



# **Jefferson County General Health District**

— Prevent. Promote. Protect. —

## **Quarterly Newsletter**

### **Program Updates**

#### **JCGHD Achieves National Accreditation**

The Jefferson County General Health District is pleased to announce that it has earned national accreditation through PHAB on November 13, 2025. Achieving national initial accreditation status marks years of continuous effort from the JCGHD staff and Board of Health. "We hope this announcement will reassure our community, partners, funders, and our elected officials that the services we provide are as responsive as possible and are meeting the foundational needs of our community," said Andrew Henry, Health Commissioner. PHAB's rigorous accreditation process measures health departments against a set of nationally recognized, evidence-based standards. PHAB works to advance and transform public health practice by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation.

On December 17, the Jefferson County Board of Health hosted the JCGHD staff for a holiday luncheon to celebrate the recent national accreditation. "Congratulations to our Board, our leadership, and our outstanding Health District team. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to our community." said board member Anthony Moughianis.



## **Community Health Workers Earn Certification**

The Jefferson County General Health District's two Community Health Workers are now fully certified through the Ohio Board of Nursing. According to The Ohio State University, "Community Health Workers are frontline public health workers who assist in improving quality of care and breaking down cultural barriers to treatment. CHWs bridge the gap between people in need of care and care providers – and as members of the community they serve, they help build trust and open lines of communication." With this certification, the CHWs are now formally recognized by the Ohio Board of Nursing as prepared and trusted advocates, connectors, educators, and motivators for individual health needs in Jefferson County.

The JCGHD began providing CHW services in collaboration with the Mahoning Valley Pathways Hub in the fourth quarter of 2024. The Pathways HUB connects people to social services and medical resources in Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana, and Jefferson Counties. The purpose is to reduce the impact of social determinants of health on health disparities in the region through effective care coordination. The CHWs will partner with county residents to help them in reaching their goals through referrals, education, and support. After months of education and training, two members of the JCGHD Nursing Department have successfully passed the CHW certification exam. Congratulations to Kayla Fogle, BSN, RN and Lysaih Rice, BA!

To connect with one of our Community Health Workers, please call the JCGHD Nursing Department at 740-283-8530. To learn more about the Mahoning Valley Pathways Hub, visit [www.ohiopathwayshub.org](http://www.ohiopathwayshub.org).



## **Upcoming Events & Meetings**

### **Community Events**

**February 12** - Car Seat Distribution  
Event Courtesy of Adoption Circle  
(Free for first 50 sign-ups)  
[Car Seat Registration Survey](#)

Heart Month Fitness Challenge  
*Details Coming Soon!*

**March 14** - The Pat Campbell Fighting  
Cancer 5K [Register Here](#)

**June 20** - Dino Dash 5K at Beatty Park  
[Register Here](#)

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Board of Health Monthly Meetings at 8:15 am  
January 20  
February 17  
March 17  
April 21  
May 19  
June 16

Annual District Advisory Council Meeting  
March 4 at 6:30 pm

*All Meetings at the Jefferson County Tower  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Community Room.*

## 2025 Communicable Disease Report

| Disease Type                         | JAN        | FEB        | MAR       | APR       | MAY       | JUN       | JUL       | AUG       | SEP       | OCT       | NOV       | DEC       | TOTAL      |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Anaplasmosis                         | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1          |
| Babesiosis                           | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1          |
| Botulism-Infant                      | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1          |
| Campylobacteriosis                   | 0          | 0          | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 3         | 1         | 1         | 7          |
| Chlamydia                            | 20         | 20         | 12        | 9         | 13        | 8         | 6         | 12        | 19        | 14        | 16        | 12        | 161        |
| COVID-19                             | 125        | 107        | 32        | 13        | 4         | 11        | 14        | 18        | 27        | 4         | 0         | 0         | 355        |
| COVID-19 Hospitalization             | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 4         | 17        | 21         |
| CP-CRE / CPO                         | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 1         | 1         | 1         | 1         | 2         | 8          |
| E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing       | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1          |
| Ehrlichiosis-Ehrlichia ewingii       | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 3          |
| Giardiasis                           | 0          | 0          | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 3          |
| Gonorrhea                            | 8          | 4          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 2         | 0         | 4         | 1         | 2         | 1         | 23         |
| Hepatitis B                          | 1          | 0          | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 0         | 7          |
| Hepatitis C                          | 5          | 4          | 2         | 7         | 4         | 3         | 5         | 7         | 5         | 1         | 2         | 4         | 49         |
| Hepatitis E                          | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1          |
| Influenza-associated hospitalization | 22         | 60         | 13        | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 16        | 113        |
| Legionnaires' disease                | 0          | 1          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 2          |
| Listeriosis                          | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 2          |
| Lyme disease                         | 2          | 1          | 1         | 5         | 12        | 33        | 57        | 27        | 7         | 17        | 4         | 5         | 171        |
| Pertussis                            | 1          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2          |
| Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever         | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1          |
| RSV- associated hospitalization      | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 17        | 19         |
| Salmonellosis                        | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 1         | 6         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 3         | 15         |
| Shigellosis                          | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 1         | 3          |
| Streptococcal disease, group A       | 0          | 1          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 4          |
| Streptococcus pneumoniae             | 1          | 1          | 1         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 4         | 13         |
| Syphilis                             | 0          | 0          | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         | <b>185</b> | <b>199</b> | <b>64</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>40</b> | <b>58</b> | <b>97</b> | <b>69</b> | <b>67</b> | <b>43</b> | <b>43</b> | <b>85</b> | <b>988</b> |

### January - National Radon Action Month

**What is radon?** Radon is a colorless, odorless radioactive gas that comes from the natural breakdown (decay) of uranium in soil and rocks.

**What is the risk of living with radon?** Exposure to elevated levels of radon over the course of your lifetime increases your risk of developing lung cancer. The surgeon general has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Radon is also the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. Smoking greatly increases your risk of getting lung cancer from radon exposure.

**How does radon get into my home?** Radon moves into your home by migrating through cracks or openings in the foundation. Any home can have elevated levels of radon, whether or not you have a basement and regardless of if your home is old or new.

**Is radon found in homes in Ohio?** Elevated levels of indoor radon have been found in homes in every county of Ohio. Every year approximately 50% of all homes tested in Ohio have elevated levels of radon.

Free kits can be requested by visiting the [Ohio Free Radon Test Kit](#) webpage.