



ANNUAL REPORT 2024





Mission Statement

To promote and protect the health and well-being of our community.

Our Locations

**115 Indiana Ave.
Valparaiso, Indiana, 46383**

Suite 104

 **(219) 465-3525**

**3590 Willowcreek Rd.
Portage, Indiana, 46368**

Suite C

 **(219) 759-8239**



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BOARD OF HEALTH

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Dr. Chris Osan - *Vice Chairperson*
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Dr. Patrick Fleming
Kathy Lemmon, RN
Robyn Lane, RN
Terry Wuletich, RN



Health Officer

Dr. Rodney Guimont, MD



Administrator

Carrie Gschwind



Office Manager

Kendra Lester



Food Service Director
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Care Coordinator
Carrie Honeycutt



School Health Liaison
Jamie Pauley



Nursing Director
Jessica Malher



Environmental Health Director
Dan Boyd



Communications Coordinator
Demetrious Lewis



Grants & Contracts Specialist
Kris Contrino



Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
John Pisowicz



From the desk of **Carrie Gschwind** Administrator

The year 2024 was marked with a lot of exciting opportunities for the Porter County Health Department, our community partners, and our residents.

On January 2, 2024 we received a deposit of \$1,753,072.76 into our newly created Local Public Health Services Fund as a part of the Health First Indiana Initiative, created by Senate Enrolled Act 4 passed by the 2023 Indiana General Assembly. The purpose of this initiative is to transform public health in the state of Indiana by providing state budget funding to local health departments so that they may work with their local communities to address the specific needs of their residents. There will be a lot to report about Health First Indiana in this publication, but to me the most exciting aspects are working with our county residents to determine the most pressing public health issues where they live, working with our community partners (10 existing and 15 new partnerships so far) to implement programs addressing these needs, and seeing the excitement and dedication of our staff as they realize the impact their work is having on the community where they live and work.

In 2022 the health department was awarded ARPA funding from Porter County Government in the amount of 1 million dollars to expand and remodel our department for more efficient use of space and to provide enhanced service to our customers and patients. In October of 2024, construction began on our project and we are currently preparing to move into the next phase. Construction is expected to wrap in the Spring of 2025.

In November of 2024, we said goodbye to our beloved health officer, Dr. Maria Stamp who retired after selflessly leading our department since 2011. Dr. Stamp saw Porter County through many seasons, most notably the COVID-19 pandemic, and never wavered in her commitment to the public health of our community. Dr. Stamp will always be remembered for her humble, patient, and compassionate leadership and her mark will remain on this department for years to come. On November 19, 2024, Dr. Stamp was awarded a Sagamore of the Wabash from Governor Holcomb, presented by Senator Ed Charbonneau, for her distinguished service to the state of Indiana and Porter County.

With each ending, comes an exciting new beginning and I am thrilled to announce that on October 8, 2024, Dr. Rodney L. Guimont Jr's appointment as the 4th health officer of the Porter County Health Department was confirmed by the Porter County Board of Commissioners. Dr. Guimont comes to us with both global and community health experience as well as experience as a local family practice physician and in insurance compliance. He is already well integrated into the culture of our department, busy innovating with the staff, our board of health, and our community partners as we look forward to 2025 and beyond.

It is my hope that as you review the information found in this report you feel the same sense of pride for all of the amazing organizations that we have in Porter County and all of the amazing works that they are doing, as well as the same excitement for the opportunities, innovations and new program implementations that are to come. Together we can build better health for a better future.

Sincerely,

Carrie Gschwind

Welcome
Dr. Guimont
Health Officer



In October 2024, I became the new Porter County Health Department Health Officer. Prior to my appointment, Dr. Maria Stamp had served in this role for 13 years! I am grateful to have the opportunity to build on the robust foundation that Dr. Stamp has built over her tenure. Dr. Stamp graciously stayed on the board for a couple of months to educate and mentor me in this new role.

This is an exciting time for public health, and in particular for the residents of Porter County. With the funding our county's health department received from the Health First Indiana Initiative, we have received a tremendous boost to help transform the health of our community. Through community partnerships and working with local leaders, Health First Indiana has the potential to make a tremendous impact on the health of our community.

I am honored to serve in this role and am enthusiastic to work toward a healthier Porter County.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Guimont Jr. M.D.

INTRODUCING...



In late 2023, the Porter County Find Help site was created with sponsorship from CoAction, Northwest Health, and Valparaiso University. The Porter County Health Department now covers the cost of the site. *Carrie Honeycutt*, our Care Coordinator, and *Sam Burgett*, Social Worker with the Porter County Sheriff's Department are the administrators of the site. They receive valuable input from the Porter County Community Resource Network (CRN).

By having a Porter County-specific page, we can include programs that are not free or low-cost, providing a comprehensive guide to the community's offerings. *We aim to prevent residents from reaching a crisis before finding the services they need.*

The custom navigation bar includes categories like Basic Needs (food and housing), Addiction & Recovery, Mental Health & Support, Families & Children, and Community Connection (parks, social clubs, and senior activities).

The vision for the Porter County Find Help page is to provide a single, accurate, and current resource guide for residents of all ages. This is a community effort, and everyone is encouraged to help keep the site up-to-date as it will continue to grow. Anyone can suggest a program to be added, and organizations can claim their program listings to manage and update their information.



There are over 2,000 programs available in Porter County.



Visit Find-Help today!

Care Coordination

To address the core service of “connection to care,” the Porter County Health Department hired a full-time Care Coordinator in December of 2023. Our care coordinator works to develop and strengthen community partnerships and provide our residents with the following services:

- Bridge the gap in care pathway
- Connect to community-based resources & social services
- Coordinate prevention screenings, training, & education through PCHD
- Care transition
- Self-management support
- Referrals
- Help to understand insurance benefits
- Affordable medication assistance
- Receive/process bicycle program applications
- Coordinate transportation

In 2024, 46 referrals or soft hand offs were made to over 20 resources/ organizations. The top 5 were for:

Medical Needs

Mental Health

Transportation

Prenatal/Baby Needs

Legal Assistance

CATEGORIES

- 988
- Baby/Child
- Clothing
- Dental
- Disability Assistance/Resources
- Food/Community Meals
- Geminus Community Partners
- Housing Assistance/Shelter
- Legal Assistance
- Medicaid/Insurance Navigation
- Medical (home health)
- Medication Assistance
- Mental Health- Youth/Adults
- Parenting
- Prenatal
- Senior Assistance/Resources
- Substance Use - Youth/Adults
- Transportation
- Trustee
- Veteran's Assistance/Resources
- Vision



In preparation for 2024 and the **Health First Indiana (HFI) Initiative**, Porter County Health Department partnered with the **Pyrce Group** to conduct a *public health needs assessment*, speaking with community-based organizations and residents within our communities to determine what they consider the most pressing public health issues within the populations.

Identified Needs

- **Basic Needs**
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Food Security
 - Diaper/Infant Formula
- **Safety Needs**
 - Gun Safety
- **Environmental Needs**
 - Insect Infestation
 - Flooding
- **Healthcare Needs**
 - Mental Health Service
 - Maternal Health Service
 - Child Health Service
 - Education around Social Determinants

HFI Strategic Plan

Following the publication of the needs assessment, PCHD published an HFI Strategic Implementation Plan. The plan summarized the results of the needs assessment, outlining the state of core public health service delivery in Porter County as of December 2023, and prioritizing public health interventions and program planning and implementation.



Read the Pyrce Group Report



Read the HFI Strategic Plan



Learn more about our community info, partners, KPIs, and 2024 & 2025 budget and approved spend plans.

Porter County at a Glance

Topic	Indiana Rate	County Rate	Rank
Adult Obesity	44 %	42.6 %	# 10
Children <3 Years Old Completing Recommended Vaccine Series	62.2 %	61.0 %	# 62
Infant Mortality Rate	6.7	2.96	# 1
Life Expectancy	75.6	77.5	# 17
Opioid Overdose Rate	25.07	20.3	#51
Smoking Rate	17.9 %	16.0 %	#15
Suicide Rate*	15.77	16.3	# 38
Tobacco & Vaping Use During Pregnancy	6.6 %	3.0 %	# 4
Years of Potential Life Lost Due to Injury	2527.14	2163.3	# 44

*Increase in suicides from 2023

Rank of #1 = best in the state
Rank of #92 = worst in the state

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Core Public Health Services

 Tobacco and Vaping Prevention and Cessation +	 Lead Case Management and Risk Assessment +	 Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention and Case Management +
 School Health Liaison +	 Immunizations +	 Vital Records +
 Health-Related Areas during Emergencies/Disasters +	 Trauma and Injury Prevention +	 Fatality Review +
 Chronic Disease Prevention +	 Access to and Linkage to Clinical Care +	 Maternal and Child Health +
 Food Protection +	 Infectious Disease Prevention and Control +	 Environmental Public Health +

During 2024, the success of the Health First Indiana initiative was measured by *state-level key performance indicators (KPIs)* and counties reported their core service progress. [A snapshot of Porter County’s progress measures show:](#)

	December 2023	June 2024	December 2024
In Planning	3 / 25	0 / 25	0 / 25
In Processs	4 / 25	2 / 25	0 / 25
Completed	18 / 25	23 / 25	25 /25

On December 1, 2024, Porter County submitted our *first 4 county-level key performance indicators* for use in tracking the progress of specific core public health delivery goals over the next 3 to 10 years.



Trauma and injury prevention and education

Decrease the rate of suicide deaths in Porter County from 16.0 per 100,000 in 2023 to 14.0 per 100,000 by 2027.



Chronic disease prevention and reduction

Decrease the adult obesity rate (>20 years old) from 42.6% (2018-2023) to 40.3% (2028-2033).

Decrease the asthma-related emergency department visit rate from 23.25 per 10,000 in 2022 to 22 per 10,000 by 2027.



Child and adult immunizations

Increase the immunization rate in Porter County for children < 3 years old completing required vaccine series from 64.3% in 2023 to 66.0% by 2027.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Thanks to our partners, in 2024, we have distributed/conducted:

576 Packages of Diapers	439 Packages of Baby Wipes	54 Packages of Sanitary Pads
3,442 Weekend Backpack Snacks	21 Car Seats Provided	49 Car Seat Safety Inspections

TRAUMA AND INJURY PREVENTION

285 Containers of Sharps Returned	202 Harm Reduction Kits Distributed	365 Medications Brought for Disposal
42 Attendees for Senior Fitness Program	2,087 Does of Naloxone Distributed	79 Hour of First Responder Training

CHRONIC DISEASE

47 Diabetes Screenings	32 A1C Tests for Diabetes	193 Blood Pressure Screenings	71 Adults in Nutrition Program
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TRANSPORTATION

16,089 Total Rides Provided	2,414 Increase in Rides from 2023	552 Increased # of Passengers	286 New Passengers
41 Bikes Provided	5 Lyft Rides Provided	46 V-Line Tokens Distributed	

Thank you

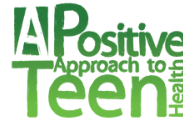
TO OUR CURRENT PARTNERS



**PORTAGE TOWNSHIP
TRUSTEE OFFICE**



Porter County
**RECYCLING
& WASTE REDUCTION**



Tobacco
Education



**Powers
HEALTH**



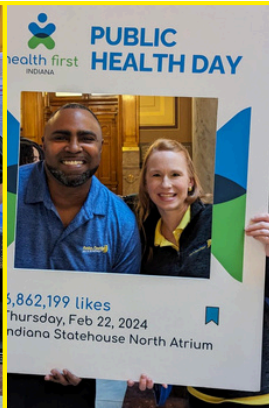
**COMMUNITY
CHANGE CENTER**

**PORTER COUNTY JUVENILE
DETENTION CENTER**

Public Health Day 2024

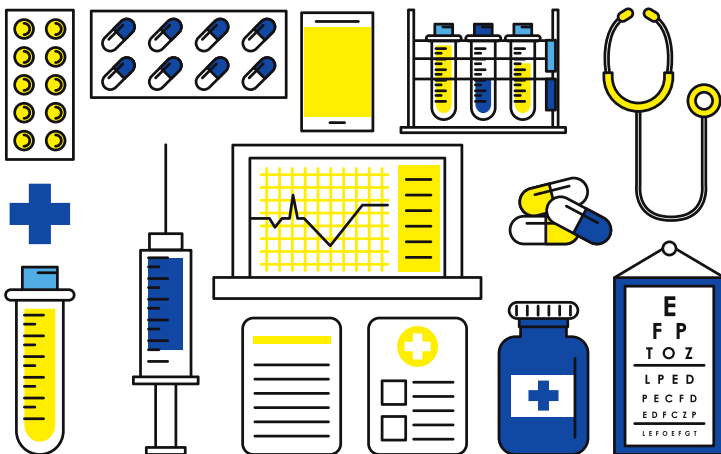
Public Health Day was held on February 22, 2024 at the Indiana Statehouse in Indianapolis. It is a celebration of the investment in public health and provides an opportunity to hear from other local health department & community leaders.

A combination of 10 organizations were asked to showcase services provided through Health First Indiana initiative funding- Porter County included!



Nursing Report

Ensure that residents have access to essential healthcare, disease prevention programs, and health education.



As part of the *Health First Indiana* Initiative, the Porter County Health Department tracks Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to measure the effectiveness of our programs. Our nurses play a direct role in achieving these KPIs by:

- Ensuring proper tuberculosis management to prevent drug-resistant infections.
- Enhancing maternal and child health by implementing evidence-based strategies for reducing infant mortality.
- Providing accessible immunization services, improving county-wide vaccination rates, and disease prevention.
- Reducing the spread of communicable disease through timely investigation and outbreak response.

Core Services & Impact

Tuberculosis Prevention & Case Management

Lisa, our Tuberculosis (TB) Coordinator, ensures that patients with active and latent TB receive the necessary healthcare, treatment, and support.

40 patients treated for latent TB

723 TB tests provided:
ensuring early detection and prevention
of TB spread in the community.



Lead Case Management

Hayley, our Lead Coordinator, is responsible for addressing elevated blood lead levels in children. In 2024, she investigated:

308 lead cases, working directly with families to identify lead exposure sources and reduce health risks through education and intervention.

Maternal and Child Health

As the leader of Porter County's Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) team, *Hayley* has built a multidisciplinary group of over 40 healthcare providers. This team:



- Conducts case reviews of fetal (20+ weeks) and infant deaths in Porter County
- Implements evidence-based strategies to lower the mortality rate and improve maternal-child health outcomes.

Immunizations

Crystal, our Vaccination Coordinator, oversees immunization efforts to ensure accessibility for all residents, regardless of insurance status. In 2024 she:

Managed the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, ensuring compliance with vaccine handling, storage, and distribution protocols. She also investigates all animal bite reports received by our office.

6,191 vaccines administered

397 animal bites



Infectious Disease Prevention & Control

Shannon, our Communicable Disease Coordinator, plays a critical role in monitoring and investigating reportable diseases in Porter County. She also offers guidance and recommendations. In 2024, she investigated:

385 cases of communicable diseases, ranging from Salmonella to Ebola.



Amy, our Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Coordinator, ensures timely investigation, follow-up for STI cases, and teaches about transmission/prevention/treatment. In 2024, she conducted:

266 STI tests at the health department, improving access to early diagnosis and treatment.

Investigated ALL positive STI lab reports and followed up with patients regardless of their testing location.



Outreach Initiatives

Our nursing outreach program is dedicated to enhancing the health and well-being of Porter County residents through education, prevention, and direct care.

Our team is committed to meeting the community where they are. We aim to reduce barriers to healthcare by offering accessible services, promoting health education, and responding to emerging public health needs.

“Together we are making strides towards a healthier, more informed community for everyone.” - Jessica Malher, Director of Nursing



Did you know?

We are an AmeriCorps HeartCorp Host!

HeartCorps is a service initiative of the American Heart Association, designed for individuals passionate about supporting their communities' health and wellness. The program's mission is to improve blood pressure control and overall health in communities across the U.S.



In 2024, *Terra*, a dedicated HeartCorps service member, joined the Porter County Health Department to provide vital health services, including:

- Conducting blood pressure screenings for community members at local food pantries, soup kitchens, community centers, senior centers, recovery centers, libraries, and local VFW's.
- Offering & teaching hands-only CPR to community members & youth to increase the survival rates of cardiac arrest in Porter County.
- Assisting Porter County Hospitals and Medical Clinics to enroll into the American Heart Association's "Target: BP" program, helping residents better manage their blood pressure.
- Supporting community members with tobacco cessation efforts by connecting them with free quitting services through QuitNow Indiana.
- Educating and assisting residents with cardiovascular health.
- Distributing resources and educational materials tailored to individual health behaviors, risk factors, and overall well-being.

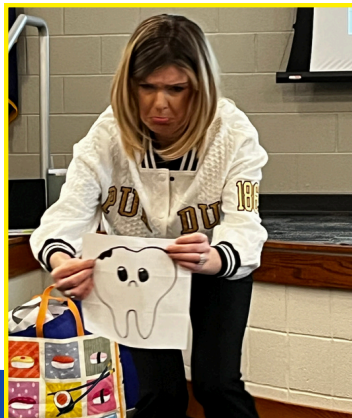
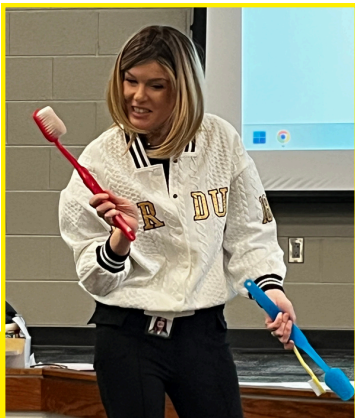


School Health Liasion

The School Health Liasion helps coordinate support services, physical resources, health information and education, and professional development opportunities to Porter County school students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

The Porter County Health Department is dedicated to helping our 69 schools meet the needs of our community's students so that *each child is healthy and ready to learn*. The role of the School Health Liaison is to connect each school in Porter County with the services and resources of the Porter County Health Department, the Indiana Department of Health, and our local community partners.

With a solid clinical foundation in place, the goal became to branch out in further directions in the schoolhouses. The priorities became to develop and source educational materials and curricula, curate lists of contacts for resource and support services, gather physical resources, and develop new relationships in our schools to spread the word that we are here to help and provide support.



Jamie providing dental education to students at a school in Porter County.

Expanding Education

- ADA Dental Health Education Lessons
- Red Cross Water Safety for Children Lessons
- HeartSaver CPR/First Aid/AED
- Catch my Breath
- Kickin' Asthma
- Open Airways
- Stop the Bleed

Student Services

- On-Site Vaccine Clinics
- Hearing and Vision Screenings
- Heart Screenings
- Lead Testing
- Car Seat Safety Fittings

Professional Development for Faculty & Staff

- Catch My Breath
- Stop the Bleed
- Naloxone Administration
- Situational Awareness
- HeartSaver CPR/First Aid/AED

Resources

- Oral Health Items
- Hygiene Supplies
- Naloxone
- Suicide Crisis Lifeline Print Materials
- Nicotine Cessation Literature
- School Supplies
- Lice Treatment

The Porter County Health Department website has been updated to include a ***school health liaison page***. Beyond listing the support services, physical resources, health information and education, and professional development opportunities, it also houses important links for school nurses and quick reference materials for school nurses to provide parents and students. Additionally, it includes parent information fact sheets focusing on important health topics. This resource will continue to grow and will be a hub of information for all our schools.

Environmental Health Report



Our staff is dedicated to reducing the risk of contracting disease or experiencing other adverse health effects from environmental pathogens. We aim to provide prompt, courteous, and professional information concerning environmental public health issues.

2024 Key Events

- Attended a Pest Training Seminar in Elkhart County.
- Attended Lead Risk Assessor/Inspector classes and obtained Lead Risk Assessor and Inspector licenses.
- Participated in Department of Natural Resources's (DNR) Lake Michigan Coastal Program.
- Spoke about onsite sewage systems & wells at an event hosted by the Purdue Extension Office.
- Created a new onsite sewage system ordinance.
- Attended the Indiana Environmental Health Association (IEHA) Conference.
- Attended IEHA Northwest Chapter meetings



Septic Duties

Includes on-site sewage permits, repairs, inspections, repair inspections, on-site soil, and land inspections, plan reviews, and complaints.

Indiana Residential On-Site Sewage Systems Rule 410 IAc-6-8.3 are the requirements for a safe and healthy residential on-site sewage system. Some of the duties that our Health Specialist are responsible for include:

- Analysis and interpretation of Soil Reports by Indiana Registered Soil Scientists
- Specification provision for onsite sewage systems for residential dwellings
- Plan reviews for proposed septic systems
- Inspection of onsite sewage systems during installation for compliance with Rule 410 .

Legislation **HEA 1402** went into effect July 1st, 2023, and rendered a number of PCHD ordinances & policies unenforceable. In 2024, the environmental division created the ***Porter County Onsite Sewage System Ordinance #24-16*** to reinstate some of these policies.

- Allowed for on-site septic installer registration again
- Put in rules for permanent residential sewage holding tanks.
- Guidelines for connection/reconnecting to an existing on-site sewage system.



Read the full ordinance here

Other Impactful Legislation Includes:

- **SEA 414 (IGA 2023)**: Allow permanent holding tanks to be allowed for wastewater disposal for residential and commercial properties as long as certain criteria is met
- **HEA 1329 (IGA 2024)**: Prohibits the ability of local health departments to require point-of-sale inspections on properties with onsite sewage systems

58 Septic Permits Issued
74 Well Permits Issued
152 Repair Permits Issued
224 Plan Reviews

143 Septic Inspections
152 Repair Inspections
50 Complaint Inspections
173 On-Site Inspections
1,679 Septic Releases

Beach Sampling

Between *Memorial Day* and *Labor Day* each year, the Environmental Division routinely takes water samples at various beaches in the county to ensure safe levels of bacteria (such as E. Coli).

Burlington Beach	Long Lake Beach	Edgewater Beach	Hillcrest Beach
Bradley/Lytle Beach	Spectacle Beach	Wauhob Beach	Lakeland Beach

99 out of **112** samples came back SATISFACTORY.

Pools

Indiana Swimming Rule 410 IAC 6-2.1 are the requirements for public and semi-public swimming pools to follow, including sections on:

- Sanitary Facilities
- Safe Levels of Chlorine
- Sufficient Water Recirculation

84 Pool Permits Issued
72 Pool Inspections



Tattoos, Piercings, and Microblading

Indiana State Tattoo Legislation Rule 410 IAC 1-5 are the requirements for a sanitary and effective tattoo/piercing parlor. This rule includes sections on:

- An individual/entity who is adequately trained.
- Clean and sanitary tattoo/piercing/microblading equipment and tools.
- Safe, nontoxic dyes and pigments.

26 Tattoo permits issued and inspections conducted



Lead Risk Assessments

The Environmental Division staff is trained and licensed to conduct lead risk assessments when a child in the residence is found to have an elevated blood lead level.

During a lead risk assessment, staff checks for chipping and distressed paint throughout the resident, and takes samples of dust, paint chips, or soil for analysis.

3 Lead Risk Assessments Completed





Emergency Preparedness Report



Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

The Division of Emergency Preparedness (DEP) completed all sections of the multi-budget period Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) required per the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant. The plan was sent to the Indiana Department of Health- Department of Emergency Preparedness (DEP) for review. The plan was approved for implementation. This Plan (EOP) has been created to foster a multi-year planning approach with key community stakeholders. By fulfilling the requirements, tasks and roles laid out within this document and subsequent annexes, the Porter County Health Department Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) serves as the County ESF-8 Annex to the Porter County Emergency Management Agency's Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan (CEMP).

Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication Plan (CERC)

The Division of Emergency Preparedness (DEP) completed all notification sections of the Crisis & Emergency Risk Communications Plan (CERC) required per the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant. The plan was sent to the Indiana Department of Health- Department of Emergency Preparedness (DEP) for review. The plan was approved for implementation. The Crisis & Emergency Risk Communications Plan (CERC) has been created to foster a stratified approach to communicate with key community stakeholders during a public health emergency. *We will continue to evaluate and enhance the plans as needed.*

Preparedness Software Programs

To ensure that the Porter County Health Department has a comprehensive operating picture of any disaster-related incidents within its jurisdiction and surrounding counties, the Division of Emergency Preparedness (DEP) maintains the following data-sharing and multi-hazard event management programs:

- AskRail
- FAA National Airspace System
- FEMA BioResponder
- FEMA ChemResponder
- FEMA RadResponder
- DHS Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS)
- HHS emPOWER
- Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN)- Healthcare and Public Health Sector, Nuclear Sector, Critical Infrastructure sector, Government Facilities Sector, Food and Agriculture Sector, Electricity Sector, Railroad Sector, Water Sector, Emergency Services Sector, and Dams Sector.
- Indiana Intelligence Fusion Center (IIFC)
- Juvare EMResource
- Juvare WEBEOC
- Outage Data Initiative Nationwide (ODIN)
- TRIPwire
- USGS Earthquake Notification Service
- USGS Water Alert



AskRail®



JUVARE



HSIN

HOMELAND SECURITY
INFORMATION NETWORK

The Trusted DHS Information Sharing Environment



Exercises

The Division of Emergency Preparedness (DEP) participated in and collaborated with key community stakeholders within District 1 (Lake, Newton, Porter, Jasper, and LaPorter Counties) to ensure a coordinated response to a state sponsored emergency.

- District 1 Healthcare Coalition Chemical Response Drill
- District 1 Local Health Department Redundant Communications Drill
- District 1 Natural Gas Pipeline Tabletop Exercise
- Lake County Local Emergency Planning Committee Tabletop Exercise
- La Porte County Local Emergency Planning Committee Tabletop Exercise
- PCHD External Stakeholder Communications Drill- Spring 2024
- PCHD External Stakeholder Communications Drill- Fall 2024
- PCHD Medical Countermeasure (MCM) Drill

40 total exercise hours completed

Stakeholder Meetings

The Division of Emergency Preparedness (DEP) participated in the following meetings and collaborated with key community stakeholders within District 1 (Lake, Newton, Porter, Jasper, and LaPorter Counties) to ensure a coordinated response to a state-sponsored emergency.

- District 1 District Planning Council (DPC)
- District 1 Healthcare Coalition
- District 1 Local Health Department Emergency Planning (monthly) Meeting
- Porter County Fire Association (PCFA)
- Porter County Health Department -Internal Communication & Training
- Porter County Local Emergency Planning Committee

96 total meeting hours

Vital Records Report



2024

BY THE NUMBERS

BIRTHS

1,272 births **658** Male
 614 Female

DEATHS

1,353 deaths **664** Male
 689 Female

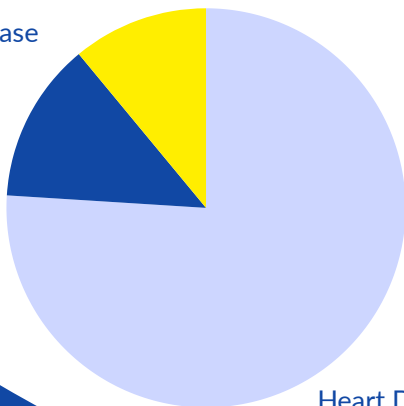
LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

1.) CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

559 deaths **284** Male
 275 Female

Disease of Arteries, Arterioles, & Capillaries
11%

Cerebrovascular Disease
13%



Heart Disease
76%

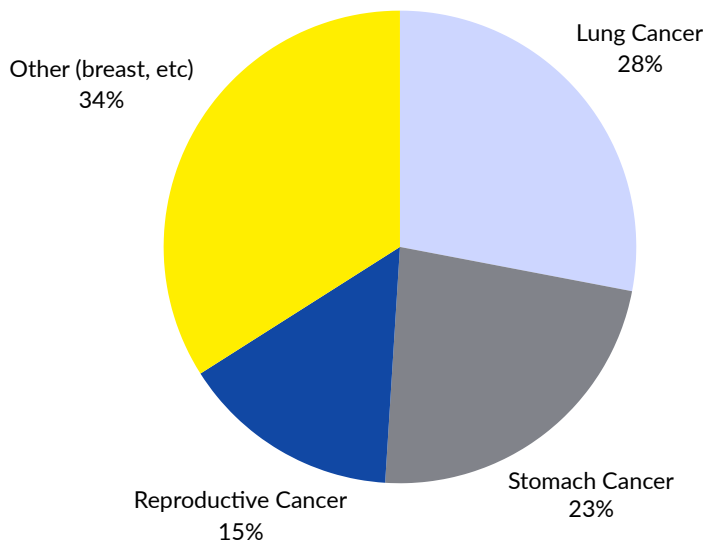
Age Range	%
< 60	9 %
60 - 69	14 %
70 - 79	21 %
80 - 89	31 %
> 90	25 %

2.) CANCERS

341 deaths

176 Male

165 Female



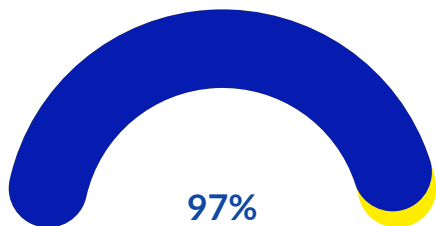
Age Range	%
40-49	2 %
50 - 59	12 %
60 - 69	23%
70 - 79	36 %
80 - 89	16 %
> 90	7 %

3.) MENTAL DISORDERS

252 deaths

81 Male

171 Female

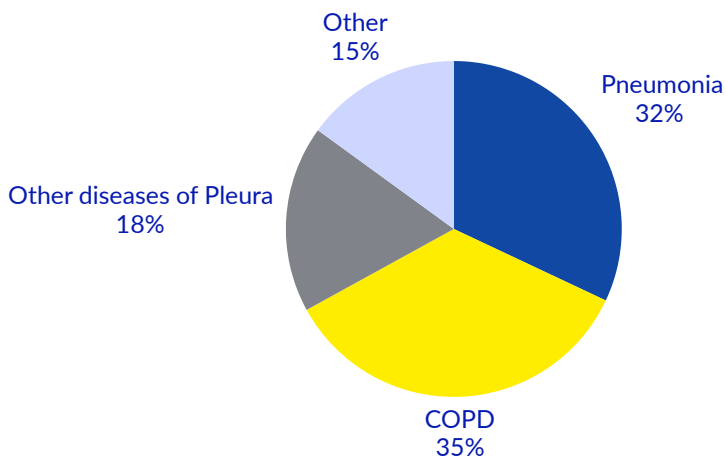


are associated with Dementia

Age Range	%
< 60	9 %
60 - 69	14%
70 - 79	21 %
80 - 89	31 %
> 90	25 %

4.) RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

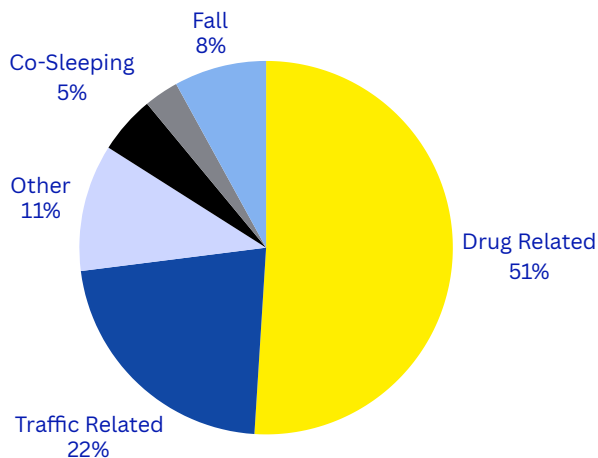
203 deaths **105** Male
 98 Female



Age Range	%
< 60	4 %
60 - 69	11 %
70 - 79	33 %
80 - 89	39 %
> 90	12 %

5.) ACCIDENTS

65 deaths **48** Male
 17 Female



Age Range	%
< 1	3 %
11-30	11 %
31-50	35 %
51-70	33 %
71-90	15 %
91-100	3 %



2024 BY THE NUMBERS

1,404

Inspections

384

Temporary inspections

565

Temporary Permits Issued

501

Annual Permits Issued

74

Partial Year Permits Issued

69

Limited Permits Issued

88

New Establishment Plan Reviews

97

Complaints

WHAT'S NEW?

New foods inspection program: FetchEH- we worked hard to implement this fully and enjoy many of the features in the field and in the office.

- New food service inspector, Noah, hired at the end of January 2024. We are now fully staffed with:
 - 4 full-time food inspectors
 - 1 cross-trained foods inspector from the environmental division
 - 1 seasonal foods inspector



2024 HIGHLIGHTS

- Porter County was active in our Indiana Environmental Health Association Northwest Chapter.
- We were busy with temporary events, including our two highlights for Porter County- 2024 Porter County Fair and the 2024 Valparaiso Popcorn Festival.
- We helped with several FDA recalls, ensuring that recalled product had been removed from the shelves in retail stores.
- We responded to a large Freedom of Information Act request that asked for a copy of all inspections completed at brick and mortar establishments in Porter County, which was at least 1,200 inspections.

Our team members attended various trainings and meetings:

- IEHA Spring & Fall Conferences
 - (Indiana Environmental Health Association)
- IEHA Northwest Chapter Meetings
- Plumbing Training in Johnson County
- New Indiana Food Code Training by the IDOH
 - (Indiana Department of Health)
- National Restaurant Association Restaurant Show
- IEHA Food Protection Committee butcher shop tour.
- IDOH Public Health Orientation
- CPR for our WHOLE staff
- Team Approach to Foodborne Illness Outbreak Response





Financial Report



Report of Collections

Donations	\$4.00
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Total: \$585,989.33

2024 Budget

	2024 Budget	Funds Used	Year End Balance
Health - 1159	\$2,420,403.00	\$2,142,202.02	\$278,180.98
PH Services - 1161	\$1,572,765.00	\$845,739.01	\$727,025.99
Local Health Main - 1168	\$100,990.00	\$76,265.88	\$24,724.12
Tobacco Trust Fund - 1206	\$40,295.00	\$6,870.36	\$33,424.64
Bioterrorism Re- 8119	\$146,261.00	\$131,759.32	\$14,501.68
Health IIC Grant - 8205	\$129,050.00	\$80,072.95	\$48,977.05
COVID Immunizations- 8911	\$261,120.00	\$52,819.99	\$208,300.01
COVID Testing - 8912	\$50,100.00	\$3,202.00	\$46,898.00
Workforce Dev. - 8913	\$258,595.00	\$35,467.58	\$223,127.42
Lead Grant - 8915**	\$18,160.00	\$3,143.99	\$536.97
Tobacco Grant - 8917	\$26,459.00	\$13,682.60	\$12,776.40
Asthma Grant - 8921**	\$8,800.00	\$2,030.30	\$0.00

**Reimbursable, reverting grant funds.

A special thank-you to our amazing staff

CLERICAL STAFF



FOODS DIVISION



ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION



NURSING DIVISION



