

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department

Annual Report 2009

Serving the
Residents of
Van Buren &
Cass Counties

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Hartford, MI 49057
(269) 621-3143

Paw Paw
801 Hazen St, Ste B
Paw Paw MI 49079
(269) 657-6052

Cassopolis
201 M-62 North
Cassopolis, MI 49031
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Dowagiac
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Dowagiac, MI 49047
(269) 782-0064

On the web
www.vbcassdhd.org



Prevent Disease

Promote Health

Protect the Environment

The **MISSION** of Van Buren/Cass District Health Department is to promote AND contribute to the highest level of health possible for the people of Van Buren and Cass County by:

- Identifying & reducing health risks in the community,
- Detecting, investigating & preventing the spread of disease,
- Promoting healthy lifestyles,
- Promoting a safe & healthful environment,
- Promoting the availability of accessible quality health care services through the private sector, and
- Providing quality health care services to those with limited resources and access.

Our **VISION** is to be responsive to a dynamic and diverse environment. In addition to the programs and services provided to our residents, we serve as a catalyst for improving health and quality of life by collaborating with other health care providers and agencies.

The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department believes in the following core **VALUES**:

- All people have the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- All people should have access to needed services that achieve optimal outcomes.
- All people should be empowered to exercise informed choices.
- Continually improve both organizational management and service delivery.
- Diversity and cultural competence is integrated into all service activities.
- Enhance the involvement of persons served in all of our service activities.

In support of our mission, vision and values, the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's **PURPOSES** are:

- Develop and maintain current, field-driven operations to improve the value and responsiveness of the programs and services we provide.
- Reduce disease and better the health of the whole public.
- Seek input and be responsive to the individuals we serve.
- Provide information and education, as needed, to the public.
- Provide health services where they are not otherwise available.
- Be committed to the improvement of our programs and services with a focus on the needs and outcomes of the clients we serve by continually learning about and improving health and linking to other institutions and organizations.
- Prepare to respond to a public health emergency or disaster.
- Provide leadership when needed.
- Providing health care options that are efficient and cost effective.
- Partnering to provide best solutions to complex health issues.

District Board of Health Members

Robert Morris, Chairperson South Haven

Carl Higley Sr, Vice-Chairperson, Cass County Commissioner

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

2009 Highlights

Continued with “Warm Hearts, Head to Toe” campaign. Distributing over 500 items that included: boots, coats, fleeces, hats, mittens, gloves, slippers, socks, scarves and blankets to 164 children and adults in 45 individual families in both Van Buren and Cass County.

In the fall the health department partnered with local physicians and pharmacies to protect the community from Influenza A-H1N1. The health department distributed over 30,000 doses of vaccine to providers and held many immunization clinics in schools and other community centers to vaccinate the public and avoid serious illness and death from this new influenza strain.

On January 25, 2009, the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control Division of Injury Response, TIIDE (Terrorism Injuries: Information Dissemination and Exchange) Project recognized Van Buren/Cass District Health Department along with the Southwestern Michigan 5th District Medical Response Coalition as a 2008 Model Community Linking EMS and Public Health. For establishing and implementing effective strategies that enhance collaboration and strengthen the relationship between public health and emergency care, thereby serving as an example to other communities to promote the improvement of daily operations and disaster preparedness nationwide.

Substance Abuse Services

During FY2008/2009 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

Outpatient Treatment Referrals:

- Total Referrals (**593**) for FY2008/2009 are up from FY2007/2008 (**532**), a **12%** increase.
- Referrals are coming from a variety of sources. The referrals are coming from the court system, New Directions, DHS, CMH, SARF, self, family and others.

Outpatient Services:

- At this time, 1.5 hour outpatient relapse prevention groups and living in balance groups are being offered to clientele. 786 groups were held in FY2008/2009.
- A total of 1490 outpatient individual sessions were conducted during FY 2008/2009.

New Direction Criminal Justice Drug Treatment Program: During FY 2008/2009, approximately 86 individuals participated in New Directions. Seventeen graduated from the program.

Prevention

Van Buren Substance Abuse Task Force: The Substance Abuse Task Force has formed subcommittees to address methamphetamine, alcohol abuse, medicine abuse, and judicial/law enforcement. The Substance Abuse Task Force meets monthly with the committees meeting as needed.

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 compliance and retailer education.

Life of an Athlete: In Van Buren County three schools have continued to include Life of an Athlete and one school in Cass County. The individual schools continue to explore and adjust their athletic codes of conduct as well as the procedures they use to address infractions and grievances.

Drug Treatment Court/Law Enforcement Committee: Held a community informational luncheon that was attended by our local attorneys, service agencies and social service agencies. DTC celebrated their first graduates this year.

Cass Alcohol Safety Solutions: This Cass County SPF-SIG group meets on a monthly basis to address underage drinking and had been drinking traffic deaths. The group sponsored a zero cost Training for Intervention Procedures (TIPS) class for Cass County alcohol vendors.

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 other drug use. The program can be conducted in both the school and community settings.

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

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.

Classroom Speaking Engagements: Prevention workers participated with various schools to educate health classes regarding alcohol and other 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 four 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, Lawton and Vandalia's parent groups.

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 2008-2009, Girls on the Run reached and changed the lives of 425 girls and their families during the 2009 season.

The GOTR program is also sponsoring 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 2009

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 2009 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 continues to be a success.

Currently, our dental program has approximately 15,000 patients utilizing our oral health services.

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.

Safe Kids collaborated with Van Buren County's Child Death Review Team on an infant safe sleep initiative which included South Haven Community Hospital implementing the Infant Safe Sleep Best Practices Curriculum through Tomorrow's Child. Safe Kids also supported the Safe Kids conference with the Child Death Review Team that was held at South Haven Community Hospital in April.

Once again, the public health department partnered with the ISD Early Childhood Development to sponsor the Back to School Bonanza in August. It was estimated

that over 2000 attended and over 137 children visited the Child ID Program vendor. Families from 11 school districts were present and over 35 community agencies and/or programs were available to distribute program materials and additional school supplies. Van Buren Safe Kids started this event 5 years ago and it continues to grow by providing children with school supplies and information to start the school year.

The car seat voucher program continued through the health department until September when it was transferred to Van Buren County Sheriff's Department.

Wearing a helmet during any bicycle or skating sport is important for protecting children from a head injury. It has been found that helmet use while participating in a sport decreased with age. For example, while riding a bicycle, 53.2%, 44.6% and 20.5% of children aged 1-5, 5-9, and 10-14 years, respectively, always wore a helmet. Similarly, 76.9%, 41.6%, and 29.6% of children in the respective age groups always wore a helmet while skating on a skateboard or roller-blading. Safe Kids provided bike helmets and safety material to Hartford's Safety Jamboree that was held in October and various other fairs and community events held throughout the year.

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 continued the car seat voucher program through September when it was then transferred to Van Buren County Sheriff's Department. Car Seats should be replaced when a seat has been recalled, damaged and if it is not the right fit for the child. Parents and/or caregivers that could not afford a car seat were referred to the Van Buren County Sheriff's Department until supplies on hand were exhausted.

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, water supply monitoring in areas of contamination and public beach monitoring along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

#Well Inspections- 397 #Well Permits- 632 #Septic Permits- 512
#Home Loan Evaluations- 102 #Active Non-Community facilities-282
#Public Pools-85

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- 426
#Temporary Licenses- 143
#Plan Reviews-16
#Food Complaints-2
#Foodborne Illnesses-0
#Foodborne Outbreaks-0
#New/Change Ownership-25

Emergency Preparedness

During 2009, the Emergency Preparedness Program worked closely with all other departments to implement a successful H1N1 Pandemic Influenza response. In April and May some of the first outbreaks in the State of Michigan occurred in Van Buren County. We worked closely with many of our health care providers to assess the outbreak and distribute anti-virals such as Tamiflu and Relenza to patients who were uninsured or underinsured. The first cases of H1N1 were found in individuals who lived in close quarters of migrant housing camps in the county. Intercare Community Health Network and our staff worked closely to stop the spread of the disease by visiting the camps with medical supplies and personnel several times over a 4 to 6 week period. We distributed over 300 courses of anti-virals to patients and high risk contacts. As the summer came to a close, the H1N1 cases decreased.

In September the Public Health Response Team worked closely to identify a strategy to deliver H1N1 vaccine to the public when it was released. With school back in session and the fall season upon us, the incidence of H1N1 in the region increased. Many schools closed due to illness in the second and third week of October. During this time flu-like illness hospitalizations had also peaked. The vaccine was scheduled to be released to the public health departments by the end of October. In the meantime, the public health response team worked hard to ensure that physicians and other medical personnel were kept informed about the constantly changing information coming out of the Michigan Department of Community Health. As flu spread rapidly across the region, schools closed and physician offices were overwhelmed with H1N1 cases. The health department held their first of many mass vaccination clinics at the Van Buren Technology Center in Lawrence. During this clinic we had more than 70 staff members serve about 1300 children and high risk adults. The initial target population for the H1N1 vaccine was children and high risk individuals such as those who were pregnant or had an underlying medical condition that put them at greater risk, for contracting influenza. We also distributed the vaccine to more than 25 health care providers in Cass and Van Buren Counties.

Mass clinics continued to be held across Cass and Van Buren Counties for the next several weeks. During the second week of December the restrictions were lifted on the vaccine. We could now vaccinate anyone who wanted the vaccine. Vaccine was made available at local pharmacies, physician offices and the local health department. As the weeks passed, less and less people wanted the vaccine. The health department continued to hold after-hour clinics to vaccinate the public. The size of the clinics grew significantly smaller due to lack of demand for the vaccine. The immunization staff began hosting walk-in clinics at our sites

in Hartford, Paw Paw and Cassopolis to ensure that the vaccine was available to all. As the year came to a close, the health department and their partners continued the vaccination campaign into 2010 while successfully vaccinating more than 22,000 individuals and children.

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– 8,735

Vision Screens– 13,799

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. For qualifying conditions this program provides a means of payment for needed treatment and care management for persons through the age of 21.

Children receiving services- 599

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– 1088

#HIV education to individuals– 3,162

#HIV counseling & testing of individuals- 803

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- 1,307

Vaccines administered-9,961

% Children 19-35 months of age who have been fully immunized and entered in MCIR- 70%

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 2009 Program Highlights

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

Calendar Year 2009	Projected	Actualized	Contract
Compliance			
Title X	811	884	109%
Plan First	300	329	110%
Total Users	1111	1213 (FY) 1157 (CY)	109%

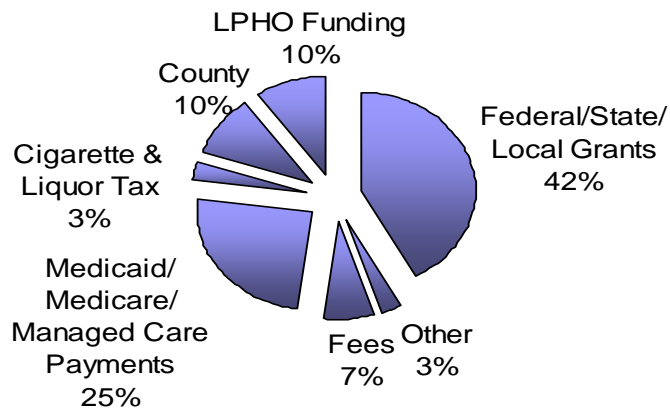
- 223 Medical Clinics
- 2,252 Scheduled Visits
- 2,019 Encounters
- 535 Adolescent Encounters
- Annualized Show Rate of 90%
- 10 Community Educational Presentations

- 114 teens served
- 1043 adults served
- 1,213 (Fiscal Year), 1,157 (Calendar Year)
- 1.7 visits per person per year average
- 600 Pap smears with 52 requiring additional referral follow-up
- 525 UCG (pregnancy) tests: (85 = Positive, 22 positive teens = 27%)
- 320 Chlamydia tests: (8 = Positive, = 3%)
- 143 BCCCP Services
- 144 Mammogram Screenings
- 56 Medical Referrals
- 6 Sterilization Consults
- 89 clients surveyed for annual satisfaction with 98% rating.

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

Fiscal Year 2009 Budget

Revenue \$ 6,863,395



Expenditures \$ 6,863,395

