

JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Jackson County Health Department



2021

ANNUAL REPORT

December 1st, 2020 - November 30th, 2021

415 Health Department Road ~ PO Box 307 ~ Murphysboro, IL 62966

Phone: 618-684-3143 ~ **Fax:** 618-684-6023

Website: www.jchdonline.org

Find us on



To the Citizens of Jackson County:

Much like the previous year, the public health focus for 2021 was largely centered on the COVID-19 response. The pandemic remained a challenge, both for Jackson County Health Department and society at large. But JCHD rose to the challenge, time and again, in a myriad of ways. This work included the following actions:

Vaccination – The first mass vaccination clinic was held on December 30, 2020. By the end of the fiscal year on November 30, 2021, JCHD had administered over 63,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, a truly amazing feat!

Contact tracing – The Health Department placed 5,744 persons positive for COVID-19 on isolation, placed thousands more close contacts on quarantine, conducted wellness checks with those on isolation and connected them with testing and other resources, and worked with employers and schools to determine possible exposures. JCHD maintained a dedicated contact tracing team, supplemented by other Health Department staff. For a second year, we maintained some of the most impressive contact tracing metrics in the State.

Working with community partners – JCHD also received high praise from our community partners for the work we conducted to keep them informed and to roll out COVID-19 vaccinations. Our mass vaccination efforts would not have been possible without our key community partners, which included Southern Illinois Healthcare, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, City of Carbondale, SIU Family Medicine, Egyptian Health Department, Illinois National Guard and Illinois Department of Public Health. JCHD staff worked closely with school districts on contact tracing, testing, adaptive pauses to classroom instruction, vaccination, and many other issues. The support provided by other partners, such as the Jackson County Board and Jackson County Emergency Management, proved invaluable, as well.

Public information – We took seriously our role in keeping the community informed about the latest developments in the COVID-19 response. Our frequent news releases, media interviews, website and social media posts, as well as answering thousands of calls and emails, served to keep our citizenry updated. Arming Jackson County residents with the best available guidance allowed them to make more informed decisions.

Volunteers – A fantastic group of 20 volunteers contributed 500 hours of service during the year. Their help with mass vaccination clinics, homebound vaccinations, and other public health services made a world of difference, and were truly a shining example for others to follow. We could not have done it without them!

Beyond COVID-19, Jackson County Health Department continued to serve our county through many other public health programs listed in this annual report. As the pandemic hopefully begins to dissipate, JCHD will again demonstrate more fully the breadth of services we provide to our community.

Thanks to the staff and volunteers of Jackson County Health Department for continued excellence! Your sense of purpose and commitment to service were evident in 2021. Last, but not least, thank you to the residents of Jackson County, for the continued support and appreciation.

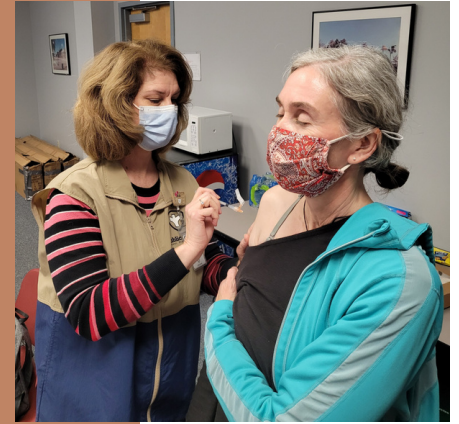
Respectfully,

Bart Hagston, MA, IPEM
Public Health Administrator



Your Health Department Services

- Birth/death certificates
- Blood lead screening
- Breastfeeding support
- Cardiovascular disease prevention
- Communicable disease control
- Diabetes education and referrals
- Emergency planning
- PrEP Clinic
- Flu vaccinations
- Food establishment inspections
- HIV+ case management services
- HIV testing and counseling
- Immunizations
- Private sewage system inspections
- Private well inspections
- Recycling promotion & education
- School health services
- STD testing and treatment
- Shingles vaccination (age 50+)
- Tuberculosis testing and treatment
- Tobacco prevention program
- WNV/mosquito surveillance
- Women, Infant & Children (WIC)
- And more!



This is YOUR shot!

Kyaw Naing, M.D., PhD— Medical Director

Jackson County Board of Health

Sherry Jones, M.D.
 Susie Toliver
 Lynn Heins
 Connie Favreau
 Melodi Ewing, M.D.
 Amy Wyatt, D.M.D.
 Katherine Poulos, Pharm D
 Scott Comparato, PhD

President
 Vice President
 Secretary
 Member
 Member
 Member
 Member
 County Board Representative



Organized and professional vaccination clinics



Operation Graduation Vaccination



Shred Day



Governor's visit to mass vaccination site



Local media coverage



Receiving first COVID-19 vaccine



Chemical Collection

Support Services Division

Chad Hill, BS, Director, Fiscal Mgr.

Bridget Baltzell, Fiscal Assistant
 Melanie Endres, MS, Administrative Assistant
 Kim Flanigan, BS, Human Resources Manager
 Dana Kimmel, Receptionist
 Bernadine Morrow, Billing Clerk
 Trace Myers, BS, Network Administrator



Providing contact tracing for schools



Vaccine efforts with Illinois National Guard

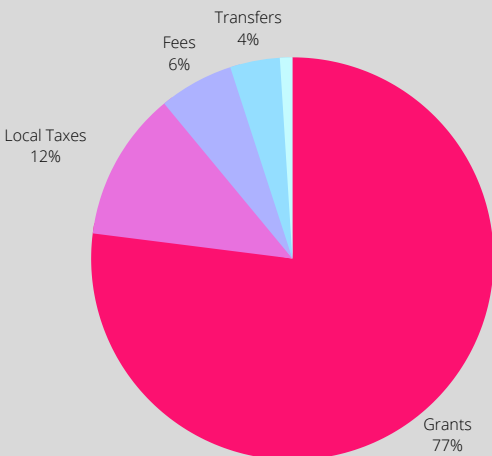
2021 Revenue and Expenses

Support/Revenue	
Local/State/Federal Grants	\$4,435,943
Vaccine Inventory, Non-Cash	\$40,233
Service/Permit Fees	\$343,242
Transfers/Intragovt.	\$246,186
Interest	\$167
Other	\$8,358
Tax Levy	\$701,627
TOTAL	\$5,775,756

Expenditures	
Personnel Service	\$2,977,965
Fringe/Health Insurance	\$1,172,381
Contractual Services	\$1,065,035
Commodities	\$174,576
Vaccine, Non Cash Used	\$40,233
Vaccine, Purchase Used	\$125,307
Maintenance/Repair	\$107,710
Travel	\$18,933
Other	\$95,775
TOTAL	\$5,777,915

Surplus Revenue Over Expenditures
 (\$2,159)

Revenues FY 2021



- 77% GRANTS**
State & Federal funding received
- 12% LOCAL TAXES**
Property taxes allocated to health department
- 6% FEES**
Fees paid for services received
- 4% TRANSFERS**
Revenue from other county funds
- 1% INTEREST/OTHER**

Vital Records (JCHD 2021 Statistics)

Total deaths in Jackson County.....718
 Total births in Jackson County.....2,241

Deaths to Jackson County residents470
 Births to Jackson County residents.....516

Contact Tracing & Covid Support Section

Shawna DeBolt, BS, Section Supervisor

Elizabeth Cheek, BS, Contact Tracer
Jeff Green, MPH, Contact Tracer
Patricia Jaramillo-Hyson, BS, Contact Tracer
Maggie Moffit, BS, Case Investigator
Jamie Moore, Case Investigator
Jessica Sergeev, M.Arch, Administrative Assistant
(An initial group of 18 staff were hired on July 31, 2020 and provided contact tracing services through May 31, 2021)



Contact tracing

Number of individuals in Jackson County positive for COVID-19 and isolated to prevent further spread of the virus

5,744

Tracing staff provided resources and referrals, through the Pandemic Health Navigator Relief Program, for individuals and families who were quarantined or isolated

Number of Jackson County residents that passed away from COVID-19 related illness

78

Community partners including schools, long term care, daycare centers and other local businesses continued to lean on JCHD to provide technical assistance and guidance on COVID-19 related issues.

JCHD's contact tracing efforts helped isolate new cases quickly and placed exposed individuals under quarantine to help limit the spread of disease

Based upon established metrics, JCHD's contact tracing work placed us in the top five performing local health departments in Illinois

JCHD continued to support COVID-19 testing performed by SIH with COVID-19 grant dollars

Throughout the year, public information was distributed frequently through news releases, website updates, and social media messages. JCHD staff conducted dozens of media interviews.

Efforts at SIU-C to address COVID-19 continued to be supported by JCHD. These activities included quarantine and isolation, case investigation, COVID-19 testing, and providing tailored guidance.

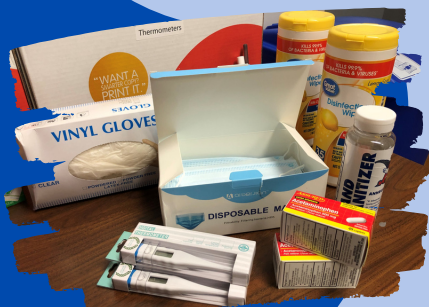
New COVID-19 cases remained high from December 2020 until February 2021. The number of new cases rose again from July to September with the arrival of the Delta variant.

Inside JCHD

The Jackson County Board of Health adopted a COVID-19 vaccination requirement for JCHD employees

Over 39,000 staff hours were spent on COVID-19 response during this time frame

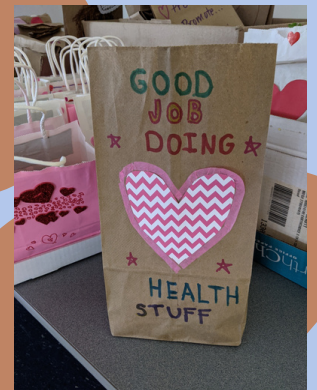
Several grants from the Illinois Department of Public Health funded the Health Department's COVID-19 response efforts. Additional financial support was provided by the Jackson County Board's American Rescue Plan Act funding.



Isolation & Quarantine supplies



Dr. Ezike and Dr. Tokars visiting JCHD



Community support & appreciation



JCHD - New outdoor pavilion

Health Education Division

Matt Leversee, BS, Director

Lea Crabtree, Division Support
Angie Kuehl, BS, Recycling/Health Educator
Jessica Vicente, MHA, Health Educator
Cristy Wedemeyer, BS, CHES, Health Educator



Health Education programming focuses on building community partnerships and coalitions to address Jackson County's priority health problems, as determined in the Community Health Improvement Plan.

Jackson County's priority health problems for 2020-2024 are:

- Behavioral Health, including mental health and substance abuse
- Cardiovascular Health, including heart disease, stroke, nutrition, physical activity and obesity
- Access to Care, including availability of services

To support this effort, health educators participated in the following community coalitions:

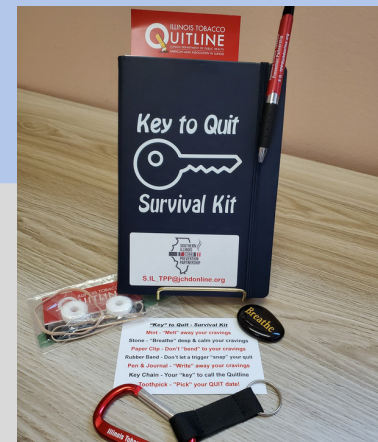
- Jackson County Healthy Communities Coalition - Healthy Living Action Team
- Built Environment Action Team - Diabetes Today Resource Team
- Cancer Action Network - Behavioral Health Action Team
- Building Compassionate Communities - Illinois CATCH Onto Health Consortium
- Joint Access to Care - Positive Youth Development
- Southern Illinois Food Pantry Network - Southern Illinois Tobacco-Free Coalition
- Environmental Educators Association of Illinois - Illinois Alliance to Prevent Obesity
- Prescription Monitoring Program - Southern Illinois Opioid Response Advisory Council



Tobacco prevention banner in Murphysboro



Health educators at CCHS



Keys to Quit Survival Kit

Notable 2021 accomplishments:

Supported the development of a new community coalition: Southern Illinois Food Pantry Network to reduce food insecurity in the region.

Partnered with a variety of regional and state partners to promote public health including: opioid overdose rates, built environment infrastructure, youth tobacco and substance abuse prevention, breast feeding promotion, chronic disease prevention, and school wellness.

Re-established, re-branded and set new strategies for the tobacco coalition in southern Illinois, now known as the Southern Illinois Tobacco Prevention Partnership.

HIV Services Division

Paula Clark, MPH, MEd, Director

- Autumn Allen, BS, Administrative Assistant
- Lori Brummer, BSW, Program Coordinator
- Dawonna Filkins, Program Billing Coordinator
- Megan Fleming, BS, Program Manager
- Jennifer Linson, RN PrEP Coordinator
- Chesli Nigra, BSW, Medical Case Manager
- Philip Partridge, MA, Regional Education & Treatment Adherence Coordinator
- Alison Smith, MS, Medical Case Manager/Linkage to Care Coordinator
- Ashtyn Toliver, MEd, Medical Case Manager/Medical Benefits Manager
- Christina Urban, BS, Medical Case Manager
- Megan Weston, BS, Medical Case Manager /Housing Coordinator



Number of HIV+ clients who received the following services:

Case Management services

240 clients /9,950 hours

Primary health care

35 clients received medical appointments

Dental care

40 clients received dental appointments

Transportation assistance

29 clients received transportation assistance

Housing/utility assistance

120 clients received housing/utility assistance

Mental health services

2 clients received mental health services

Food Bank Services

158 clients received food support

Treatment adherence counseling

115 clients received 193 hours of counseling

The HIV Services Division offers a variety of programs and services related to HIV. The following programs are provided:

- **Southern Illinois HIV Care Connect (SIHCC)** is the regional lead agent which provides a variety of medical and support services to those who are HIV+ in the lower 19 counties.
- **HIV Prevention and Education** is provided in Jackson County to provide risk reduction education, testing for high risk individuals and their partners and capacity building for providers. Over 6,000 safer sex kits were provided to those receiving risk reduction education and HIV testing services.
- **PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis)** is a once-a-day pill to help prevent HIV. We have over 25 PrEP friendly providers in our area. A monthly clinic is held at Jackson County Health Department to provide PrEP services, referrals and medication assistance. In 2021 we enrolled/prescribed PrEP to 101 individuals.
- **Disease Intervention Specialist Services** are provided throughout the 19 county region to support local health departments in providing HIV testing, contacting partners and linking those who are HIV+ to care. Support and referral services are also provided to many physicians and health agencies in our region. Over 124 program referral/reporting packets were delivered to providers in the 19 county region. This was an IDPH pilot program now being replicated throughout the state.

Number of people who received services through these programs:

HIV Testing.....	108
HIV Prevention Education.....	180
HIV Training/Provider Technical Assistance.....	124
Partner Services.....	211
Linkage to HIV Care Services.....	37
Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in Jackson County....	7
Enrolled in PrEP services.....	101
Hep C tests given.....	46
Hep C positives & connected to care.....	1

Nursing and Family Services Division

Annette Greer, RN, BSN, Director

Sarah Fager, RN, CLC, WIC Coordinator/Program Manager

Charlotte Hoehner, Nursing Support
 Katy Kuh, RN, WIC Nurse
 Katie Lynn, RD, CLC, WIC Nutritionist
 Chyenne Mahan, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor
 Marian Musgraves, WIC Support

Kerry Thies, WIC Support
 Tracey Thomas, LPN, Staff Nurse
 Paula Vineyard Most, MS, RD, CLS, Breastfeeding Coordinator
 Lisa Weiss, BS, CLS, WIC Nutritionist, Lead Risk Assessor
 Elizabeth Witbracht, RN, BSN, Tuberculosis Program

Communicable Disease Surveillance

Nursing staff responds to reports of communicable disease and conducts investigations to ensure adequate treatment and containment. There are many activities that are not reflected in the disease counts listed below. These activities include monitoring potentially exposed persons throughout incubation periods, referring clients to needed services, and providing information and guidance to community partners.

We investigated **168** reports of communicable diseases that did not meet case definitions.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

WIC is a federal nutrition education program that provides nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding promotion and support, healthy foods, screenings, and referrals to healthcare and social services within the community.

Our Breastfeeding Peer Counseling program provides basic breastfeeding information and support to our moms.

Average monthly caseload: **870**

Funds distributed to WIC Clients for Farmers' Markets: **\$6,240**

The counts of confirmed, suspect and probable cases are below.

Communicable Disease	Confirmed	Suspect/Probable
Babesiosis	0	1
Campylobacteriosis	1	11
Cryptosporidiosis	1	1
Chlamydia	720	0
Ehrlichia chaffeensis	3	3
Gonorrhea	482	0
Haemophilus Influenzae Invasive Disease	1	0
Hepatitis A	1	0
Hepatitis B Chronic	5	1
Hepatitis C Acute	1	1
Hepatitis C Chronic Infection	14	5
Histoplasmosis	0	2
Legionellosis-Legionnaires Disease	1	0
Lyme Disease	1	0
Rabies, Human Exposure	0 exposure	3 exposures
Salmonellosis	5	1
Shiga toxin-producing E. coli, Shiga toxin positive, non-O157	2	2
Spotted Fever Rickettsioses	0	6
Streptococcal Disease Invasive Group B	2	0
Syphilis	32	0
Tuberculosis, Active	0	0
Tuberculosis, Latent	38	0
Varicella	0	1
Total	1310	38

Immunizations—JCHD provides all Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommended vaccines for children and adults.

Total number of immunizations (children and adults):

1,119

Total number of seasonal flu vaccines administered:

1,807

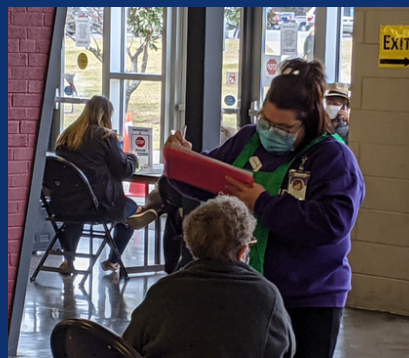
Total number of COVID vaccines administered:

63,204

Other Clinical Services:
 Hearing Screenings: 58
 Vision Screenings: 57
 TB skin test administered: 440
 TB blood tests: 0
 Sexual Health Clinic visits: 120



Flu shots



Mass vaccination clinic



Home-bound vaccinations

Environmental Health & Emergency Preparedness Division

Kerri Gale, BS, Director

Taylor Beasley, BS, Associate Environmentalist

Lynn Brady, AAS, Division Support

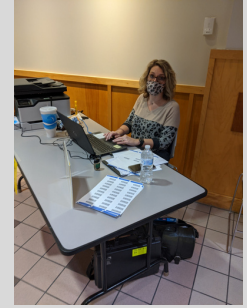
Jessica Grammer, BA, Preparedness & Compliance Specialist

Deborah Johnson, BS, Solid Waste Inspector

Brittany Wheeler, BS, Associate Environmentalist

Kassidy Phoenix-Stevenson, BS, Recycling Coordinator

Kyle Scerena, BS, LEHP, Supervisor



Vaccination clinic support

The goals of the Environmental Health Division are to protect the citizens of Jackson County by preventing or reducing the risk of disease transmission; to provide a safe and sanitary environment; and to reduce solid waste and increase recycling efforts throughout the county. Education, inspection, and enforcement are the three key elements of Environmental Health programs. Environmental Health staff provide free informational materials and consultation on program related problems and issues. All programs also involve enforcement of state laws and local ordinances. The following is a list of services provided in 2021 categorized by program:

Food

Food permits issued **409**
 Food service inspections & field visits **914**
 Temporary food permits issued **61**
 Summer food service inspections conducted **22**

Sewage

Private sewage disposal system inspections & field visits **294**
 Private sewage system permits issued **67**
 Subdivision plans reviewed **3**
 Sewage evaluations performed **1**

Recycling

Pounds of recyclables from drop-offs **424,542**
 Pounds recycled from schools **154,560**
 Waste haulers licensed **13**
 Pounds of electronics recycled **389,817**
 Households using household chemical collections **529**
 Households using JCHD document shredding & Drug-Take-Back events **147**

Sewage

Private sewage disposal system inspections & field visits **294**
 Private sewage system permits issued **67**
 Subdivision plans reviewed **3**
 Sewage evaluations performed **1**

Water

Closed-loop well permits issued **3**
 Private water well permits issued **11**
 Private water well samples collected **23**
 Samples collected from non-community water supplies **4**

Solid Waste

Landfill inspections **5**
 Open dump/open burning inspections **85**
 New Open dump sites identified **10**
 Open dump sites closed **10**
 Cubic yards waste removed from environment **966**

Vector Control

Vector control/West Nile Virus field surveys **88**
 Mosquito batches tested **118**
 (1 positive for West Nile Virus)

Citizen complaints investigated (from all programs)

114

COVID-19 in Jackson County, December 2020-November 2021

VACCINATION EFFORTS

- The long-anticipated COVID-19 vaccination campaign began in December 2020. Jackson County Health Department dubbed our vaccination efforts as “Operation Safe Return”.
- Our first COVID-19 vaccination clinic was on December 30, 2020 at SIU’s Banterra Center. The Moderna Covid vaccine was administered to healthcare workers. JCHD continued to hold two vaccination clinics a week at the Banterra Center through mid-February 2021.
- In early February Jackson County was selected by the State as a location to support mass vaccination efforts with Illinois National Guard (ING) troops. Preparations began to open up clinics six days a week at two sites, Banterra Center and the Carbondale Civic Center. JCHD’s vaccination planning team met with representatives from IDPH and ING and engaged in extensive planning efforts to pull these large operations together.
- On February 19 we held our first mass vaccination clinics with the help of the Illinois National Guard and traveling nurses supplied by IDPH. Moving forward, clinics mostly offered the Pfizer Covid vaccine, with occasional days offering Moderna or Johnson & Johnson.
- With vaccine demand outstripping supply, the State rolled out the vaccination campaign in phases. Beyond the healthcare workers who were vaccinated in the first phase, the campaign expanded to include frontline essential workers, those age 65 and older, and persons age 16-64 with certain underlying health conditions. Beyond that, other phases opened vaccine eligibility to additional groups, including other essential workers, everyone age 16 and above, then those age 12-15 years old.
- Between both mass vaccination sites, JCHD had the ability to administer up to 1,600 doses per day. Demand for vaccine was very high through early April. JCHD vaccinated many residents from across southern Illinois, as well as some who came from as far as northern Illinois.
- JCHD also helped coordinate with ING and Southern Illinois Healthcare on locations for mobile vaccination teams to deploy. Numerous sites held vaccination clinics, including churches, government buildings, civic organizations, and schools. These operations concluded in July 2021. Additional vaccination teams, coordinated by IDPH, continued to administer vaccine at various locations upon request, with a special focus on vaccinating underserved populations.
- Many people who had mobility issues were served at our mass vaccination sites, via a curbside vaccination option. In addition, JCHD initiated a program to vaccinate homebound persons in June.
- Logistics for the vaccination campaign proved to be complex at times. A significant amount of time was spent ensuring we had the proper supplies on-hand, the vaccine inventory was maintained and held at proper temperatures, and many other supply issues.
- As the number of individuals seeking vaccination began to decline, JCHD phased out the Civic Center vaccination site on April 19, and Banterra Center on May 22. Vaccinations were then moved to the Health Department, where we continued to vaccinate people Monday-Friday for the remainder of the year.
- A special vaccination event, called “Operation Graduation Vaccination”, was held over two days in conjunction with the spring commencement ceremonies at SIU-Carbondale. Health Department staff were present at the entrance to graduation ceremonies to promote vaccination. Interested persons were then directed to the vaccination clinic next door. Dr. Ngozi Ezike, IDPH Director and featured speaker at one commencement ceremony, stopped by to offer her support of the effort.
- JCHD hosted Governor Pritzker at the Civic Center vaccination site on March 19, as well as Illinois National Guard Adjutant General Neely on March 24.
- Special vaccination clinic events were held in November 2021 to meet increased demand. Over two days, 936 doses were given at a booster clinic at the Carbondale Civic Center. Several Saturday clinics were held to vaccinate 5-11 years olds, who were newly eligible for vaccination at that time.
- The Jackson County Board of Health adopted resolutions formally thanking our community partners for their help during the mass vaccination campaign.



JCHD - working to create a healthy community