FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Greetings!

Over the past quarter, Health Department Staff was busy with end of year school programming, and preparing for summer health and safety. The Health District will have a 1.1 mill renewal levy on the ballot this fall. This is a crucial source of funding for our operations. The Health Department has had a 1.1 mill levy since 2004. Our first levy was in 1980 (.5 mill). At this time, the Health Department stopped receiving inside millage. If you have any questions about our levy renewal, please reach out. If you have not had a chance to see our 2023 annual report, please take a look to see all the amazing work:

https://defiancecohealth.org/defiance-county-public-health/

Jamie Gerken, Health Commissioner

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

WELCOME NEW STAFFER

CRYSTAL SALAZ  WIC CLERK

Crystal joined the WIC Division of the health department as WIC Clerk in June 2024. Crystal does a variety of clerical duties in the WIC office. She manages the day-to-day operations and the implementation of the WIC program.

Welcome Crystal!
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ServSafe Food Trainings for Food Safety Manager were completed in April with 8 Managers and receiving their certifications. Our next sessions begin in October, with some interested in attending these already! These photos are from the April Session.

To learn more about or to register for this certification, visit our website.

FYI:
- Over the past year - 33 students have taken this class.
- 27 of those have passed with a score of 70% or higher.
- Average passing score is 86%

HEALTH PROMOTION

Taylor Jessing and Jessica West presented the CATCH MyBreath Vaping Prevention program to 7th & 9th grade students at Tinora in May. Taylor also recently presented at Defiance Middle School's Beyond the Bell program. See photos to the right of students presenting their campaigns.

To learn more about these programs or schedule a presentation, please call DCHD Health Promotion Staff.

DDVB FAMILY FUN FRIDAY - JUNE

Jessica West & Taylor Jessing presented Healthy Eating and Nutrition information with Annie Crowder-Reynolds from OSU Extension SNAP-Ed program, in line with the Defiance Developemtn and Vistor’s Bureau book theme “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”. Approximately 130 kids attended this event in downtown Defiance.
COMMUNITY HEALTH

MyPlate Program - Kaylee Williams, PH Nurse, presented the MyPlate Program to Ayersville Elementary, Defiance Elementary, Holy Cross Catholic School, and Tinora Elementary in the months of April & May, with Taylor Jessing joining her at Defiance Elementary. This completed DCHD providing the MyPlate program to ALL schools public and parochial in Defiance County!

SteppingOn Program - Katie Marbaugh and Katelyn Rodecap recently were trained on a NEW Fall Prevention Program called SteppingOn. SteppingOn walks the participants through exercises for improving strength & balance and also provides expert presentations by various health professionals in the community. This program was offered for the first time in April at the Hicksville Senior Center with 12 enrolled. Of the 12 enrolled, 10 completed the course attending 4 or more of the 7 sessions. Way to go!

WIC - WE ARE HIRING! See info below on our open positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WIC BREASTFEEDING PEER HELPER</th>
<th>WIC HEALTH PROFESSIONAL</th>
<th>FUN FACT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part-time (14 hours per week)</td>
<td>Full-time (32 hours per week)</td>
<td>DID YOU KNOW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have breastfed an infant exclusively or substantially for at least 6 months</td>
<td>Registered &amp; Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist (RD/RDN/LD)</td>
<td>DCHD Environmental Health Specialists inspect public pools &amp; spas for water sanitation and safety? Learn more at: defiancecohealth.org/</td>
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<td>Current/Past participant of WIC or eligible for WIC Services</td>
<td>Valid OH Driver’s License</td>
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<td>SEND RESUMES TO</td>
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<td>For more information</td>
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<tr>
<td>Call Melinda Kuhlman - 419-782-7770</td>
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<tr>
<td>or visit defiancecohealth.org/career-opportunities</td>
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DCHD IN THE COMMUNITY

LILAC FEST

Staff interacted with the community at the DDVB Annual Lilac Fest on Saturday, May 11th providing opportunity for interaction and health & safety information. Under the Safe Communities tent we focused on Traffic Safety initiatives, specifically Motorcycle & Bicycle Safety. This included a giveaway for 2 kids bicycles, thanks to a donation from the Defiance Police Department. Under the Drug Free Coalition Tent, information on Tobacco Cessation, the Coalition, and Mental Health Resources were provided. Additionally, we provided the new DCHD brochure and information about the POWER Defiance County Coalition.

SAFETY TOWN

On Wednesday June 12, 2024, the Defiance County Safe Communities Coalition hosted a FREE Safety Town event with 55 area youth ages 4-6 years old to prepare them for going to school. The purpose of Safety Town was to provide basic education focusing on safety topics such as pedestrian traffic, bicycle, bus, recreation and more. Participants also met first responders and toured emergency vehicles.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR IN THE NEXT QUARTER

- July & August Family Fun Friday
- Next Session of SteppingOn
- POWER Defiance County Community Health Assessments
- EH Food Inspections
- Coffee with a Cop at the Defiance County Fair
- And much more!