

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Annual Report 2010

**Serving the
Residents of
Van Buren &
Cass Counties**

**Hartford
57418 CR 681
Hartford, MI 49057
(269) 621-3143**

**Cassopolis
201 M-62 North
Cassopolis, MI 49031
(269) 445-5280**

**Dowagiac
520 Main St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(269) 782-0064**

**On the web
www.vbcassdhd.org**

**Prevent Disease
Promote Health
Protect the Environment**

Public Health



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

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

Directors

Jeffery L Elliott BBA Health Officer/Administrator	269-621-4665 or 269-621-3143 ext 337
Frederick Johansen MD MPH Medical Director	269-621-3143 ext 318
Michael Laufer RS Environmental	269-621-3143 ext 312
Suzanne Bailey RN BSN Nursing	269-621-3143 ext 319
George Kilts BS Data Management	269-621-3143 ext 338
Chantal Wojcik BS Finance Administrator	269-621-3143 ext 339
Mona Hale MSN APRN BC Reproductive Health	269-621-3143 ext 330
Nikki VanSandt MA LPC CAADC NCC CCS Substance Abuse	269-621-3143 ext 306
Jennifer Zordan BS CHES Emergency Service Coordination	269-621-3143 ext 382
LaNora Lester Dental Lab	269-621-3143 ext 389

Supervisors

Susan Oosterwal RN BSN STD/HIV	269-621-3143 ext 360
Mick McGuire RS Public Water Supply	269-621-3143 ext 315
Cary Hindley Food Service	269-621-3143 ext 377

The 10 Essential Public Health Services

1. **Monitor** health status to identify community health problems
2. **Diagnose and investigate** health problems and health hazards in the community
3. **Inform, educate, and empower** people about health issues.
4. **Mobilize** community partnerships to identify and solve health problems
5. **Develop policies and plans** that support individual and community health efforts
6. **Enforce** laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
7. **Link** people to needed personal health services and assures the provision of healthcare when otherwise unavailable.
8. **Assure** a competent public health and personal healthcare workforce.
9. **Evaluate** effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population based health services.
10. **Research** for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

2010 Highlights

Partnered with UNA (United Networks of America) on providing a way for Van Buren and Cass County residents to get a FREE Rx Discount card that could be used at local pharmacies to receive up to 75% of savings. Residents could pick up a prescription card at various agencies through-out both counties or stop in at one of our offices. The cards can also be downloaded off our web site www.vbcassdhd.org.

UNA-Savings by Client ID - Cass
June 28, 2010 – March 8, 2011

Client ID	Number of Claims	Approved CoPay	Usual & customary Charge	Savings
MIVBCCHD	118	\$4,805.58	\$7,142.10	\$2,336.52

UNA-Savings by Client ID – Van Buren
July 7, 2010 – March 8, 2011

Client ID	Number of Claims	Approved CoPay	Usual & customary Charge	Savings
MIVBCC2	321	\$13,538.01	\$17,710.32	\$4,172.31

Various pharmacies participated, the highest usage was found in the following areas:

Van Buren: 43 in Paw Paw
Cass: 19 in Dowagiac

LAFTR & Co. Highlights

The non-profit organization LAFTR & Co. successfully promoted the *Beads for Biopsies* project and raised \$6,000 for women's healthcare services. The 3 year old company founded by Van Buren Cass District Health Department nurse practitioners Mona Hale and Holly Husted, was established in order to provide financial assistance for underserved and underinsured women in need of specialty healthcare services

across southwest Michigan. To date fifteen women have received financial assistance to secure needed health care services and LAFTR & Co. was able to make a \$1,000 donation for additional care to Shoreline Women's Center, a hospital owned practice of South Haven Health System.

The *Beads for Biopsies* project which incorporates donated old, new and recycled jewelry to create unique, one of a kind necklace and earring sets for resale, presented at four conferences and community events throughout the past year. In addition to conference sales a new concept to assist with inventory maintenance was introduced; **“Make it, Take it, or Donate it”** parties. Upon invitation to a **“Make it, Take it, or Donate it”** event, individualized packets of beads and all material required for completion are distributed to those in attendance and instruction is provided for completion along with encouragement and creative license. Upon completion of the set, the new artist has the opportunity to purchase or donate the set into the inventory for future sale. This approach allows others to contribute in an innovative way to the projects mission of women helping women. Samie Ledyard, Substance Abuse Therapist within the Health Department has included this concept into one of her women's groups with great success. The women in the group have created beautiful pieces and have been provided the opportunity to assist other women in need through their participation in the project as well as discovering a new skill and the therapeutic benefit of philanthropy.

Looking ahead, LAFTR & Co. has a busy schedule and *Beads for Biopsies* will be presenting at the annual Breast Cervical Cancer Control Program Conference in Traverse City, May 3-5, 2011 and the Michigan Cancer Consortium Conference in the fall. There are numerous requests for **“Make it, Take it, or Donate it”** parties in the near future. If you would like to host an event please contact Mona Hale or Samie Ledyard at 621-3143 or Holly Husted at 427-5811. On behalf of all the women served we are grateful for your continued generous support, and remember our motto: **WORK with what you have, CREATE what you need and LAUGH along the way.**

Substance Abuse Services

During FY2009/2010 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 (**527**) for FY2009/2010 are down from FY2008/2009 (**593**).
- Referrals are coming from a variety of sources. From the court system, New Directions, DHS, CMH, SARF, self, family and others.

Outpatient Services:

- At this time, 1.5 hour outpatient Relapse Prevention Group and Women's Living in Balance Groups are being offered to clientele. 683 groups were held in FY2009/2010.
- A total of 801 outpatient individual sessions were conducted during FY 2009/2010.

New Direction Criminal Justice Drug Treatment Program: During FY 2009/2010, approximately 111 individuals participated in New Directions. Twenty-three individuals graduated from the program, saving approximately 3900 jail bed days.

Prevention

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

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: A partnership has been developed between the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department and the Van Buren County Drug Treatment Court to provide substance abuse treatment services to the program participants during the FY2009-2010.

Cass Alcohol Safety Solutions: This Cass County SPF-SIG group meets on a monthly basis to address underage drinking and alcohol related 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. In Cass County, the program was facilitated in classes in 2 Cass County schools. The program was presented to fifth, sixth, and seventh grade students.

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.

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 2009-2010, Girls on the Run reached and changed the lives of 475 girls and their families during the 2010 season. This is an increase of 50 girls since the 2009 season.



Van Buren Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking: The Van Buren Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking consists of teens from around Van Buren County who get together monthly to address underage drinking issues in the community. Annually they sponsor Prom/Graduation Rally which is held at the Paw Paw Performing Arts Center at Paw Paw High School. This is a daylong event that addresses the risks of underage drinking at prom and graduation. Over 350 students from Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren counties attend. The teens also volunteer to help out at the Van Buren County Youth Fair Kids Day event handing out underage drinking literature to the parents and youth that attend.

Keep A Clear Mind: Keep A Clear Mind (KACM) is a take-home drug education program for fifth grade students and their parents. The take-home material consists of four weekly sets of activities to be completed by parents and their children together. The program also uses parent newsletters and incentives. KACM lessons are based on a social skills training model and designed to help children develop specific skills to refuse and avoid the use of “gateway” drugs. This unique, early intervention program has been shown to positively influence known risk factors for later substance use. This program was piloted in South Haven Schools and will be implemented in Bloomingdale, Decatur, Hartford, and South Haven schools in 2011.

Dental Health

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's Community Dental Clinics provide quality dental care at an affordable price for adults and children covered by Medicaid, MICHild, Healthy Kids Dental and the uninsured.

Dental Services include but are not limited to: Preventive Services (education, brushing techniques, flossing techniques, changing 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 2010 the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's Community Dental Clinics employed 7 full and/or part-time Dentists, 6 full and/or part-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 19,000 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 partnerships with other local agencies.

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department partnered with Van Buren County's Child Death Review Team and Van Buren and Cass County Sheriff Departments and held a child passenger safety initiative and infant safe sleep event. The event was held at the Van Buren Technology Center. Participants received a car seat that was installed by certified car seat technicians as well as additional information on passenger safety.

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. The Child Death Review Team and The Health Department work to help each child ride safely. The Health Department continues to work in conjunction with the Van Buren County Sheriff's Department who now facilitate the Car Seat Voucher Program. Car Seats should be replaced whenever a seat has been recalled, damaged, or if it is no longer 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.



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 1,333 children attended as well as 537 families from 11 school districts were present and 33 community agencies and/or programs were available to distribute program materials and additional school supplies. Van Buren/Cass District Health Department started this event 7 years ago and it continues to work with the VBISD to provide children with school supplies and information to start the school year.



Van Buren/Cass District Health Department partnered with the VBISD Great Start Collaborative to host the Celebrate Young Children event where families from Van Buren County were invited to bring their children ages 0-5 to learn about resources available in the county. The children were able to visit different stations that included a reading circle, puppet making, science projects, and numerous games. This event is scheduled again for 2012.



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, body art licensing, 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– 353 #Well Permits– 706 #Septic Permits– 495
#Home Loan Evaluations- 87 #Active Non-Community facilities-282
#Public Pools-85 #Body Art Facilities-2

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– 427
#Temporary Licenses– 130
#Plan Reviews-10
#Food Complaints-2
#Foodborne Illnesses-1
#Foodborne Outbreaks-0
#New/Change Ownership-10
#Smoking Related Complaints-4

Emergency Preparedness

2010 began with a very busy Radiological Emergency Planning (REP) session and several exercises. During January and February the REP program updated the local response plans and procedures to respond to radiological events at Palisades Nuclear Power Plant. Two practice drills at the EOC and two public decontamination drills were successfully completed. These practice drills led up to the FEMA evaluated exercises on March 1, 2010 and March 2, 2010. The Emergency Preparedness Program trained more than 20 employees to respond to radiological events in the county. The staff performed the decontamination exercise without being noted for any areas requiring corrective action. This program has been in place in Van Buren County since the 1970's and has always proved to be prepared to respond when called upon.

The 2009 H1N1 response program continued into 2010 with the virus continuing to be present throughout our communities. The health department continued to host vaccination clinics for H1N1 through March 2010. The pandemic period was officially called to an end in July of 2010, approximately 13 months after it began in the summer of 2009. The health department continued to vaccinate anyone who wished to be vaccinated through the summer of 2010. In the fall, of 2010 the unused 2009 H1N1 vaccine and antivirals that were distributed to local providers were recalled as the vaccine approached expiration. Approximately 20,000 residents in Van Buren and Cass counties were vaccinated against the pandemic strain of H1N1 Influenza. The 2010 seasonal flu vaccine contained the 2009 strain of H1N1 to continue to protect individuals from the virus.

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– 8,305
Vision Screens– 13,885

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- 614

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– 1052
#HIV education to individuals– 3,794
#HIV counseling & testing of individuals- 895

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- 1,873

Vaccines administered-7,514

% Children 19-35 months of age who have been fully immunized and entered in MCIR- 72%



Reproductive Health Program (Family Planning)

Family Planning services provide opportunities for individuals to receive baseline medical care and education promoting healthy decision making in regards to planning a pregnancy. Comprehensive contraceptive methods are available to men and women. All services are confidential, received voluntarily 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 focus in an attempt to provide assistance in avoiding unintended pregnancy.

Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP)

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

2010 Program Highlights

Calendar Year 2010	Projected	Actualized	Contract Compliance
Title X Funded	644	652	101%
Plan First	400	266	
Total Users	1044	FY 918	88%
		CY 885	85%

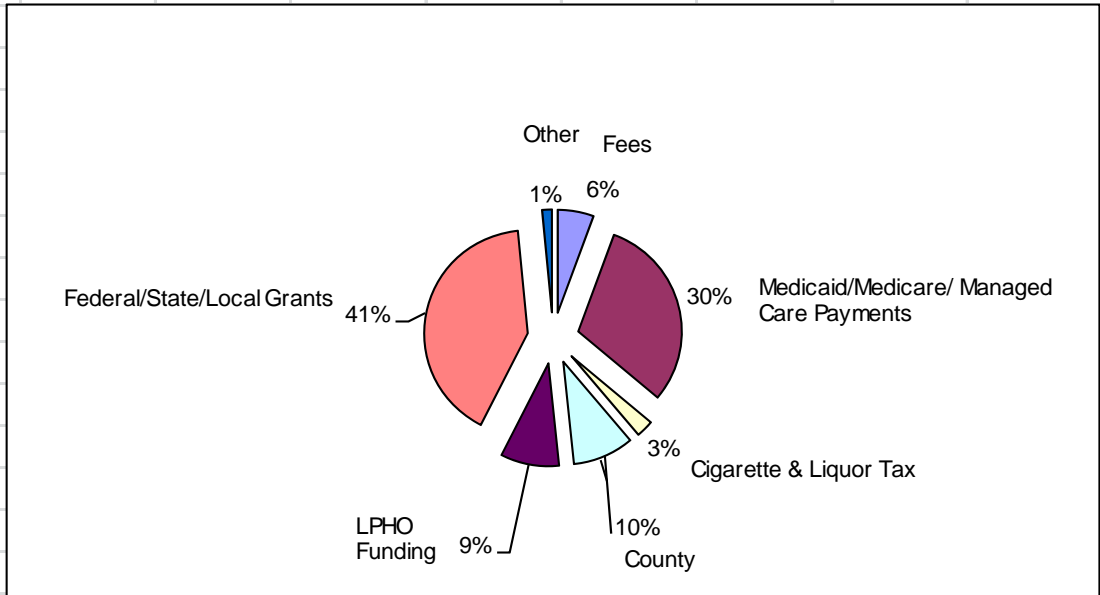
- 196 Medical Clinics
- 1,663 Scheduled Visits
- 1,554 Encounters
- Annualized Show Rate of 93%
- 10 Community Educational Presentations
- 230 Unduplicated Teens served
- 665 Unduplicated Adults served
- Unduplicated encounters (FY) 918 (CY) 885
- 1.8 visits per year average
- 488 Pap smears with 47 requiring additional follow-up

- 448 Pregnancy tests provided: (55 = Positive, 41 Adults and 14 Teens) Teen pregnancy decreased by 2%
- 250 Chlamydia tests provided: (9=Positive or 4% of those tested)
- 146 BCCCP Services
- 141 Mammogram Screenings
- 28 Referrals
- Annual Satisfaction Surveys Average 99%.



FISCAL YEAR 2010 BUDGET

Revenues: \$6,651,306



Expenditures: \$6,651,306

