to receive educational opportunities and courses provided by Purdue Extension of Grant County regardless of their ability to pay and also to decrease food insecurity for Grant County school age children and their families by establishing an Impact Pantry in every Grant County school providing Grant County families resources in food safety, nutrition education and food preparation.

- **Dining with Diabetes** - 27 county residents completed the Dining w/Diabetes course at no cost to them.
- **Purdue – Be Heart Smart** - 18 county residents completed the Be Heart Smart course
- **Impact Pantries** - 3 county schools provided with Impact Pantries – one currently functional, 2 finalizing

Bridges to Health, CORE + Peer Support Specialist(s)

This partnership was established to provide funds to the CORE+ Program allowing for a continuation of services of one or more Peer Support Specialists serving Grant County and to provide financial assistance in the development of preventative, advisory and recovery programs relative to addiction and recovery in our community.

A Peer Support Specialist (PSS) is a trained professional who uses their own lived experience with mental health or substance use recovery to help others going through similar challenges, acting as a mentor, advocate, and role model to foster hope, build skills, and connect individuals to resources for their recovery journey. They provide non-clinical support, working alongside clinical providers to help clients set goals, develop strategies, and navigate the system to achieve greater independence and wellness.

Of note – Grant County fatal overdoses fell to 13 for the year.

Marion Health:

Family Birthing Center – Great Beginnings Program

This partnership was developed to:

- Reduce the number of pregnant women in Grant County who use tobacco products during pregnancy (currently 17% per birth certificate data, per Social Determinants of Health collection from the obstetrical visits data suggests rates as high as 32% which includes vaping and tobacco).
- To reduce the current Grant County Infant Mortality Rate of 9.7 per 1,000 live births.
- To actively work in partnership and create a flow of communication and resources related to maternal and infant health between Marion Health, Great Beginnings and GCHD to provide support, education, and community resources for our pregnant/postpartum citizens and their infants.

Programs and Incentives made possible with the Health First Indiana funding:

- Provided car seat education and a car seat to 10 patients who couldn't afford them
- 25 Pack N Plays after completing safe sleep education were distributed
- Prenatal Education classes were provided to 12 patients
- 82 smoking mothers were invited to participate in the Baby & Me Smoke Free program, 4 began the program, 1 successfully completed the program

Tobacco Cessation Coordinator

This partnership was established to create a flow of communication and resources related to tobacco use, second-hand smoke and tobacco cessation between the Grant County Tobacco Cessation Coordinator and GCHD. To work in partnership to improve children & adults' health and wellness lessening the impact of health disparities by tobacco/vaping use and secondhand smoke. Recent legislation required early termination of this partnership.

YMCA

The \$50,000 in funding from the Grant County Health Department has allowed the YMCA to **increase offerings for child and adolescent wellness programs** and **encourage adult fall risk prevention efforts**.

This funding has:

- Increased youth engagement in health focused programs -focused programs
- Provided education and opportunities that promote physical activity and healthy habits
- Delivered fall prevention programming for adults with chronic health conditions prevention programming for adults with chronic health conditions -prevention programming for adults with chronic health conditions
- Expanded service capacity through facility improvements and enhanced staff support

Participation & Outcomes

Program	Participants
Daddy Daughter Dance	150
Bitty Basketball	45
Steady and Strong (Fall Risk)	10 per session
IWU Fall Prevention Class	8 per session
Corporate Challenge (Adult Wellness)	282
Swim Lessons	76
Youth Golf Camp	21
Homeschool Gym & Swim	42
Youth March Madness	46
Youth Track	5
Learn to Swim – Oak Hill & Marion 2nd Graders	770
Youth Day Camp	84
Youth Before & After School Care	186
1000lb Club/500lb Club (lifting)	16
Marion Teen Boxing Program	50
Youth Junior Judo Class	26
Senior Judo Class	14
Judo Tournament	189

Other notable uses of HFI funds:

Lead & Healthy Homes

HFI monies were used to fund the cost of Lead Risk Assessor certification for one health department employee. A SchAps lead testing device and the necessary supplies were also purchased. This provides GCHD with the ability to handle each child with elevated blood lead levels from initial case opening to discharge at no additional cost to the county. This is a savings of, at minimum, \$850 per case and potentially much more.

Grant County Highway/Recycle Center

GCHD provided an AED for each building at the Grant County Highway Department and Recycle Center located on Garthwaite Road potentially providing lifesaving assistance to their employees or our citizens experiencing a health crisis.

GCHD – Nursing Division

Annual Report 2025

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Beverly Penrod, RN, PHN
Nursing Manager

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.

Current Staff Members

Dr. Brenda Woods MD FAAFP.....	County Health Officer
Beverly Penrod, RN.....	Public Health Nurse/Nurse Manager
Sarah Cox, RN.....	Comm. Disease Nurse
Lorie Hornaday, LPN.....	School Nurse Liaison
Deidre Miller.....	Receptionist/Billing Clerk
Amber Powell, CMA.....	Part time Vaccinator

PRN Nurses

Nancy Spencer, RN
Patti Soultz, RN
Jane Hampton, RN

Separated Employee

Diedre Hamilton, LPN

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. Because so many school children had fallen behind in their vaccinations, our division provided extended after hour vaccination clinics, in the fall of 2025, to facilitate ease of appointments. These were well-used and much appreciated by parents who were able to bring their children to be vaccinated, without missing work, themselves.

After-Hours Clinics were held two evenings a month in May, June and July. An additional evening clinic was provided in August and again in November. After hours clinics are scheduled as the need arises.

We had walk-in Wednesdays from 10/1/2025-12/3/2025 primary for flu and Covid vaccines.

We continue our partnership 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. The company also manages most 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. Our Billing Specialist completes the billing for our off-site flu/COVID-19 clinics. In 2025 we gave 2,283 vaccinations, 914 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 and Amber Powell have the responsibility of managing the vaccines. There is a vaccine inventory completed every week, and vaccines are ordered when needed. They are 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, and the expiration dates so we don't have waste. We have an inventory that ranges from \$25,000-\$35,000 for private vaccines and \$ 45,000-\$53,000 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 and older.

We collected \$20,793 in the nursing division for the 2025 calendar year.

Medicare \$3,330.54

Medicaid \$5,550.91

Private insurance \$2,220.38

Self-pay or facility pay \$9,691.22

RSV Vaccines

- We offer Abrysvo for qualified adults and pregnant women. In 2025 we gave 23 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 an antibiotic for infants for the protection of infants up to 8 months of age we have the medication in private and VFC stock. We gave 9 in 2025.

Flu Vaccines

- ❖ Flu vaccines became available in September 2025
- ❖ We offer flu vaccines and COVID-19 vaccines at most of our onsite clinics
- ❖ We offered several presentations and the cost varied depending on vaccine type
- ❖ Flu vaccine clinics and off-site locations including:
 - Auto Owners' Insurance (01/07/2025)
 - Bridges to Health (10/16/2025)
 - World Gospel Mission (09/30/2025)
 - Marion City Schools (10/10/2025)
 - Marion City Utilities (10/21/2025)
 - Paddock View Residential Care (11/13/2025)
 - Butterworth Industries (11/13/2025 6 am to 9 am and 2 pm to 3:30 pm)
 - Grant County Highway Department (11/19/2025)
- ❖ **Total flu vaccines given:**
 - VFC-55
 - 317 Adult Grant-50
 - Private Stock-526

COVID-19 Vaccines

- We provided 176 vaccinations compared to last year 269.
- With the changes in the ACIP recommendations and risk factors. We had several patients inquire but they didn't meet the criteria (risk factors) so we couldn't provide the vaccine for them.
- We go to Elderly Care Facilities upon request to give COVID-19 vaccinations.
- We have gone to patient's homes and private cars to give vaccines.

Billing

Nursing Division Revenues:

2024--\$46,798.95

2025--\$20,793.08

We discovered an error with VaxCare and they were reversing charges back to us to pay. Deidre (our billing specialist) had them fix some of errors, but they said that some accounts were closed and they couldn't reverse the accounts to VaxCare pay.

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.

Health Fairs

We have provided educational materials and awareness to the community by having tables at outreach events in 2025. We participated in a health fair at Grant County Fair in June.

Lead Testing

The open case investigations for elevated lead blood levels in Grant County has remained 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 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.

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. The Health Department has purchased a piece of equipment called SciApps XRF and now Josh Keller (environmental department) completes the risk assessment, and he also completes the re-assessments. He has completed four so far.

We had 25 case investigations of children who have had an elevated lead level, which will be confirmed, suspect or not a case, 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, the child ages out or the child is lost to contact, with numerous good faith attempts to follow up and contact the family.

Jane Hampton continues to complete our lead cases. She has completed several BLL (blood lead levels) in the office and even going to the patient's home when needed these tests are capillary testing and patients will be referred for a venous confirmatory test if the lab comes back positive.

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 2025:

- 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
- Fairmount Police Department

We are listed on the state website as a place to receive Narcan kits and training. We continue to have 4 Narcan boxes in the county.

Committee Participation

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

- 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
- CPR Training

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

- Public Health Training (Lorie Jan 29-30)
- Public Health Nurse Conference (Beverly and Lorie, June 23 & 24)
- School Liaison Conference (Lorie June 9, 10 & 11)
- Public Health Training (Sarah December 8 & 9)
- Beverly completed the Lead Case Management Training
- Beverly and Sarah completed the TB case management training
- Beverly and Sarah completed the Hep C and Hep B training

School Nurse Liaison-Lorie Hornaday, LPN

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) 21st 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)
- Grant County Social Service Agencies Council (GCSSAC)

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
- CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) Instructor Training at Marion Health. **Will be able to offer Grant County Schools students, teachers, and staff CPR training 2025-26 school year!**

Lorie has been able to attend some live conferences and training, as well, including:

- CATCH My Breath Train-the-Trainer
- Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) 2024 Youth Data Conference
- Trauma-Informed Nutrition Security for Indiana Schools Training
- Prevent Child Abuse Grant County Annual Training and Luncheon
- Indiana School Health Network Conference
- IDOH Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Training
- IDOH 'Breathe' Training
- Stop the Bleed Instructor Course
- IYI Practical Strategies to Respond to Youth Mental Health Challenges
- Train the Trainer. Water Awareness in Residential Neighborhoods (WARN) Lorie
- 2025 Juneteenth Health-Fair at the Clarence Faulkner Community Center

TB Program

The communicable disease nurse continues to do case investigations for reportable conditions throughout the county. Hepatitis C remains the most frequently reported condition in Grant County, with IV drug use being the cause. Through my investigations I have noticed that more of the reports come from treatment facilities than they have in past years.

We have had 8 new Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI). We obtained medications, gave education and monitored 8 of those cases, and 1 other refused treatment. There have been no active TB cases in our county for the year.

We follow ISDH 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 ISDH provides free treatment for all LTBI patients. The Rx meds are ordered through Purdue University then distributed and followed up on by the Health Department. There are two options for treatment. The first option is 9 months of self-administered INH 300 mg daily. The second option is a 12-week DOT “Direct Observe Therapy” once weekly. The medications are INH 900mg, Rifapentine 900mg, B6 50. There was patient that we did “DOT”. The patient ended up being LTBI after completing 8 weeks of “DOT”. We couldn’t stop treatment unless a doctor ordered it or the patient’s sputum came back negative. It was the latter.

Total cases/reports

- 0 Active TB patient
- 1 DOT patient (this patient was placed on DOT from 8/25/25-10/8/2025 while waiting for his test to come back)
- 9 LTBI patients
 - 1 LTBI declined treatment
 - 8 LTBI treated
- 3 LTBI completed treatment

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. Requests for these tests have remained steady. In efforts to help accommodate businesses within the community, we travel and administer employee TB testing on site, when requested.

❖ Total given: 495

Communicable Disease

The role of Communicable Disease Nurse 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. Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) cases have remained steady with pre-employment screening being the reason for testing. There have been no active TB cases in our county for the year.

Disease/Condition	Case Status					Total
	Confirmed	Not a Case	Probable	Suspect	Unknown	
2019 Clinical Novel Coronavirus	4	1	0	0	0	5
2019 Novel Coronavirus	348	0	243	0	0	591
Animal Bites	125	1	0	0	43	169
Botulism, infant	0	1	0	0	0	1
Campylobacteriosis	4	0	14	0	0	18
Candida auris, clinical	1	0	0	0	0	1
Carbapenemase-producing organisms (CPO), clinical	7	6	0	1	0	14
Carbapenemase-producing organisms (CPO), screening	2	1	0	0	0	3
Class B	2	0	0	0	0	2
Cryptosporidiosis	3	0	0	0	0	3
Haemophilus influenzae, invasive	3	0	0	0	0	3
Hemolytic uremic synd, postdiarrheal	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hepatitis A, acute	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hepatitis B virus infection, Chronic	13	1	2	0	1	17
Hepatitis B, acute	3	4	1	0	0	8
Hepatitis C Virus Infection, past or present	31	1	10	0	21	63
Hepatitis C, acute	2	0	0	0	0	2

Disease/Condition	Case Status					Total
	Confirmed	Not a Case	Probable	Suspect	Unknown	
Histoplasmosis	0	0	5	1	0	6
Influenza-Associated Death	9	0	0	0	0	9
Latent Tuberculosis Infection	17	1	0	8	0	26
Lead	6	16	1	8	0	31
Lyme disease	0	1	0	1	0	2
Mumps	0	1	0	1	0	2
Other	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pertussis	1	2	1	0	0	4
Salmonellosis, excluding S. typhi and S. paratyphi	4	0	3	0	0	7
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC)	0	0	5	1	0	6
Shigellosis	1	0	1	0	0	2
Strep pneumoniae, invasive	15	0	0	0	0	15
Streptococcal disease, invasive, Group A	7	0	0	0	0	7
Tetanus	0	2	0	0	0	2
Tuberculosis	0	3	0	0	0	3
Varicella (Chickenpox)	0	1	1	0	1	3
Yersiniosis	0	0	5	0	0	5
Total	609	45	292	21	66	1,033

2025 Vital Records Report



Morgan Lee – Lesa Dillon – Tara Street – Debbie Brooks

2025 was a big year for Vital Records, not only in Grant County, but for the entire state of Indiana. Beginning March 10th, Vital Records gained the ability to view, print and issue both birth and death certificates from ANY county in Indiana (in most cases). Prior to this date, Grant County was only issuing death certificates filed from 2021 to current. Since having the ability to issue all certificates, our local funeral homes along with our citizens have found this greatly helpful. It has also proved helpful for citizens who live outside of Grant County, as they are now able to get their birth certificate in the county in which they reside. What a wonderful thing technology has allowed us to do for our citizens. February 24th, Katie Kikendall began working full-time with Vital Records. She was able to work and fill in for Morgan's maternity leave which began on May 16th and lasted through July 14th. Katie's last day with the Health Department was on July 11th, as she accepted another position within county government. September 8th, Debbie Brookes was hired part-time. She has been working diligently on entering birth records to help get them digitized for easier accessibility.

Katie, Morgan and Tara attended the IVRA Spring Conference in Warsaw on May 1st. The IVRA Spring Conference was "All About Amendments". Tara also attended the IVRA Fall Conference in Spencer on October 9th and 10th. During both conferences, clarity was provided on procedures for issuance of all records. It was announced at Fall Conference that Correction Affidavits (Affidavits Requesting Amendments) will no longer be sufficient to change any part of a name on a birth certificate over the age of 2 years old. Any name-related changed to the birth certificate after the age of 2 will require a Court Ordered Legal Name Change. This has made it more costly to get a birth certificate corrected. It has also eliminated any second guessing and confusion on "what is a simple mistake on a birth certificate?"

Lesla continues to work part-time in the Vital Records Division to cover the office during absences of full-time staff due to vacations, training, meetings, illnesses and lunch hours. This allows the vital records office to remain open during times that it would otherwise have to be closed. Lesla also assists the Food Safety Division with filings, mailings and many clerical duties. This position is funded through the Health First Indiana Initiative. We look forward to what 2026 has to offer for Vital Records and how we can better serve our community!

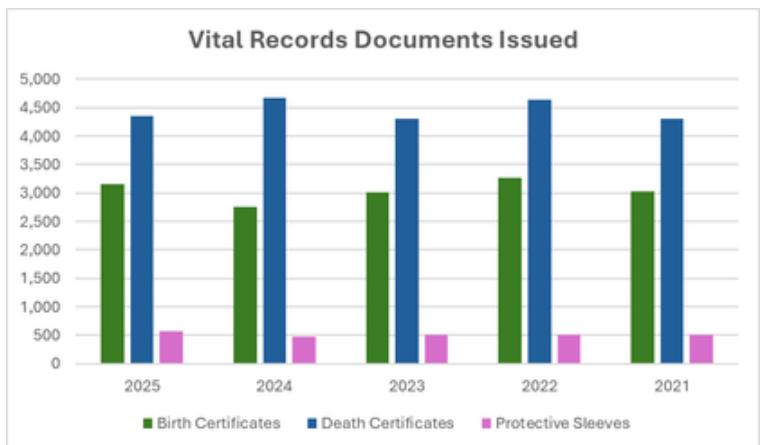
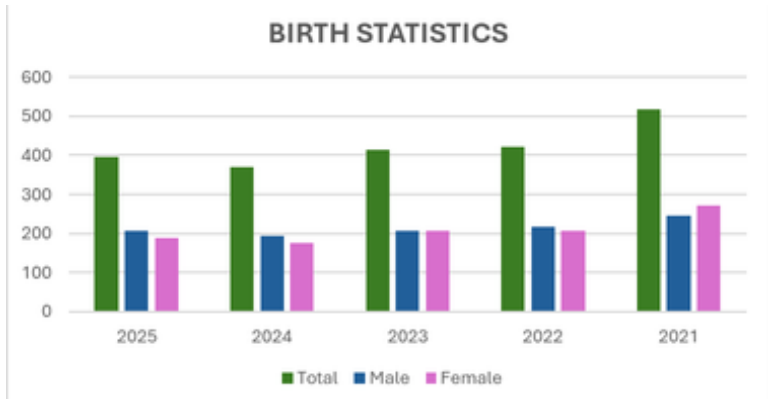
2025 Birth Statistics



44% of births from Grant County residents occurred outside of the county. This percentage continues to support why being able to issue ALL certificates, regardless of the county of origin, is important.

Births in Grant County -----397
 Birth Certificates Issued -----3,157
 Home Births -----9
 Sets of Twins -----2
 Paternity Affidavits Filed*:
 By hospital at birth -----194
 At health department----19
 Copies of Paternity Affidavits issued -46
 Affidavit of Amendment Processed ----7
 Court Order Determining Parentage --23
 Court Ordered Legal Name Change --24
 Court Ordered Gender Change -----1
 Correction by Notification Processed --3
 Adoptions Processed -----52
 Birth Verifications -----1
 Birth Certificates sent to D.C.S. -----11

*Of the 397 births registered in Grant County for 2025, 268 of those were born to non-married parents. Of the 268 births, 194 of those had paternity affidavits completed at the hospital at the time of birth while 19 of the 268 came into the health department to complete the paternity affidavit.



2025 Death Statistics



The vital Records Division brought in \$119,549 in 2025. Indiana Code requires that \$2.50 for each certified death certificate issued be deposited into the Indiana Coroners Continuing Education Fund. This deposit for 2025 was \$11,257.50.

Deaths in Grant County -----673

Death Certificates Issued -----4,353

Genealogy Searches:

 In Person -----14

 Mail/Email -----37

Oldest Person -----107

Leading Causes of Death:

1. Cardiovascular Disease (132)

2. Cancer Related (71)

3. Dementia/Alzheimer's (65)

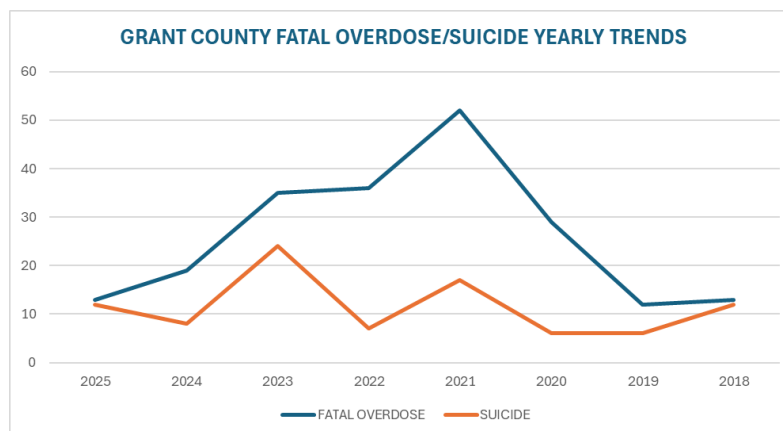
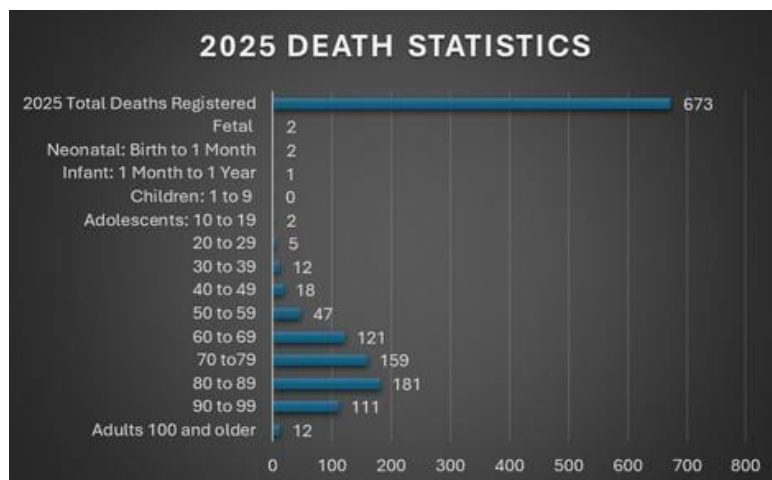
Fetal Deaths-----2

Gov't Copies of Death Cert. Issued ---19

Death Verifications sent to VANIHCs -87

Natural Deaths with Tobacco/Substance

Abuse listed -----59



Coroner Cases

Accident*17

Homicide2

Natural141

Suicide12

Undetermined**4

TOTAL 176

*13 accidents were related to self-inflicted drug overdoses and the remaining 4 were related to motor vehicle accidents.

**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 25-34 years of age.



Grant County Health Department

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***Your dedicated,
loyal, extra-
mile,
hardworking,
compassionate,
always above-
and-beyond
Grant County
Health
Department***

