



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

420 Market Avenue North  
Canton, Ohio 44702  
(330) 489-3231

info@cantonhealth.org  
www.cantonhealth.org

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# Canton City Health Department 2016 Annual Report

## Health Commissioner James M. Adams, RS, MPH

Please accept this annual report for the Canton City Health Department for the 2016 calendar year. It is difficult to summarize the hard work and dedication of our employees and community in just a few pages. This report is just a snapshot of the important work done every day to prevent the spread of disease, promote health and protect the community from harm.



In 2016 our staff continued on its quest to serve the community with compassion, understanding, professionalism and respect. We will continue this into the future. In 2017, we will be applying to the national Public Health Accreditation Board to be recognized as an accredited public health department. This is not an end unto itself but a recognition of our commitment to quality service in the community.

Each statistic in this report tells a story. A story of people who live and work in our community. A story of families who strive to make this a better place. I am honored to be part of an organization and a staff that works together to accomplish the goal of better health for all in Canton.

*James M. Adams*



# Finance

Christi Allen, Fiscal Officer

Revenues	2016	2015
<b>Local Sources:</b>		
Permits & Fees	\$677,915	\$673,347
Nursing Clinic Fees	82,030	159,096
Other	233,478	41,734
Advances/Transfer In	0	0
Revenues from the City	1,618,443	2,089,928
<b>State Sources:</b>		
State Subsidy	28,696	13,674
Grants	4,308,249	2,973,585
Other	139,142	107,587
<b>Federal Sources:</b>		
Contracts	286,638	207,548
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$7,374,591</b>	<b>\$6,266,499</b>

Expenditures	2016	2015
Salaries	\$2,786,707	\$2,917,894
Benefits	1,239,556	1,312,071
Purchased Services	612,158	275,763
Program Contracts	876,803	864,152
Supplies	191,455	165,635
Equipment	40,310	67,408
State Remittances	230,704	285,857
Other	127,630	132,142
Advances/Transfers Out	0	61,960
Prior year commitments pd	74,107	177,510
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,179,430</b>	<b>\$6,205,619</b>

Overall revenue increased by 38% largely due to the Medicaid funding received for the THRIVE (Infant Mortality) program of \$1,626,245 and overall expenses decreased by less than 1%

# Vital Statistics

Rob Knight, Deputy Registrar

The role of Vital Statistics is changing. Although the data and records remain the same, the manner in which they are generated and collected changed significantly in October 2016. Prior to this, death certificates for cases investigated by the coroner required both the coroner and funeral director to complete information on the certificate, then deliver the document to Vital Statistics to be registered. Beginning in October, death certificates for cases involving coroners are automatically registered when both the coroner and funeral director electronically affirm that information entered in Ohio Department of Health's (ODH) Electronic Death Registration System is true, accurate and complete. Our Vital Statistics office still issues certified copies of these electronically registered death certificates but we are no longer involved in the registration process.

ODH has announced that private practice doctors will begin to be added to this Electronic Death Registration System mid-2017 and that a similar process will be used for registering nearly all births beginning January 1, 2017.



Leading Causes of Death in Canton*					
	2016	2015		2016	2015
Heart Disease	482	515	Kidney Failure	81	85
Cancer (All Types)	259	241	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	62	63
Flu/Pneumonia	131	120	Drug Related	38	50
Stroke	104	110	All Other Causes	599	581

Certificates Issued		
	2016	2015
Birth	9,650	9,414
Death	6,667	6,653
Vital Statistics*		
	2016	2015
Deaths	1,756	1,755
Births	4,266	4,145
- Unmarried Parents (At the time of birth)	2,020	1,751
- Teen Births (13 - 19)	282	273
<b>*Total: This excludes cases investigated by the coroner from 10/1/16—12/31/16.</b>		

# Quality Improvement

CCHD implemented a new program for Quality Improvement (QI) beginning in June 2016. This program, initiated by the development of a Quality Improvement Plan, established the specifics of the program including goals and objectives to be accomplished during 2016 and 2017. The QI Program includes the formation of a QI Committee and Project Teams; a formalized method for completion of projects; a structure for reporting activities; and training requirements for all staff. The overall purpose of our QI Program is to instill a culture for continuous improvement in our services.

Status of QI Goals and Objectives as of 12/31/2016				
Original deadline:	Total Goals and Objectives	# Completed by original deadline	# completed after deadline	# still in progress
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2016	5	3	2	0
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016	9	2	0	7
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2017	4	0	0	4

As illustrated in the table, several of our quality improvement goals and objectives, which includes two identified projects, have been completed and others are in progress and targeted for completion by the end of 2017.

Details of our Quality Improvement Program, including progress on its projects and activities, are available by visiting our website at [www.cantonhealth.org](http://www.cantonhealth.org) and clicking the Quality Improvement link in the left side column.

## Nursing

**Jon Elias, MD; Medical Director**  
**Diane Thompson, RN, MSN; Director of Nursing**

Canton City Health Department nursing staff is uniquely qualified to serve diverse populations that require specialized care including childhood and travel immunizations, active and latent tuberculosis, sexually transmitted infections including Syphilis and HIV, communicable disease investigations, resourcing families with special need children, etc. In 2016, we became actively involved in the Opiate Task Force to see how public health can aide and be a more active participant in addressing the opiate epidemic. Our data shows that Hepatitis C, a blood borne pathogen transmitted through contaminated blood and body fluids has shown a steady increase in diagnosed cases in Stark County since 2008. Our five-year overall county rate is 75.8/100,000. Our average case count is 285 cases/year for a disease that is highly preventable. Injection drug use is the most common risk factor in persons with Hepatitis C. Plans are underway to offer a comprehensive syringe access program for a population stigmatized and underserved – the intravenous drug users (IVDU). It is a blood borne pathogen prevention program called Project SWAP – Stark Wide Approach to Prevention. We plan to offer access to clean syringes, harm reduction education, HIV and Hepatitis C testing, linkage to treatment and mental health services and vaccine (Hepatitis A and B) administration. People who inject drugs imperil their own health – if they contract HIV or hepatitis, their needle-sharing partners, sexual partners and offspring may be infected and/or affected. Public health’s primary obligation is to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number of people or the population as a whole. We believe this strategy addresses an unmet need in our community.

Nursing Outreach		
	2016	2015
Communicable Disease	30	4
Disease Intervention Specialist	108	89
Other Outreach Services	245	131
Dental - Students Screened	2,761	-
Dental - Students Teeth Sealed	1,719	-
Clinic Services		
	2016	2015
STI Clinic	1,163	1,203
International Travel	235	250
Tuberculosis Testing	211	242
Well-Baby Immunizations	587	581
HIV Testing	1,149	91



# Air Pollution Control

## Terri Dzienis; APC Administrator

As contractual agents of Ohio EPA throughout Stark County, one responsibility of the Division of Air Pollution Control (APC) is receiving and investigating complaints. In 2016, APC investigated 146 complaints concerning open burning and 53 complaints concerning odors, fugitive dust, and other air emissions.

Our most common complaints concern open burning. While specific open burning rules vary slightly depending on where you live, in general, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-19 allows a 3x3x2' fire for recreational purposes as long as only clean, seasoned firewood is burned. Clean, seasoned firewood does not include materials such as particle board, treated wood, painted or stained wood or leaves. When an open burning complaint is received, APC staff investigate by measuring the size of the burn area and observing the remains of the burned material. If violations are observed by the inspector, a Notice of Violation letter is issued. If the violation is significant or a repeat offense, the case may be referred to Ohio EPA for further enforcement action, which may include monetary penalties.

Other complaints received concern odors. Odor complaints can be frustrating because APC is not always able to identify the source. If the source is identified, we can only influence the source of the odor if we have regulatory authority over it. For instance, waste from slaughtering facilities and waste water treatment plants are common sources of odor but APC does not have regulatory authority over these types of sources. If the odor is due to an air pollution control issue, such as a flare or other piece of air pollution control equipment that is not working properly, APC will use its authority to correct the situation.

Another common complaint concerns fugitive dust. Fugitive dust complaints increase during periods of dry weather. Fugitive dust is defined by OAC 3745-17 as "particulate matter which is emitted from any source by means other than a stack." OAC 3745-17-08 requires that reasonably available control measures are used to prevent fugitive dust from becoming airborne. However, this rule only applies to areas listed in Appendix A of the rule. Appendix A areas were determined by lawmakers when this rule was originally written in 1972 and the list has not been updated. Appendix A areas in Stark County are as follows: Canton, East Canton, Louisville, Meyers Lake; and Canton, Nimishillen, Osnaburg, Perry, and Plain Townships. Although APC will educate and encourage dust suppression in non-Appendix A areas, we cannot force someone in these areas to make efforts to suppress dust unless they are extreme cases. If the source of fugitive dust is in an Appendix A area, OAC 3745-17-07 provides specific limits on how much fugitive dust can be created. For dust complaints, APC staff monitors the source of

fugitive dust using USEPA Methods 9 or 22. APC staff are certified twice a year to perform Method 9, which involves reading the opacity of emissions. Method 22 involves recording the amount of time that dust is visible during an observation period. If the source does not comply with the limits specified in OAC 3745-17-07 and it lies in an Appendix A area, APC will require control of the fugitive dust through means such as watering, using dust suppression chemicals and/or sweeping.

APC would like to remind the community of the importance of its involvement in air pollution control. Please call in any air pollution complaints to 330-489-3385.

Air Pollution Control Activities		
	2016	2015
Complaints Investigated	199	266
Asbestos Inspections	92	51
Facility Inspections	113	95
Performance Tests Observed	25	17
Anti-tampering Inspections	4	4
Open Burning Permissions	13	18
Enforcement Actions	158	199
Violations Resolved	132	142
Permits Issued Final	112	86



# Environmental Health

## Mark H. Adams, RS, MPH; Director of Environmental Health

The Division of Environmental Health at the Canton City Health Department strives to be proactive in addressing the community's needs for the prevention of disease and injury. Environmental Health is divided into three main sections: Consumer Services, Community Services and Special Services. 2016 was a spectacular year. We expanded activities at the recycling center, cut costs, and reduced wastes bound for the landfills.

By working out a collaborative agreement with the City of Canton and the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Joint Solid Waste District, our district was able to secure nearly 100 thousand dollars in contracts through a shared management plan of the recycling center by expanding into the realm of household hazardous waste collection. By the end of 2016, we had collected 14,216 lbs of HHW, 5,773 lbs of E-Waste, 84,306 lbs of scrap metals, 19,206 tires, and funding for a new fence and security system. We were also able to grade the property and lay down new gravel to make it easier for residents to exit out of the new sliding exit gate along Schroyer SW.

Our activities at the center allowed us to logistically complete 252 community cleanups resulting in the collection of 95 tons of waste; much of it being diverted from the landfill and recycled at the recycling center and sold as scrap, comingled plastics, paper and glass as well as iron and aluminum.

The Community Services Section deals with odors, excessive accumulation of animal waste, rabies control, HAZMAT spills, poor water quality and poor indoor air quality. They also work at the recycling center as part of a collateral duty.

Consumer Services is responsible for the inspection of food establishments but going into restaurants and performing inspections is just half of the task. Consumer Services personnel are also charged with the inspection and licensing of vending machines, temporary event food service inspections and public swimming pools.

This section also inspects waste transfer stations, composting facilities, small and large infectious waste generators and tattoo parlors.

The Special Services Section works with the more complex aspects of environmental health. This section is responsible for all of the lead investigations throughout the county and indoor air issues within the city.

### EH Activities

	2016	2015
Animal Bites	382	299
Food Protection Activities	1,846	2,019
Nuisance Complaint Activities	4,731	-
Cases Opened	1,558	1,884
Cases Resolved	1,541	1,867
Pool and Spa Inspections	66	56
School Inspections	54	46
Solid/Infectious Waste Activities	78	66
Tattoo/Body Piercing Inspections	70	15



# Laboratory

## Christina Henning, Laboratory Director

Laboratory Exams		
	2016	2015
Food Samples	372	336
Clinical Tests	5,477	6,433
Other	4	5
Pollen/Mold	139	133
Water	2,066	1,896

The Canton City Health Department Laboratory provides a wide spectrum of services. As an EPA certified lab, we assist homeowners and public drinking water systems with the identification of potential contamination from their water source. Through licensing from Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), we are able to support public health efforts to reduce the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STI) by offering on site testing for gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis HIV, and other STI's. Additionally, we help to prevent the long term consequences of lead exposure via testing provided to an early head start screening program. By means of over 20 years of experience from two laboratory staff, we are able to

help identify pollen and molds circulating in our outdoor environment, providing an aid to allergists in identifying the source of patient sensitivities and disorders. With the use of Standard Methods, we perform monthly testing of frozen dessert machines, enabling our inspecting sanitarians and operators to assess the condition and safe operation of these units. In 2016, these services and more were done to support our departmental partners, our city and our community.



## Medical Director

### Jon Elias, MD

Hello, I am Dr. Jon Elias, the new Medical Director of the Canton City Health Department. It is an honor to serve in this new position. I grew up in Stow, OH getting my B.S. degree in Biology at Kent State University. After obtaining my medical degree at Ohio State University, I practiced rural family medicine in Oregon for four years. I then returned to teach as the Associate Director of the Barberton Family Medicine Residency Program for 14 years. Now, I practice urgent care in Stark County with the Aultman emergency group. I look forward to using my academic background to help guide the Health Department in our goal to improve the health for the City of Canton and the surrounding areas. I look forward to the coming year.

# Office of Public Health Information

The Office of Public Health Information (OPHI) works with other divisions, agencies and the public to increase emergency preparedness and awareness of public health activities. In everyday activities as well as emergency situations, strong communication is the key to an effective response. Communication avenues used to keep our community and partners up to date on important issues are our website ([www.cantonhealth.org](http://www.cantonhealth.org)), Health Alert Network (HAN) messages and social media. Social media provides the opportunity to provide real time information and has proven effective as an outreach tool. Facebook is used on a daily basis and continues to be an excellent means of providing Facebook friends with educational information, programs offered by the health department and community activities. We have over 1500 followers and our audience continues to grow. #cantonhealth

A branch of OPHI includes the public health discipline epidemiology. Epidemiologists study public health problems, such as unintentional injuries, communicable disease, environmental exposures, cardiovascular disease, obesity, tobacco use and other health-related issues that affect our community. Epidemiologists may prepare reports and presentations to assist with programmatic planning efforts and to display data in an understandable format. Our epidemiologist focuses on disease surveillance to identify, investigate and prevent outbreaks in our community. In 2016, 1,684 individual reportable disease cases were reported to the communicable disease staff at the Canton City Health Department. The epidemiologist and communicable disease staff investigated 10 outbreaks within Canton City's limits (compared to one in 2015):

1	Campylobacter	1	Scabies
1	Clostridium difficile	2	Serratia marcescens
5	Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease		

Of the mandated reportable disease cases investigated by Canton City, the only statistically significant difference identified was in the number of Shigellosis reported. A significant decrease was noted when compared to the 5-year average. Overall, a statistically significant increase was identified between total cases from 2015 to 2016 and from the 5-year average for 2016. An additional 242 cases of communicable disease were reported to the Canton City Health Department in 2016; and when compared to the 5-year average, the communicable disease department received an additional 301 cases. Almost 94% of the increase in cases for 2016 can be attributed to the increase in positive Chlamydia and Gonococcal infections reported.



Case Count of Reportable Diseases		
	2016	2015
Campylobacteriosis	24	16
Chlamydia infection	911	783
Cryptosporidiosis	8	1
Cyclosporiasis	1	0
E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	2	4
Giardiasis	6	9
Gonococcal infection	444	534
Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease)	3	3
Hepatitis A	2	2
Hepatitis B - acute	1	3
Hepatitis B - chronic	19	11
Hepatitis C - acute	4	2
Hepatitis C - chronic	105	130
Immigrant Investigation	1	1
Influenza-associated hospitalization	63	75
Legionellosis - Legionnaire's Disease	4	4
Listeriosis	0	0
Lyme Disease	3	2
Meningitis - aseptic/viral	7	8
Meningitis - bacterial (Not N. meningitidis)	2	0
Mumps	1	1
Mycobacterial disease - other than tuberculosis	3	2
Pertussis	3	8
Salmonellosis	10	12
Shigellosis	6	5
Streptococcal - Group A -invasive	5	2
Streptococcal - Group B - in newborn	2	0
Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome (STSS)	1	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive anti-biotic resistance unknown/non-resistant	13	8
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive anti-biotic resistant/intermediate	6	3
Syphilis - any stage	11	4
Tuberculosis	1	1
Varicella	6	2
Vibriosis (not cholera)	1	0
Yersiniosis	3	0
Zika virus infection	1	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1684</b>	<b>1449</b>



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The Canton City Health Department is proud to present our annual report for 2016. This report represents a brief summary of the activities of an amazing group of public health professionals. Health Department staff are working to improve our neighborhoods, protect our food, monitor the air we breathe, follow up on a contagious disease, track vital records, work with new moms to provide better nutrition for their babies and provide immunizations and education that will help improve the health of those who live, work and play in the City of Canton.

# Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

## Laura Roach, RD, LD; WIC Director

The WIC Program has always been a vital piece of Public Health. Primary services include: nutrition education and assessment; breastfeeding education and support; supplemental and nutritious food issuance; and screenings and referrals to health or social service agencies.

Monthly Average WIC Program Participants		
	2016	2015
Canton City WIC	2,389	2,579
Total Stark County WIC	6,296	7,012

In 2016, the Stark County WIC Project expanded its efforts in working with local Agencies and Physicians towards a common goal: improving the lives of the families we serve. Professional partnerships are key in educating clients on community services while linking them to organizations that can address their specific needs.

Two key efforts focused on increasing WIC Outreach to Professionals were tracked. Initially, staff planned for greater involvement with various local organizations. In 2015, the Canton City WIC Office completed a total of 13 Outreach Activities. These included WIC presentations at health fairs & agency meetings, breastfeeding education at scheduled events and hosting WIC Meetings for different groups. In 2016, the number of Outreach Activities doubled, totaling 26 separate endeavors. The second effort towards strengthening Professional Partnerships was developed by

Canton City WIC's Jessica Boley, RDLD. Jessica's Outreach Plan targeted Stark County Physicians serving eligible WIC Program Participants. A total of 62 letters were sent to Pediatric, Family Practice and Women's Health offices offering in-office presentation or delivery of a WIC Informational Packet. Of the 29 responses received, 6 presentations were completed and 23 informational packets were sent. This resulted in reaching 47% of the offices targeted.



Looking back, Canton City WIC turned a corner in 2016 in focusing more on Professional Partnerships. Together we will continue to work towards improving the health and well-being of Canton City!