



2023 Annual Report



A Word from the Galion City Health Department

On behalf of the Galion City Board of Health and the staff at the Galion City Health Department, we are proud to present the 2023 Annual Report. Although 2023 was met with struggles at GCHD with numerous changes in personnel, our team managed to accomplish becoming nationally public health accredited on August 21, 2023!! A Strategic Plan was completed and approved by our Board of Health in June of 2023. A link to that plan is attached. This report will reflect the important work that we maintained to help prevent the spread of disease, promote health, and protect the community. The Galion City Health Department staff strives to benefit the community by providing preventative services that include education, surveillance, testing, inspections, licensing, vaccinating, and emergency preparedness activities to allow residents to live healthy and stay healthy.

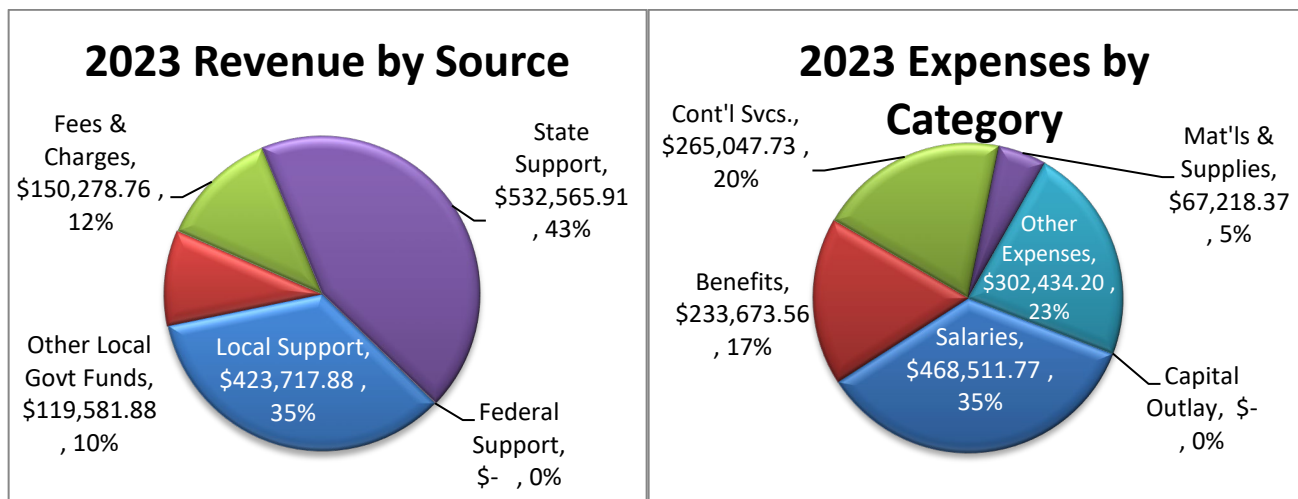


Strategic Plan,
2023-2026.pdf

2023 COVID-19 Pandemic

Although the Covid-19 pandemic officially ended on May 11, 2023 (as a Public Health Emergency), the CDC remained vigilant with its surveillance of Covid-19 through means such as wastewater testing and hospital/long-term care facility reporting. The largest impact that GCHD saw during this transition was the unavailability of the vaccine when we needed it to compliment our seasonal flu clinics. Previously, the vaccine was available at no-cost to the local health departments. GCHD did experience a decrease in vaccine numbers across the board because several people chose the pharmacy to receive both their flu and covid vaccine at the same time. GCHD saw a large increase in residents picking up free Covid-19 test kits in the months of November and December 2023. This and an increase in Covid-19 cases was a trend across Ohio in late 2023.

2023 Financial Report



Nursing Department 2023 Program Summary

Preventing the spread of infectious diseases:

- 649 immunizations administered
- 152 flu shots administered
- 37 TB tests administered
- 98 reports of infectious diseases investigated
- 343 Sexual Health Clinic appointments were completed

Increasing access and linkage to health care:

- Several nursing visits made to Homebound residents
- 29 BCMH clients served
- 193 STI tests completed in zip codes 44833 & 44820
- 178 STI tests for 43302

Community Health and Prevention

- 40 car seats distributed
- 1 lead screening completed
- 3 initial foster screenings completed
- 3 Galion Third Friday Events
- Come Home to Galion
- 6 head lice checks completed
- 47 hours of school nursing services
- Participated in Community Health & Wellness Fair
- 8 trainings on Infection Prevention at area businesses

Environmental Health Department 2023 Program Summary

Preventing the spread of infectious diseases:

- 113 food licenses issued
- 198 inspections conducted on food facilities
- 38 investigations of animal bites
- Applied and received the Ohio EPA Mosquito Control Grant
- Allowed for residential disposal of hundreds of scrap tires at no cost
- Distributed hundreds of mosquito dunks & mosquito wipes to prevent mosquito-borne diseases.
- Provided surveillance for mosquitoes in Galion, submitted over 1100 mosquitoes to the Ohio Department of Health
- West Nile Virus was identified in 1 pool of mosquitoes tested

Improving the well-being of the community:

- 95 investigations of public health nuisances
 - 85 complaints abated/referred
- 113 food licenses issued
- Provided plan review for 3 Food Service Operations
- 7 swimming pool/spa licenses issued
- 10 inspections conducted on swimming pool/spa facilities

Vital Statistics 2023 Program Summary

- 385 births registered
- 628 birth certificates issued
- 170 deaths registered
- 648 Death Certificates Issued
- 23 Free Veteran Death Certificates Issued
- 36 Burial Permits Issued

Public Health Accreditation

The Galion City Health Department has worked extremely hard to prepare for national accreditation. In Ohio, it is mandated for all Local Health Departments to become nationally accredited. Finally, after a lot of work, turnover, and extensions, we received approval by the national Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) to be recognized as a local health department that meets the national standards for public health. GCHD will continue to work hard in the coming years to maintain accreditation. GCHD will stand by our mission to Promote, Improve, and Protect the Health and Well-Being of the Community We Serve.

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2023 Board of Health Members:

Shellie Burgin, Amanda Moran, Mike Flick, Heidi Matney, Candy Yokam
Mayor Tom O'Leary President

