WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING?

Public Health Nursing is a special practice, first standardized in the late 19th century, aimed at providing critical preventive health and medical social services to the entire community. It of course involves immunization and other forms of direct care, but what truly distinguishes Public Health Nursing is the casefinding, referral, advocacy, health teaching, counseling, reinforcement, case management, and involvement in community planning that continually (and quietly) works to prevent health problems or help correct them before they become dangerous, expensive or disruptive to the individual or to the community. It is a fundamental public service, largely delivered at the local level.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES

Residents of Geauga County have received services from the Nursing Division since 1920. The services have changed over the years to meet the needs of a growing community. Sixteen programs are offered by the staff of the Public Health Nurses and one clerk.

In 1990, 12,188 persons were given hands-on care during 14,479 visits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Persons Served</th>
<th>Visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Streptococcal Detection</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal &amp; Infant Visits</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstetric Screenings</td>
<td>399</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunization Clinics</td>
<td>4,041</td>
<td>5,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunization clinic, 9-471</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Obstetric Diag-</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nstic Clinic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopedic Clinic</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Visits</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Clinic</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza Vaccine</td>
<td>2,178</td>
<td>2,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumonia Vaccine</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Health Program</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis Skin Testing</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0 referred)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Clinics (30 referred)</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>1,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handicapped Children Visits</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septic Screensings</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision Screenings (126 referred)</td>
<td>1,337</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septic Screenings (57 referred)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start &amp; Day Care</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Intervention</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The nursing staff is available as consultants, and to provide health education to individuals or to groups.

"Choose health; choose not to smoke."

All programs operated in accordance with Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

MAKE IT PERSONAL!

Geauga is a beautiful county with a pleasant and restful, rural character, and that's a major reason why it attracts new residents each year. The beauty to keep it beautiful is that each of us to resolve to take a personal responsibility for protecting our environment. Land, air and water...and then act on it. The three are interrelated, education, then action.

The fact that Geauga is developing largely on a private- and home-sewage system basis, means that no governmental agency of reasonable size and power can alone prevent all the problems that arise due to owner indifference and neglect of these private systems. It's a well-and-seeing owner, here's where you come in!

First, resolve that you won't just take our precious ground-water supplies for granted. They are vulnerable to abuse, and it's possible for a single source of groundwater contamination to affect an entire community.

Have your well installed and serviced only by a well driller registered in Ohio. Avoid spreading pesticides near your well casing, and never dispose of motor oils, solvents, antifreeze, gasoline or fuel oil by dumping them on the ground or in your home sewage system. Check all fuel tanks regularly to make sure they aren't leaking. Report any old, unused wells that appear improperly sealed to your health department. Periodically, have your water tested by a reliable source. And, if you need the water, but don't use it...drift or don't neglect.

Home sewage disposal systems (septic tanks, aeration systems, etc.) are another feature of rural life. These can work very well, but neglect will surely lead to problems. You are the operator of this system. Learn what kind of system you have, where the leaching field or filter bed or discharge lines are located and how to observe for early detection of problems. Have your system inspected and periodically serviced by an installation or service agent registered in Geauga County. Avoid overloading your system, and don't subject it to harmful chemicals. And don't operate motor vehicles over your leaching field, especially in wet weather.

The often advertised additives do not remove the need for periodic pumping of your tanks; none are proven effective and some are actually harmful and have been banned in some states. If you're in doubt about any of these things, call your installer or your health department for advice. Finally, remember this...a home sewage system is a private system, but it is not properly cared for, it can become a social problem. You and your neighbors are relying on one another to take that personal responsibility for keeping Geauga beautiful!

W. I. C. (Women, Infants & Children Food Supplement Program)

The Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is funded by the U.S.D.A. and administered by the Ohio Department of Health and the Geauga County Health Department. WIC helps correct and prevent nutrition related health and development problems in mothers and their children by providing nutritional assessments, nutrition education, highly nutritious food supplements, and health care referral, as needed, through local agencies.

Women must be pregnant, less than 6 months post partum, currently receiving medical care and/or supplements, and health care referral, as needed, through local agencies.

Children must be less than 5 years old. Eligibility is also based on medical/nutritional evaluation, economic needs and area of residence.

1990 WIC Participants

January - 612
February - 323
March - 911
April - 604
May - 1,093
June - 351
July - 510
August - 593
September - 1,084
October - 573
November - 637
December - 637
1990 FINANCIAL REPORT

BOARD OF HEALTH & STATUTORY FUNDS

RECEIPTS:

Cash Carryover $186,407.13
Subsidy Assessments 240,913.00
State Subsidy 26,335.75
Health Levy 189,619.91
Nursing Fees 23,982.50
Vital Statistics 26,084.00
Sewage, Plumbing & Misc. Fees 177,993.24
Food Service 31,122.25
Trailer Parks/Camps 2,400.00
Private Water Systems 56,914.00
Swimming Pools -4,075.00

Total Receipts $792,346.00
Total Receipts & Balance 965,777.22

EXPENDITURES:

Salaries $504,103.90
Medicare 3,036.72
Supplies 22,305.41
Equipment 3,522.32
Equipment/Maintenance/Contracts 9,065.68
Travel & Expenses 36,026.34
Advertising & Printing 1,172.33
DFS (Dental) & Worker's Comp 74,586.28
Remittances to State 18,000.00
Other Expenses 100,560.29

Total Expenditures $781,018.17

GRANT FUNDS

Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Grant Fund
Cash Carryover $8,031.66
WIC Grants 61,829.02
Total Receipts & Balance 69,860.68

TOTAL EXPENDITURES $66,213.78

Child & Family Health Services, Children's Trust & Dental

RECEIPTS:

Cash Carryover $18,583.34
Receipts (Grants, Fees, Donations, etc.) 62,055.21
Total Receipts & Balance 90,638.55

TOTAL EXPENDITURES $69,559.04

Early Intervention Fund

RECEIPTS:

Cash Carryover $-0-
Grant Receipts 5,299.00
Total Receipts & Balance 5,299.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES $967.74

VITAL STATISTICS

The Vital Statistics Division of your Health Department maintains records of the births and deaths in Geauga County since 1909. The attending physician or person in attendance at birth fills a certificate with the local registrar for each live birth occurring in the County. The funeral director is responsible for filing a certificate for each death occurring in the County.

Certified copies of birth and death certificates are available at the State-mandated charge of $7.00 each. Two dollars of this fee goes to the State Child Abuse and Child Neglect Fund. You may contact the Registrar of Vital Statistics during regular Health Department hours, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm weekdays.

There were 325 boys and 313 girls born in Geauga County in 1990, totaling 638 births.

Deaths by Cause

1990 1991
Heart & Circulatory 170 167
Cancer 83 94
Respiratory 55 67
Stroke 29 21
Accidents 20 7
Suicide 9 10
Diabetes Mellitus 3 7
Liver Disease 2 4
Homicide 0 0
Other 26 41
Total 397 419

CHILD AND FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES

1990 CLINIC VISITS:

Well Child Clinic 391 (214 clients)
Prenatal Clinic 205 (81 clients)

CLINIC SCHEDULE (by appointment):

Service When Where Eligibility

Prenatal Tues. Geauga Suspected 8:30-4:30 Hospital Pregnancy

Well Child Fri & Last Thurs. Geauga Birth-21 yrs. 8:30-11:30 Hospital & 5:30-8:30 pm Hospital

Child and Family Health Services is a program authorized by the State of Health to provide preventive health care for mothers and children. All services are offered on a sliding fee scale based on family size and income. Medicaid is accepted.

The Well Child Clinic is held weekly at Geauga Hospital with monthly evening hours. It is staffed by a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner under supervision of a Clinic Pediatrician. Other professionals assist with medical screenings, health education and immunizations. A speech pathologist attends monthly to screen and refer children with speech therapy needs. Local dentist, Dr. Anne Clouser, volunteers her time monthly to examine children's teeth and educate parents on proper dental care. Through her assistance, a children's dental clinic has been developed to offer cleaning, dental sealants and referrals. Fluoride supplements are also available to families lacking fluoridated water. The Child Car Safety Project offers approved, size-adjustable child car seats on a sliding fee scale basis.

The Prenatal Clinic is held weekly at Geauga Hospital. Prenatal services are provided by a clinic obstetrician and local delivering physicians. A licensed Social worker attends clinic twice a month and assists in pregnancy and parent counseling. Referral is made to local physicians for emergency services and delivery.

HEALTH DEPT. HOURS: Mon. thru Fri. 8am - 4:30 pm

This report is intended to inform you of your Geauga County Health Department's many services. Feel free to call us about any of these services.

Health Services Digest

+ Public Health Nursing
+ Environmental Health
+ Vital Statistics
+ WIC Nutrition Services
+ Child & Family Health Services

Phones: 285-2222 - 834-1856
564-7131