

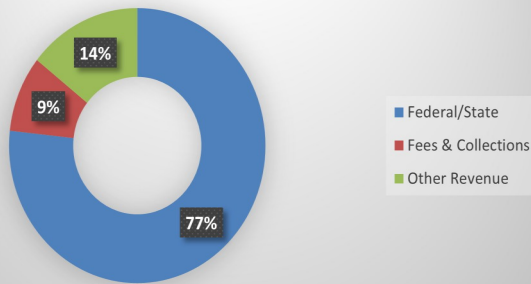
Ionia County Health Department



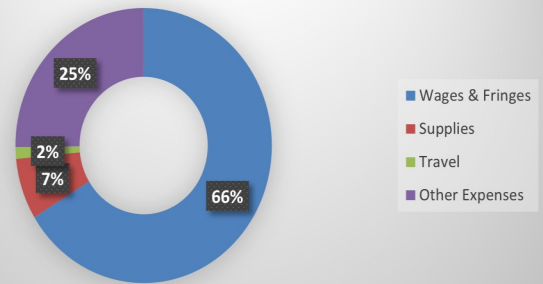
2023 Annual Report

2023 Financials

2023 Revenues



2023 Expenditures



2023 Ionia County Board of Commissioners:

David Hodges * Scott Wirtz* Larry Tiejema * Phil Hesche

Gordon Kelley * Jack Shattuck * Terence Frewen

Haley Barker	Breastfeeding Peer Counselor	Chris May, RN	Public Health Nurse
Laurie Brinks, RN, CLC	Public Health Nurse	Tori Nethercott, RN	Public Health Nurse
Brittni Brummette, RN	Public Health Nurse	Mark Novak, REHS, RS	Environmental Sanitarian
Krystal Bunch, MPH, CHES	Environmental Health Sanitarian	Jason Petersen, BS	Environmental Sanitarian
April Doezenia	Hearing & Vision Technician	Yolanda Rivera, RN	Public Health Nurse
Dave Eady	Outreach Worker	Chad Shaw, BBA	Health Officer
Aimee Feehan, RN	Personal Health Director	Toni Simmons	Administrative Secretary
Mandy Germain	Administrative Secretary	Karah Smith, RN	Public Health Nurse
Diane Gross	Outreach Worker	Danna Spedoske, RN	Public Health Nurse
Charlean Hemminger	Health Educator	Kelli Steffen, RD	Registered Dietitian
Sue Hengesbach	Outreach Worker	Sarah Tahvonen, MSW, RAC, RCS	Social Worker
Brenda Ingersoll	Office Manager	Deb Thalison, MA, CCS-M, ICCJP, CPC-M	Community Health Supervisor
Alexis Jones	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator	Melinda Theisen	Outreach Worker
Chloe Jordan, MPH	Environmental Health Sanitarian	Matthew VanCamp	Health Educator
Julie Kehdi, DO	Medical Director	Ashley Varice	Program Technician

2023 Community Health Annual Report

We have continued to make strides towards substance use prevention. Below are a few of the events and activities we have provided in our county.

In 2023 we purchased a vending machine to distribute Narcan Nasal Spray to help prevent deaths from Fentanyl poisonings. The vending machine was paid for by the State Opioid Response grant. We have distributed 87 Narcan kits via the vending machine and another 200 kits at Narcan trainings across Ionia County.

437 students completed the Too Good for Drugs (TGFD) program at Saranac, Belding and St. Patrick's 3rd and 5th grade classrooms. TGFD program strengthens protective factors in children empowering them to make educated choices when it comes to peer pressure and drugs. In 2024 we will be expanding into more schools.

We collaborated with Saranac High School Youth Advisory Council students for the second year in a row to provide #thunkndunk, a drug prevention event for the entire school 7th through 12th grades. #thunkndunk (think before you act) provided students an opportunity to use alcohol, and marijuana simulation goggles to educate them on the harmful consequences of impairment by drugs.

Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative, a coalition of community members across the county collaborated with Ionia Middle School to provide the second annual Youth Drug Conference. The conference invited Cara Ludlow from Michigan State University as our Keynote Speaker. Cara presented to the entire middle school students (6th, 7th, and 8th grade) on the harmful effects Alcohol and Marijuana has on the teen brain. Caitlin McBride, Jeff Carrel, Jim Geisen, Abbey Blondin, Ken Baker, Caleb Loomis and Charlean Hemminger presented breakout sessions to the 6th grade students to educate and empower the students to make positive choices when it comes to underage drug use.

Debbie Thalison, Community Health Manager retired from Ionia County after 26 years of service. The Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative (ICSAI) coalition members will continue to pursue the mission and vision of the coalition with the hope and confidence Debbie inspired as the ICSAI Director.



2023 Personal Health Annual Report

WIC – Women Infants and Children’s Program. Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- Returned to full in-person appts, but the State is still allowing telephone on an as needed basis.
- Client caseload increased from 1230 FY22 to 1279 – Pre COVID was 1496 - working with community partners (Great Start, Early On, EightCap) to increase numbers as need is still present.
- Continue Project Fresh- coupons for farmer’s markets, fresh produce (runs Jun-Oct)
- Had to close our small food pantry at ICHD in cooperation with Feeding America due to lack of funding to continue.
- Changes to staff and workflow – looking to hire new Program Tech for lab.
- Successfully passed State WIC Management Evaluation in March 2023
- Hired new Breastfeeding Peer Counselor, Haley Barker in Aug 2023.
- Staff participated in Kid’s Day at the Ionia Free Fair; and also attended the Annual WIC Conference in May 2023.
- Planned Statewide WIC database change start of FY24.

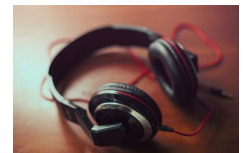


MIHP – Maternal Infant Health Program. Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- Continue to do hybrid model of some in-home/some telehealth visits- encouraging more in-home visits; can do up to 40% across our caseload.
- U of M pilot, “Healthy Moms/Healthy Babies” studying the effectiveness and benefits of home visiting programs such as MIHP and need for increase in revenue due to increase in complexity of clients/families will be completed in Dec 2023.
- Looking at ways to increase our caseload numbers- pre-COVID was around 60-70, since has been around 45-50. Looking at possible expansion to cover Barry Co. due to no services available there.
- Passed our MIHP State Review (Nov 2022)- 180/200 points, Full Certification for 18 months.
- Gave out 6 pack-n-plays to families in need, and diapers given to us by the United Way
- Staff participated in Kid’s Day at the Ionia Free Fair and also attended the Maternal Infant Health Summit in May 2023.

Hearing and Vision Services. Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- New Vision screening machine- now have 2 different machines, can immediately re-test a “fail” with 2nd machine before making an ophthalmology referral
- Staff have developed a good rapport with the schools of Ionia Co. and actively work with them during Kindergarten roundups as well as throughout the school year to get all required screenings done.
- Staff attended Technician training Fall 2022 and the Annual H&V Conference in Jun 2023.



CSHCS - Children's Health Care Services. Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- Continue to use a hybrid model of some in-person/some telehealth visits- encouraging more in person. Staff is working to do more POCs in-person, current plan is to do all clients' initial POC (when new to CSHCS) as in-person, with subsequent annual POC to be telehealth or in-person whenever possible or allowed (POCs are not required, and family can opt out of having a POC done).
- Due to staff efforts above, we had the highest billing in over 12 years, \$32,000 for FY23 for fixed fees.
- CSHCS received a grant and is utilizing it to help promote getting our CSHCS clients up to date on regular childhood immunizations that may be behind due to the pandemic. Staff worked with Immunization staff to hold a Immunization clinic to help get children caught up on Immunizations that are behind due to COVID.
- Adjustment of staff FTEs; increasing RN hours and decreasing SW
- Staff participated in Kid's Day at the Ionia Free Fair and also attended the CSHCS Annual Meeting in May



CD - Communicable Disease. Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- CD Staff continue to actively work on all COVID cases- now managed the same as all other communicable diseases since the end of the EO in July 2023.
- Continue to have 1-2 extra staff people due to some remaining COVID funding.
- Staff have continued to run our STD Clinic primarily by appointment but will see clients as walk-in on a case-by-case basis. 68 clients were seen FY23 (down from 75 FY22) and Staff working to increase the usage of the ICHD STD Clinic. (Overall FY23 total cases of Chlamydia down from 178 to 160 and Gonorrhea down from 31 to 20 in Ionia Co. compared to FY22, not all seen at ICHD).
- Staff delivered Wear One campaign bags- condoms, STD education and more to 21 local healthcare providers and community partners in Ionia Co. twice in FY23
- Continue to monitor and investigate bats and any animal bites.
- Seen an increase in tick activity in Ionia Co.
- Staff also work in conjunction with Environmental Health to track and follow any foodborne illness and/or outbreak.
- Staff attended both CD (virtual) in May 2023 and HIV/STI Conferences Aug 2023



Immunizations. Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- Several changes in our clinic days and hours due to staffing changes and budget cuts adjusted staff FTEs to accommodate, looking to increase clinic hours to 4 days/week in Nov 2023.
- Staff attended the Immunization Conference in Nov 2022, and one staff attends the Immunization Action Plan Fall & Spring meetings.

- Actively worked to increase children's vaccination rates (down since COVID)- various events, vaccination clinics, social media campaign, raffles. Our long-term goal is 75% (Healthy People goal is 80%), however, our short-term goal is to be above 72% for 3 quarters – for FY23, Ionia Co. was at 71.3-70.1-70.0-71.1.
- Staff working with local providers to improve vaccination rates and overall vaccine programs. We have 7 Vaccines For Children (VFC) providers (low or no cost vaccines) in Ionia Co. and we are responsible for monitoring them and providing them assistance as needed. Our staff received their training from the State and began site visits to these facilities in Aug 2023.
- Working to develop the Fluoride Varnish program more and increase its use- is available to all children from 6 mo-5 yr old and can be applied up to 4x/year. We did 91 applications in FY23, our 1st full reporting year.
- Immunizations waivers were down at 166, compared to 193 FY22. We are required to provide education (30 min appt) but receive no compensation for this service.



School Nurse. Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- She has been instrumental in helping the schools create their health programs, documentation, and communication.
- She has worked on protocols, updated school health letters that go out to parents, does education in health classes.
- Created emergency “Go Bags” to be accessible to staff to assist with minor emergencies while awaiting EMS
- Has become a CPR Instructor working with SERC and will help with a plan at the HS to CPR certify students this spring, and ICHD staff. She also maintains the AED units in both schools.
- Seeing and treating students for minor illnesses and accidents etc.
- Handles the school Communicable Disease reporting and reviews and updates student MCIR records for immunizations.
- Manages, maintains, and dispenses medications and educates school staff regarding proper medication dispensing.
- Staff attended the Michigan Association of School Nurses Conference in May 2023.

Car Seat technicians (CPST). Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- FY23, we have seen 36 families, educated them about car seat safety, demonstrated proper installation, and provided new, safe and appropriate to size, age & weight car seats.
- Each visit is approx. 45 min in length. Not currently reimbursed – looking at options for some reimbursement.
- We obtain our car seats through a partnership with Sparrow Ionia Hospital.
- A second staff member was trained as a CPST in June 2023.

Lead Testing & Lead Nurse Case Management. Activities and accomplishments in 2023 included the following:

- Continue to test all 1- & 2-year-olds on Medicaid that come in for WIC appts. We receive fixed fees reimbursement from Medicaid for doing this testing.
- Continue to monitor all elevated Lead cases in Ionia Co. Acceptable lead level is at 3.5 mg/dl. This has led to more cases needing to be looked at and followed up on. Waiting on the State to complete their lead monitoring database MiCLEAR and will begin Nurse Case Management services for children with elevated lead levels. This will generate fixed fee funding.
- MiCLEAR anticipated to be LIVE as of Oct 2023
- 1 nurse moved from COVID to Lead NCM
- NCM home visits begin once MiCLEAR is up and functional.
- Universal Lead testing – Bill to go to Governor around Jan 2024 – all children get Lead testing; will increase # of children we test at ICHD and # that qualify for NCM.

Plans for FY 2024. There are lots of things on the horizon for ICHD. Increase Immunization clinic hours, add new clerical/Lab staff, the possible Barry Co. MIHP expansion, begin Lead NCM & Universal Lead testing, and more. We are beginning to plan for an Oral Health program to be compliant with the State mandate for all Kindergarteners to have an oral health screening prior to starting school- to be up and running Fall 2024 – possible partnership with MCDC or MMDHD. Our new Medical Director, Dr. Julie Kehdi started in April 2023. She is working with CD & Imms staff to help boost programs and services. We are continuing to look at or for various opportunities for increasing our revenue and funding. We also continue our planning and preparing for our State Accreditation visit (scheduled for June 2025). Updating policies and procedures and all program manuals as needed.

2023 Emergency Preparedness Report

This past year, I have reviewed and updated several of the health department's plans including but not limited to the Continuity of Operations Plan, Environmental Health Plan, and Strategic National Stockpile Plan. I have conducted health department fire and tornado drills and participated in drills hosted by other entities such as the Sparrow Ionia Hospital, Region 6 Healthcare Coalition, the Michigan Volunteer Registry, and the state Department of Emergency Preparedness and Response. I have also attended the NACCHO Preparedness Summit conferences and Great Lakes Homeland Security Conference where I learned about techniques and resources to use in emergency preparedness and response. I completed ICS 400 training and brought staff up to date on ICS training. I created a 3-year Integrated Preparedness Plan outlining the drills, exercises, training, and plan updates planned through June 2026. Finally, I have continued to work collaboratively with Region 6 emergency preparedness staff on work plan deliverables from the state which includes our Whole Community Inclusion initiative in which we aim to increase preparedness for vulnerable populations.



2023 Environmental Health Annual Report

- Environmental Health staff attended many trainings and conferences including; MEHA annual education conference, HazWoper refresher training and re-certification, Michigan 2023 Great Lakes Infrastructure Conference, FDA Retail Protections Seminar, Food Safety Summit, Great Lakes Annual Conference on Food Protection, Advanced Cross Connection training, Command System Trainings, and Environmental Health Summit.
- Attended multiple meetings throughout the county; CTE Program Advisory meeting, Peninsula Prestress arsenic treatment system virtual meeting, Saranac well head protection meeting, EGLE webinars, and Solid Waste Committee meeting.
- Worked with EGLE on new type 2 program and PFAS sites in Ionia County.
- Assisted EGLE in locating well logs for the superfund project of an old dump in Ionia Twp.
- Assisted site engineers on two subdivision/condominium projects.
- Completed the final approval for Ellis Acres site condominium project in Otisco Twp.
- Welcomed new Sanitarian Krystal Bunch
- Chloe completed supervised food establishment inspections and is now able to do inspections on her own.
- Worked with a type 2 facility and a school on lead exceedance of drinking water.
- Worked with a type 2 facility on arsenic in drinking water and treatment.
- Met with non-transient public water supplies (schools/childcare centers) to go over new lead/copper rule changes coming up.



Complaints Received (All)	65	Public Swimming Pool Inspections	13
Food Complaint Investigations	11	Well Permits Issued	184
Routine Food Inspections	246	Vacant Land Evaluations	135
Temporary Food Inspections	71	Septic Permits Issued	138
Water Samples Collected	220	Septic Permit Finals	123
Campground Inspections	17	Radon Test Kits Distributed	64



Ionia County Health Department

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<https://ioniacounty.org/health/health-department/>

We empower residents to live long and healthy lives by protecting the environment, providing health services, and educating the public to achieve positive health outcomes.