



Jefferson County General Health District

— Prevent. Promote. Protect. —

Quarterly Newsletter

Program Updates

Community Health Assessment & Community Health Improvement Plan Complete

As noted in our Second Quarter Newsletter, the 2025 Community Health Assessment (CHA) was completed and approved in June. The JCGHD is pleased to share that the 2025 – 2028 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is now complete as well. To explain the importance of these reports, a Community Health Assessment (CHA) gives organizations comprehensive information about the community's current health status, needs, and issues. After the CHA is completed, organizations turn their attention to the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which is a long-term, systematic effort to address public health problems based on the results of community health assessment activities and the community health improvement process. The JCGHD will lead the CHIP efforts from 2025 – 2028 in collaboration with community partners. These reports are available at the JCGHD offices in Steubenville and Toronto and electronically at jchealth.com.

Public Health Accreditation Board Site Visit

The JCGHD hosted the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) for two site visits in September: virtual site visit on September 10 and in-person site visit on September 17. Community partners from Jefferson County also participated during the in-person site visit to explain the collaborative efforts among agencies in our community. The purpose of these PHAB site visits was to determine if the JCGHD meets the standards for initial accreditation. Per PHAB, accreditation provides a framework for health departments to identify performance improvement opportunities, demonstrate credibility, develop leadership, and improve relationships with the community. It serves as both an accountability and transparency mechanism and is a step on a journey to transform public health practice. PHAB will notify the JCGHD of our accreditation status in November.

Staff Shout Out!



Congratulations to Sanitarian-in-Training Dave McFarland for passing the Registered Environmental Health Specialist exam. Dave has proven to be a strong learner and an asset to our Environmental Division. Great job, Dave!

2025 Communicable Disease Report

Disease Tyoe	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	TOTAL
Anaplasmosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Babesiosis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Botulism-Infant	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Campylobacteriosis	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Chlamydia	20	20	12	9	13	8	6	12	19	119
COVID-19	125	107	32	13	4	11	14	18	27	351
CP-CRE / CPO	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	4
Ehrlichiosis-Ehrlichia ewingii	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
Giardiasis	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
Gonorrhea	8	4	0	0	1	0	2	0	4	19
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis B	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	5
Hepatitis C	5	4	2	7	4	3	5	7	5	42
Influenza-associated hospitalization	22	60	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	96
Legionnaires' disease	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lyme disease	2	1	1	5	12	33	57	27	7	145
Pertussis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Salmonellosis	0	0	0	0	1	1	6	2	0	10
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Streptococcal disease, group A	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	7
Syphilis	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	185	199	64	38	40	58	97	69	67	817

2025-2026 Respiratory Disease Season Outlook

The CDC expects the upcoming U.S. fall and winter respiratory disease season will likely have a similar combined number of peak hospitalizations due to COVID-19, influenza, and RSV compared to last season. In Jefferson County, last peek respiratory virus season resulted in 96 influenza-associated hospitalizations. If this trend continues in 25-26, be mindful of reasons to visit urgent cares versus emergency rooms as to not overburden the healthcare system. Also, establishing with a primary care doctor, if you do not have one, is important for your overall health. To protect yourself this season, consider an annual flu shot, as well as frequent hand-washing, getting adequate sleep, and moderate exercise. Also, it is important to strengthen your natural immune system with a diet dense in protein, vitamins, minerals and other nutrients found in whole, unprocessed foods.

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

With Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD) circulating the community, here is some information about prevention, symptoms and treatment.

Prevention - HFMD is very contagious, so it is best to wash your hands often, avoid touching your face with unwashed hands, clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and shared items, and avoid close contact with an infected person.

Signs and symptoms - Symptoms may include fever, sore throat, painful mouth sores that blister, and rash commonly found on the hands and feet.

Treatment and recovery - Most children have mild symptoms for 7 to 10 days. Take over-the-counter medications to relieve fever and pain caused by mouth sores. Mouth sores can make it painful to swallow, so your child may not want to drink much. Make sure they drink enough to prevent dehydration.

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Upcoming Events

Flu Shot Clinics

October 7 Dillonvale Pharmacy	11 am – 12 pm
October 9 Main Library Schiappa Library Branch	9 am – 11 am 12 pm – 2 pm
October 10 Richmond Methodist Church	11 am – 12 pm
October 15 Urban Mission	9 am – 12 pm
October 16 Toronto Library Branch	10 am – 12 pm
October 20 Toronto City Building	9 am – 3 pm Closed 11:30 – 12:30
October 23 Brilliant Library Branch Titlonsville Library Branch	11 am – 12 pm 1 pm – 2 pm
October 30 Adena Library Branch Dillonvale – Mt Pleasant Library Branch	11 am – 12 pm 1 pm – 2 pm

No appointment necessary! Please bring insurance card and photo ID. Vaccines available for county uninsured residents.

Community Events

October 8 Community Baby Shower Trinity Health System Toronto Provider Clinic (1800 Franklin Street)	2 pm – 5 pm
October 18 Lions Club Vision Month 5k in Collaboration with the JCGHD Fort Steuben	9 am Race Start
October 23 WTOV 9 Senior Expo at St. Florian Hall	9 am – 1 pm
October 25 Red Ribbon Community Walk Hosted by the Jefferson County Phoenix Program at Jim Wood Park	11 am



Chamber of Commerce Career and Education Day



Overdose Awareness Day Outreach at September First Friday



Cribs for Kids Outreach at Schiappa Library Branch. Our team has given out 93 cribs this grant year!