

# TUSCOLA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



## FY 2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT

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## **Tuscola County Health Department Mission, Vision Statement & Vision Priorities**

### Mission

We are dedicated to promoting and protecting the health of Tuscola County residents by providing a wide range of quality human services.

### Vision

The Tuscola County Health Department will be recognized by the public and the medical community as a valuable asset in providing resources and innovative approaches to health promotion and protection in the community.

### Vision Priorities

- We engage the community to meet their health care concerns while recognizing the community's social, environmental, behavioral, economical and physical well being
- We adapt programs and services to meet the needs of the community
- We play an integral role in emergency preparedness
- We pursue funding avenues that coincide with our mission and vision
- We have effective Public Relations that promote our services
- We utilize advancements in technology to improve community services
- We engage in educational opportunities that advance the knowledge of our staff
- Effective teamwork is present among employees



**10/1/06– 9/30/07 EMPLOYEE LIST  
Tuscola County Health Department**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>HIRE DATE</b>
Anthes, Beth	PHN II	11/13/00
Auld, Sylvia	PHN II	10/17/05
Barrons, Deb	Program Clerk II	4/27/92
Bellsky, Sally	PHN II	7/8/92
Brinkman, Marcy	PHN II	2/23/98
Buckey-Jamrog, Amy	Social Worker	10/14/03
Caverly, Doraine	Account Clerk	7/10/78
Clark, Marsha	Program Clerk II	8/13/73
Cuthrell, Amy	Abstinence Program Assistant Coordinator	11/09/06
Dickinson, Janelle	Program Clerk II	7/5/89
Dunham, Patty	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II	10/27/85
Germain, Kelly	PHN II/Program Coordinator	5/28/91
Gutierrez, Elva	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II	1/5/93
Harrington, Lorraine	Registered Dietitian	5/7/86
Hepfer, Ann	Nursing Administrator	10/31/88
Hicks, Carol	Administrative Services Coordinator	12/17/74
Johnson, Sue	Program Clerk II	1/7/91
Kile, Ruth	Program Clerk II	1/4/93
MacGuire, Tip	Environmental Health Director	7/12/93
McCollum, Nancy	Billing Clerk	11/26/79
Mika, Sharon	P.H. Emergency Preparedness Coordinator	8/26/02
Milazzo, Dianne	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II	1/8/00
Miller, Nancy	Nurse Practitioner	2/27/06
Peters, Lugene	Program Clerk II	8/6/90
Pokorski, Kathy	PHN II/Department Coordinator	7/21/03
Ramsden, Jill	Program Clerk II	7/6/06
Sammons, Bonnie	Fiscal Manager	2/19/74
Singer, Kent	Registered Sanitarian III	6/7/95
Smallwood, Dennis, DO	Medical Director	3/1/87
Smith, Mary	PHN II	7/28/06
Spiekerman, Larry	Veteran Affairs Director	1/1/90
Stephens, Carol	MIS Manager	10/7/74
Suber, Christina	Social Worker	3/11/98
Tanton, Si	Sanitarian II	1/17/06
Tenbusch, Gretchen	Health Officer	2/1/88
VanOchten, Jessica	Hearing & Vision Technician	2/27/06
Villalobos, Kristi	PHN II/Department Coordinator	9/28/98
White, Jerry	Registered Sanitarian III	5/15/91
Williams, Karen	Clinic Assistant/Clerk II	5/8/00

**Gretchen Tenbusch, R.N., M.S.A.**  
**Health Officer**

On behalf of the Tuscola County Health Department staff, I am pleased to present this Annual Report. This report is intended to highlight accomplishments for fiscal year 2006-2007.

The Tuscola County Health Department continues efforts to promote and protect the health of Tuscola County residents during these challenging economic times, as resources continue to diminish. The community has seen closure of businesses, loss of jobs, and loss of health benefits for our residents. As individuals, we need to find the time and energy to live healthier lifestyles and lead more productive lives to positively impact health indicators. These changes must start individually, until collectively we make better lifestyle choices and activities a habit.

In response to the loss of health care insurance for many of our residents, the Health Department in conjunction with its partners in The Thumb Rural Health Network applied for a County Health Plan for the Thumb of Michigan. Despite the growing need, the request was denied by the State of Michigan in October 2006 due to lack of funding. In the face of this set back the Health Department and its Thumb Rural Health Network partners embarked on a mission to bring health care to indigent residents in the Thumb and established an Access committee to identify and develop a model of health care for this segment of our population.

The Health Department faced many financial issues in FY06-07 with elimination of several programs and threatened loss of funding from several sources. Along with the funding shortages, the agency and community faced Flu Vaccine shortages at a time when Pandemic Flu Planning was at the forefront. Even with funding shortages, our core public health functions continued for the residents of our community. The Tuscola County Health Department worked with our schools to deal with requests for information on MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus). In response to a growing need for colposcopies for Thumb women, the Health Department wrote and received a grant for a colposcope machine from the Tuscola County Community Foundation. The Health Department also made arrangements for a specialist to provide these colposcopy services on site, thus improving access to services. The continuation of these core public health services is critical. It is these programs that allow our residents to have such things as safe drinking water and relative freedom from once common communicable diseases such as measles, polio, diphtheria. When successful, the outcomes of the local health department are relatively invisible. On June 18, 2007, the Health Department was awarded a renewal of our Accreditation status from the Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Program.

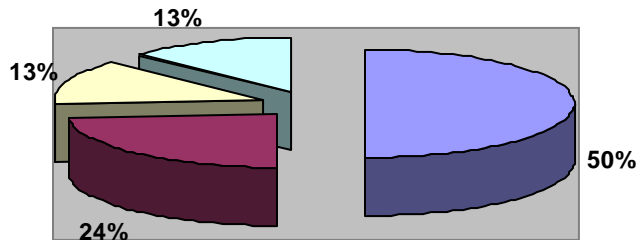
These accomplishments of the health department were possible due to the hard work and dedication of the Health Department staff and the involvement of the Board of Health and Board of Commissioners. The Health Department will continue to protect and promote the health of residents of Tuscola County through surveillance, assessment, planning and collaboration. I hope you find this report interesting and informative. We thank you for your support of this organization and the services provided.

**FISCAL DIVISION**  
**Bonnie Sammons, Fiscal Manager**

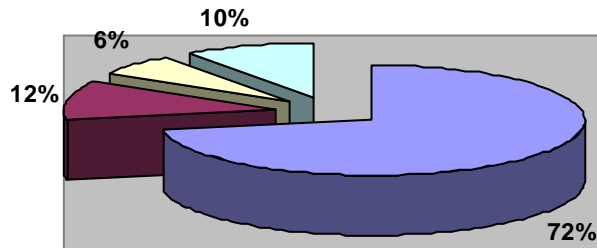
Tuscola County Health Department's Fiscal Division performs all general accounting functions, including accounts receivable, accounts payable, budgeting, payroll, financial reporting and internal control. The accounting policies of the Tuscola County Health Department conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to government units.

**2006—2007**  
**BUDGET**  
**\$2,869,377**

<b>Revenues</b>	
<b>State/Federal Grants</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Fees</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>County Appropriations</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Other Resources</b>	<b>13%</b>



<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>Personal Health</b>	<b>72%</b>
<b>Environmental Health</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>10%</b>



## Management Information Systems Division

### Carol Stephens, MIS Manager

The mission of the MIS Division is to make available comprehensive and high quality services to meet the information technology needs of the health department.

The agency website ([www.tchd.us](http://www.tchd.us)) is continuously maintained and updated, in an attempt to provide Tuscola County citizens the most up-to-date information possible. An internal website is maintained for staff use with training documents, program manuals and announcements.

The MIS Division has the continuous job of keeping all agency programs up to date with the most current software applications, backing up the system, monitoring for viruses and helping staff to create and run reports as needed. In the fall of 2007 a new Dell Windows 2003 server was purchased and installed. The capabilities of this new server will be adequate for the Health Department for several years. Additional upgraded desktop computers were purchased to replace older systems.

Currently we maintain 2 file servers, 42 workstations, 7 laptop computers, and 10 shared printer stations. A variety of software programs used within the agency are continuously monitored and upgraded as needed. Investigation continues for possible software solutions to replace our current CMHC system.

## Office of Veteran Affairs

### Lawrence Spiekerman, Director

The County Office of Veteran Affairs is the first point of contact by veterans and their families who seek assistance with Federal, State and County benefits. Monetary benefits payable to veterans and their dependents may be classified into four general categories: Compensation, Dependence and Indemnity Compensation, Pension and Retirement Pay. Other major benefit programs include: Education Assistance to Children, Wives and Widows, and Veterans, Vocational Rehabilitation, Hospitalization, Home Loans, Insurance Burial Benefits, Tuscola County Soldiers & Sailors Relief Fund, and Michigan Veteran's Trust Fund. Tuscola County provides a full time Veteran's Affairs Director to help coordinate benefits and services for the Veterans of Tuscola County.

<b>TUSCOLA COUNTY VA STATISTICS 2007</b>	
<b>Office Visits</b>	<b>527</b>
<b>Transport of Veteran's to Appointments</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Claims Filed</b>	<b>437</b>
<b>House Calls</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Trust Fund Applications</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Amount Granted</b>	<b>\$14,529.99</b>
<b>Soldiers/Sailors Relief Applications</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>Amount Granted</b>	<b>\$18,235.00</b>

## **PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

**Sharon Mika, Department Coordinator**

Pandemic Influenza is the main focus for this year's emergency preparedness. Plans were developed to provide management, guidance, surveillance, and laboratory diagnostic procedures, along with strategies for community mitigation/containment, medical and data management, border travel and recovery/consequence management. The plan will also guide activities to prepare and educate the public regarding such a public health threat and provide direction for other community stakeholders.

A Pandemic Flu tabletop exercise for school closure procedures was held January 30 with Public Health, School Superintendents, Emergency Management, Law Enforcement, Tuscola County Commissioners, MMR and Central Dispatch. This was a very informative and eye opening experience for our schools. Lessons learned included the importance of weekly school reporting to the health department, developing education material to be placed in school hand books on hand-washing, cough and sneeze etiquette and family preparedness at home if any outbreak were to occur. The Tuscola Intermediate School District now shares their school list serves with the health department allowing us to provide information directly to each school principal.

Presentations were also provided to church groups, fire chiefs, and police chiefs on family preparedness. We know if your family is not prepared you are less likely to show up for work. Emergency back packs were given to all Fire and Police Chiefs and several are given away at each presentation.

I also had the opportunity to provide a presentation (Kids the Flu and You) at the August Teachers in-service held at the Reese High School. Teachers learned what influenza really is and how to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses in the classroom.



**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION  
TIP MACGURIRE, R.S., Director**

Adverse environmental factors have a direct influence on humans. Impacts can be disease transmission through exposure to pathogenic organisms, or by exposure to toxins having a physiological effect on humans. Lesser environmental factors such as living conditions in a home can effect the overall well-being of the persons subjected to the given environment. As a member of the public health team, environmental health advocates and promotes disease prevention. Goals are met through enforcement of regulations and programs developed to not only protect public health, but to also control adverse environmental factors. Programs and regulations are grouped into categories of: Water, Shelter, Food, Waste and Community Health. The following statistics falling under these categories reflect the services provided in fiscal year 2006-07.

**FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM**

Regular inspections are conducted in all food service establishments in Tuscola County. Efforts in this program are key elements in assuring that meals consumed outside of the home are safe.

Fixed Food Service Establishments	151	Transitory Food Inspections	7
Fixed Food Service Inspections	469	Vending Location Inspections	10
Temporary Food Inspections	136	Foodborne Illness Investigations	0

**WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT**

Contact with raw or improperly treated sewage is the major method by which diseases are spread. Proper disposal and treatment of sewage is a critical aspect of protecting public health. Under State and Local Code Enforcement, this division evaluates and issues permits for the installation of all on-site sewage systems in Tuscola County.

On-site Sewage Disposal Permits Issued	183	On-site Sewage Disposal Inspections	427
On-site Sewage Permits (Commercial)	1	On-site Sewage Inspections (Commercial)	13

**SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER CONTROL**

The basics to human life and public health philosophy is the provision that a safe and adequate water supply is available to the individual and public. To this end, all wells in Tuscola County are installed under permit with well locations being reviewed, proper isolations required, final inspections conducted and water sampling performed to determine water quality.

Well Permits Issued	232	Well Permit Final Inspections	166
Complaints Investigated	4	Operation/Maintenance Evaluations	51



**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Additional activities important to health protection cover a range of programs such as: Shelter, Public Swimming Pools, Mobile Home Parks, Hazardous Waste, Solid Waste, Indoor and Outdoor Air, and Campgrounds.

Campground Inspection	9	Adult/Child Care Facility Inspection	44
Public Swimming Pool Inspection	10	Hazardous Waste	5
Solid Waste	27	Animal Control	17
Indoor/Outdoor Air	52	Subdivision Inspections	14
Ground Water Quality	25	Residential Dwellings	2
Mosquito/Insect Control	15	Septage Inspections	15

**TOBACCO REDUCTION**

Tobacco Reduction efforts are conducted through the Tuscola County Safe Communities Coalition which is a community based coalition comprised of members of human service agencies, schools and the general public. This coalition meets on a quarterly basis and welcomes new members and provides a tobacco resource distribution and referral service to the community. The objectives are as outlined:

- 1) Develop and maintain community mobilization and awareness around tobacco-related issues.
- 2) Develop and maintain multi-cultural input into coalition efforts.
- 3) Promote and increase the availability of clean indoor air in the community.
- 4) Promotion of tobacco use cessation targeting health care providers in Tuscola County.
- 5) Encourage all area schools to be 24/7 Smoke Free.
- 6) Encourage smoking cessation in pregnant and post partum women.

**GERIATRIC SERVICES**

The Tuscola County Health Department with the support of Senior Millage funding, provides services to the senior citizens of this county. Staff participate in community coalitions directed toward the needs of senior citizens. Services provided include the provision of flu clinics, education to seniors on relevant health topics, participation in an annual Senior Fair, referrals and information resources for geriatric services, hypertension clinics and Tetanus-Diphtheria (Td) booster vaccination clinics.

ADULT HEALTH SERVICES	
Geriatric Enrollments	5
Dementia Community Presentations	18
Geriatric Home Visits	18

**HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION**  
**ANN HEPFER, R.N., Nursing Administrator**

**MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS**

**Early Periodic Screening and Diagnostic Testing (EPSDT)/Well Child Clinic:** Provides health and developmental screening and referrals for children ages birth to 21 on Medicaid. For a small fee the Well Child Clinic provides for the same medical services for children who do not have Medicaid. Services include Hearing and Vision Screening, comprehensive head to toe physical, Denver Developmental Screening and lead testing.

**Women, Infant and Children (WIC):** Serves children from birth to age 5 and pregnant and breastfeeding women who meet the income guidelines. WIC is not only a supplemental food program, it also provides for nutritional information and breastfeeding promotion.

**Maternal/Infant Support Services:** Provides home visits and/or office visits to pregnant women and their infants. This program is aimed at healthier outcomes for both the pregnant woman and the infant. A team made up of a Registered Nurse, Dietician and Social Worker take a multidisciplinary approach in working with the family.

**Touching Lives of Children Program (TLC):** Focuses on pregnant women and children from birth through three years of age. A multidisciplinary approach is taken in working with the families. The team is made up of a Family Mentor, Social Worker, Registered Nurse and Dietician. Center Based Services are offered through Highland Pines so that children and parents can learn and have fun together.

**Children Special Health Care Services (CSHCS):** Provides financial support and case management services for children ages birth to 21 with chronic health problems or disabilities.

**Prenatal Services:** Health Delivery Incorporated provides prenatal care and educational services on site. Clients are seen by midwives and deliver at Bay Regional Medical Center in Bay City.

**Hearing and Vision Program:** Provides Hearing and Vision screenings in the schools throughout the year and in the summer at the health department by trained technicians.

<b>MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS—2006/07</b>	
Hearing Services Preschool/School Age	2863
Vision Services Preschool/School Age	4207
Touching Lives of Children Services Unduplicated Services	86
Women, Infant and Children Program—Monthly average	1561
EPSDT/Well Child Services	564
Maternal Infant Support Services Unduplicated Services	340
Pregnant Women Enrolled in Prenatal Services	118
Children Special Health Care Services—Unduplicated Enrollees	30

**HIV/AIDS COUNSELING**

Tuscola County Health Department was identified as a low incidence area in December 2004; as a result we only offer court ordered testing. All requests for HIV testing are referred to higher incident counties for testing such as Saginaw County Health Department, Basis in Bay City and Hearst Home in Saginaw.

## FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM

The Tuscola County Health Department's Family Planning Program philosophy is consistent with Michigan Department of Community Health and Title X. Family planning is a preventive health measure which positively impacts on the health and well-being of women, children and family. Effective family planning programs are essential health care delivery interventions that correlate with decreased high risk pregnancy and maternal and infant mortality and morbidity. Services provided through family planning clinics allow women to make well informed reproductive health choices. The family planning clinic addresses the unmet family planning needs of women at or below and those slightly above poverty, but still considered low income, and provides access to those with special needs (such as teens and high risk women). No one is denied services because of inability to pay.

### REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES—2007

Family Planning Unduplicated Clients	1325
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## SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION SERVICES

The mission of the Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Program is to reduce the number of STI's through diagnosis, treatment and education. The program operates on an "as needed" basis. Authority is given to the Public Health Department according to Public Health Act 368 of 1978 (revised, October 1993). Due to a reduction in State funding over the course of the past two years, we have curtailed our screening exams. Screening guidelines are in place that serve as a guide as to who gets tested. Tuscola County is deemed a "low incidence" area and is allotted only a certain number of test kits for free. Once the free kits are depleted we then charge for the additional tests. Our rate of STI's has remained relatively consistent over the past 5 years; the majority of our infections are either Chlamydia or Gonorrhea related.

### SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION—3 YEAR COMPARISON

	2005	2006	2007
Chlamydia	60	76	69
Gonorrhea	10	8	6
Syphilis Primary	0	0	2

## IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Immunizations are a very important component of Public Health. The current immunization schedule for both adults and children protects against sixteen diseases. New vaccines offered in the past year included Menactra, Hepatitis A, TdAPP, and Rotavirus. Special priority projects included outreach clinics to the Amish community and an outreach clinic in Vassar once a month. The 2007 flu season proved to be challenging due to delay in shipment of vaccine, causing the agency to have a surplus of vaccine at the end of the season.

IMMUNIZATIONS	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Clients Immunized	2752	2308	2569
Vaccines Administered	2892	5664	6264
Doses Distributed	2687	2246	2776
School Immunization Records Reviewed	10,561	2513	3354
Percent of 19-35 month old children fully immunized in the county	71.5%	78%	74%
Adult Influenza Vaccine Administered	1471	1806	777
Pneumococcal Vaccine Administered	41	118	70

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS) is a Web based communicable disease reporting and tracking system covering the State of Michigan. The purpose of this system is to facilitate coordination among local, State and Federal Public Health Agencies to provide for secure transfer, and analysis of communicable diseases. This system is very important to address emerging infectious diseases, traditional disease surveillance, including biological diseases at the time that they are occurring. All area laboratories and hospitals now report all allowable reportable infections to the health department via the MDSS.

<b>COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS—3 YEAR COMPARISON</b>			
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
AIDS	0	0	0
Food Borne Illness	16	16	18
Meningitis-Aseptic	4	9	2
Meningitis-Bacteria	3	3	1
Pneumoniae Invasive	1	2	5
Cryptococcosis	1	0	0
Flu Like Illness	999	513	1130
Guillain-Barre	1	1	0
Kawasaki	1	2	0
Legionellosis	0	2	0
Rabies-Bat	0	0	0
Chickenpox	10	39	27
Tuberculosis	1	1	0
Hepatitis A	1	0	2
Hepatitis B Chronic	0	1	1
Hepatitis B Perinatal	0	0	0
Hepatitis C Acute	0	4	1
Hepatitis C Chronic	9	15	11
Coccidioidomycosis	0	1	1
Encephalitis	0	1	0
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	1	1
Staphylococcus Aureus Infections	0	7	1
Mumps	0	1	0
Pertussis	0	2	1
Histoplasmosis	0	0	1
Q Fever	0	0	1
Streptococcus, Group A	0	0	1