

Exhibits for Section 3 – Mission, Vision, & Values

Section A – Agency Mission & Vision

- **Exhibit 3A-1** – Annual Report 2019
- **Exhibit 3A-2** – Annual Report 2021



**BRANCH-HILLSDALE-ST. JOSEPH
COMMUNITY HEALTH
AGENCY** | YOUR LOCAL
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Board of Health



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Branch County



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Administrative
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Paul Andriacchi,
REHS
Director of
Environmental
Health

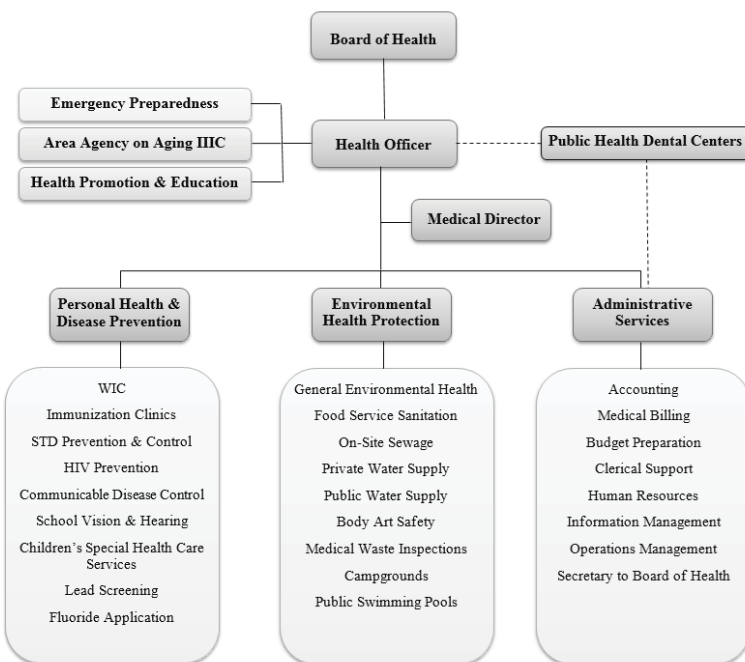


Yvonne Atwood, RN,
BSN
Director of Personal
Health & Disease
Prevention



Laura Sutter,
Director of Area
Agency on Aging
3C

Organizational Chart



Letter to the Community

Letter to the Community:

Everyone at the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency (BHSJCHA) works hard to be “Your Local Health Department” and put our clients first. The 2019 Annual Report highlights the best from “Your Local Health Department” and we are pleased to share our year in review.



To begin Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Your Local Health Department received the Accreditation Certificate for the review that occurred in FY18 by a spokesperson from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. The Agency received Accreditation with Commendation, the highest honor.

The Area Agency on Aging IIIC (Branch & St. Joseph counties are a department within BHSJCHA) spent much of FY19 working on the Multi-Year Planning Cycle. The multi-year plan (3-year) is informed by a needs assessment conducted of local residents and providers with questions designed to learn about the needs of older adults and their caregivers. The completed needs assessment provides direction to the AAA IIIC on how to focus federal and state funds funneled through the Agency that are used to meet the real needs of residents in Branch and St. Joseph counties. Potential contractors then submit bids through a request for proposals (RFP) process. Successful bidders were approved by the Board of Health who took action on awards. Every third year this process begins again and we find it a valuable exercise in determining how to best serve the needs in the older adults in Branch and St. Joseph counties.

The Environmental Health (EH) section of Your Local Health Department focused on a new emerging threat in groundwater, PFAS, and worked to provide technical assistance to the operators of a water supply that was found to contain Legionella bacteria. The EH staff continued to work toward full implementation of the software product they acquired called HealthSpace.

The Health Education section was awarded a new grant to work on medical marijuana called the Medical Marijuana Operation & Oversight grant. The proposal accepted by our Agency focused on “Lock It Up” and provided information and tools to help residents in Branch, Hillsdale, and St. Joseph counties keep their medical marijuana out of the hands of kids. The Health Educators were careful to focus not on the use of marijuana, but simply on the safety for those that aren’t prescribed the product. The program was a great success, with more demand for the lock boxes made available than we could supply.

The Personal Health & Disease Prevention section (PHDP) saw the end of the Hepatitis A Outbreak in Michigan during FY19. The increased focus on Hepatitis A vaccination in high risk populations was integral in slowing and eventually stopping the spread. Measles became a potential threat with larger numbers of cases than expected in SE Michigan and cases in Chicago IL; putting BHSJCHA perfectly in the middle for potential spread to unvaccinated individuals. Pertussis cases in Hillsdale county were also high during FY19. Misinformation on vaccine safety (available widely on social media and the internet) have increased the number of unvaccinated individuals making it more likely that diseases once thought to be eradicated are again a risk to the public health. Finishing out FY19 was an outbreak of EEE with more human cases of the disease than all previous years combined. This particularly devastating mosquito borne disease is not new to our area but the climate conditions kept the population of mosquitos that spread the disease around longer. Finally, PHDP began utilization of the new EMR, Nightingale Notes, that offered real-time communication with MICR and an improved billing system for BHSJCHA.

The team at Your Local Health Department will continue to support you and your family.

Yours in Good Health,

Rebecca A. Burns, MPH, RS

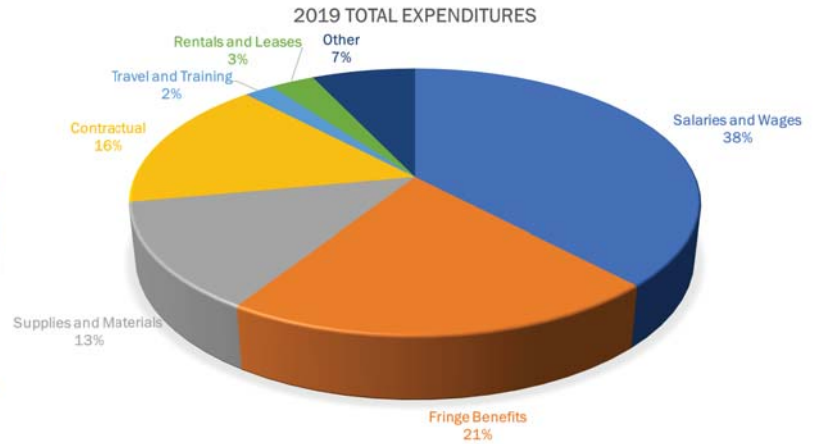
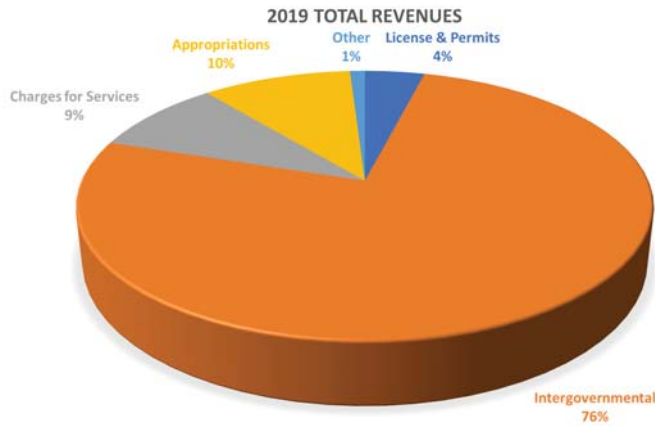
Our vision...

We envision positively impacting the health of individuals, families, communities and the environment through responsiveness, competence and collaboration.

Our mission...

We promote optimal health to prolong life, by preventing disease and assuring protection of the public’s health in our community and environment.

Finance



Fiscal Year 2018/2019

Total Annual Budget Based on Actuals: \$6,561,186

Public Health Dental Services



Age	Coldwater	Hillsdale	Three Rivers	Sturgis	Total
0-4	1.7%	2.3%	4.5%	4.5%	3.3%
5-14	8.3%	11.2%	17.7%	17.2%	13.7%
15-20	5.3%	5.1%	10%	6.8%	6.8%
21-60	66.7%	64.9%	54.6%	56.8%	60.6%
60+	18.1%	16.4%	13.1%	14.7%	15.5%

	Coldwater	Hillsdale	Three Rivers	Sturgis	Total
Number of Patient Visits	4,855	4,647	4,941	5,522	19,965
Service Mix:					
Medicaid	27.9%	40.2%	23.9%	18.6%	26.9%
Healthy Michigan Plan	26.8%	23.1%	22.8%	20.5%	23.5%
Traditional Insurance	26.4%	16.3%	20.0%	28.8%	23.1%
Delta Healthy Kids	9.8%	13.7%	22.3%	18.7%	16.3%
MyDP/NDP	9.2%	6.7%	10.9%	13.4%	10.2%

"The dentist was very gentle and attentive to my concerns. His assistant was wonderful too. Best experience at a dental office I've ever had! I recommend them to everyone!" – Bobbi, My Community Dental Center, Coldwater

"Everyone here is amazing! They work well with my daughter and always make it a fun experience. This is by far one of the best dental places I've been to. My whole family comes here!" – Destiny, My Community Dental Center, Hillsdale

"Excellent experience every time I have been there. Everyone from the front staff, assistants, hygienists and the dentist are friendly, patient, and very professional. This place is the best, I would highly recommend going there!" – Jacqueline, My Community Dental Center, Three Rivers

County Health Profile

Profile - 2018	Branch County	Hillsdale County	St. Joseph County	Michigan
Population	43,622	45,749	61,043	9,995,915
Marriage	258	315	414	56,374
Divorce	165	187	225	28,186
% of Population 65+ years	18.2%	19.6%	18.0%	17.2%
Leading Causes of Death (2018)				
	Branch County	Hillsdale County	St. Joseph County	Michigan
Heart Disease	23.2%	24.5%	25.1%	25.6%
Cancer	22.4%	24.1%	18.1%	21.2%
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	9.1%	9.1%	6.4%	5.8%
Unintentional Injuries	7.3%	5.3%	6.8%	5.6%
Stroke	5.2%	4.9%	5.8%	5.2%
Alzheimer's Disease	3.3%	5.3%	3.1%	4.5%
Diabetes Mellitus	1.9%	2.5%	3.4%	2.9%
Kidney Disease	1.7%	1.4%	2.8%	2.0%
Pneumonia & Influenza	2.9%	1.6%	1.8%	1.9%
Intentional Self-Harm - Suicide	1.0%	1.8%	2.8%	1.6%
Maternal/Infant Health Indicators (2018)				
	Branch County	Hillsdale County	St. Joseph County	Michigan
Number of Live Births	603	526	777	110,093
Number of Teen Births (age 15-19)	45	44	69	8,445
Teen Pregnancy Rate (per 1,000 births)	35.0	27.7	35.8	26.4
% Low Birth Weight	5.8%	4.6%	6.2%	8.5%
% Very Low Birth Weight	1.3%	**	0.9%	1.4%
% Adequate Prenatal Care - Kessner Index (2017)	49.7%	51.8%	43.9%	67.9%
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000) (Average - 2014-18)	8.8	6.3	5.4	6.7
Economic Indicators (2017 County Health Rankings)				
	Branch County	Hillsdale County	St. Joseph County	Michigan
% Unemployment	4.7%	5.0%	4.3%	4.6%
Median Household Income	\$49,400	\$47,600	\$50,900	\$54,800
% Children Eligible for Free & Reduced Lunch (185% of Poverty)	52.0%	51.0%	57.0%	46.0%

Personal Health & Disease Prevention

WIC

What is WIC?

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is a public health nutrition program under the USDA that provides

- nutrition education
- nutritious foods
- breastfeeding support
- healthcare referrals

for income-eligible women who are pregnant or post-partum, infants, and children up to age 5.

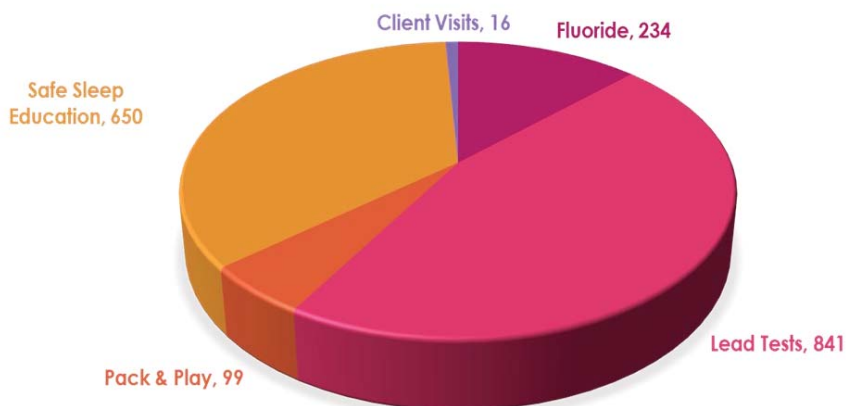
How can WIC help my family?

WIC can...

- Reduce premature births
- Reduce low birth-weight babies
- Reduce fetal and infant deaths
- Improve diet quality
- Increase access to regular healthcare
- Increase immunization rates
- Increase access to prenatal care
- Increase pregnant women's consumptions of vital nutrients

WIC average monthly participation				
County	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Branch	1,504	1,409	1,315	1,247
Hillsdale	1,270	1,192	1,115	988
Sturgis	742	799	768	766
Three Rivers	1,358	1,128	1,024	982
Total	4,875	4,528	4,223	3,988

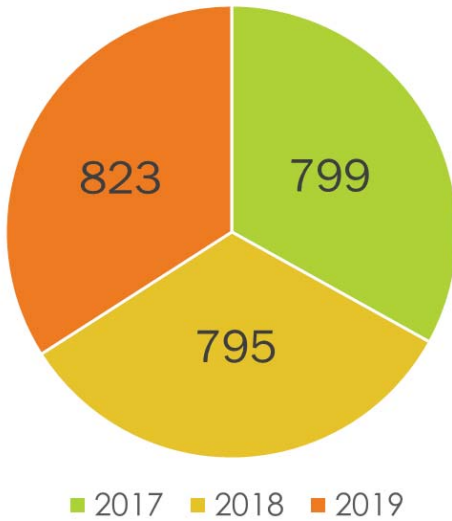
BHSJ WIC HIGHLIGHTS: 2019



Children's Special Health Care Services

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) provides services to children with special needs and their families. You are eligible for CSHCS if you are a Michigan resident, between the ages of 0-21 years, have a qualifying medical condition and seeing a specialist. CSHCS covers up to 3,000 various conditions and is available to families at all income levels.

Children's Special Health Care Services



Nicole Ewers, Representative, Madonna Hilarides, RN, Terri Penney, RN, Program Coordinator, Tina Lutz, Representative

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) provides FREE hearing and vision screenings to all children in Michigan. Screenings are conducted in schools or at BHSJ Community Health Agency.

- An undiagnosed hearing and/or vision problem may interfere with development
- Early detection and treatment of hearing and vision problems can help children succeed in school.
- Screenings are conducted by fully trained hearing and vision technicians.
- 10% of children screened for vision and 5% screened for hearing are referred to specialists.



Hearing and Vision Technicians:
Carol Anderson, Emily Young, Nicole Ewers, Kim Schoneboom

BHSJ Hearing & Vision Screening



Children's Special



Health Care Services

Communicable Disease

Disease	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
HIV/AIDS, Adult	3	0	3	0	0	6
Campylobacter	19	40	33	39	40	171
Cryptosporidiosis	9	8	8	7	13	45
Giardiasis	2	7	6	7	6	28
Norovirus	3	0	30	1	18	52
Salmonellosis	16	29	27	28	26	126
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli	0	0	0	0	5	5
Shigellosis	3	0	2	0	2	7
Yersinia enteritis	0	0	0	2	2	4
Meningitis - Aseptic	8	4	1	5	3	21
Meningitis - Bacterial Other	2	2	1	1	1	7
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	0	0	2	2
CP-CRE	0	0	0	1	3	4
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	1	2	1	4
Cryptococcosis	1	0	0	0	0	1
Encephalitis, Primary	0	0	0	1	1	2
Guillain-Barre Syndrome	2	0	0	0	1	3
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	1	1	1	1	0	4
Histoplasmosis	5	3	2	0	6	16
Legionellosis	1	2	2	0	4	9
Rabies Animal	3	0	0	3	0	6
Chlamydia (Genital)	446	399	421	467	404	2137
Gonorrhea	24	45	54	119	162	404
Syphilis	2	7	9	0	0	18
Tuberculosis	1	0	0	0	0	1
Chickenpox (Varicella)	11	14	0	4	4	33
H. influenzae Disease - Inv.	0	2	2	3	1	8
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	1	2	7	7	14	31
Lyme Disease	0	3	0	0	3	6
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	1	0	1
Zika	0	2	0	0	0	2
Hepatitis A	0	2	3	2	1	8
Hepatitis B, Acute	0	0	1	0	2	3
Hepatitis B, Chronic	3	7	4	1	1	16
Hepatitis C, Acute	2	0	0	0	0	2
Hepatitis C, Chronic	82	78	78	61	42	341

Communicable Disease: What is it?

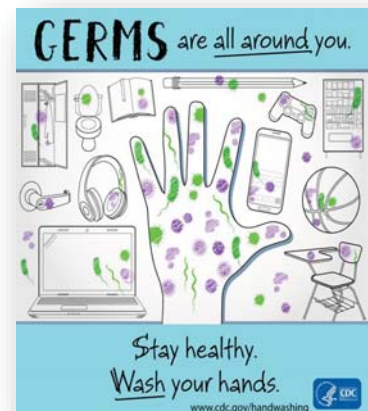
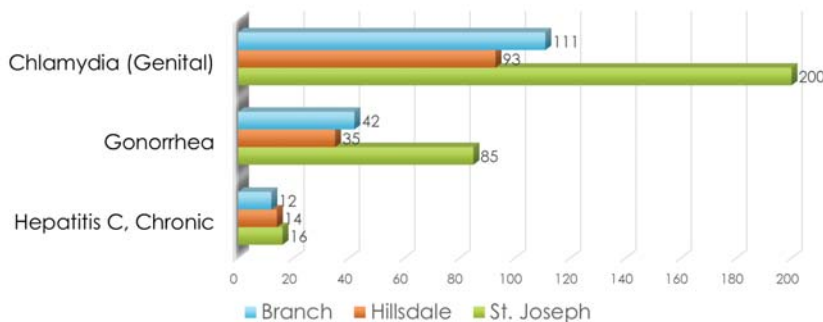
Disease caused by microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, parasites, and fungi that can be spread, directly or indirectly, from one person to another.

Transmission can occur through insect bites, human to human contact, and ingestion of contaminated food or water.

- World Health Organization

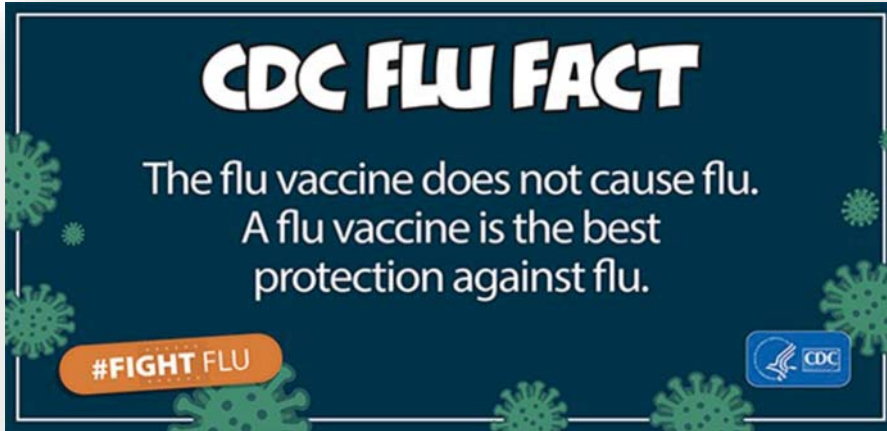
How can we prevent the spread of disease?

1. Properly wash your hands often.
2. Handle and prepare food safely.
3. Keep up on your vaccinations.
4. Avoid sharing personal items.
5. Stay home when you feel sick.
6. Clean and disinfect commonly used surfaces.
7. Avoid touching wild animals.



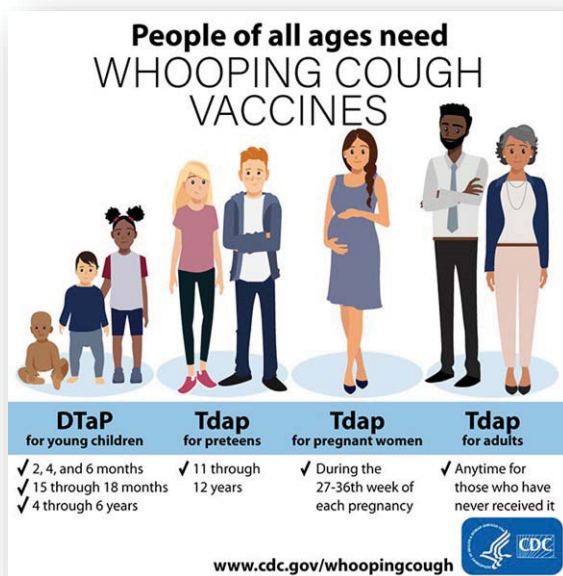
Immunizations

BHSJ Vaccines Administered	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Influenza Only	1,866	1,498	2,046
Total Vaccines	10,732	9,547	10,067



Vaccines - What should you know?

- We need vaccines to help protect against serious disease.
- Outbreaks of vaccine preventable disease can and still do happen in our communities.
- The CDC and FDA take many steps to make sure our vaccines are safe.
- Vaccines protect our children from getting sick.
- Vaccines are for everyone!

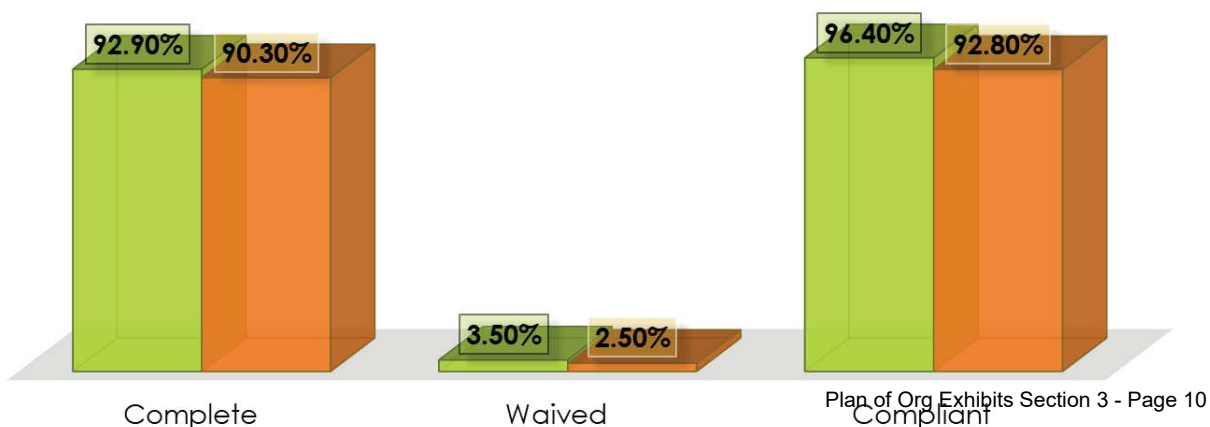


BHSJ's Top Administered Vaccines (2019)

1. Tdap
2. Hepatitis A (Adult)
3. Hepatitis A (Pediatric)
4. HPV
5. PCV13

BHSJ School/Childcare Compliance

■ Schools ■ Childcare



Area Agency on Aging (IIIC)

Our mission is to provide a full range of high quality services, programs, and opportunities which promote the independence and dignity of older adults while supporting those who care for them throughout Branch and St. Joseph Counties.

Please contact the Branch-St. Joseph Area Agency on Aging for specific information and assistance at: (517) 278-2538 or toll free (888) 615-8009.



Laura Sutter,
Director

- We place the people we serve at the center of our operations, honoring their preferences and privacy.
- We assure efficient use of public and private resources.
- We develop programs and services using an inclusive process to promote healthy aging and livable communities for all ages
- We exhibit strong leadership which responds to changing needs and fosters collaboration and cooperation through the communities we serve.
- We use effective communication to carry out our mission and vision in an open, respectful and unbiased manner.



Over the past year the Area Agency on Aging has actively developed programs and partnerships across the two-county planning & service area. Here are a few highlights:

Elder Abuse Prevention &

Awareness: The “Services to Victims of Elder Abuse” (SVEA) project began October 1, 2018 as a new program in our region. Our agency was chosen as one of three projects across the state pioneering efforts to directly serve victims of elder or dependent adult abuse, neglect and/or exploitation. Competitive funding was awarded by the Division of Victim Services at the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services. The funding is dedicated to support two full-time Elder Abuse Victim Specialists, present training and specialized outreach in the community and enhance collaboration among

existing elder/vulnerable adult abuse prevention groups.

Over the course of the year we served 75 victims through personal advocacy, emotional support & safety services, shelter/housing services, and assistance with the criminal justice system. In addition, we trained over 210 individuals at community partner agencies & organizations including: service clubs, fire departments, law enforcement agencies, and Branch and St. Joseph County Transportation Authorities. We are

developing a volunteer component to the program as well as specialized training for law enforcement and first responders. If you would like more details or

to become more involved in your community’s efforts to prevent vulnerable adult abuse, neglect or exploitation, feel free to call our office.



Josh Englehart and Danielle Newhouse,
Elder Abuse Victim Specialists

Community Living Program

continues to soar! Since 2005 the Area Agency on Aging has served older adults with complex needs through the Community Living Program. In 2019 we served over 100 individuals, many of whom have other agencies involved and are significantly at risk of needing institutional care. Our goals remain: to offer a person centered approach, honoring preferences and strengths; to serve those greatest in need; and, allow participants to age in place. If you would like more information about the Community Living Program or other supports available in your community, please

contact our office!



Back (L to R): Josh Englehart, Bonnie Williamson, Karri Doty, Laura Sutter Front (L to R): Katelyn Hamlin, Dawn Elliott, Danielle Newhouse, Meggie Segura

Senior Project FRESH is a program aimed at helping older adults eat healthier as they age. The program provides participants free nutrition counseling and \$20 in coupons. The coupons may be redeemed for fresh fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods sold at participating local farmers markets and roadside stands. Residents who are age 60 or older with a total household income of \$22,459 or less for an individual, or \$30,451 for a couple, are eligible to apply for the program through our office.

Three local markets participated in 2019 across our planning and service area: Hoff’s Market in Coldwater, Byler’s Farm Market in Sturgis, and Three Rivers Farmers Market in Three Rivers. Overall, nearly 450 residents received coupons and our local redemption rate is much higher than many other areas across the state. If you would like to participate in this program, please contact our office.



Services	Totals	Units
Operations	\$113,534	N/A
Nutrition	\$659,584	166,755
In-Home	\$321,131	39,217
Community	\$74,947	4,084
Access	\$412,429	22,306
Legal	\$10,345	351

Population Served**	
Total Population 18+*	6,568
White (non-Hispanic)	6,326
African American	84
Asian/Pacific Islander	7
American Indian/Alaskan	13
Hispanic (of any race)	33
Below Poverty	2,170
Rural	6,568

* In general, services are targeted to those who are 60 year of age or older unless otherwise allowed under eligibility criteria for a specific program.

**Data based on self-reported numbers by participants, choosing to identify race/ethnicity is not required.

Health Education & Promotion

Health Education

The Health Education and Promotion Division of the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency is responsible for a broad range of services offered to schools, communities, professional groups and individuals on a variety of health topics.

	FY 2019
Community Events/Presentations	62
Medical Marijuana Lock Boxes	1,080
Safe Kids Inspection Stations	187

The Health Education and Promotion staff attended over 60 community events in all three counties in FY 2019 to give area residents information on agency services that include WIC, Immunizations, Infant Safe Sleep, Environmental Health services, Breastfeeding, Child Passenger Safety, Tobacco Cessation, and much more.



According to the Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) survey, more than 51% of students in the tri-county area have very easy or easy access to marijuana. Because of that, staff from the Health Education and Promotion Team applied for and received a grant from LARA to educate the community

on the importance of locking up Medicinal Marijuana. 1,080 lock boxes were ordered and distributed. The boxes were FREE and were given out to any tri-county resident that was in need.

To promote the importance of “Lock it Up”, staff:

- Utilized over 10 community partners for distribution across the Tri-County area,
- attended community events,
- placed billboards in each county,
- posted on social media
- radio ads, and
- presented to local service groups, collaboratives, and coalitions.



Our Health Educators work with youth from our area schools to promote healthy lifestyles, including healthy relationships, drug and alcohol prevention, tobacco cessation, safe driving habits, anti-bullying, etc.

Kick Butts Day 2019 took place at the Capitol in Lansing on March 20th, 2019. Students from Coldwater



High School, Jonesville High School and Reading High School met up with others across the State to advocate for the Tobacco 21 Law. They met with legislators and spoke in the Rotunda about how tobacco has affected their lives negatively.



Left: Lock box and materials that were provided free for county residents. Above: the billboard that was displayed in all three counties. Plan of Org Exhibits Section 3 - Page 13

Emergency Preparedness

Emergency preparedness encompasses the planning and response to disasters. A disaster is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a sudden phenomenon of sufficient magnitude to overwhelm the resources of a hospital, region, or location requiring external support. The Emergency Preparedness team at BHSJ works hard every year to be ready in any event. Emergency Preparedness is an essential service area of Public Health responsibility. Public Health threats are always present whether caused by natural, accidental or intentional means. The outbreaks of 2016 Zika, 2015 Avian H5N2 Flu, 2014 Ebola underscore the importance of having a prepared agency and community. Public Health provides the leadership for medical countermeasure response. We maintain numerous plans and alert systems and do training, drills and exercises with local, regional and state partners in the healthcare, law enforcement and government sectors.

2019 Highlights

- **PFAS Testing** - We were involved in arranging meetings and monitoring the testing done by the State to make sure our communities were informed. Surprisingly high numbers were reported in a Branch County area which had the potential to spill over into St. Joseph County; however, further testing revealed this to be an anomaly created by the discharge from a manufacturing facility.
- **Legionnaires Disease outbreak investigation** - While the situation continues to be monitored, Emergency Preparedness and Environmental Health worked closely to keep our Agency informed of the progress made.
- **Regional Table Top** - Pandemic Response. This focused on testing our abilities to communicate and coordinate with our partners in the face of a highly infectious fatal pandemic as well as our ability to deal with a large number of fatalities related to it.
- **Regional Distribution Node** - As the State had tasked us with continuing to develop strategies to be able to administer mass amounts of pharmaceuticals to the populace in short periods of time, our Regional partner Health Department's EPC's put together the first Regional Distribution Node in the history of the State. Excellent results were had including interface with the State via computers to inventory and disperse medications to our various Dispensing Sites.
- **Update of Emergency Operations Plan** - Intern from Western Michigan University, Grace Wood, assisted in this project, and was also instrumental in the creation of the Measles Outbreak Table Top Exercise.
- **Table Top Exercise - Measles Outbreak** - This exercise was well attended by the Hillsdale County partners and was facilitated by Hillsdale County Emergency Management. This exercise will be maintained as a basis for testing our community response to such events in our other two counties.

Top Hazards for Branch, Hillsdale, and St. Joseph Counties

Environmental:

- Floods
- Tornadoes/Severe Storms
- Winter Weather

Chemical:

- Releases of chlorine, ammonia and other hazardous chemicals from manufacturing/agricultural businesses.



Top: Law Enforcement Officers and National Guard participate in Regional Distribution Node

Bottom: Rebecca Burns, Health Officer, Dr. Vogel, Medical Director, and Jim Cook, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator participate in the Regional Infectious Disease/Miss Fatality Exercise

Environmental Health

Food Protection

This program provides a systematic approach to minimize the risk of food-borne illness and to ensure that food meets consumer's expectations through application of statewide standards for all establishments where food is prepared and/or served to the public.

	2018	2019
Establishment Inspections	904	869
Plans Reviewed	19	21
Temporary Food Establishment Inspections	209	213
Food Manager Certification Classes (number of attendees)	212	187
TOTAL	1,344	1,290



Back (L to R): James Young, Dave Wagoner, Cody Johnson, Carrie Southern, Ben Aalberts, Lee Zimmerman, Paul Andriacchi

Front (L to R): Joe Frazier, Brandi Lennox, Elizabeth Howard, Stephanie Hough, Annalisa Rice, Stephanie Wolgast, Barb Keith, Bethany Pirman

Other Programs

Although the well, septic, and food programs require the biggest portion of the environmental health staff focus, we do have responsibilities in other programs.

	2018	2019
Medical Waste Inspections	50	32
Swimming Pool Inspections	54	54
Campground Inspections	65	65
Body Art Facility Inspections	8	8
DHHS Inspections (daycare, foster care, etc.)	122	98
Septic Hauler Inspections	41	38
TOTAL	340	295

Private and Public Water Supply

These programs are designed to assure both the proper installation of residential water wells and the monitoring and regulating of Type II Public Water Supplies to assure safe usable groundwater.

	2018	2019
Well Construction Permits Issued	553	510
Well Permits Inspected	425	410
New Water Supplies Approved	339	491
Non-Community Water Supply Inspections	34	87
TOTAL	1,351	1,498

On-Site Sewage

Reviews sites proposed for sewage disposal, issuance and/or denial of permits, sewage evaluation, inspection, investigation and enforcement.

	2018	2019
Well/Septic Evaluations	30	24
Construction Permits	420	456
Septic Systems Inspected	348	361
Vacant Land Evaluations	43	32
TOTAL	841	837

Interactions with the environment affect quality of life, years of healthy life lived, and health disparities. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines environment, as it relates to health, as “all the physical, chemical, and biological factors external to a person, and all the related behaviors.” Environmental health consists of preventing or controlling disease, injury, and disability related to the interactions between people and their environment.



Branch County Office
570 N. Marshall Rd.
Coldwater, MI 49036
(517) 279-9561

Hillsdale County Office
20 Care Dr.
Hillsdale, MI 49242
(517) 437-7395

St. Joseph County Office
1110 Hill St.
Three Rivers, MI 49093
(269) 273-2161

St. Joseph County Off-Site Clinic
Medical Commons II
1555 E. Chicago Rd.
Suite C
Sturgis, MI 49091
Open Wednesday–Friday
(269) 273-2161



Annual Report 2021



DEDICATION

This Annual Report is dedicated to the residents of Branch, Hillsdale, and St. Joseph Counties who gave of their time and talents to support the efforts of the Health Agency during the COVID-19 Pandemic response. Without them, our agency would not have been able to meet the challenges and opportunities of the past 2 years.



BOARD OF HEALTH



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MPH, RS
Health Officer



Dr. H. Lauren Vogel
DO, MPH
Medical Director



Theresa Fisher
Director of
Administrative
Services



Kali Nichols
MPH
Director of Personal
Health & Disease
Prevention

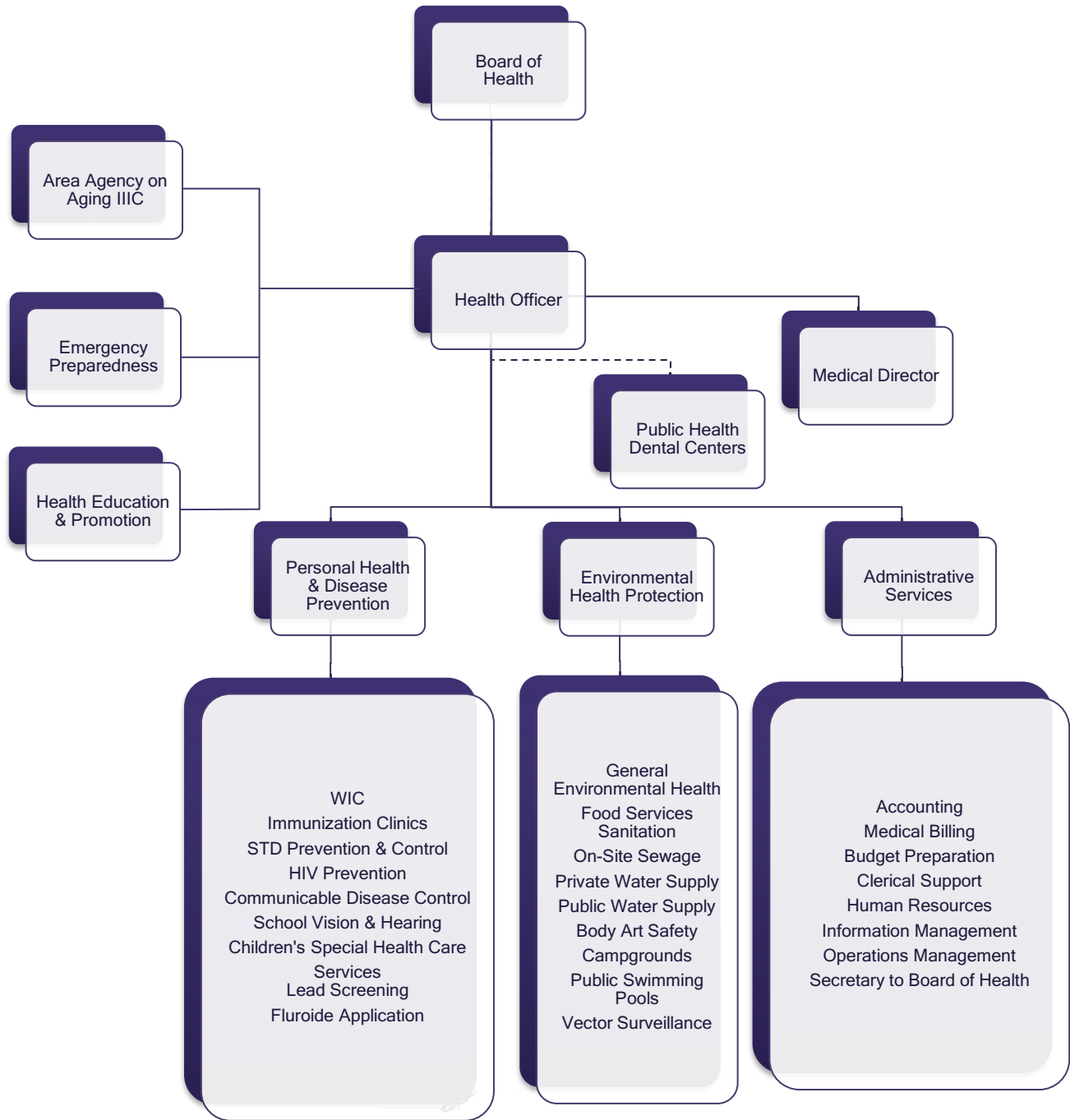


Laura Sutter
Director of Area
Agency on Aging
3C



Paul Andriacchi
REHS
Director of
Environmental

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Letter to the Community:

Fiscal Year 2021, year two of the COVID-19 pandemic, consumed most public health resources. The scientific community had learned a lot about COVID in year one which led to many important developments implemented in year two including: safe and effective vaccines, safe and effective treatments, and an increasing amount of knowledge about effective mitigation strategies. Although new variants of the virus continued to infect more individuals, these new prevention strategies saved countless lives. I'm pleased to highlight some of the efforts of "Your Local Health Department" in 2021 that targeted public health activities and served to protect the community members in our area:

- Vaccines to prevent COVID infection became available by December of 2020; with the tremendous efforts made by generous community volunteers and those in public health, we were able to plan for, and implement, mass vaccination clinics. Initially, two safe and effective vaccines received "Emergency Use Authorization" in the United States for people 18 years and older. During the year, we received additional vaccines and expanded into younger age groups. Initial vaccine demand was strong and, due to limited supply, was targeted for distribution to the most vulnerable members of the population. By April of 2021, the demand for vaccine had lessened, and with pharmacies and other local providers playing an important role in vaccinating tri-county residents, the mass clinics were phased out and ultimately ended.
- BHSJCHA was gifted an ultra-cold vaccine storage freezer by the COVID-19 Relief Taskforce in Branch County, providing the equipment necessary to bring the Pfizer vaccine to the tri-county area.
- COVID testing became more difficult to find during the year and to help meet the demand for free testing, BHSJCHA provided opportunities throughout the tri-county area at each of our office locations.
- BHSJCHA added to its inventory a mobile clinic van and hired a nurse to staff it and utilize it; because of this, the agency was able to begin providing vaccinations to homebound community members and congregate care homes.
- Amidst widespread safety concerns from community members, BHSJCHA continued to work closely with local school leaders on plans to protect students, teachers and staff that were returning to in-person learning and various in-person extracurricular activities.
- A local Health Order issued in September requiring quarantine of individuals with a close contact exposure at school, or in a workplace, was rescinded at the end of that month due to legislative bills targeted at public health funding.
- A surge in infections from the Delta variant were beginning as the year ended.
- Dr. H. Lauren Vogel, DO MPH, Medical Director retired and was replaced by Dr. Karen Luparello, DO from Hillsdale.
- The Agency invited WIC families of children under 1 year back for in-person appointments.
- Emphasis was placed early in the year on getting as many people as possible vaccinated for flu.
- More resources were put toward communicating through social media and our website; Instagram was added as a social media platform for the Agency, as well.

The team at Your Local Health Department is proud of our public health work and look forward to continuing to serve you and your family into 2022.

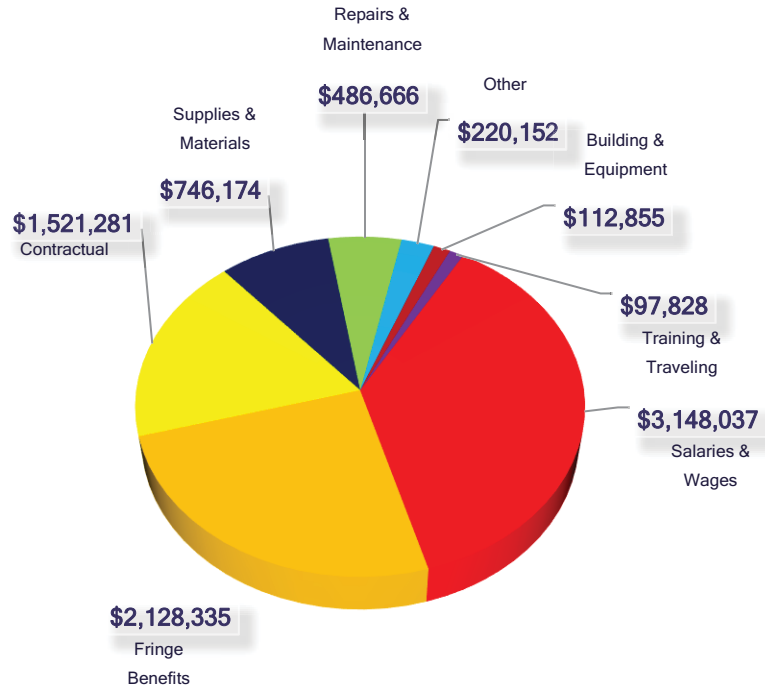
Yours in Good Health,



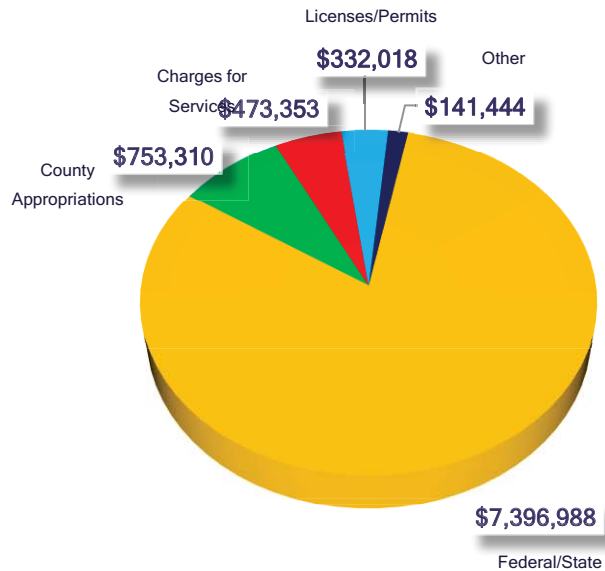
Rebecca A. Burns, MPH, RS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2021 EXPENDITURES



2021 REVENUE



PUBLIC HEALTH DENTAL SERVICES



Age	Coldwater	Hillsdale	Three Rivers	Sturgis	Total
0-4	1.5%	1.0%	2.7%	4.0%	2.3%
5-14	7.2%	10.6%	14.0%	19.2%	12.8%
15-20	5.2%	3.3%	7.5%	7.5%	5.9%
21-60	64.8%	67.9%	60.7%	53.5%	61.7%
60+	21.4%	17.2%	15.1%	15.8%	17.4%

	Coldwater	Hillsdale**	Three Rivers	Sturgis	Total
<i>Number of Patient Visits</i>	5,019	1,529	5,530	5,123	17,201
<i>Service Mix:</i>	**Hillsdale Office temporarily closed April 2021				
<i>Medicaid</i>	30.3%	37.3%	24.8%	19%	27.9%
<i>Healthy Michigan Plan</i>	26.6%	27.7%	24.8%	18.6%	24.4%
<i>Traditional Insurance</i>	27.1%	18.2%	26.2%	28%	24.9%
<i>Delta Healthy Kids</i>	10.2%	12.8%	19.9%	23.9%	16.7%
<i>MyDP/NDP</i>	5.8%	3.8%	4.3%	10.4%	6.1%

“

“These people are awesome. Dr. Iveson is the best ever. I highly recommend this crew, First and foremost, ALL of the staff in the Coldwater MCDC office are friendly. They treat you with respect and kindness. Second, they care about your health over all. Third, but probably the most important, they gave me back my smile!!!! For me personally, it was a long haul. I had a few issues. I have a reseeding gum line, because of this my mouth is very sensitive, and I am a huge baby. Dr. Iveson is amazing he made sure to help control the pain all the way through my treatments. I have a full bottom denture and a partial on top. Their lab is terrific the teeth match my teeth perfectly. I love the bottom denture it looks natural and nobody can tell it is a denture. I think the whole team at MCDC Coldwater are terrific and I recommend anyone to go there.” – Rainee, Coldwater

“Every single person at MCDC in Sturgis was fantastic from beginning to end. Even the initial call to register was GREAT! It’s not often that a business has friendly people at every level but MCDC does! Everyone was friendly, they took the time to explain everything and were a joy to chat with. Best dentist experience I’ve had!” – Jacqueline, Sturgis

COUNTY HEALTH PROFILE

Profile 2021 County	Branch	Hillsdale	St. Joseph	Michigan
<i>Population</i>	43,517	45,605	60,964	9,986,857
<i>Marriage</i>	524	294	390	56,374
<i>Divorce</i>	179	197	213	28,186
<i>% of Population >65</i>	18.7%	20.2%	18.5%	50%
<i>Leading causes of Death</i>	*MDCH data updated 11/8/2021			
<i>Heart Disease</i>	19%	24.2%	21%	23.1%
<i>Cancer</i>	19.4%	22.2%	15.6%	18%
<i>COVID-19</i>	13%	9.4%	7.6%	9.7%
<i>Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease</i>	7.1%	6.9%	6%	4.8%
<i>Unintentional Injuries</i>	4.2 %	3.4%	6.4%	5.2%
<i>Stroke</i>	4.6%	4.1%	5.6%	5%
<i>Alzheimer's Disease</i>	6.4%	4.2%	3.7%	4.2%
<i>Diabetes Mellitus</i>	2.6%	3%	3.4%	2.9%
<i>Kidney Disease</i>	1.8%	2.7%	2.4%	1.7%
<i>Pneumonia & Influenza</i>	0.4%	1.3%	1.7%	1.6%
<i>Maternal/Infant Health Indicators</i>				
<i>Number of Live Births</i>	258	390	375	104,166
<i>Number of Teen Births (age 15-19)</i>	34	20	45	4,758
<i>Percentage of Teen Births (age 15-19)</i>	13.2%	5.1%	12%	4.6%
<i>% Low Birth Weight</i>	8.8%	7%	8.3%	8.8%
<i>Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000) (Average -2018-2020)</i>	7	4	7.2	6.6
<i>% Adequate Prenatal Care- Kessner Index (2020)</i>	45.7 %	53.1 %	48.3%	68%
<i>Economic Indicators (2020 County Health Rankings)</i>				
<i>% Unemployment</i>	3.9%	4.2%	4.3%	4.1%
<i>Median Household Income</i>	\$52,300	\$50,000	\$54,000	\$59,500
<i>Children in Poverty</i>	18%	24%	16	18%
<i>High School Completion</i>	89%	88%	87%	91%

WIC-WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN

What is WIC?

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is a public health nutrition program under the USDA that provides the following for income-eligible women who are pregnant or post-partum, infants and children up to age five:

- Nutrition education
- Nutritious foods
- Breastfeeding support
- Healthcare referrals

WIC can help a family by:

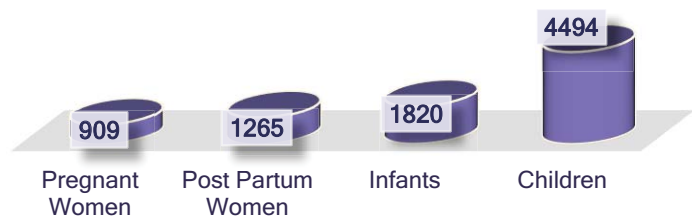
- Reducing premature births
- Reducing low birth-weight babies
- Reducing fetal and infant deaths
- Improving diet quality
- Increasing access to regular healthcare
- Increasing immunization rates
- Increasing access to prenatal care
- Increasing pregnant women’s consumptions of vital nutrients

Michigan WIC Program: Top Referral Categories

Branch	Food Stamps	Immunizations	Medicaid/Healthy Kids	Dental
Hillsdale	Immunizations	Dental	Safe Sleep Education	Medicaid/Healthy Kids
St. Joseph	Immunizations	Emergency Food Pantry	Medicaid/Healthy Kids	Physician



WIC: PARTICIPANT COUNT OCTOBER 2020- SEPTEMBER 2021



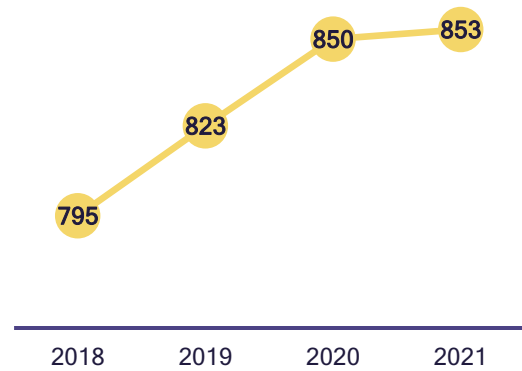
CHILDREN’S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) provides services to children with special needs and their families. You are eligible for CSHCS if you are a Michigan resident between the ages of 0-21 years, have a qualifying medical condition and seeing a specialist. CSHCS covers up to 3,000 various conditions and is available to families at all income levels.

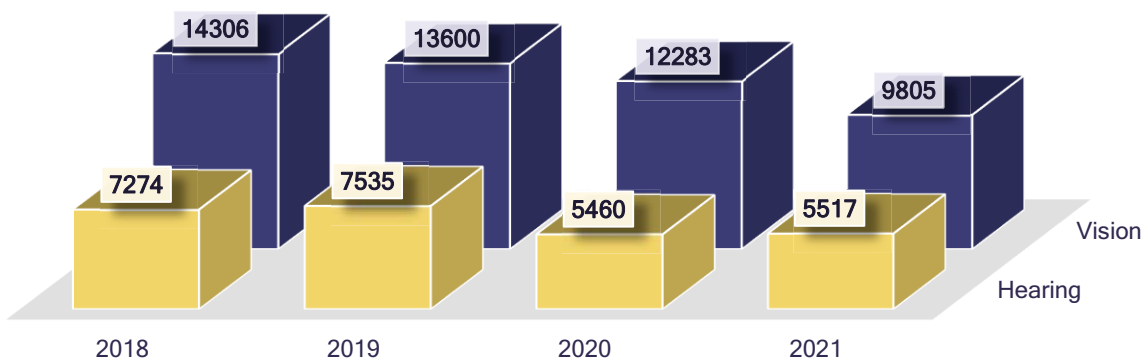
The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) provides FREE hearing and vision screenings to all children in Michigan. Screenings are conducted in schools or at BHSJ Community Health Agency.

- An undiagnosed hearing and/or vision problem may interfere with development.
- Early detection and treatment of hearing and vision problems can help children succeed in school.
- Screenings are conducted by fully trained hearing and vision technicians.
- 10% of children screened for vision and 5% screened for hearing are referred to specialists.

Individuals Enrolled in CSHCS



BHSJ HEARING & VISION SCREENING



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

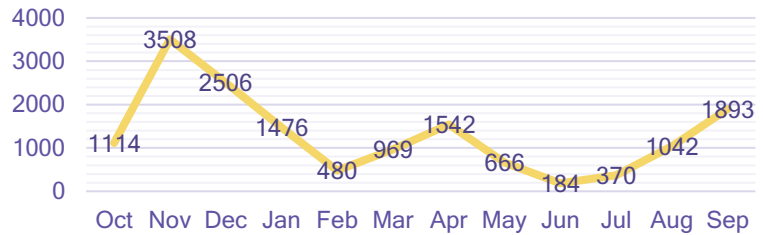
“Communicable Disease is caused by micro-organisms such as bacteria, viruses, parasites, and fungi that can be spread directly or indirectly from one person to another. Transmission can occur through insect bites, human to human contact and indigestion of contaminated food or water.”

- World Health Organization

Prevent the spread of disease by doing the following:

- Properly wash your hands often
- Handle and prepare food safely
- Keep up on your vaccinations
- Avoid sharing personal items
- Stay home when you feel sick
- Clean and disinfect commonly used surfaces
- Avoid touching wild animals

2021: Confirmed COVID-19 Case Data (October 1, 2020-September 30, 2021)



Disease	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
HIV/AIDS	3	2	3	1	0	9
Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome	0	0	0	0	2	2
Novel COVID-19	0	0	0	8,871	16,172	25,043
Campylobacter	33	39	42	18	29	161
Giardiasis	6	7	7	6	6	32
Norovirus	30	1	17	1	1	50
Salmonellosis	27	29	27	27	13	123
Shiga-toxin-producing Escherichia coli	0	0	5	3	2	10
Shigellosis	2	0	2	1	0	5
Yersinia enterocolitica	0	2	2	2	1	7
Meningitis - Aseptic	1	5	4	1	0	11
Meningitis- Bacterial Other	1	1	1	0	0	3
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	2	0	0	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae, Inv	22	16	15	10	7	70
Coccidioidomycosis	1	2	2	0	1	6
Histoplasmosis	2	1	6	5	2	16
Legionellosis	2	0	4	5	3	14
Rabies Animal	0	3	0	0	2	5
Rabies: Potential Exposure & PEP	0	0	113	92	74	279
Chlamydia (Genital)	420	468	407	389	422	2,106
Gonorrhea	54	118	166	217	238	793
Syphilis	9	0	0	0	1	10
Tuberculosis	0	0	1	0	0	1
Chickenpox (Varicella)	0	4	4	0	1	9
H. Influenza Disease- Inv.	2	3	1	3	1	10
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	7	4	14	0	5	30
Lyme Disease	0	0	2	1	9	12
Hepatitis A	3	2	1	1	0	7
Hepatitis B, Acute	1	0	3	0	0	4
Hepatitis B, Chronic	4	1	2	1	0	8
Hepatitis C, Acute	0	0	0	0	1	1
Hepatitis C, Chronic	79	61	45	20	10	215

IMMUNIZATIONS

Top Administered Vaccines (2021)

1. Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap)
2. Pneumococcal (Prevnar 13)
3. Meningococcal (Menactra)
4. Human Papillomavirus (Gardasil 9)
5. Hepatitis A



<i>Agency Administered Vaccines</i>	2018/19	2019/20	2020/2021
<i>Influenza Vaccines Only</i>	1,719	1,556	955
<i>COVID Vaccines Only</i>	**	**	53,623
<i>All Other Vaccines</i>	7,439	4,517	3,450
<i>Total Vaccines</i>	9,158	6,073	58,028

Tuberculin Skin Tests		
2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
442	252	260

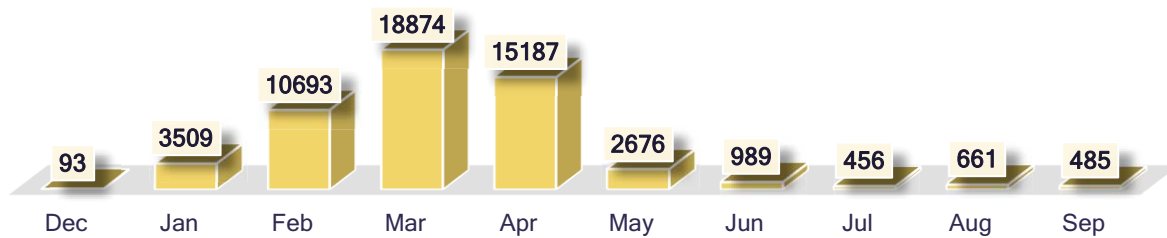


What you should know about vaccines:

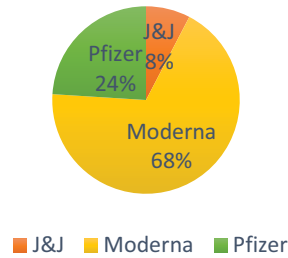
- We need vaccines to help protect against serious disease.
- Outbreaks of vaccine preventable disease can and still happen in our communities.
- The CDC and FDA take many steps to make sure our vaccines are safe.
- Vaccines protect our children from getting sick.
- Vaccines are for everyone.

COVID -19

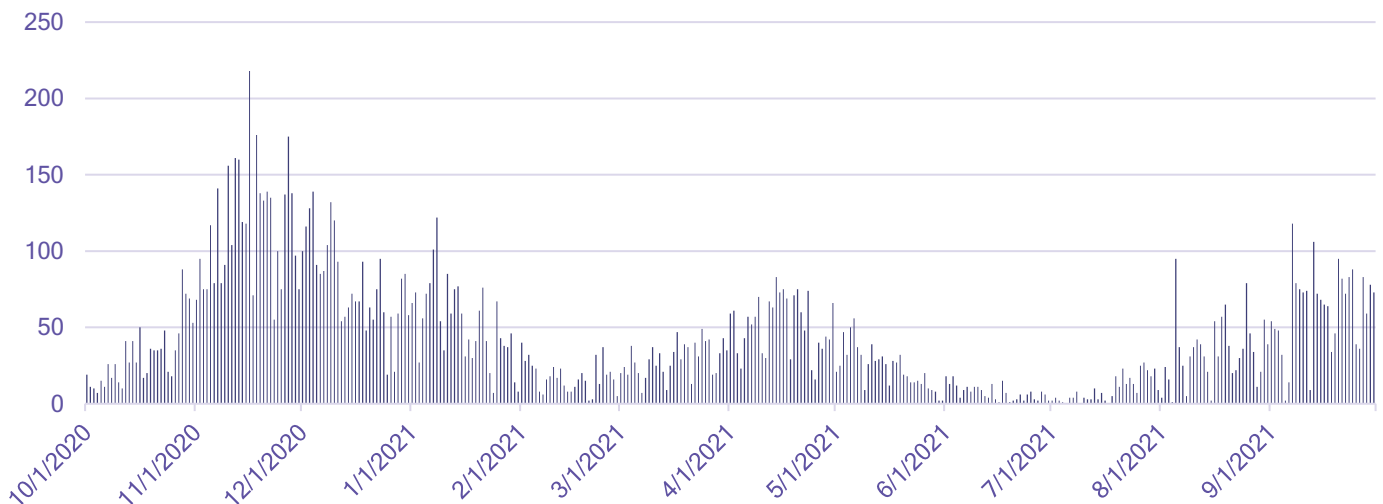
COVID-19 VACCINES BY MONTH



Agency Administered COVID-19 Vaccine by Types 12/1/20-09/30/21



AGENCY COVID-19 CASE COUNT BY DAY - 10/1/2020-9/30/2021



HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

The Health Education and Promotion staff attended many community events in all three counties in FY 2021. We participated in all three county's fairs as well as several community festivals. The team continues to provide area residents information on agency services including WIC, Immunizations, Safe Sleep, Environmental Health Services, Breastfeeding, Child Passenger Safety, and many others.

Medical Marijuana Operation & Oversight Grant

We continued to distribute lock boxes and educational information at outreach events. Additionally, we continued promoting safe storage and usage of marijuana through radio commercials and billboards. Furthermore, the Health Ed. & Promotion team continues to work collaboratively with the Substance Use and Abuse Task Forces in all three counties.

HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Grant - Planning

The Health Ed. & Promotion team continued work on the RCORP III: Planning Grant that was awarded to the agency in September of 2020. Many of the project's deliverables were completed during FY 2021, including: a tri-county needs assessment and gap analysis in March of 2021; a strategic and action plan in July of 2021; and a completed memorandum of understanding for consortium members in September of 2021.

Social Media Platforms

Our team continues to utilize Facebook and Instagram to promote health messaging to the communities we serve. These platforms were instrumental in sharing information regarding the pandemic. They continue to be used to bring awareness to many health and safety related topics. Our reach with social media doubled in FY 2021.

School Health and Wellness

Our Health Educators work with youth from our area schools to promote healthy lifestyles, including healthy relationships, drug and alcohol prevention, tobacco cessation, safe driving habits and anti-bullying.



Supporting Community Vaccination Efforts

The Health Education and Promotion Team supported community vaccination efforts through community "pop-up" clinics. In partnership with the United Way of St. Joseph County, Michigan National Guard, and our Mobile Clinic team, we went to numerous community fire stations, churches, schools, businesses, and festivals to provide COVID vaccination.

Employee Wellness

Health Education and Promotion received a grant from the Michigan Association for Local Public Health to provide an Employee Wellness Day. Held in September, this event provided a day of education on stress management, self-care, and restoring balance to our lives in the pandemic. We explored yoga, meditation, and fun as stress reducing techniques.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Emergency preparedness encompasses the planning and response to disasters. A disaster is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a sudden phenomenon of sufficient magnitude to overwhelm the resources of a hospital, region or location requiring external support. Emergency Preparedness played an integral role in the agency's COVID-19 pandemic response during 2021. The Emergency Preparedness team at BHSJ works hard every year to be ready in any event. Emergency Preparedness is an essential service area of Public Health.

2021 Highlights

- *Community COVID-19 Testing* - COVID testing with MI National Guard (MING) began on 6/6/20 at Doyle Community Center in Sturgis and continues today. Weekly testing clinics continue today with support from the MING and HONU (through MDHHS). As testing requirements and guidance changed throughout the pandemic our clinics were steady and even very busy at times (especially when the I-69 rest stop clinic was closed). Testing clinics were held no matter the day's weather conditions.
- *COVID Vaccination Clinics* - January 2021, we started holding mass vaccination clinics. Our first location was Sturgis High School. From the first 300 shot clinic, to clinics over 1,000 shots per day, agency staff and volunteers, assisted by the MING, were able to meet the challenge of getting out as many vaccinations as were requested. Locations varied from school gymnasiums to churches. We even utilized each county's fairgrounds for drive through clinics. There were several six-day weeks, and little rest, but our staff and volunteers never faltered.
- *Plans and Training* - We are tasked to review and improve our emergency plans and training annually. During the pandemic, our Agency and volunteers applied our plan, and adapted to every change needed. Our Emergency Response Plan was also reviewed by an outside agency. The plan will be improved in the areas noted, especially in the area of Elder Services.

2021 Top Hazards in Branch, Hillsdale and St. Joseph Counties

- Natural:
 - COVID-19 Pandemic
 - Floods
 - Tornadoes/severe storms
 - Winter Weather
- Technological:
 - Utility Disruption
 - Releases hazardous chemicals from manufacturing/agricultural businesses.

- *Whole Community Inclusion* - MDHHS tasked Emergency Preparedness Coordinators with a five-year project to develop a Whole Community Inclusion plan, including the performance of an exercise. We were into the second year of the plan process, when COVID-19 changed our planning and exercising work into a ***Real Event***. It was gratifying to see each county pulling together to make

sure that all were notified of the incident and steps were taken to aid all those who were affected. A "after action report" which will conclude the project will be forthcoming this year.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

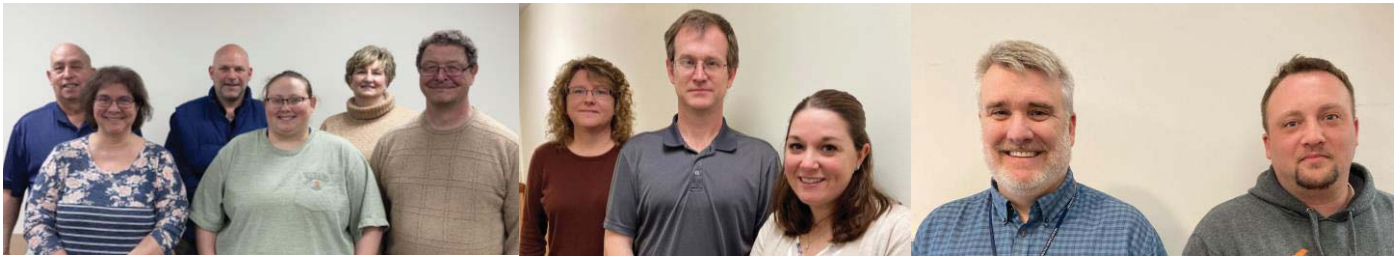
Interactions with the environment affect quality of life, years of healthy life lived and health disparities. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines environment, as it relates to health as “all the physical, chemical and biological factors external to a person and their related behaviors. “Environmental health consists of preventing and controlling disease, injury and disability related to the interactions between people and their environment.

The Environmental Health (EH) division has a variety of programs to serve our communities. The two most prominent programs are food service sanitation and well/septic programs. The food service program inspects restaurants, schools, industrial kitchen sites, temporary food establishments, and mobile food facilities. Our field staff conduct site evaluations and issue permits for the construction of septic systems and water wells for home and commercial sites.

Additionally, Environmental Health performs the following services:

- Campground inspections
- Public pool inspections
- General nuisance complaints
- Body Art facility inspections
- Non-community public water supply monitoring
- Daycare and Foster Care inspections
- Septage hauler inspections
- PFAS contamination investigation
- Vapor intrusion investigation
- Long term monitoring of water supplies in contaminated areas

For the past four years, the CDC and MDHHS has funded a grant project for vector surveillance. This grant focuses in two areas: 1.) Mosquito trapping and identification for the mosquitos associated with the Zika virus. 2.) Tick dragging and identification for ticks associated with Lyme disease. In addition to trapping and identification, we provide public education and public service announcements. This program offers an opportunity for college students with an interest in public health to obtain work experience during the summer months.



Food Protection

This program provides a systematic approach to minimize the risk of food-borne illness and to ensure that food meets customer's expectations through the application of statewide standards for all establishments where food is prepared and/or served to the public.

	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>
<i>Establishment Inspections</i>	808	882
<i>Plans Reviewed</i>	13	30
<i>Temporary Food Establishments</i>	79	163
<i>Food Manager Certification Class (# of attendees)</i>	0	0
<i>TOTAL</i>	907	1,075

Private and Public Water Supply

These programs are designed to ensure the proper installation of residential water wells, and the monitoring and regulation of type II public water supplies to ensure safe, usable ground water.

	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>
<i>Well Construction Permits Issued</i>	583	621
<i>Well Permits Inspected</i>	412	433
<i>New Water Supplies Approved</i>	388	428
<i>Non-Community Water Supply Inspections</i>	73	59
<i>TOTAL</i>	1,456	1,541



On-Site Sewage

Reviews sites for proposed sewage disposal, issuance and/or denial of permits, sewage evaluation, inspection, investigation, and enforcement.

	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>
<i>Well/Septic Evaluations</i>	13	21
<i>Construction Permits</i>	481	542
<i>Septic Systems Inspected</i>	388	403
<i>Vacant Land Evaluations</i>	63	49
<i>Change of Use Evaluations</i>	363	365
<i>TOTAL</i>	1,308	1,380

Other Programs

Although the well, septic, and food programs require the biggest portion of the environmental health staff focus, we do have responsibilities in other programs.

	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>
<i>Swimming Pool Inspections</i>	52	48
<i>Campground Inspections</i>	65	61
<i>Body Art Facility Inspections</i>	8	14
<i>DHHS Inspections (Daycare, Foster Care, ect.)</i>	55	53
<i>Septage Hauler Inspections</i>	38	36
<i>TOTAL</i>	218	212

AREA AGENCY ON AGING (IIC)

Our mission is to provide a full range of high-quality services, programs and opportunities which promote the independence and dignity of older adults while supporting those who care for them throughout the Branch and St. Joseph Counties.

Please contact the Branch-St. Joseph Area Agency on Aging for specific information and assistance at (517) 278-2538 or toll free (888) 615-8009.

- We place the people we serve at the center of our operations, honoring their preferences and privacy.
- We assure efficient use of public and private resources.
- We develop programs and services using an inclusive process to promote healthy aging and livable communities for all ages.
- We exhibit strong leadership which responds to changing needs and fosters collaboration and cooperation through the communities we serve.
- We use effective communication to carry out our mission and vision in an open, respectful and unbiased manner.



Laura Sutter, *Director*

Over the past year, the Area Agency on Aging IIC continued to rise above challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Newly developed programs, supports and services continued to flourish to meet unique needs across our two-county planning & service area.

We gratefully acknowledge our extraordinary provider network, who tirelessly serve individuals with compassionate, high-quality care: A+ Nursing, Branch Area Transit Authority, Branch County Commission on Aging, Community Action Agency of Southcentral Michigan, Connect America, Crossroads Homecare, Home Care Wellness, HomeJoy, Legal Services of Southcentral Michigan, Long-Term Care Ombudsman/Area Agency on Aging 3A, Medical Care Alert, St. Joseph Co-Op/Hulda's Household Helpers, St. Joseph County Commission on Aging, St. Joseph County Transportation Authority, Thurston Cares Adult Day Program and VRI, Inc.

Elder Abuse Prevention and Awareness: The Services to Victims of Elder Abuse (SVEA) project completed its third year of grant activities. Victim Specialists served 41 individuals with a wide range of direct services including personal advocacy, crisis intervention, emergency financial assistance, relocation assistance, criminal justice advocacy, and personal protective orders. Victim Specialists maintained regular contact with referral sources and each county's multi-disciplinary team/coalition group. As we look ahead, more training events and community partner networking will be a top priority in an effort to continue emphasizing awareness & prevention.

If you would like more details or to become more involved in your community's efforts to prevent abuse, neglect, or exploitation, please call our office.

Community Living Program continues to soar! - Care Consultants work with individuals who have complex medical/social needs to develop a person-centered support plan. Over 80 individuals were served in their home over the past year! Assessments & monitoring continued via telephone along with additional feedback from direct care staff to assure participant success and safety.

If you would like more information about the Community Living Program or other services available in your community, please contact our office.

Personal Protective Equipment - AAA IIC continued to distribute personal protective equipment among community partners throughout the year including items such as: masks, face shields, hand sanitizer, gloves, gowns, shoe covers, and sanitizing wipes.

Direct Care Worker Premium Pay - AAA IIC providers and vendors were allocated COVID-19 relief funds to support a \$2.00 per hour wage increase. These direct care workers provided hours of personal care, homemaking, respite care and/or adult day services during the pandemic. Over 19,000 hours were reimbursed from October 2020 - September 2021.

Program Success - Friendly Reassurance and Gap Filling services remained supportive to the needs of individuals across our communities. Friendly Reassurance calls were made regularly to address social isolation being felt by so many. Gap Filling became essential to address unique needs that we, and our community partners, couldn't provide for otherwise. Over 2,000 individuals benefitted from these supportive services. No Wrong Door funding was utilized to purchase technology & devices in an effort to encourage older adults to virtually participate in programming, social media, and on-line learning sessions to prevent social isolation.

Senior Project FRESH - Over 100 coupon books were distributed throughout the spring & summer of 2021. Senior Project Fresh provides free nutrition counseling and \$20 in coupons to be used at local participating farm markets for fresh fruits & vegetables. Residents who are age 60 or older and who meet certain household income/eligibility may apply for the program through our office or through our community partners. Please contact us for more information!

COVID Care Packages - The COVID Care Package effort continued into 2021 due to its success in offering community members an opportunity to stay creative, understand COVID, and remain safe at home. Please contact our office if you would like more information or to receive a Care Package.

Call Center & Vaccination Appointments - The AAA IIC team transitioned from answering hundreds of incoming calls to scheduling hundreds of COVID vaccination appointments. Each call was unique and addressed multiple questions, provided information about the venues, shared information about what to expect at a large-scale clinic, as well as arranging for transportation to appointments. Our team worked in conjunction with the Community Health Agency to assure an age-friendly approach in all aspects of providing information to callers, scheduling appointments, and coordinating supports when needed.



Area Agency on Aging Annual Report Data & Highlights FY 2021

Services	Totals	Units
Operations	\$62,711	N/A
Nutrition	\$671,036	144,613
In-Home	\$362,945	30,893
Community	\$89,451	1,267
Access	\$440,165	32,719
Legal	\$11,564	357

*Traditional Federal & State (OAA/OMA) funding sources only

Population Served**	
Total Population 18+*	15,323
White (non-Hispanic)	13,827
African American	89
Asian/Pacific Islander	12
American Indian/Alaskan	9
Hispanic (of any race)	32
Below Poverty	988
Rural	15,323

*In general, services are targeted to those who are 60 years of age or older unless otherwise allowed under eligibility criteria for a specific program.

**Data based on self-reported numbers by participants, choosing to identify race/ethnicity is not required.

Special Projects 2021

MDHHS - Division of Victim Services "Services to Victims of Elder Abuse"	\$131,984
CARES Direct Care Worker Premium Pay	\$39,648
COVID Personal Care/Essential Care Packages	\$2,818
COVID Immunization Support	\$14,255
COVID Supplemental Nutrition (HDC5)	\$12,795
MDHHS - Aging & Adult Services Agency "No Wrong Door"	\$8,755



Supporting Seniors, Promoting Independence

Produced by Branch Hillsdale St. Joseph Community Health Agency

Citation: Branch Hillsdale St. Joseph Community Health Agency (2021) *Annual Report 2021*. Coldwater: Branch Hillsdale St. Joseph Community Health Agency