

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department

Annual Report 2008

Serving the
Residents of
Van Buren &
Cass Counties

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Hartford, MI 49057
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Paw Paw
801 Hazen Street
Paw Paw, MI 49079
(269) 657-5596

Cassopolis
201 M-62 North
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Dowagiac
520 Main St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(269) 782-0064

On the web
www.vbcassdhd.org



Prevent Disease

Promote Health

Protect the Environment

District Board of Health Members

Carl Higley, Sr, Chairperson, Cass County Commissioner
Robert Morris, Vice- Chairperson South Haven
Dwight Dyes, Cassopolis
Richard Firestone, Van Buren County Commissioner
Cathy Goodenough, Cass County Commissioner
Don Hanson, Van Buren County Commissioner
John Tapper, Sr, Paw Paw

2008 Highlights



The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department received the Michigan Department of Community Health's 2008 Director's Award in Public Health for the New Directions Program: A partnership with local Sheriff's Offices and the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department. Pictured from the Recognition Ceremony from left to right: Representative Tonya Schuitmaker, Van Buren County Commissioner Don Hanson, Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Director Jeff Elliott, Van Buren County Commissioner Richard Freestone, Van Buren County Sheriff Dale Gribler, Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Medical Director Frederick Johansen, Vice-Chairperson Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Board of Health Robert Morris, Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Board of Health members Dwight Dyes and John Tapper Sr.

Developed a "Warm Hearts, Head to Toe" campaign. Distributing over 1,000 hats, mittens, scarves and blankets to 363 families. Money from the Director's Award was used to fund the program.

The Substance Abuse Department received a 3 year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities!

The Dental Department was expanded from 5 operatories to 7 operatories. They provided dental services to approximately 10,000 individuals at no cost to the counties general fund. Additionally an on-site Dental Laboratory was established to make dentures and partials.

Substance Abuse Services

During FY2007/2008 Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Substance Abuse Services provided a variety of treatment and prevention services to residents of Van Buren and Cass County.

Treatment

Out-Patient Treatment Referrals

- Total Referrals (**532**) for FY2007/2008 are down from FY2006/2007 (**542**), a 2% reduction. However, referrals in the last quarter have increased.
- Referrals are coming from a variety of sources rather than only from the court. Court referrals were down **17%**. New Directions referrals were up **18%**. SARF referrals were up **32%**. DHS referrals were up **12%**. CMH referrals were up **22%**. Self referrals were up **13%**.

Individual Out-Patient Services

- IOP is now an unbundled service. At this time, 1.5 hour outpatient groups are being offered to clientele. **942** groups were held in FY2007/2008, which is a 7% increase from groups held in FY2006/2007.
- A total of 1671 outpatient individual sessions were conducted during FY 2007-2008.

New Direction Criminal Justice Drug Treatment Program

During FY 2007/2008, approximately 110 individuals participated in New Directions. Thirteen graduated from the program. At the end of the fiscal year, there were 32 active participants in the New Directions program. Since New Directions began in 2003, 92 people have graduated from the program. Recidivism rate for the program was 8.5%, meaning that of all New Directions graduates, 91.5% have not been rearrested.

New Directions received the Director's Award for Public Health during FY 2007/2008. Proceeds from the award were used to purchase hats, scarves, mittens, and blankets for clients of Van Buren/Cass District Health Department.

Prevention

Van Buren Substance Abuse Task Force:

Formally known as the Van Buren Methamphetamine Task Force, the SA Task Force has formed subcommittees to address methamphetamine, alcohol abuse, medicine abuse, and judicial/law enforcement. The SA Task Force meets quarterly with the committee meetings as needed.

Methamphetamine Committee: After legislation requiring products with pseudoephedrine to be tracked and placed behind pharmacy store counters, there has been a drop in the number of methamphetamine laboratories statewide. However, there are new methods used to manufacture methamphetamine and there has been an increase in the number of methamphetamine laboratories found in 2008. In 2007, 26 methamphetamine laboratories were reported, and 43 were reported in 2008. On a positive note, the number of adolescents reporting use of methamphetamine dropped from 9.8% to 4.4% in 2007-2008.

Medicine Abuse Committee: The Medicine Abuse Committee is addressing the increase in non-medical use of prescription and over the counter medications. The group worked with the

Michigan Medicine Abuse Committee to provide training and informational materials for professionals in the prevention, education, and law enforcement. A regional training was held featuring Dr. D.R Vereen, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, (NIDA) as well as speakers from the Drug Enforcement Agency and several local experts which drew more than 125 participants.

Alcohol Committee: This committee is part of Van Buren County's Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG). The main focus is to address underage alcohol use and alcohol-related traffic deaths. In collaboration with the Van Buren County Sheriff's Department, the Alcohol Committee performed compliance checks assessing whether local retailers were selling alcohol to underage persons. During the next fiscal year, the committee plans to help increase awareness regarding use of designated drivers and to further address accessibility of alcohol to underage people.

Life of an Athlete

Two VBCDHD prevention workers received training from the American Athletic Institute to provide consulting and training services for local high school athletic programs. The Southwestern Athletic Conference (SAC) worked to incorporate the program in their 11 member schools, in which six are located in Van Buren County and one is located in Cass County. The individual schools explored and adjusted their athletic codes of conduct as well as the procedures they use to address infractions and grievances. Two Van Buren schools, Lawrence Public Schools, and Bloomingdale Community Schools, have added drug education to their mandatory parent meetings.

Towards No Drug Abuse(TND)

TND is a SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration) model program. The program consists of an educational curriculum that addresses adolescent alcohol and drug use. The program can be conducted both in the school setting and out.

TND Classroom is a ten session class of one hour duration presented in a classroom during regular school hours. Prevention workers facilitated 5 classes in 3 Van Buren schools. The program was presented to 113 fifth, sixth, and seventh grade students. In Cass County, the program was facilitated in 3 classes in 2 Cass County schools. A total of 70 students in Cass County participated in TND.

TND Small Group conducts 7 (2 hour) sessions to a class of 5-10 students referred by schools, the court system, and concerned parents. Class participants are facing penalties for lesser drug use and do not meet criteria for treatment. Prevention workers facilitated five TND small group classes with 41 middle and high school students.

Classroom Speaking Engagements

Prevention workers were called to various schools to educate health classes regarding alcohol and drugs, chemical dependency, family dynamics, and tobacco and drug advertising. Prevention workers presented to all 11 public schools in Van Buren County as well as all five school districts in Cass County.

Professional Speaking Engagements

Prevention workers provided a variety of professional in-services during the fiscal year. Prevention provided trainings to Van Buren Intermediate School District, Lawrence Public Schools, Hartford Public Schools, and Mattawan Consolidated School. Prevention workers

also presented to the Department of Human Services Foster Care and Children's Protective Services units.

Community Speaking Engagements

A number of community groups received training from VBCDHD prevention. These groups included: Hartford and Lawton parents groups, Columbia Township Neighborhood Watch, and Vandalia's parent group.

Van Buren/Cass County Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run is a non-profit prevention program that encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running. The goals of the program are to encourage positive emotional, social, mental, spiritual, and physical development. During FY 2007-2008, Girls on the Run reached and changed the lives of 425 girls and their families during the 2008 season.

The GOTR program is also sponsoring a Girls on Track program this year which is available to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls. The curriculum is similar to Girls on the Run but the messages more accurately address issues faced during the middle school years.



Girls on the Run 5K Celebration Run 2008

Dental Health

The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's Community Dental Clinics have the mission of improving and maintaining the health of children and adults requiring dental services without discrimination through quality services.

Dental Services include but are not limited to: Preventive Services (education, brushing techniques, flossing techniques, detrimental habits, fluoride applications, cleanings, sealants, space maintainers); Restorative Services (amalgams, composites, pulpotomies, stainless steel crowns); Prosthetic Services (partials, dentures); Surgical Services (extractions). In addition we provide Outreach/Prevention Programs to local Head Start Programs, Public Schools, and other community programs as requested.

In 2008 the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's Community Dental Clinics employed 7 full and/or part-time Dentists, 3 full-time Hygienists, and 9 Support Staff which include, (Registered Dental Assistants with extended privileges). Additionally a Dental Laboratory with the capability to make full mouth dentures and partials on site was added to the program.

Health Promotions

The Health Promotions Department provides health education, resources and public information. Services include the coordination of classroom presentations, community presentations, health fairs, and the Safe Kids Program. Safe Kids works to help prevent accidental childhood injury, the leading killer of children 14 and under.

In 2008 Van Buren Safe Kids partnered with State Farm of Bangor to do a large Community Safety Day on June 20th. Over 500 children and caregivers visited numerous stations to help them have a safe summer. The second big event of 2008 was held on August 19th, the Back to School Bonanza. Over 1500 backpacks stuffed with school supplies were distributed. Van Buren Safe Kids started this event 4 years ago and it has continued to grow and children start the school year with supplies and great information.

Motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children ages 14 and under. Each year in the United States, nearly 1,600 child occupants ages 14 and under die in motor vehicle crashes and close to 228,000 are injured as occupants in motor vehicles. Improperly restrained children are more likely to be injured, to suffer more severe injuries and to die in motor vehicle crashes than children who are restrained properly. Safe Kids works to help each child ride safely. Van Buren Safe Kids continues to coordinate a community child passenger safety seat program, distributing approximately 100 seats a year. Safe Kids of Cass County held six Child Passenger Seat Events in 2008, inspecting 91 seats and replacing 19 of the seats. Car Seats are replaced when a seat has been recalled, damaged, if it is not the right fit for the child, or a parent/ caregiver cannot afford a seat or replacement.

Environmental Health

The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's Environmental Health Division is compliant with a broad set of issues affecting public health in Van Buren and Cass Counties, including septic system design and inspection, well construction code compliance, raw land evaluations, campgrounds and swimming pool inspections, non-community public water supply oversight, subdivision development, housing complaint investigations, and water supply monitoring in areas of contamination.

#Well Inspections– 352 #Well Permits– 810 #Septic Permits– 622
#Home Loan Evaluations- 152

Food Service

The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's Food Service Program identifies food handling issues associated with the preparation and processing of foods within our district. This includes (1) licensing and inspecting fixed food establishments, (2) issuing temporary permits to transient vendors that provide food at our summer festivals and special events, (3) performing plan reviews which is an essential part of establishment development and operator training, and (4) education which continues to be the primary tool for ensuring continuous and flawless food service operations. Inevitably, accidents do happen but our staff is constantly trained to effectively and efficiently track and reduce risks associated with food related issues.

#Licensed Establishments– 425 #Temporary Licenses– 130 #Plan Reviews-15
#Food Complaints-5 #Foodborne Illnesses-1

Emergency Preparedness

2008 proved to be a busy year for the Emergency Preparedness Program. The Emergency Preparedness program for Van Buren/Cass District Health Department continues to plan for the unexpected public health emergency that could affect our community. In the summer the health department participated in the Van Buren County Radiological exercises. Health department staff performed exceptionally well in the EOC and Decontamination exercises evaluated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Van Buren County, including the health department public decontamination demonstration performed with no findings. This continued effort with excellent results shows the dedication of our staff to keep our community safe.

In the Fall of 2008 we participated in a Regional Pandemic Influenza training for a week in Anniston, Alabama at the Nobel Training Center. This training focused on the local and regional response to Pandemic Influenza. The group that attended this training session included hospitals, EMS agencies, health departments and regional partners from the 5th district. This was the first regional pandemic influenza course in the nation held at the training center. We learned a great deal about our need to prepare our community leaders for such an event. It was found that engaging elected officials such as mayors and the county board of commissioners is a key component to responding to a large scale event.

The Emergency Preparedness programs of the 5th District (*Allegan, Barry-Eaton, Berrien, Branch/Hillsdale/St. Joseph, Calhoun, Kalamazoo and Van Buren/Cass*) collaborate to provide comprehensive response plans to support a coordinated response effort throughout our region. The health departments of the 5th district are moving towards a more unified response structure to help our surrounding counties in the event of an emergency. A mutual aid agreement

between all 5th district health departments strengthens our ability to respond to a public health emergency. Dr. Johansen maintains his key role on the Executive Board of the 5th District Medical Response Coalition. The program continues to partner with the 5th District Medical Response Coalition and the 5th District Homeland Security Board to ensure a coordinated response to all emergencies. The 5th District boards are dedicated to supporting the efforts of the local programs by making the health and safety of the public our first priority.

Nursing Services

Public Health Nursing is focused on the prevention of disease and controlling the spread of communicable diseases. Nurses assess individual and family health needs; provide health teaching, counseling, referrals and coordination of needed health care. Cumulative statistical data can be found on our website, www.vbcassdhd.org.

Vision & Hearing Program

Certified technicians test the vision and hearing of preschool and school-aged children.

Hearing Screens– 6,653

Vision Screens– 14,041

Children's Special Health Care

This program provides families access to the Michigan Children's Special Health Care program for the purpose of identifying chronic and/or crippling conditions in children ages 0-21. It provides a means of payment for needed treatment and management of qualifying conditions through the age of 21.

Children receiving services- 596

Sexually Transmitted Disease Services

STD clinical services and quality community education are essential to the prevention and spread of sexually transmitted diseases within the community. The program provides treatment & follow-up of sex partners of persons with STDs to prevent further transmission of diseases. Individual and group education is provided in schools and at various community sites.

STD Clinic Visits– 963

#HIV education to individuals– 2,607

#HIV counseling & testing of individuals- 698

Immunization Program

The purpose of the immunization program is to reduce or eliminate vaccine preventable diseases in our communities. Immunization clinics are provided for the public and collaboration with local medical providers is on-going to assure optimal immunization levels of people in our communities.

#Immunization Clinic Visits- 1,352

Vaccines administered–6,189

% Children 19-35 months of age who have been fully immunized and entered in MCIR– 75%

Reproductive Health Program

Family Planning services provide opportunities for individuals to receive baseline medical care and education promoting healthy decision making in regards to planning for a pregnancy. Comprehensive contraceptive methods are available to men and women. All services are confidential, and fees are based on family size and income level. Services will not be denied based on inability to pay. High risk populations such as teens are a priority to assist in avoiding an unintended pregnancy.

Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

Another component of the Reproductive Health Program is the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) for women ages 40-64. This service provides for medical screening and early detection of breast and cervical cancer for uninsured or underinsured women.

Stats at a glance 2008 Program Highlights

Projected Goal: 1111 Combined Unduplicated Users (Title X and Plan First)

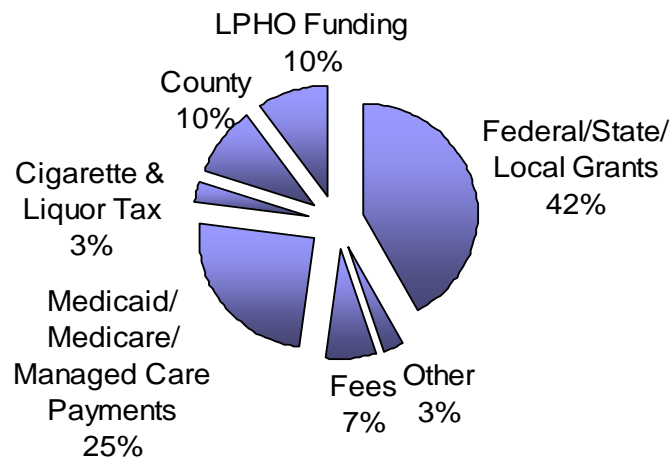
Calendar Year 2008 Projected	Actualized	Contract Compliance
Title X	811	1167
Plan First	300	278
Total Users	1111	1445

- 263 Medical Clinics
- 2,692 Scheduled Visits
- 3,640 Encounters
- Annualized Show Rate of 84%
- 501 Adolescent Encounters
- 10 Community Educational Presentations
- 1,445 (Fiscal Year), 1,387 (Calendar Year)
- 2.5 visits per person per year average
- 577 Pap smears with 29 requiring additional referral follow-up
- 532 UCG (pregnancy) tests: (87 = Positive, 24 positive teens = 28%)
- 393 Chlamydia tests: (23 = Positive, = 6%)
- 128 BCCCP Services
- 103 Mammogram Screenings (5 cancers detected)
- 110 Medical Referrals
- 12 Sterilization Consults
- 275 clients surveyed for annual satisfaction with 98% rating.

***Note Statistics are for both Van Buren and Cass Counties**

Fiscal Year 2008 Budget

Revenue \$ 6,863,395



Expenditures \$ 6,863,395

