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<td>19</td>
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STAY CONNECTED  www.allegancounty.org/health  2018 Annual Report  2
The Allegan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) is the governing board of the Public Health Department. The BOC employs a County Administrator who is recognized as the Chief Administrative Officer of the County; representatives shown below:

**District 1**
- Laketown Township
- Manlius Township
- Saugatuck Township
- City of The Village of Douglas
- City of Fennville
- City of Saugatuck

| Dean Kapenga | 5634 136th Avenue  
| Hamilton, Michigan 49419  
| Ph: (616) 218-2599  
| Email: dkapenga@allegancounty.org |
| County Commissioner since 2007  
| Board Vice Chairman since 2015 |

**District 2**
- Fillmore Township
- Heath Township
- Overisel Township
- City of Holland

| Jim Storey | 344 W 35th Street  
| Holland, Michigan 49423  
| Ph: (616) 848-9767  
| Email: jstorey@allegancounty.org |
| County Commissioner since 2013 |

**District 3**
- Allegan Township
- Monterey Township
- Salem Township
- City of Allegan

| Max R. Thiele | 319 River Street  
| Allegan, Michigan 49010  
| Ph: (269) 673-4514  
| Email: mthiele@allegancounty.org |
| County Commissioner since 2001 |

**District 4**
- Dorr Township
- Leighton Township
- City of Wayland

| Mark DeYoung | 4169 Hickory Street  
| Dorr, Michigan 49323  
| Phone: (616) 688-5619  
| Email: mdeyoung@allegancounty.org |
| County Commissioner since 2000  
| Board Chairman since 2011 |

**MISSION:** “The Allegan County Board of Commissioners shall plan, develop and evaluate the necessary policies and resources to ensure our county continues to progress and prosper.”
Governance representatives continues below:

District 5
- Casco Township
- Cheshire Township
- Clyde Township
- Ganges Township
- Lee Township
- Valley Township
- City of South Haven

Tom Jessup
6717 108th Avenue
South Haven, Michigan 49090
Phone: (269) 637-3374
Email: tjessup@allegancounty.org
County Commissioner since 2007

District 6
- Hopkins Township
- Otsego Township
- Trowbridge Township
- Watson Township
- City of Otsego
- Village of Hopkins

Gale Dugan
318 21st Street
Otsego, Michigan 49078
Phone: (269) 694-5276
Email: gdugan@allegancounty.org
County Commissioner since October 27, 2016

District 7
- Gun Plain Township
- Martin Township
- Wayland Township
- City of Plainwell
- Village of Martin

Don Black
1054 126th Avenue
Shelbyville, Michigan 49344
Phone: (616) 920-2875
Email: dblack@allegancounty.org
County Commissioner since 1999

County Administrator
- Administration
- Central Dispatch
- Equalization
- Facilities Management
- Finance
- Health Department
- Human Resources
- Information Services
- Parks and Recreation
- Senior and Veterans Services
- Transportation

Robert J. Sarro
3283 122nd Avenue
Allegan, Michigan 49010
Phone: (269) 673-0239
Email: rsarro@allegancounty.org
Administrator since 2006

VISION: “The Allegan County Board of Commissioners is committed to providing our citizens superior and innovative services, being judicious and efficient in the expenditure of resources and promoting a safe, clean and healthy environment in which to live, work and play.”
Together; Striving for a Healthier Allegan County. Where one lives, works, learns, and plays has direct impact on their health. Their zip code matters. Public Health Departments, generally, do not have the resources or capacity to directly influence those environments. To have a healthy community, all sectors need to work together to implement strategies that will improve health outcomes and quality of life for Allegan County residents. Intentional strategic alignment of different sectors aid in the development of an effective Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach to community wide planning and action plans that consider social determinants of health. Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) has focused on collaborating with sectors such as transportation, housing, education, public safety, courts, businesses, and non profits to align resources to address gaps in our community. ACHD also collaborated in 2018 using a HiAP approach with State agencies on emerging disease and environmental issues such as water quality, improving maternal/child health outcomes, and hepatitis A. ACHD has worked with customers to improve service delivery by using their voices to improve services.
The diagram above shows how the County’s Public Health strategic framework influences community health outcomes and how improved community health outcomes align with the vision and purpose of the Department.
**Revenue by Type**

- **2014**
- **2015**
- **2016**
- **2017**
- **2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2210 Grants</td>
<td>$977,801.00</td>
<td>$972,575.00</td>
<td>$1,009,733.13</td>
<td>$1,103,161.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2210 Permits</td>
<td>$511,795.00</td>
<td>$474,376.00</td>
<td>$544,999.75</td>
<td>$866,081.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2210 Fees</td>
<td>$191,405.00</td>
<td>$140,868.00</td>
<td>$135,060.64</td>
<td>$109,987.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2210 County Appropriation</td>
<td>$1,253,508.00</td>
<td>$610,932.00</td>
<td>$684,909.84</td>
<td>$798,669.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2210 Medicaid</td>
<td>$493,529.00</td>
<td>$131,035.00</td>
<td>$170,974.91</td>
<td>$189,987.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2210 Resource Recovery Admin Fee</td>
<td>$640,667.00</td>
<td>$628,228.00</td>
<td>$786,829.69</td>
<td>$83,546.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2210 Other</td>
<td>$35,511.00</td>
<td>$35,483.00</td>
<td>$42,852.01</td>
<td>$49,591.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2211 Waste Reduction Surcharge</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$732,589.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2018 Revenue**

- 2210 Grants: 28% - $1,103,161.03
- 2210 Permits: 22% - $866,081.00
- 2210 Fees: 3% - $109,987.00
- 2210 County Appropriation: 20% - $758,660.85
- 2210 Medicaid: 5% - $189,987.88
- 2210 Resource Recovery Admin Fee: 2% - $83,646.96
- 2211 Waste Reduction Surcharge: 19% - $732,589.40

*Waste Reduction Surcharge can only be used in the Recycling Program.*
While 2016 Revenue and Expenditures appears much lower in comparison to previous years, there were some significant changes in the ACHD budget that contributed to the overall, lower than previous year financial numbers. One of the most significant reductions in 2016, came from the movement of Jail Health out of the Public Health Department Fund 2210 and into the General Fund, more specifically Corrections. Another significant event resulting in a visible reduction was a change with the Medicaid Costs Based Reimbursement payments. We received a total of $359,829 in 2014 which was due from 2011 and 2012. In 2015, we received a total of $445,973 which was due from 2013 and 2014 and an estimate of what was due for 2015. Now there are interim payments on a quarterly basis to prevent this type of influx from happening in the future.

2018 revenue shows an increase in revenue in permits for Environmental Health Field Services; such as septic and well permits (the fees increased in 2018 along with hiring new staff for those services to decrease turn around time to 14 business days or less). There was additional grant funding from reimbursement of staff time spent on the Otsego area environmental investigation.

It is important to note that the Waste Reduction Surcharge Funds and the expenditures are not Public Health revenue or expenditures. Those funds in the past have been housed in the Public Health Fund (2210) but in 2018, was moved to a Special Revenue Fund (2211) of its own. Those funds are held and coordinated on behalf of the participating governmental units of the Resource Recovery program.
There were a total of 33,740 services delivered for 2018.
This was provided by a total of 29.4 Full Time Employees (FTE).

Customers can access surveys electronically at the bottom of each webpage or receive them in a paper format. There were 255 surveys returned for 2018 with 98% of those customers responding that they agreed or strongly agreed that they were satisfied with services provided. Data is used to improve services. One change that was the result of using the customer survey voice was improving signage in the lobby area.

Public Health utilizes different venues to reach our residents such as social media. Customers can like our Facebook page and/or follow on Twitter.

We want to share emerging public health information and local resources that support healthier behavior choices.

Public Health reclassified a position to focus on marketing and communication with the citizens which was approved by the Board of Commissioners in late 2018.
Services offered through the Personal Health Division involve direct and indirect services. Staff working within these programs and outreach events improve health outcomes for our community. This is done through early identification and mitigation of communicable disease outbreak in schools and the community, catching hearing and vision problems early to optimize learning, ensuring medical providers administer and store vaccines appropriately, working with providers to increase lead testing and creating toolkits to give to patients, providing immunizations, case management and HIV/STI testing and risk reduction. Detailed below are descriptions of the various programs offered through Personal Health and some of our 2018 statistics.

## Hearing and Vision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Screening</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Vision Services</td>
<td>9955</td>
<td>9579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hearing Services</td>
<td>5880</td>
<td>5269</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hearing and Vision impacts learning and development for all children. The County’s Hearing and Vision Program screens children for hearing and vision deficits and makes referrals for follow up as appropriate. Early detection and correction of hearing and vision issues can often prevent permanent damage. Michigan law requires Public Health to provide Vision Screening for Pre-K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 9th grades. Hearing screenings are mandated for Pre–K, K, 2nd and 4th grades. We eliminate barriers to care by providing these services onsite at the schools. In 2018, we participated in a variety of kindergarten round ups throughout the county. We also continued our collaborative relationship with Head Start/Early Head Start and Allegan Professional Health Services, hosting Public Health Department clinics that not only provided hearing and vision screenings but enabled the delivery of other health services necessary for school readiness and wellness. Monthly clinics are held by appointment at the Health Department and Allegan County residents are eligible to receive a hearing and/or vision screening.

## Immunizations

Through immunization, we can protect infants and children from fourteen (14) vaccine-preventable diseases before the age of two (2). Even teens and adults need immunizations to protect their health. The Public Health Immunization Team not only provides immunizations to underserved populations but also monitors the delivery of immunizations at other health care provider settings throughout the County. Following CDC guidelines, a public health nurse assesses safe handling, delivery and education regarding immunizations. We are also responsible for hosting county wide training and continuing education for providers. Addressing the financial barriers for care, Public Health continues to offer immunizations through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, a federally-funded entitlement program that provides vaccinations at no cost to children whose parents cannot afford to pay for them. We have a similar program available for adults. In 2018, Public Health offered immunization services by appointment, one day per week, including both morning hours and afternoon hours. Additional clinics are scheduled when needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number Vaccines Administered</td>
<td>934</td>
<td>1097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number Waivers Provided</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Communicable Disease**

The County’s Communicable Disease (CD) Program promotes healthy outcomes for the community through disease surveillance, intervention, education and prevention activities. Public Health Nurses and Support Staff follow up on reportable diseases and animal bites, providing education, referral and treatment recommendations. By law all Michigan Schools report communicable disease statistics weekly to the ACHD. The CD staff analyzes the data, identifies trends, recognizes public health threats and mitigates outbreaks for the County. The Program continues to be a resource for information, guidance, treatment recommendations and in-services for medical facilities, physicians, schools and the general public regarding a wide array of health hazards. Per Public Health Code, Public Health is also responsible for preventing, controlling and managing Tuberculosis (TB) in Allegan County.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number CD Investigations</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number TB tests placed</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Children’s Special Health Care Services**

Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) is a program for children and their families with special health care needs, including chronic health problems. The CSHC Team provides information regarding service coverage and referral for specialty services based on a child’s health issues and concerns. CSHCS benefits cover more than 2,000 diagnoses. Families receive assistance through case management, care coordination and plans of care conducted by a nurse via home visits and/or telephone calls. Family centered services are discussed in order to provide support to clients and their caretakers. Community-based services are identified to help one care for the child at home and maintain normal routines. We facilitate and empower individualized and personalized care enabling individuals with special health care needs to have improved health outcomes and an enhanced quality of life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSHCS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Total Number Enrolled Clients</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>575</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sexually Transmitted Infection/HIV**

The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Program utilizes Rapid HIV testing technology. This consists of a finger stick drop of blood and a testing kit; the results are available in 20 minutes. Our ability to provide “on the spot” results is especially useful during outreach activities. Did you know Chlamydia is the most prevalent communicable disease in the Nation, Michigan, and Allegan County? To best meet the needs of the community, we provide STI and HIV testing, individualized risk reduction plans, treatment and education at a weekly clinic offered during business hours (some are walk in as needed). Most qualify for free testing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STI/HIV Clinic Visits</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Follow-Up’s</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To meet our residents where they are we collaborate with CARES, a nonprofit organization specializing in HIV services, to hold outreach clinics in Douglas and Fennville, targeting high risk populations. STI/HIV testing is also offered at the Allegan County Jail and Youth Home. “Wear One” is a successful campaign to reduce barriers to access to condom kits and risk reduction materials. “Wear One” kits are in non traditional sites such as convenience stores, restaurants, and bars to provider easy access to the community. We also provide expedited partner treatment which allows us to give medication to our clients to give to their contacts that are unable or unwilling to come to our clinic for treatment. Through research, this practice has been shown to reduce reinfection rates per Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
Lead is a naturally occurring element found in small amounts in the earth's crust. While it has some beneficial uses, it is toxic to humans and animals. Lead is particularly dangerous to children because their growing bodies absorb more lead than adults do and their brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead.

Children may also be exposed to lead by eating and drinking food or water containing lead or from dishes or glasses that contain lead, inhaling lead dust from lead-based paint or lead-contaminated soil or from playing with toys with lead paint. Data revealed that only 15% of the Allegan County children under 6 that should be tested for lead have been. Strategies to increase testing levels in Allegan County to include a development of toolkits and education for providers, families, educators and the public regarding lead testing, referrals and case management if necessary. A Lead webpage was developed that highlights these resources. Our efforts have shown results-preliminary data from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) shows that the percentage of Allegan County children tested has increased.

The Health Department received short term grant funding in 2018 to be utilized to increase access of the Hepatitis A immunization for high risk populations.

Hepatitis A Outreach

The Health Department developed and executed a work plan regarding:

- Increasing the number of Adult Hepatitis A Immunization Provider Sites
- Increasing the number of Community-based Outreach Hepatitis A Immunization Clinics conducted by the Allegan County Health Department
- Increasing the number of Adult Hepatitis A Immunization Walk In clinics at the Allegan County Health Department
- Increasing the number of Adult Hepatitis A doses provided in Allegan County. As a result of the steps taken by The Allegan County Health Department, the Allegan County Correctional Facility and Allegan General Hospital are operational in their ability to administer grant funded vaccine, enabling their ability to screen and immunize the community at the point of care within their facilities, regardless of the ability to pay.

The Health Department met the public where they are providing immunizations at Arbor Circle, Veterans Stand Down, Allegan Bridgefest, the Allegan County Sheriff’s Department, Campit and the Dunes Resort.

Additional community partners providing Hepatitis A screening and educational materials were The Allegan Area Educational Service Agency, Allegan County Community Mental Health, Healthy Allegan County Coalition, Great Start Collaborative, Allegan County Multi-Agency Collaborative Council, Community Action Agency, the Allegan County Fair and the Allegan Continuum of Care regarding homelessness.

To help mitigate this outbreak nationally and in Michigan we need to increase vaccination rates of all people to provide a herd immunity (enough people are vaccinated so the virus will not spread easily because the vaccinated individuals have antibodies towards the virus.)
Environmental Health consists of multiple programs that aid in protecting the public and environmental health of Allegan County. These programs range from on-site water supply and sewage disposal construction permits, soil erosion and sedimentation control permits and the inspection of food service establishments to help ensure safe food for the residents of the county. There are other general programs such as the inspection and regulation of pools, campgrounds, and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) facilities. These programs, permits, regulations and inspections are a part of the overall vision of creating a healthy Allegan County in which to live, work and play. There was additional staffing approved by the BOC which aided in meeting the 14 day business day or less benchmark for EH field services 92-100% for 2018.

Water Quality

The water supply construction program consists of pre-evaluations, water supply construction permits, and final inspections. All water supply construction is governed by the Allegan County Water and Sewage Regulations and laws of the State of Michigan. These regulations and laws give guidance for construction materials and standards as well as water quality. In addition to permits for private homes, the Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) permits and regulates Type II or non-community water supplies which consist of water supplies for schools, churches,
Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control

The Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control (SESC) program helps to prevent the movement of sedimentation at construction sites. When land is disturbed within 500 feet of a lake, pond or stream or property over an acre of land is disturbed, the SESC program aids in the prevention of sedimentation moving into surface waters or onto a neighboring properties.

In 2018, ACHD issued 327 SESC permits and performed 1161 inspections in the County.

Onsite Sewage Disposal

The onsite sewage disposal program consists of three parts: site & soil evaluation, construction permit, and final inspection. The site & soil evaluation determines the soils ability to accept and treat sewage effluent by determining soil type, seasonal high water table, lot size, and topography. A construction permit is issued based on soil type, the size of structure and potential water usage. The permit includes size of septic tank(s), dispersal system, specific size and location, and other factors which will help in the treatment and dispersal of the wastewater. Once the sewage system is installed, but before it is covered, a final inspection is performed.

On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On-Site Sewage Disposal Permits Issued</th>
<th>On-Site Sewage Disposal System Finals Completed</th>
<th>Failed On-Site Sewage Disposal System Evaluated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>700</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On-Site Sewage Disposal Permits Issued</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Site Sewage Disposal System Finals Completed</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed On-Site Sewage Disposal System Evaluated</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SESC Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SESC Permits Issued</th>
<th>SESC Inspections Conducted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SESC Permits Issued</th>
<th>SESC Inspections Conducted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Food Service Program

The food service program is responsible for the licensing and inspection of 453 fixed food service establishments, special transitory food units (fair food rigs), mobile food units and temporary food events such as pancake breakfasts. The team inspects these establishments to ensure compliance with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 2009 Food Code, Michigan Modified to help prevent food borne illness outbreak.

New and remodeled fixed food establishments must be pre-approved through a plan review process prior to beginning construction. The food team is also responsible for investigating all complaints, food borne illnesses and training of certified food managers. In 2018, the Food Service Program performed 662 fixed food service establishment inspections, 120 temporary food event inspections and investigated 17 food service related complaints.

Other Environmental Health Programs

There are other programs that Environmental Health Team members are responsible for inspecting/monitoring to ensure compliance.

These are inspections of public swimming pools, campgrounds, MDHHS facilities, septic tank pumper trucks and body art facilities. In addition to distributing radon test kits, bathing beach monitoring, and address assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Swimming Pool Inspections</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campground Inspections</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Michigan Beach Samples</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body Art Facility Inspections</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground Water Monitoring/Investigations</td>
<td>92 samples collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 2 Water Supply Monitoring</td>
<td>242 sites monitored</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Allegan County Resource Recovery Program coordinates recycling service delivery on behalf of 18 Participating Governmental Units (PGUs) in Allegan County. The Resource Recovery Program administers curbside and drop-site agreements, oversees the operation of three contracted regional recycling depot sites, collects household hazardous waste and sharps year-around, and organizes regional collection events across the county. The program promotes recycling education and proper disposal of household hazardous waste. Recycling and proper disposal of materials protects our environment and our many surface and groundwater resources.

Allegan County Scrap Tire Clean-up Day

Allegan County Resource Recovery partnered with the Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium to receive a scrap tire clean-up grant from the MDEQ. Allegan County filled five 50’ semi trailers with approximately 4,167 tires, a 74% increase from the number of tires collected in 2017.

⇒ In 2018, eight regional events and several local events were held.

⇒ Allegan County Resource Recovery in coordination with Participating Governmental Units collected over 1,926.11 tons of recycling through curbside and municipal drop-off sites.

⇒ Allegan County contracts with three Regional Recycling Depot Sites to provide collection service for the recycling of tires, electronics, appliances, Styrofoam, and single stream recyclables. The three sites recorded a total of 1,089 participant visits throughout the year.

⇒ The Household Hazardous Waste Program collected 22,262 lbs. of unwanted paints, pesticides, cleaners, auto fluids, etc. These materials were properly disposed of by certified vendors that specialize in hazardous waste disposal.

Allegan County Solid Waste Planning Committee

The Resource Recovery Coordinator is the contact for Allegan County’s Solid Waste Management Plan and is a member of the Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium. In 2018, the committee met several times to discuss solid waste and recycling program needs for Allegan County residents.
The ACHD and Animal Control partner with Wishbone Pet Rescue Alliance who operate the Animal Shelter. Wishbone offers pet adoption services, education about the importance of safe animal care and housing and reuniting strays with their families through the Animal Shelter.

In 2018, the Animal Shelter adopted out 277 cats, 234 dogs, returned 3 cats and 181 dogs to their owners’. The shelter also offers spay and neutering services to help control the pet population. The Animal Shelter participates in corporate and community sponsored adoption events throughout the year to expand awareness of the shelter and to adopt pets to new families.

In collaboration with the Allegan County Sheriff’s Department and Correct Care providers, the ACHD attempts to assure that residents of the Correctional Facility are receiving services that deliver appropriate standard of care, are evidence–based, timely and utilizing resources efficiently. Health screenings are performed, medical, dental and mental health issues are addressed, pharmaceutical interventions are managed and risk prevention is initiated in order to positively impact community health outcomes and reduce financial liability.

There is a association between socioeconomic factors, education, and incarceration that impacts a overall state of wellness of a community.
The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Division coordinates the public health response to natural or human-caused emergencies. These emergencies include actual or potential public health hazard, such as communicable disease outbreaks, environmental sanitation hazards, emergencies involving toxic and hazardous materials, and other chemical, biological and radiological incidents. The PHEP develops plans, conducts trainings and exercises and collaborates with Community, Regional, and State stakeholders to prepare for and protect the public in a disaster or emergency situation.

The following are some highlights of 2018:

- **Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Distribution Node, Transportation and Security Full Scale Exercise**

  The Allegan County Health Department’s SNS Distribution Node, Transportation and Security Full Scale Exercise was designed and facilitated to assess the capabilities of the Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) to effectively and efficiently manage medical countermeasures (MCM) operations in the event of an anthrax release. The exercise evaluated the capabilities of the ACHD and their county partners, Allegan County Emergency Management, and Allegan County Sheriff Department to receive and distribute medical countermeasures (MCM) during a biological event to all Points of Dispensing (PODS). The exercise tested an annual call down of all personnel (volunteers and staff) required to support an MCM mission. The purpose of this exercise was to identify strengths to be maintained and built upon, identify potential areas for further improvement, and support development of corrective actions.

- **Strategic National Stockpile Sharepoint Functional Exercise**

  The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS) requires state and local health jurisdictions to annually exercise the requesting procedures. This exercise tested the capacity of the Michigan Strategic National Stockpile (MISNS) SharePoint Site to request Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) resources, providing health departments and hospitals the opportunity to demonstrate competency in this process.

  The Allegan County Health Department, the Allegan County Emergency Management, the Region 5 Medical Coordination Center (MCC), the Michigan State Police (MSP) – Emergency Management Homeland Security Division (EMHSD) District Coordinator, and the Community Health
We participate in a variety of community outreach and educational opportunities, as well as facilitate trainings for environmental and health care professionals and members of the public. We understand we need to meet the community where it is at! Strong public health infrastructure is all sectors working together; public safety, education, businesses, non-profits, and health care providers all impact the health and quality of life of Allegan County residents. Public Health...Prevent....Protect...and Promote
In summary, Allegan County Public Health Department, will continue to collaborate both locally and regionally to improve health outcomes and quality of life for Allegan County residents.

In 2019, we welcome a new County Commissioner Rick Cain. He is replacing Don Black who was a County Commissioner for District 7 since 1999. In addition to our current service delivery, we will be working with stakeholders on increasing awareness of the utilization of the HiAP approach and their influence on addressing social determinants of health; why that benefits communities as a whole. Ensure early childhood providers are implementing adverse childhood experiences screenings (ACEs) to collect data locally to drive community planning. Continue to collaborate with other public health departments through cross-jurisdictional sharing projects to improve workforce development for public health professionals and increase healthy behaviors. Those include increasing access to physical exercise opportunities, healthier eating, and sexual behavior practices. Providing a venue for the citizen voice to be heard through collaborating on a citizen survey. Work towards benchmarks set for service delivery such as environmental health services to ensure we continue to meet our 14 business day benchmark. We will continue to work with medical providers to increase the percentage of kids tested for lead so we can ensure early detection and appropriate follow up so they are ready to learn and thrive. Strive to reduce communicable disease rates by collaborating with schools and daycare and also reducing barriers to healthy behavior choices. Using non-traditional partners to hand out free condom kits with risk reduction information at convenience stores, bars, restaurants, etc.; meeting our customers where they are at! Implementing primary surveillance for vector borne disease such as Zika and Lyme.

Together; Striving for a Healthier Allegan County.