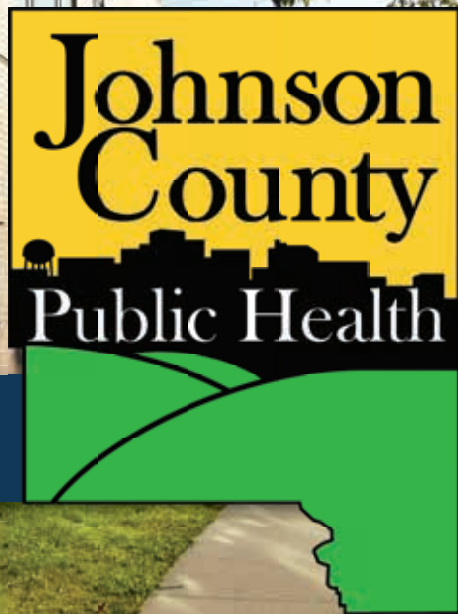




JOHNSON COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



2019 *Annual Report*

Message

FROM THE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Johnson County Board of Health (BOH) and Johnson County Public Health (JCPH) employees, it is my pleasure to share the Fiscal Year 2019 Johnson County Public Health Annual Report. This was an exciting year with significant projects completed and new initiatives started.

Countless staff hours were dedicated to the goal of becoming one of the first public health departments in Iowa to be accredited by the National Public Health Accreditation Board. JCPH staff's dedication and commitment to this large undertaking was realized on March 21, 2019, when we officially received accreditation status. National accreditation demonstrates that JCPH meets national standards and excels in providing quality services. . This level of recognition does not come easily. Dozens of individuals and community partners encouraged, supported, and helped us prepare over the last three years so we could achieve this milestone in JCPH's history.

The benefits of accreditation are already evident in the day-to-day work of our staff and how we deliver services to residents. We continue to improve upon a performance management system of tracking — and monitoring — program-specific goals. Having well defined and measurable goals enables us to evaluate the effectiveness of each program. Accreditation also guides our actions and ways we assess the health needs of the community. Accreditation helped drive the creation of JCPH's five-year strategic plan which identifies five areas for which we will dedicate time, energy, and resources in order to make Johnson County "A Community where all can achieve optimal health."

Inside this report, you can read more about Healthy JoCo and methods implemented to engage the public in identifying health needs of individuals, neighborhoods, and all Johnson County residents. We are proud of the work accomplished in FY19, and committed to serving those who live, work, learn, and play in Johnson County moving forward.

Yours in Health,



Dave Koch
Director, Johnson County Public Health
dkoch@co.johnson.ia.us



JOHNSON COUNTY Board of Health

Front Row: Bonnie Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA;
Tatiana Izakovic, MD, MHA

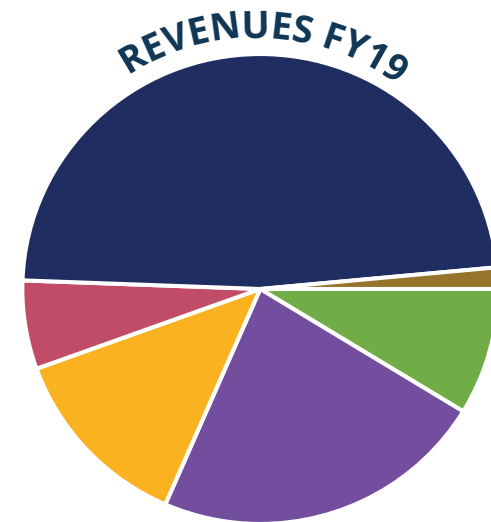
Back Row: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, Chair;
Zachary J. Pollock, PharmD, MS;
Michael McLaughlin, PhD, Vice-Chair



Providing Promoting Supporting Connecting Protecting



Revenues AND Expenditures



Tax Levy	\$1,956,599	47.94%
Federal Grants	\$930,843	22.81%
State Grants	\$528,546	12.95%
Environmental Fees	\$356,075	8.73%
Title XIX and V	\$248,890	6.10%
Miscellaneous Funds	\$60,030	1.47%

Salaries/Benefits	\$3,399,103	83.29%
Contracted Providers	\$296,562	7.27%
Equip & Supplies	\$287,895	7.05%
Travel & Training	\$41,890	1.03%
Communication	\$28,701	0.70%
Dues & Fees	\$26,831	0.66%



FY19 GRANT CONTRACT AMOUNTS

▶ Breast Feeding Peer Counseling	\$ 40,000
▶ Grants to Counties	\$ 30,927
▶ Head Start	\$ 13,006
▶ Immunization Services	\$ 26,426
▶ Integrated HIV and Viral Hepatitis Services	\$ 154,500
▶ Local Public Health Services	\$ 305,790
▶ MCAH	\$ 351,664
▶ Mosquito	\$ 5,700
▶ Preparedness	\$ 28,840
▶ Tobacco	\$ 105,473
▶ WIC	\$ 695,050

TOTAL **\$1,757,375**

3
New Positions

7
New Employees

3
Retirees



Mission

Vision

Values

to promote, protect, and improve the safety, health, and well-being of Johnson County

to support a community where all can achieve optimal health

to... treat others with dignity and compassion

be intentional of the health equity impact of our efforts

become stronger and wiser through collaboration

be client-focused in our service

do the right thing



*It is our vision
to support a community where all
can achieve optimal health*



A Commitment TO COMMUNITY

MORE THAN A TOOTH FAIRY, DENTAL SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Low-income elementary school children face challenges acquiring dental services, and often feel stressed when treatment is delayed. Thankfully, our dental hygienists have built strong relationships with local elementary schools, streamlining these processes. If a child comes to school with a chipped tooth, teachers know to call JCPH for assistance. The child will be connected with a dentist to repair the tooth. Here is an essay written by a local 6th grader who went through this exact situation.



“Sometimes in school, my tooth starts to hurt and instead of me focusing on my work I am too busy looking and messing with it...I’m a really funny, happy kid so me not being able to smile big and laugh is kind of weird. I really just want to get back to my old life before I chipped my tooth.”

Our JCPH dental hygienist worked with the student and her family to ensure she had dental insurance, an appointment, and transportation to the dentist. The tooth was repaired and she’s sharing her smile again!

“ I just really want to get back to my old life before I chipped my tooth. ”

COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUNDING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

JCPH provided \$9,500 of funding to community health projects related to **HealthyJoCo**, our Community Health Needs Assessment and Health Improvement Plan. This was done through a competitive funding process. Priority areas included:

- ✓ Providing self-care materials to suicide prevention counselors at CommUnity Crisis Services
- ✓ Purchasing over-the-counter first-aid medications to supply to clients in the Domestic Violence Intervention Program
- ✓ Supporting increased access to oral health services for clients at the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic
- ✓ Purchasing medical equipment for the clinic space at Shelter House in support of their clinic revitalization efforts



The most effective way to avoid getting sick from viruses spread by mosquitoes is to prevent mosquito bites.

MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE

The Environmental Health Division collaborated with the Iowa Department of Public Health, and Iowa State University, to participate in a mosquito surveillance project in Johnson County.

These surveillance efforts help provide a better understanding of the threat of invasive mosquito species in Johnson County. The focus was to monitor for the presence of *Aedes Albopictus* and *Aedes Aegypti*, two species that may be a vector for Zika and other health concerns. Johnson County collected 455 samples but did not find a species of primary concern.



1 in 7
people living with HIV are unaware of their infection.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER: TESTING EXPANDED ACROSS REGION

JCPH offers free and confidential testing services at nine community-based locations. In 2019, a tenth outreach testing site was added through a partnership with the Iowa City/Johnson County Senior Center. The ITS program also conducted a community needs assessment to identify how best to serve Iowa, Poweshiek, Louisa, Washington, and Wapello counties. During FY19, JCPH personnel built several new partnerships with the goal of expanding access. The focus was on preventive services, including: rapid HIV and hepatitis C testing and distribution of sexual health materials.

Building A HEALTHY COMMUNITY



Fresh produce at local farmers' markets is free for WIC families through the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.

FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM PROVIDES FRESH PRODUCE TO WIC FAMILIES

Farmers in our community gather to create bountiful and bustling farmers' markets, creating access to locally grown fruits and vegetables. Unfortunately, families in the Women Infant Children (WIC) program, have limited funds to spend on fresh produce. The Farmers' Market Nutrition Program provides opportunities for these families to engage in farmers' markets, meet local farmers, and enjoy fresh produce — all for free. In summer 2019, the WIC program issued 10,791 Farmers' Market checks. Children were encouraged to go on a scavenger hunt at the markets, finding different produce items and taste testing them. Families enjoyed the food and fun at the markets which will lead to return visits next summer.

9.6% of Iowans are diabetic and **7.2%** of Iowans are pre-diabetic.

30.8% of US farmers' markets accept WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers.

BILINGUAL DIABETES PREVENTION AND AWARENESS SERVICES SEES FIRST YEAR SUCCESS

JCPH continued its partnership with the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic — utilizing American Medical Association Foundation funding — to support a bilingual Community Health Worker. This person was able to deliver diabetes prevention and management education in a culturally relevant manner to clinic patients. Along with educational counseling, clients are provided a free blood glucose monitor and testing strips to monitor blood sugar levels as a part of program participation. In FY19, 85 clients participated in the program, 73% of whom were diabetic, and 12% of whom were pre-diabetic.

Growing TO MEET YOUR NEEDS

TIME OF TRANSFER (ToT) PROGRAM 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Time of Transfer Program celebrated its 10 year anniversary in 2019. The Time of Transfer law went into effect in 2009, requiring that every home and building served by a private sewage disposal system have that system inspected prior to the sale or deed transfer. The intent of the law was to help ensure that properties are legally treating their wastewater, to alter or repair malfunctioning systems, and to help inform both the buyer and seller of the condition of their wastewater infrastructure prior to completing the sale. Johnson County Environmental Health staff coordinate with buyers, sellers, and Time of Transfer certified contractors to review and inspect all private sewage system transfers.

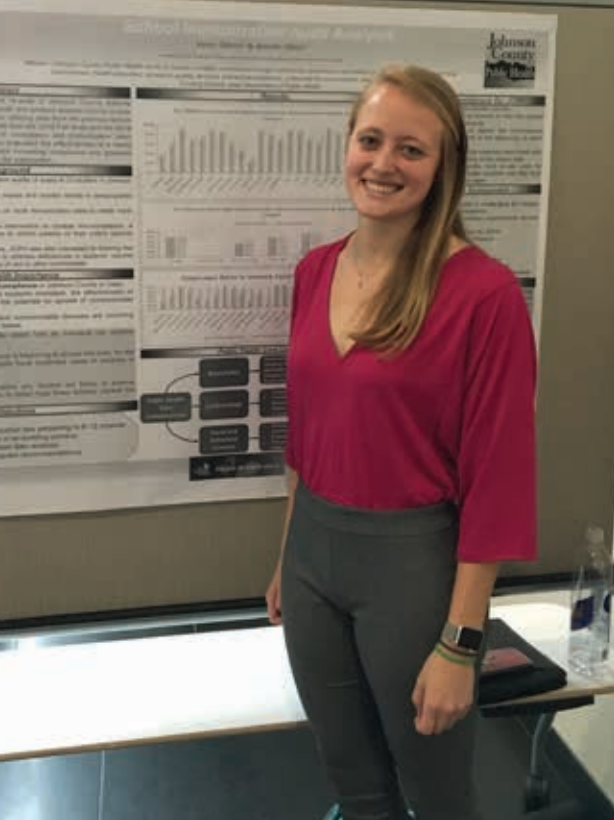


TEN YEARS OF ToT BY THE NUMBERS

- 1659** Inspections completed
- 106** Required alterations
- 196** Required repairs
- 18.2%** Percentage of inspections requiring action
- 188** Most ToT inspections per year (FY17)
- 139** Fewest ToT inspections (FY11)
- 302** Total systems directly altered or repaired due to the ToT program



JCPH's Certified Application Counselor assisted **141** individuals with navigating insurance options during the 2019 open enrollment period.



Improving HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

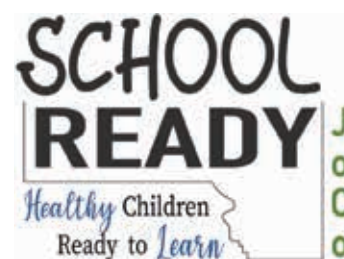
RAISING AWARENESS ON E-CIGARETTES AND VAPING

JCPH's Tobacco Prevention, Control, and Cessation Health Educator was tasked by the BOS to reach out to the eleven incorporated cities within the county regarding the potential for a county e-cigarette prohibition ordinance. JCPH supported the BOS and County Attorney's Office efforts to draft — and successfully passed — an ordinance to prohibit the use of electronic smoking devices in all places where traditional cigarette smoking is prohibited. JCPH and BOS staff will work together in FY20 to implement a communications plan and disseminate appropriate signage to county businesses and ensure that the public is informed of this important local public health law.

SCHOOLREADY JOCO: COMMITTED TO A SCHOOL-READY COMMUNITY

Back to school time can be chaotic for the families we serve; registrations, school supplies, screenings, and immunizations can take a toll, mentally and financially. JCPH's back to school program changed its name to SchoolReady JoCo this year and continued to offer vision and dental screenings, as well as mandatory vaccinations, to uninsured and underinsured children. Children were also given a free backpack full of school supplies. SchoolReady JoCo provided services to 53 families during summer 2019.

The SchoolReady JoCo logo was created through a collaboration with Kirkwood students, giving our program a new look and students graphic design experience.



- 21,000+** K-12 student immunization records audited for compliance
- 197** Communicable disease investigations
- 147** Animal bite investigations
- 25** Food-borne illness complaints, including six foodborne illness outbreaks

Partnering TOGETHER IN OUR COMMUNITY

RADON FOCUS GROUPS

In the fall of 2018, Johnson County Public Health Environmental Health and Community Health staff held radon focus groups to help develop a radon awareness campaign. The goal was to test radon messaging materials, implement messaging during radon action month, and evaluate the effectiveness of the campaign. The decision was made to focus on a rural Johnson County area, where older homes are at higher risk of elevated radon levels. During the focus groups, feedback was given to staff about the design, format, and information that was presented in the new educational materials.

Following this process, Johnson County Public Health distributed targeted radon educational materials to 1,270 residential homes and 43 businesses.

Johnson County Environmental Health provided 146 low-cost radon test kits (\$8) to the public in FY19.

INFANT ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Twenty years ago last September, a young UI College of Dentistry dental resident new to the United States, Dr. Karin Weber-Gasparoni, noticed a problem here that didn't exist in her home country - infants and young children were developing early childhood dental decay at staggering rates, especially in disadvantaged families. She noted that dentists here didn't commonly begin seeing children until at least three years of age, but teeth often erupt within a child's first year of life, and they often have a full mouth of teeth by age three. To counter this problem, Dr. Weber-Gasparoni partnered with JCPH Clinical Services to develop the Infant Oral Health Program, which provides free dental care to disadvantaged children ages 0-3. The program is staffed by dental residents, and is a required component of their dental training at the College. The program aims to prevent early dental decay, and provide future dentists the opportunity to work with disadvantaged families, in hopes they'll continue to serve their community once they open their own practice.

The program celebrated its 20th anniversary this year, and we're proud to say we've had over 6,000 visits during that time, serving over 3,700 children. Dr. Weber-Gasparoni has been published in notable journals over the course of 20 years, showing her research and proving the success of the program in lowering the prevalence of early childhood dental decay and in improving the chances of UI College of Dentistry graduates going on to serve underserved infants and toddlers in their own practices.



Top, Community Health Practicum student, Kenni Sterns, presenting her work on the immunization audit intervention at the College of Public Health. Bottom, Community Health student intern, Afrah Mohamed, conducting a school immunization audit.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY →

Private on-site wastewater system permits increased by **18%** in FY19, from 99 to 117.

Leading YOU TO BETTER HEALTH

SORGHUM ILLNESS INVESTIGATION: HIDDEN DANGERS

In the fall of 2018, JCPH received a call from Poison Control to inform the department that a pair of newborn twins were ill and in the hospital being treated for Blue Baby Syndrome. Poison control asked if JCPH would be able to test the private well where the twins were living for nitrates. On August 17, 2018, the State Hygienic Lab (SHL) reported that the private well did not have high levels of nitrates. There were multiple discussions between SHL, Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the health care officials treating the children to see what other sources of nitrates the twins may have been exposed to.

Johnson County Environmental Health staff made a visit to the property to investigate further. The father of the twins explained that the twins were fed goats milk with sorghum syrup. The twins were also given all-natural supplements for upset stomachs and for colic. Samples of these items were collected by JCPH staff and taken to the State Hygienic Lab for nitrate analysis. Test results indicated that the sorghum syrup was extremely high in nitrates (~9400ppm), no nitrates were detected in the other samples.

JCPH staff visited the family to discuss the results and the cause of the children's illness. An investigation of the source of the product resulted in visits to a number of local stores within Johnson County looking for additional jars of sorghum syrup. Additional local product samples were taken for testing and embargos were placed on all implicated sorghum products until further action was to be determined.

Johnson County Public Health collaborated with the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) began to investigate as well. JCPH staff collected additional jars of sorghum syrup from different sources to see if nitrate levels were high in all sorghum syrups. Test results showed high nitrates in all samples of sorghum syrups, but the levels were very high in the product initially identified. The FDA currently has no limit for nitrate concentration in food. Collaborating with our state partners, a press release was issued from IDPH to warn the public of the risk of giving sorghum syrup to infants. The information learned as a result of this investigation was shared with peers from across Iowa at the Iowa Governor's Public Health Conference.



Food program staff conducted **228** temporary food inspections in FY19.



← BEFORE

CLINICAL SERVICES OFFERS NEW LAYOUT AND WELCOME UPDATES

Clinical Services underwent a remodel this summer to create a more client-friendly and inviting space. A new reception desk is front and center, welcoming patients into the clinic with a smiling face. A family-friendly waiting area ensures that families can rest — and kids can play — while waiting for their intake appointment. A local designer was hired to create a kid-friendly and Johnson County-focused mural for the waiting area, creating an interactive space for children and families while they wait. Families move to a private office for their intake appointment, where children can play and private conversations can be held discreetly with the Intake Clerk. Translation services are offered by phone, if needed. Clients love the new layout and find it very welcoming and friendly. One client exclaimed: “Do you employees like this new set up as much as we clients do? I have been coming here for almost 5 years, and this new set-up makes so much more sense and is so much more inviting!”

→ AFTER

“*Seeing my home language when I walked in made me feel so comfortable.*”





HealthyJoCo: Incorporating Authentic Community Engagement into Assessment Approach

In FY19, JCPH sought to define a community health needs assessment approach that incorporates broad community engagement, utilized the increased capacity for assessment methods through staff skill sets, and contributed to the development of the future public health workforce.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

JCPH utilized skill sets provided by the educational backgrounds of Community Health staff to develop public health research-based assessment strategies. For the first phase of the assessment, three data collection methodologies were deployed:

- ✓ **HealthyJoCo Chats** - Intercept surveys were held at community events across the county as well as at key community locations such as food pantries and senior care facilities; questions sought to learn community members' thoughts regarding their own health, the health of their neighborhood and the health of the county.
- ✓ **CASPER survey** - A CDC-developed rapid needs assessment tool was augmented with a social determinants of health-focused questionnaire and delivered door-to-door in Coralville, Iowa City, and North Liberty utilizing ArcGIS, Survey 123 technology on tablets for sustainability and efficiency. Utilizing a similar random sampling of households strategy, the survey was subsequently delivered in the towns of Hills, Lone Tree, Oxford, Shueyville, Solon, Swisher, and Tiffin.
- ✓ **Community Asset Mapping exercise** - Collaboration with the local youth-serving organization, the Dream Center, was done to conduct this exercise, along with a PhotoVoice exercise, to determine resource gaps in their neighborhood.

HealthyJoCo Student Team members ready to conduct HealthyJoCo Chats

BROAD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

JCPH branded the assessment process as **HealthyJoCo** and developed a logo and website for which community members may interact. Utilizing the tagline of Live, Work, Learn and Play, HealthyJoCo aligns with the County Health Rankings and Roadmaps definition of "What is Health?" - health is found in the places where we live, work, learn and play. The website, www.healthyjoco.com provides community members with local health data, information on local and national community health stories, local resources, and provides a space for community members to post questions, have conversations and plan initiatives to address community health needs.



JCPH staff conducting community asset mapping exercise at the Dream Center

INVESTMENT IN STUDENT AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Along with Community Health staff, a team of 13 students from the University of Iowa College of Public Health were recruited to assist with data collection. JCPH staff trained students on Community Based Participatory Research methods, the CASPER methodology, and inducted them into the Johnson County Medical Reserve Corps. Students participated in conducting the **HealthyJoCo Chats**, the CASPER survey, and met weekly with JCPH staff throughout the summer. Training was also provided to the entire JCPH staff who helped conduct **HealthyJoCo Chats** at the Johnson County Fair and deliver the CASPER survey.



HealthyJoCo Student Team members practicing surveying with JCPH staff

During this first phase of **HealthyJoCo**, we have collected input from over 1,500 community members located throughout the county and who are diverse among their racial/ethnic, gender, age, and income characteristics. While we have only begun to analyze the data, this project has provided a model for an assessment approach that allows the health department to engage community members in meaningful ways so that JCPH may be appropriately informed as we move forward with our programs and policies.

Who WE ARE

ADMINISTRATION

Dave Koch Director
Kristin Meyer Business Manager
Holly Fritz Secretary II
Keshia Fields Clerk II
Lonise Norfleet Administrative Assistant
Sharmi Kaefring-Oyarzun Clerk II
Susan Denny Secretary II

CLINICAL SERVICES

Kate Klefstad Division Manager
Charles (Chuck) Dufano WIC/MH Coordinator
Debra Ackerman Clinical Services Data Specialist
Alycia Ludden Public Health Registered Nurse
Amber Gorvin Clerk II
Amy Hackman Nutritionist
Barb Smith Public Health Nurse
Chrystal Todd Clerk II
Karen Klein Nutritionist
Kaitlyn Milligan Nutritionist
Kelly O'Rourke Public Health Registered Nurse
Kelly Smith Public Health Registered Nurse
Kim Jennings Nutritionist
Mahdi Obied Clerk II
Mathe Elola Clerk II
Meg Hamilton Public Health Dental Hygienist
Melissa Ringnalda Public Health Dental Hygienist
Paula Goetzinger Child Care Nurse Consultant
Rebecca Hackett-Leas Public Health Dental Hygienist
Vickie Bryant Clerk II

COMMUNITY HEALTH

Nalo Johnson Division Manager
Amelia Slaichert Health Educator Assistant
Jake Riley Disease Prevention Specialist
James Bechtel Public Health Systems Analyst
Jennifer Miller Disease Prevention Specialist
Kathryn Edell Health Educator
Kristy Stumpf Clerk II
Mara Cheney Health Planner
Samuel Jarvis Emergency Preparedness Planner
Susan Vileta Health Educator

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

James Lacina Division Manager
Dan Kramer Environmental Health Specialist
Dylan Cook Environmental Health Specialist
Erik Gustafson Environmental Health Specialist
Jason Decker Environmental Health Specialist
Mike Casella Environmental Health Specialist
Robert Thul Environmental Health Specialist

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