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THE Defiance County General Health District staff was very busy in 2015. The fifth Defiance County Community Health Assessment was conducted with an additional component added for children birth through twelve years of age. The previously known coalition Defiance County Health Partners changed its name to POWER Defiance County Coalition (Promoting Overall Wellness and Empowering Residents) to better express the comprehensive wellness theme. The Community Health Improvement Plan is almost completed. The areas of focus will be:

1. Decrease Obesity
2. Increase Mental Health Services
3. Decrease Substance Abuse
4. Increase Injury Prevention

As the community health improvement plan is completed a health district strategic plan will be completed. Part of the national accreditation of public health will require the community health assessment, the community health improvement plan, and the health district strategic plan to be intertwined. As rapidly as public health has changed in recent years, more changes in the way public health is conducted will be imminent.

The six most northwest health districts (known as the Six-Pact, Williams, Fulton, Defiance, Henry, Paulding, and Putnam) completed its work together through a Local Government Innovation Grant (LGIF) to explore ways to become more efficient by sharing services. The report was approved by the area boards of health. No action was taken as yet due to costs of the project. The six health districts will continue this work in 2016 to consider ways of creating a council of governments (COG).

2015 also introduced a threat to the United States from the hemorrhagic disease Ebola. Ohio has been aggressive in preparations to address this threat. Defiance County started creation of a plan that will be also part of a regional plan to control Ebola should it present itself in Northwest Ohio.

As always the Defiance County District Board of Health appreciates the support of the citizens of Defiance County. We welcome community input and strive to protect the health of its citizens as well as take actions to prevent disease in Defiance County.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Health Commissioner
WHO WE ARE

VISION
A Healthy Defiance County

MISSION
To prevent disease and to promote and protect the health of the Defiance County Community

CORE VALUE STATEMENTS

Accountability: We are effective and efficient managers of the public trust and public funds, and hold ourselves and others to appropriate high standards. We operate with effective, responsive and timely communication, transparency, timeliness, and continuous quality improvement.

Collaboration: We work collaboratively with our community partners, sharing knowledge and resources to enhance access to services and improve the health and well-being of all residents in Defiance County.

Integrity: We adhere to high ethical and professional standards in our work and relationships. We are honest in our daily interactions and value honesty in others.

Respect: We uphold a standard of conduct that recognizes and values the contributions of all. We foster a working environment in which listening to and understanding our differences is encouraged and confidences are protected.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Community
Communication
Finance
Organization
WHO WE ARE

STRUCTURE

The Defiance County Board of Health is the governing body of the Defiance County General Health District. The Board of Health meets monthly on the second Monday of the month. It is the board’s responsibility to appoint the health commissioner, adopt rules and regulations, enact policies, adopt annual budget, hire staff, evaluate the goals of the agency, and develop programs. The Board is required to enforce specific sections of the Ohio Revised Code 3709 and the Ohio Administrative Code 3701. The Board of Health has five members who are appointed for five year terms by the District Advisory Council, a body consisting of elected officials from cities, villages and county government. Each member represents a different section of the county. One member represents the Defiance County Licensing Council which is made up of representatives of the different mandated, licensed programs in the environmental health department.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

William Richter, M.D.- President
Kelly Roach- Vice President
Daniel Michel
Beth Ann Smith
Karl Kissner- Licensing Council Representative
Tricia Vandehey, D.O.- Medical Director
WHO WE ARE

DEFIANCE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT STAFF

Health Commissioner
Kimberly J. Moss, MPH, BSN

Administrative Staff
Martin Retcher, BA – Fiscal Manager
Dawn Eckert – Registrar
Stacie Hummel – Account Clerk/ Deputy Registrar

Environmental Health Staff
Oscar Hernandez III, RS, REHS, BS – Director of Environmental Health
Ronald Clinger, RS, BS – Sanitarian
Craig Richards, RS, BS – Sanitarian
Rebecca Gearhart – Administrative Specialist/ Environmental Health Clerk

Community Health Staff
Laura Coressel, MPH, BSN – Director of Nursing
Jamie Gerken, BSN, RN – Public Health Planning and Promotion Coordinator
Cheryl Kehnast, LSW, RN – Communicable Disease/ Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Janice Amoroso, BSN, RN – Public Health Nurse
Madeleen Bergman, BSN, RN- Public Health Nurse
Debra Gilgenbach, BSN, RN – Public Health Nurse
Stacy Lucas, BSN, RN – Public Health Nurse

Kayla Schmiedebusch, RD, LD, CLC – WIC Director
Laura Walters, RN – WIC
Virginia Gutierrez – WIC Clerk
Annmarie Garcia, BA – Breastfeeding Peer Helper
ABOUT DCGHD

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Hours of operation: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Address: 1300 E. Second St., Ste. 100 Defiance, Ohio 43512
- Phone number: 419-784-3818
- Fax: 419-782-4979
- Secure Fax: 419-784-3721
- Email:
- Webpage: www.defiancecohealth.org
- Facebook: Defiance County Health Department
- Twitter: @DCGHD
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health Division of the Defiance County General Health District performs services to protect and promote public health in Defiance County. This is completed by providing educational materials and programs, inspections, and enforcement.

Food

The health district provides a vital link in the chain of food safety that ranges from farm to fork. Completing plan reviews of new restaurants and conducting regular inspections of Defiance County restaurants ensures that standards are met and food is kept safe.

Water

The health district works to ensure that pristine ground and surface water resources are safe to consume. Each private water system is permitted, inspected, and constructed to protect residents from water-borne illness.

Sewage

The health district aims to ensure that household sewage is properly disposed of and treated in a matter that protects ground and surface water from contamination. Sewage treatment systems are designed, permitted, and inspected to promote a clean and healthy environment in northwest Ohio.

Swimming Pools & Spas

The environmental health division works with operators to prevent water-borne disease and ensure pools and spas meet operational requirements. Each swimming pool and spa is permitted and inspected regularly to confirm that chemical concentrations and equipment meet Ohio standards.

Recreational Park Camps

The health district works with park camp operators to limit the possibility of communicable disease while creating a safe and healthy community. Park Camps are inspected regularly to ensure water, wastewater, and the overall condition is safe for campers throughout the year.
Body Art

Body art facilities are licensed and evaluated by the health district to ensure best practices and prevent the spread of communicable disease through inspection.

Animal Bite Investigations/ Rabies

The environmental health division works with community partners to ensure biting animals are vaccinated for rabies and quarantined to protect the health of bite victims. Sanitarians will contact the animal owner requesting a proof of vaccination for the rabies virus from a registered veterinarian.

Manufactured Home Parks

The health district contracts with the Ohio Manufactured Home Commission to evaluate the condition of each park through inspection.

Public Health Nuisance Complaints

The health district works with the community to address issues dealing with public health, which may include, food service, Smoke-free Workplace, sewage treatment systems, and private water systems. Sanitarians will determine if a complaint meets the definition of a public health nuisance and will follow-up with complaint with inspections.
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL & EPIDEMIOLOGY

**Communicable Disease**

Defiance County Public Health plays an important role in communicable disease control. Staff is responsible for surveillance, prevention, and control of communicable diseases in Defiance County. Public health staff investigates and follows-up on all reportable communicable diseases, disease outbreaks, provides education to the public and notifies the public about disease outbreaks, and provides guidance to prevent infections.

Disease prevention and control is a cooperative effort involving health care providers, Defiance County General Health District and the Ohio Department of Health.

**Epidemiology**

Defiance County General Health District along with an epidemiologist monitor data for communicable disease outbreaks and trending, disease prevalence and morbidity and mortality reporting. One mechanism DCGHD utilizes for epidemiologic monitoring is SUDS. SUDS is a web based school disease reporting system utilized by Defiance County school districts in collaboration with the health department.
HEALTH PROMOTION AND PREVENTION

Child Passenger Safety

Motor vehicle accidents can occur anywhere and to anyone. Statistically, accidents are a leading cause of death in children. Many of these deaths result from the incorrect use of car seats, booster seats and seat belts. According to a study, 72% of car seats and booster seats were misused in some way that could increase a child’s risk of injury during a motor vehicle accident (NHTSA, 2006). With continued education on child passenger safety and correct car seat installation, the risk of death or injury from a motor vehicle accident can be greatly reduced. There is strong evidence of effectiveness in establishing car seat laws and car seat distribution plus education programs to increase use of child safety seats and decrease injuries and deaths to child passengers according to the Community Preventive Services Task Force (American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 2001). DCGHD offers car seats and an education component to eligible families through the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes program. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians at DCGHD also provide education and instruction on installation to Defiance County residents.

Child Fatality Review Board

The child fatality review board reviews all occurrences of child fatality when they occur in Defiance County. DCGHD facilitates the review board which meets once a year to review the cases.
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

WIC is a supplemental nutrition program for income eligible pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children under the age of five. WIC provides nutrition education, nutritious foods and breastfeeding education and support. WIC offers clinics in both Defiance and Hicksville.

School Nursing

Public Health Nurses provide visits to all schools in Defiance county. The nurses assist school staff with current health issues, provide up to date health information, conduct scoliosis and vision screenings. Public Health Nurses provide the Ohio Department of Health Medication Administration in Schools Training for school employees that administer prescription medication to students in the schools.

American Heart Association CPR and First Aid Training

Basic Life Support CPR courses, for certification and renewal, and basic first aid training courses are offered at DCGHD.
Emergency Preparedness

PHEP/Emergency Response

Building community and regional coalitions remains a focus of the Emergency Preparedness response capabilities. In a disaster, communities need to be prepared to respond with local assets. Joining forces with community partners through the local and regional coalitions strengthens the response capabilities through shared resources. The Defiance County Healthcare Coalition meets twice a year and the Northwest Ohio Healthcare Coalition meets quarterly to prepare, plan and collaborate. The management of an Ebola incident within the county is another response activity that is reliant on the healthcare partners working together to meet the needs of the individual and protect the health and safety of the community.

Medical Reserve Corps

Defiance County continues to have an active and involved Medical Reserve Corps. Providing volunteer activities, training opportunities and exercises are planned for volunteers as a means for keeping the volunteers engaged and prepared for assisting the community in the event of a disaster or emergency.
LINKING PEOPLE TO HEALTH SERVICES

Care Coordination
Public health nurses help individuals in completing applications for assistance from Defiance Area Society for the Handicapped (DASH) and Lions Club. These organizations help to provide financial assistance for eye examinations, glasses, medicine, and medical equipment.

Children with Medical Handicaps
The Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMH) program is a state supported program that provides assistance with diagnosis and treatment for children with medically handicapping conditions. Public health nurses are an important resource for families with children with special health care needs. A public health nurse is assigned to each client on the BCMH Program and helps the family with referrals, health education, navigating medical bills and determining the overall needs of the family.

Know your Health Numbers
Community health screens are offered throughout Defiance County on a monthly basis. Residents 18 years or older can have their blood pressure, blood sugar, hemoglobin and cholesterol screened. Participant’s results are reviewed at this screening. Education and referral are also provided to the participant.

Elevated Lead in Children
When a child’s blood test shows an elevated lead level, a registered nurse provides education to families about preventing and stopping lead poisoning from occurring.

Foster Care Screenings
Physical assessments of incoming foster children are performed by the nurses of Defiance County General Health District upon request.

Newborn Hearing Assessment
Defiance County General Health District provides a list of referral sources for infant hearing assessment options to families whose infant was born at home.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

POWER Defiance County

Defiance County General Health District facilitates POWER Defiance County (Promoting Overall Wellness and Empowering Residents). POWER Defiance County is a committee comprised of organizations and agencies who perpetuate the community health assessment and community health improvement planning process. The committee monitors, evaluates and prioritizes the health needs of the Defiance County community enabling effective programming to improve delivery of services and ultimately improve the health and wellbeing of Defiance County.

Defiance County Drug Free Coalition

A priority identified in the 2013 Defiance County community health improvement plan was youth alcohol use. The Defiance County Drug Free Coalition was formed in response to this priority area. Defiance County General Health District facilitates the Defiance County Drug Free Coalition. The mission of the coalition is to improve the quality of life for all who live or work in Defiance County, by promoting a lifestyle free from the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

ACCESS TO BIRTH AND DEATH CERTIFICATES

Vital Statistics

The vital statistics department issues certified copies of death records for deaths that have occurred in Defiance County between December 1908 to present. The vital statistics department also issues certified copies of birth records for births that have occurred in the state of Ohio between December 1908 to present.

Data is gathered from birth and death records by the vital statistics department and relayed to stakeholders. Top causes of death and trends related to birth and death outcomes are monitored in an effort to protect the health of the public.
2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Environmental Health

In February the department completed its participation with the Ohio Well Sealing Workgroup on the publication, *Regulations and Technical Guidance for Sealing Unused Water Wells and Boreholes*. This publication is intended to guide contractors in the safe sealing of wells and boreholes in a way that will provide protection to ground water aquifers.

New rules regulating household sewage systems went into effect in 2015. In response to these changes, the department provided information at several public events. At the iHeart Media Home and Garden Show, the department presented *Flushing into our future*, a program on the history and future of Home Sewage Systems. At the Land to Lake Conference held at Defiance College, the department presented *Home Sewage Treatment Systems: Where we are at. Where we are going.* on the department's plans for implementing an operation and maintenance program.

To aid local sewage contractors in obtaining continuing education units (CEU) required under the new rules, the department hosted a Sewage Contractor training in April. Contractors attending were awarded 6 CEU.

### 2015 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Subcategory</th>
<th>Actions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food</strong></td>
<td>FSO &amp; RFE Inspections</td>
<td>501</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mobile Inspections</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vending Inspections</td>
<td>37</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Consultations</td>
<td>177</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Water</strong></td>
<td>New/ Replacement Permits</td>
<td>69</td>
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<td>Alteration Permits</td>
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<td>Sealing Permits</td>
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<td>Conversion Permits</td>
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<td>Consultations</td>
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<td><strong>Sewage</strong></td>
<td>Soil Evaluations/ Site Reviews</td>
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<td>New/ Replacement Permits</td>
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<td>Alteration Permits</td>
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<td>Abandonment Permits</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Consultations</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Swimming Pools & Spas

- Swimming Pool Inspections: 22
- Consultations: 29

### Recreational Park Camps

- Recreation Park Camp Inspections: 11
- Consultations: 3

### Body Art

- Body Art Inspections: 1
- Consultations: 6

### Animal Bite Investigations / Rabies

- Bat Bites / Exposures: 2
- Cat Bites / Exposures: 31
- Dog Bites / Exposures: 67
- Consultations: 17

### Manufactured Home Parks

- Manufactured Home Park Inspections: 17
- Consultations: 21

### Public Health Nuisance Complaints

- Food Safety Complaints: 2
- Food Safety Complaints Inspections: 2
- Sewage Complaints: 14
- Sewage Complaint Inspections: 31
- Smoke-Free Workplace Complaints: 2
- Smoke-Free Workplace Inspections: 3
- Consultations: 39
2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Vital Statistics

Ohio Adoption Records were unsealed on March 20, 2015, allowing 400,000 people adopted in Ohio during this time period the ability to request adoption records. Adoptees, or their children and grandchildren, may request the adoptee’s adoption records. The adoption records usually contain the original birth certificate and may also include biological parent release forms and/or biological sibling release forms. Ohio Senate Bill 23, which was passed by the Ohio General Assembly and signed into law by Gov. John R. Kasich in December 2013, modified state law governing records of adoptions that were finalized between January 1, 1964, and September 18, 1996.

Medical Reserve Corp

In June, MRC Volunteers assisted with the Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure (GOBA) manning the First Aid Booth for participants and in August, MRC Volunteers assisted with the Williams County GuardCare Event.

Emergency Preparedness

Two Defiance County General Health District employees were fortunate to attend emergency preparedness training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. Advanced Public Information Officer training and Healthcare Leadership in a Mass Casualty Event were the training topics attended in 2015. These trainings are provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency at no cost to DCGHD and provides a wealth of information and experience.
POWER (Promoting Overall Wellness and Empowering Residents) Defiance County completed the fifth Defiance County community health assessment. A total of 1,245 surveys were completed by adults, youth and adults of children ages birth through 11. The data from these surveys were evaluated by University of Toledo and formed into a report. POWER Defiance County then drafted a community health improvement plan to address the areas identified as priority issues based on data analysis. The four areas identified were: obesity, substance abuse, mental health and injury prevention. Implementing the community health improvement plan is in the beginning stages and will proceed for the next three years.

WIC implemented the EBT card in 2015 to replace the printed coupons when distributing benefits to participants. In the summer, WIC promoted breast feeding and the WIC farmer’s market program through a billboard campaign.

### 2015 COMMUNITY HEALTH STATS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>WIC Average Monthly Enrollment</strong></th>
<th><strong>Know Your Health Numbers</strong></th>
<th><strong>Children with Medical Handicaps</strong></th>
<th><strong>Communicable Disease</strong></th>
<th><strong>Child Passenger Safety</strong></th>
<th><strong>Births</strong></th>
<th><strong>Deaths</strong></th>
<th><strong>Top 5 Causes of Death Reported for 2015</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women-68</td>
<td>Blood Pressures- 173</td>
<td>Average Enrollment- 82</td>
<td>Chlamydia- 135</td>
<td>Car Seats Distributed- 29</td>
<td>Promedica Defiance Regional Hospital- 559</td>
<td>Cancer- 34.8%</td>
<td>Cancer- 34.8%</td>
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<td>Infants- 78</td>
<td>Health Screenings- 314</td>
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<td>Salmonella- 3</td>
<td>Car Seats Checked- 33</td>
<td>Community Memorial Hospital- 94</td>
<td>Heart Related- 23.9%</td>
<td>Heart Related- 23.9%</td>
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<td>Children 134</td>
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<td>Hepatitis C (chronic)- 53</td>
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<td>Home Births- 6</td>
<td>Dementia- 4.9%</td>
<td>Dementia- 4.9%</td>
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<td><strong>Nursing Stats</strong></td>
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<td>Gonorrhea- 21</td>
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<td>Births Registered- 659</td>
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<td>Immunizations - 803</td>
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<td>Influenza (confirmed)- 25</td>
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<td>Certificates Issued- 1865</td>
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<td>Flu Vaccine- 371</td>
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<td>Tuberculosis Tests- 213</td>
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<td>Blood Pressures- 315</td>
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<td>Health Screenings- 41</td>
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<td>Pediculosis Screenings- 186</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>School Services</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Nursing Visits- 226</td>
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<td>Vision Screenings- 3085</td>
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<td>Vision Rescreens- 352</td>
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<td>Scoliosis Screening- 1504</td>
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</table>
2015 Fiscal Report

**Revenue**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Levy</td>
<td>$688,079</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Subsidy</td>
<td>$10,461</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
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<td>Intergovernmental Revenue</td>
<td>$125,994</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permits/Licenses</td>
<td>$108,334</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fees for Services</td>
<td>$171,130</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
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<td>Grant Funds</td>
<td>$316,605</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Receipts</td>
<td>$34,360</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,454,964</strong></td>
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**Expenditures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
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<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
<td>$286,224</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
<td>$19,370</td>
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<td>Equipment/Repairs</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
<td>$41,547</td>
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<td>State Fee Remittances</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,432,715</strong></td>
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</table>
A SNAPSHOT OF DCGHD 2015

A SNAPSHOT OF DEFIANCE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT 2015

581
Food Inspections

$614,795
Worth of Food Supplied to Women Infant and Children participants

59%
of car seats checked by DCGHD were misused

117 animal bite investigations

294
Posts/Tweets

3,928
Birth and Death Certificates Distributed

477
Births in Defiance County

659
Deaths in Defiance County

1,245
Health Surveys Completed by Defiance County Residents