

Highland County General Health District

2015 Annual Report



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Highland County Health Department

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Highland County General Health District is to provide public health services that promote, protect, and improve community and environmental health.

Vision:

The vision of the Highland County Health Department is to have healthy people living in healthy communities.

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Highland County Health Department 2015 Annual Report

Introduction

This report contains an overview of the Highland County Health Department's 2015 public health programs. The report is broken down by division and program, and contains general information and activity numbers for each area. Please contact the health department with any questions or for more information about any public health activities.

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Message from the Health Commissioner

2015 was a busy year for the Highland County Health Department. We continue to work through changes brought about by the Affordable Care Act, changes in how insurance is billed, responding to threats from Ebola and Zika, implementing the new requirements from state sewage legislation, and dealing with other issues that have a big impact on how we do business.

Throughout these and other changes, our staff remains committed to improving the community's health. Below are a few highlights from their hard work in 2015.

- Sewage regulations – Our Environmental Health Division is working on new statewide sewage regulations that require us to inspect every household sewage system in the county. Our sanitarians are working to incorporate household systems in this program as properties are sold. Kyle Arn, our Director of Environmental Health, recently applied for and was awarded \$297,000.00 in grant funding to allow us to help support residents in covering the cost of system repair.
- Mammography Clinics – The Nursing Division partnered with Highland District Hospital this year to provide free mammograms to county residents. This partnership allowed over 60 residents to receive free mammograms. Ten of these residents were referred for more thorough exams based on their screening results.
- New Website - Our Administration Division developed a new, more user friendly website in mid 2015. This new site includes an area for new releases, links to program information, and links to our new social media page.

This annual report helps put some numbers to the work of the health department in 2015, but numbers don't tell the whole story of what we do. Numbers won't tell you about the care our nurses put into supporting families with medically handicap children, how they counseled people after being diagnosed with a disease, or how they tracked down and stopped the spread of disease in the community. Numbers won't tell you how closely our sanitarians have worked with local businesses to protect our food supply, how they worked to clean up trash across the county, or the patience they have shown in inspecting every nook and cranny of our schools for safety. Numbers won't show the compassion that people receive when they visit our office for a death certificate, or the joy we share when printing off a child's first birth certificate. Numbers are a good thing, but they only tell a part of our story and our impact on the health of this community.

So, as you read this report, please consider that each number is really a person, a business, or a family that we worked with at the health department in 2015. Much of our work is unseen, and if things go right, you may never know that the health department was there. Whether seen or invisible, our work with the community is part of our ongoing goal to promote, protect, and improve the health of our residents.

Thank you to everyone in the community who continues to support the health department, and thank you to our staff that works every day to make our community a healthier place to live.

Respectfully,



Jared Warner, MEM, RS
Highland County Health Commissioner

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Board of Health Members

The District Advisory Council appoints four Board of Health Members. One member of the Board of Health is appointed by the District Licensing Council (DLC), and represents organizations licensed by the health department.

Original Appointment Date	Members	Current Term Expires
1997	Fred Rose (President)	March 31, 2020
2001	Robert McCray (Vice President)	March 31, 2016
1997	John Griffith	March 31, 2019
2014	John Holt (DLC)	March 31, 2017
2014	Sasikala Chittimireddy, MD	March 31, 2018

Health Department Staff

Name	Title
Jared Warner, MEM, RS	Health Commissioner
Richard Mizer, MD	Medical Director
Karen Vanzant, RN	Director of Nursing
Kyle Arn, RS	Director of Environmental Health
Kate Lewis, RN	Public Health Nurse
Traci Corzatt, RN (Resigned January 2016)	Public Health Nurse
Ebbie Martin	Public Health Aide
Anna McCoppin, RS	Sanitarian
Shirley Cox	Environmental Clerk
Chris Shope, RS	Sanitarian
Philip Webb, RS	Sanitarian
Fiona Pendell	Fiscal Officer
Mary Remsing	Registrar / Receptionist
James Lyle (Resigned in August, 2016)	Emergency Response Coordinator
Brittane Dance (Hired January 2016)	Emergency Response Coordinator
Steve Parker	Plumbing Inspector

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2015 Fiscal Report

The Health Department is in sound financial footing, but this year’s financial report shows a continuation of a trend started in 2013. For the third straight year, we have spent more than we have taken in. Revenue showed an increase in 2015 of 8%, which is an excellent increase for a single fiscal year. Unfortunately, an increase was also seen in expenses, which were up 12%.

Beginning Balance (1/1/2015)	Fund	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance (12/31/2015)
\$443,406.48				
	Administrative	\$670,916.53	\$354,531.76	
	Environmental	\$106,373.28	\$372,417.68	
	Public Health Nursing	\$206,187.14	\$328,061.31	
	Public Health Emergency Prep.	\$79,603.70	\$67,782.57	
Total Health District		\$1,063,080.65	\$1,122,793.32	\$383,693.81

On a three-year average, expenses are increasing at 4.6% annually. Revenue is increasing at 1.4% annually. If this current trend continues, the health department may face financial difficulties as carryover funds are depleted each year. Approximately \$300,000 is needed in carryover funds to get the health department through the first few months of operation each year, until the first tax levy payments become available.

Many cost savings initiatives were undertaken in 2015 by the health department. Below are a few examples.

- Copy/print machine contract was renegotiated for a savings of about \$2,400 annually.
- Epidemiology Contract with Hamilton County was renegotiated from \$7,400 to \$4,200 annually, a savings of \$4,200 annually.
- Bill payment process was adjusted, resulting in savings of about \$1,000.00 in 2015.

More detailed financial records and annual financial statements are available at the health department, or on our website at www.highlandcountyhealth.org.

Environmental Health Division Report

The Environmental Health Division of the Highland County Health Department is responsible for managing a wide variety of state and local programs designed to promote a healthy environment for Highland County. These services include food inspections, household sewage treatment, private water sources, nuisance complaints (trash, open burning, etc.), environmental disease monitoring, school and institution safety inspections, and many other programs. The following section provides an overview of many of the program areas of our Environmental Health Division.

New sewage regulations require us to eventually inspect every household sewage system in the county. Health Department sanitarians have begun this process, and are working to incorporate household systems in this program as properties are sold. The Environmental Health Division recently applied for and was awarded \$297,000.00 in grant funding to allow us to help repair failing systems that we find in the county.

We are devoted to protecting the environment and the health of the citizens of Highland County. We invite you to stop by our offices or call us anytime that you may have questions or comments. We appreciate your input, and hope to continue the good working relationship that we have with all of you in the future.

Kyle D. Arn, M.S., R.S.
Director of Environmental Health

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Household Sewage Treatment

A comparison of the number of household sewage treatment systems installed in 2015 and 2014 found a decrease. Eleven less sewage treatment systems were installed in Highland County in 2015 than in 2014. Thirty seven (37) systems including new, replacement, and alterations were inspected and completed this past year, and they were distributed amongst the townships as shown in **Table 1**. This is a **22.9% decrease** in septic system installations from 2014.

Table 1: Completed Installations

TOWNSHIP	2014	2015
Brush Creek	2	7
Clay	1	0
Concord	4	2
Dodson	1	1
Fairfield	4	9
Hamer	2	1
Jackson	3	1
Liberty	12	6
Madison	2	2
Marshall	7	2
New Market	0	0
Paint	6	0
Penn	0	1
Salem	1	1
Union	0	1
Washington	1	2
White Oak	2	1
TOTALS	48	37

Table 2: Site Evaluations

TOWNSHIP	2014	2015
Brush Creek	5	5
Clay	4	2
Concord	8	10
Dodson	3	3
Fairfield	16	6
Hamer	2	2
Jackson	6	1
Liberty	13	14
Madison	3	3
Marshall	6	3
New Market	4	1
Paint	4	3
Penn	4	4
Salem	3	6
Union	1	1
Washington	5	6
White Oak	6	1
TOTALS	93	71

This office conducted **22 less** site evaluations as shown in **Table 2**. We issued **5 less** installation permits in 2015 compared to 2014, and **7 more** septic system alteration permits than 2014.

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2015 Environmental Health Division Activity Report

Private Water Systems	2015
Inspections	29
Consultations	127
Completed	7

Water Supplies	2015
Inspections	7
Consultations	50

Public Water Supplies	2015
Inspections	0
Consultations	11

Water Samples	2015
Private Total	77
Private Safe	48
Private Unsafe	29

Animal Bites	2015
Number Reported - Dogs	70
Number reported - Other	25
Investigations	126
Consultations	211
Heads to Lab	10
Positive for Rabies	0

Food Service	2015
Inspections	584
Consultations	991

Foodborne Outbreaks	2015
Reported	0
Investigations	1

Nuisances	2015
Reported	22
Inspections	152
Consultations	331
Abated	22

Sewage Systems	2015
Inspected	347
Consultations	1,057
Completed	38
Site Evaluations	72
Minor and Large Lot Subdivisions Approved	29

Public Sewage Systems	2015
Inspections	0
Consultations	19

Loan Certifications	2015
Inspections	22
Consultations	61
Certified	14

Solid Waste	2015
Inspections	63
Consultations	102
Abated	33

Schools	2015
Inspections	37
Consultations	108

Vending Food Service	2015
Inspections	28
Consultations	39

Septage Haulers	2015
Inspections	2
Consultations	50

Resident Camps	2015
Inspections	10
Consultations	43

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Tattoo and Body Piercing	2015
Inspections	4
Consultations	27

Manufactured Home Parks	2015
Inspections	0
Consultations	3

RV Parks and Camps	2015
Inspections	16
Consultations	41

Swimming Pools	2015
Inspections	29
Consultations	67

Other Services	2015
Mold Consultations	16
Jail Inspections	5
Jail Consultations	7
Composting Facility Inspection	0
Lead Paint Consultation	3
Lead Water Consultation	3
Infectious Waste Facility Inspection	0
Infectious Waste Consultation	5
Daycare Inspection	1
Daycare Consultations	2
Bat Consultations	5

Radon Consultation	3
Indoor Air Quality Consultation	3
Bed Bug Consultation	34
Temporary Camp Consultation	3

Permits and Licenses Issued	2015
Food Service Total	247
Food Service - Vending	17
Private Water Systems	14
Private Water Alteration	0
Private Water System Sealing	2
Sewage Treatment System	34
Sewage System Alteration	8
Sewage System Installer	20
Sewage System Service Providers	3
Septage Hauler	20
Water Hauler	0
RV Parks and Camps	11
Resident Camp	5
Manufactured Home Park	0
Swimming Pool	9
Body Art	3
Temporary Body Art	0

Public Health Nursing Division Report

The Public Health Nursing Division works to promote and protect the health of Highland County residents through a variety of initiatives. The Nursing Division provides communicable disease tracking, epidemiology, health education, immunization clinics, health screening tests, and many other services to the community.

For more information on public health nursing programs, please contact us.

Karen Vanzant, RN
Director of Nursing

2015 Public Health Nursing Activity Report

Report Item	2015
Office Visits	1,225
Phone Calls	3,451
Pregnancy Tests	28
Lead Tests	1
Children Services Exam	46
Newborn Screening	8

Care-A-Van (Totals)	1,076
First Time Visits	52
Rechecks	1,024
Blood Sugars	61
Cholesterols	2
Lipids	21
Children Immunizations	1,427
Adult Immunizations	94

Immunization (Totals)	4,847
Children Immunizations	4,051
Adult Influenza	415
Adult Pneumonia	57
Other	324

PHN Visits	20
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Tuberculosis	
PPD Skin Test	265
Chest X-Ray	1
Sputum Specs.	0
New Convertors	1

New Active Cases	0
New Medications	1

Pediculosis (lice)	112
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Clinics	
Senior Citizens BP	222

Immunization Clinics	
AM Office Total Seen	93
AM Office Total Immunizations	255
PM Office Total Seen	273
PM Office Total Immunizations	748

2nd, 3rd, 4th Monday Clinics	
Total Seen	552
Total Immunizations	1,767

Diagnostic Ocular Total	34
New	13
Recheck	21

Disease Screenings	
Hepatitis C Testing	0
HIV Testing	12

Nursing Division Participation In Special Events

- Highland County Fair
- Highland County Community Resource Fair
- Highland District Hospital Health Fair
- Highland County Health Fair for Pregnant women
- Highland County Community Baby Shower
- SANE Trainer
- Communicable Disease training

Additional Services Provided

- BCMH (Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps)
- Prostate Cancer Awareness Campaign & Screenings
- Mammogram Screenings – Collaborating with Highland District Hospital
- Kindergarten Registrations – Hillsboro, Bright Local, and Lynchburg Schools
- 6th Grade Tdap Clinics – Hillsboro, Greenfield, Lynchburg, Bright Local
- Audio and Vision Screenings for St. Mary’s Catholic School and Faith and Light Christian School
- HIV testing and counseling
- Flu Shot Clinics
 - Greenfield Sr. Citizens
 - Greenfield Senior Nutrition
 - Highland County CAO
 - Hobart
 - Hopewell
 - Bright Local Schools
 - Homeless Shelter
 - SPVMHC
 - Greenfield Head Start
 - Hillsboro Senior Citizens Center
- Laboratory Services in collaboration with Highland District Hospital
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screenings in collaboration with Highland District Hospital and The Christ Hospital
- Free Vision Clinics every quarter
- Blood Pressure Screenings at Highland County Sr. Center, Bi-Monthly

Committees/Councils

- Child Fatality Review Board
- Regional Epidemiological Disease Investigation (REDI) Committee
- Highland County Health Consortium
- Family Children First Council
- South West Nursing Directors’ Council
- Early Childhood Collaborative Council

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Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps

BCMh Program	2015
Home Visits	13
Community Based Visits	0
Office Visits	23
PHN Referrals	0
Active Cases	188
Active Treatment Plans	116
Active Diagnostic Plans	5
Active Service Coordination Plans	2
Total Billable PHN Services	\$11,540.00
Total Billed Annually	\$11,540.00
Total Received Annually	\$9,280.00
Pending Payments	\$2,260.00

2014 Disease Reporting

Disease Reporting - Class A Diseases	2015
Campylobacteriosis	2
Chlamydia Infections	117
E.Coli	2
Giardiasis	1
Gonococcal Infections	9
Hepatitis B - Acute	8
Hepatitis B - Chronic	13
Hepatitis C - Chronic	89
Influenza Associated Hospitalizations	44
Legionellosis (legionnaires disease)	2
Lyme Disease	1
Meningitis (aseptic/viral)	7
Meningitis (bacterial)	3
Meningitis (N. Meningitidis)	1
Mycobacterial Disease (other than Tuberculosis)	6
Pertussis	5
Salmonellosis	5
Staph Aureus	1
Streptococcus Pneumoniae	5
Varicella	6
Total	327

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Vital Statistics Division Report

Highland County Health Department's Vital Statistics Division is responsible for maintaining and managing official records and documentation related to births and deaths in Highland County.

Highland County Births	2015
Total Births	301
Single Births	299
Twin Births	1
Homebirths	27
Malformations	1

Highland County Deaths	2015
Total Deaths	364
Suicides	4
Accidents	10
Homicides	2

Leading Causes of Death in Highland County	2015
Coronary	80
Cancer	49
Respiratory	44
Dementia/Alzheimer's	13

Certified Copy Type	2015
Births Certified from HCHD	1,409
Deaths Certified from HCHD	1,194
Total	2,603