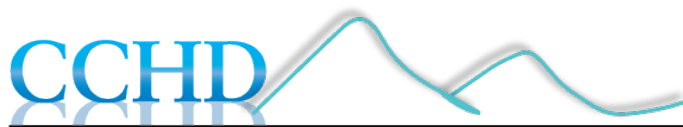


*P R E V E N T      P R O M O T E      P R O T E C T*

# CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Clinton County **HEALTH** Department

[www.ClintonHealth.org](http://www.ClintonHealth.org)

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Clinton County residents,

The endemic phase of the COVID-19 pandemic has provided businesses and service agencies with a natural opportunity to reevaluate how they function, achieve objectives, and define success. The Clinton County Health Department is no different. This opportunity to reflect upon and reassess who we are, coupled with the addition of a number of new individuals in leadership positions, compelled us to move slowly with our corporate reevaluation and Strategic Planning process.


Already recognized state-wide for our programs, grant initiatives, and long-time accreditation, we have taken an extended look at our internal and external operations. The goal of this process was twofold. First, to discover gaps in programming that may lead to new initiatives or to identify educational or programmatic services that we can strengthen to improve their effectiveness. Second, finding opportunities to foster new relationships and discover ways to deepen others, expand our network of cooperation, and increase the health-related benefits for county residents.

Internally, we have recognized the need to recruit, retain, and reinvest in our exceptional Public Health workforce. This necessitates investment in our employees through a commitment to education, recognition, and staff wellness. Externally, we have chosen to maximize, and to a large degree, personalize our relationships with the community members, elected officials, and our community partners. This effort to meet people where they are, both literally and figuratively, is an example of our overarching goal to emphasize equity across all levels of public health.

I hope you share our sense of pride as we reflect on all that has been accomplished over the past 67 years since the CCHD was formed, and that you also eagerly look forward to what lies ahead as we near our seventh decade of service to the people and environment of Clinton County. Good health, good decisions, better nutrition, and a healthy environment involve people working in partnership towards shared goals. We encourage you to keep an eye out for our press releases, social media posts, and any opportunity to work collaboratively. Please join us in this common mission to help our communities live longer, healthier lives.

Yours in Good Health.

Jeffrey S. Sisson



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## CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS 2022

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- Richard Potiker - Legislative Liaison
- Kathleen Camelo, MD - President (resigned 7/2022)
- George Miller, RN - Vice President and President (appointed 8/2022)
- Victor Ludewig, MD - Vice President (appointed 8/2022)
- Jeffrey Sisson, MS, DPH - Secretary (appointed 5/2022)
- Patrick Bowen, Town of Plattsburgh Finance Manager
- Gilbert Desmangles, MD (appointed 12/2022)
- Edward Garrow, Owner/Contractor, Ed Garrow & Sons
- Lynn Howard, RN, BSN
- Rebecca King, VMD
- Erin Spees, MD

CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## VISION

Healthy People in a Healthy Community

## MISSION

To improve and protect the health, well-being,  
and environment of the people of Clinton County

## CORE VALUES

### *Advocacy*

Protect our community by creating, championing, and implementing fair and just policies, plans, interventions and laws that support health.

### *Collaboration*

Foster genuine relationships to identify threats to health, enhance responsiveness and align resources to achieve shared goals.

### *Equity*

Ensure opportunities for everyone to attain their highest level of health by identifying and removing obstacles to health and wellness.

### *Innovation*

Use ongoing evaluation, research, continuous quality improvement, and teamwork to adapt quickly and respond creatively to community needs.

### *Integrity*

Adhere to ethical principles and serve with honesty, accountability and transparency.

### *Service*

Deliver responsive public health solutions and communications through a knowledgeable, empathetic, and culturally competent workforce.





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



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## CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## PREVENT...PROMOTE...PROTECT



## ADMINISTRATION DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

**Division Objective**

The role of the Administration Division (ADM) is to develop and direct the long range and day-to-day operations of the Clinton County Health Department through infrastructure oversight and systems management. Administration provides the primary support and coordination to support the goals and objectives of the health department and its Divisions.

**Administration Division's 2022 Annual Highlights**

- Planned, created, and completed the COVID-19 Hot Wash with CCHD staff
- MRC volunteers contributed over 300 hours to CCHD activities and initiatives in 2022
- 100% of CCHD staff completed their Annual Health Assessment and Mandated Training requirements in 2022
- Provided Logistical Support (site selection, planning, set-up, operation, tear down) for 49 Point of Distribution (POD)s in 2022

**Annual Overview**

The Clinton County Health Department (CCHD) values accreditation and is committed to continuous improvement, transparency, and accountability. As the sole national accrediting body for public health in the U.S., the [Public Health Accreditation Board \(PHAB\)](#) works to advance and transform public health practice by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation. Public Health Accreditation is awarded by PHAB to health departments that meet a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused, and evidence-based standards.

CCHD achieved National Public Health Accreditation in 2015 and was reaccredited by PHAB in 2021. In 2022, CCHD completed and submitted an annual report to PHAB. The purpose of the annual report is to show continued advancement in quality and performance and ensure the department remains in conformity with the requirements set forth by PHAB. PHAB accepted this report and stated:

***“CCHD continues to adapt and learn from the COVID-19 pandemic, shift staff responsibilities, and provide valuable, equitable public health services to its county.”***

Over the next year, the department will continue to foster teamwork, collaboration, and continuous quality improvement within the department. Activities will include increased use of quality improvement tools and completion of formal quality improvement projects, staff training, sharing of lessons learned, and further development of a department-wide performance management system.

Accreditation encourages health departments to keep pace with the changing landscape of public health practice. By maintaining its accreditation status, CCHD has demonstrated a capacity to continue to evolve, improve and advance as it protects the health of our community.

### Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program

The Emergency Preparedness Coordinator continued to perform Incident Command functions, which included Liaison Officer and Deputy Logistics Section Chief in the County's Incident Command Structure. As vaccine demand increased with the call for COVID-19 boosters, site visits to potential POD locations became a major point of emphasis.

Clinton Community College (CCC) became the “home base” for most vaccinations (in a joint effort with the New York State Department of Health that eventually ended on February 10, 2022). Vaccination PODs not held at CCC traveled from site-to-site in order to make the COVID-19 vaccine easily attainable to members of the public throughout the County. These Mobile Vaccination PODs (MVPs) required the complete set-up and teardown of the POD (since none of the supplies could be stored onsite). The infrastructure at each location was as unique as the location type (which included facilities such as high schools, colleges, and orchards). The PHEP employees took responsibility for managing this process, and worked with other CCHD Divisions and County Departments to ensure that the locations were accessible, safe, and functional. Eventually, the weekly PODs transitioned back to the Health Department's Old Court House Large Meeting Room.



*POD set-up at Clinton Community College*

COVID-19 vaccination demand increased again with the release of the bivalent booster. Additionally, the increase in Mpox cases led to a local public health response that included vaccination events. PHEP staff arranged for a weekly mass vaccination POD at the YMCA's Old Wellness Center, two stand-alone PODs at SUNY Plattsburgh's Memorial Hall, and one at SUNY Plattsburgh's Algonquin Hall to address these needs. Again, this process included identifying usable sites, planning site layouts, and supplying the PODs with the necessary infrastructure (acquiring tables and chairs from partners, maintenance of any borrowed vaccination space, and sending or bringing necessary supplies to the site). The weekly COVID-19 booster vaccination PODs eventually concluded at the YMCA in mid-November.

PHEP became more self-sufficient in 2022. Grant funds were utilized to purchase a pallet jack, a Cradlepoint Communications Hub with external antenna (affectionately referred to as our “Beast”), 16 tables, 54 chairs, and bins for storage. These assets allow us to respond to community needs in a more efficient manner, eliminating the need to find, borrow, and transport assets from partner agencies.



Throughout the year, the PHEP Team ran into inconveniences, but found ways to work around them. We are proud of our ability to pivot at a moment's notice and still complete the task at hand. Just as no two emergencies are the same, the same can be said for PODs.

### Focus for 2023

The primary goals for the ADM Division in 2023 are:

- Complete the 2023-2028 CCHD Strategic Plan
- Revise BOH Corporate Manual
- Finalize the COVID-19 Hot Wash After Action Report, and use the *action items* and *corrective actions* that were identified through the process, to update the PHEPR and its associated Emergency Response Plans.
- Implement employee wellness program activities to support and improve employee health and wellbeing.

## HEALTH PLANNING & PROMOTION DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

### Division Objective

Health Planning and Promotion (HPP) specializes in community health education and engagement and is dedicated to changing the context in which health related decisions are made. This is realized through the systems, policy and environmental change initiatives the division fosters. In 2022, HPP continued to support the departmental COVID-19 response efforts, especially early in the year. As guidance evolved, more attention was once again directed back to HPP's engagement, education and environmental change work but this time in a post-pandemic world.

### Health Planning & Promotion 2022 Annual Highlights

- Facilitated 49 health related policies, across 5 domains (complete streets, breastfeeding friendly, school wellness, food waste reduction and worksite wellness)
- Supported 18 built environment/activated spaces projects
- Received WIC's 2022 Gold Breastfeeding Award of Excellence
- Released the county's first Food Action Plan
- Secured health experience feedback from 1,080 Clinton County residents

### Annual Overview

#### Community Engagement

Much of 2022 was invested in understanding partner priorities, community needs, and new and persisting obstacles to health faced by Clinton County's residents, as well as devising plans to address these obstacles. Aptly timed to help in this process, the Community Health Assessment (CHA) was one of HPP's biggest undertakings in 2022. HPP facilitated the third iteration of the Resident Health Survey as part of the assessment process, reaching over 1,000 residents, despite ongoing pandemic restrictions reducing opportunities to connect with residents directly. The Health Priority Setting Session in July included invites to



25% more stakeholders than in the past and CCHD designed virtual participation options for all CHA activities to maximize engagement. Although health priorities did not change, a refreshed Community Health Improvement Plan features activities and approaches that address infrastructure, program development and education that will be tackled collaboratively over the next three years. Related to food/nutrition security, one of our health priorities, HPP also completed and released the county's first Food Action Plan, with help from ChangeLab Solutions.



*Community partners helped select health priorities for the next Community Health Improvement Plan.*

### Health Education

Building off successes in 2021, the entire HPP team continued to take advantage of virtual approaches to connect with residents. Eat Smart, Waste Less facilitated three Food Waste Warriors Facebook groups.



*Pine Harbour staff learn about food waste reduction before implementing a policy and solar digester on facility grounds.*

An Earth Day Green Cone social media promotion was so successful in reaching residents, 120 people signed up with the Clinton County Landfill to purchase a solar food waste digester (with only 20 on hand, HPP quickly devised a plan to meet demand).



*A resident purchases a green cone from the Clinton County Landfill as part of Eat Smart, Waste Less 2022 Earth Day promotion.*



The annual Food Service Professional Academy was held over Zoom and reached 80 school food service professionals. CCHD Safety Guides were reworked to coordinate with the seasons and shared primarily through social media. In all, HPP facilitated just under 450 social media engagements throughout the year. There was a return of in-person events in 2022, too. HPP attended health fairs, safety events, and expos, connecting with more than 500 residents through these types of events.

While a majority of Women Infants and Children (WIC) families continued to access the program virtually, the WIC team slowly welcomed families back for in-person appointments, especially new enrollees. The program assisted families in navigating unprecedented formula shortages and stretched food budgets throughout the year. Clinton County WIC experienced an overall increase in enrollment by the end of the year, likely related to the ease of remote appointments, an increase in the fruit and vegetable benefit and Medicaid continuous coverage for families through the pandemic. The local program was also recognized with the WIC Breastfeeding Award of Excellence (Gold) for providing exemplary breastfeeding promotion and support.

Table 1. WIC and breastfeeding data by year

	2020	2021	2022
<u>WIC Program Enrollment</u>			
Women	4,047	3,105	3,496
Infants	3,996	3,200	3,256
Children	10,069	10,443	10,443
<u>WIC Clinic Visits</u>			
Nutrition/Certifications/Income	2,092	4,187	5,124
Telephone appointments	3,580	132	3,522
Telehealth appointments	72	45	0
Food Dollars Expended	964,572.75	814,357.30	949,293.34
<u>Farmers Market</u>			
Coupons Distributed	1,314	1,255	1,060
Dollars Expended	21,365	8,080.00	5,500.00
<u>Breastfeeding Program</u>			
Breast Pumps Distributed	60	56	47
Hospital Grade Pumps (loaned out average per month)	*	22	14
Women Enrolled in Peer Counseling Services (Average per month)	76	61	54
BF Services contact for Peer Counselor, Designated Breastfeeding Expert or Breastfeeding Coordinator	1058	730	616
<i>*Data not provided by NYSDOH WIC</i>			

## Healthy Policy & Placemaking

HPP hit a new record of facilitating a total of 49 health related policies in 2022, mostly through the work of the Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC) and Creating Breastfeeding Friendly Communities (CBFC) teams. CHSC moved into its second year, making great strides with all grant objectives. CHSC completed work with 7 worksites and recruited an additional 8 sites to develop wellness policies focused on food service guidelines. Work continued in 5 school districts with 1 additional district recruited for a total of 6 school districts focused on enhancing nutrition and physical activity policies and interventions. Early Care Education settings were delayed in the first half of the year pending state guidance but 12 sites were eventually recruited, focusing on pre-K sites to start. Complete street projects were completed in 12 townships, 11 concept plans developed and an additional 5 towns recruited for year 2.



*CHSC and St. Joseph's Community Center staff install a new bus shelter at the center.*



*Clinton County Cornell Cooperative Extension staff proudly show off their new breastfeeding space and Breastfeeding Friendly certification.*

Creating Breastfeeding Friendly Communities (CBFC) was awarded a 1 year extension in February of 2022 while the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) worked to release a new Request for Applications (RFA). The regional grant partnered with 11 worksites to develop and implement lactation accommodation policies and spaces impacting an estimated 400 employees. Fifteen child care providers developed and implemented Chest/Breastfeeding Friendly policies and received NYS' Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care designation. A total of 8 health care providers received NYS' Breastfeeding Friendly Health Care Provider designation. For 4 practices this was their initial designation, the other 4 practices were required to update and resubmit their policies for redesignation after a 5 year period. Three Baby Café's® serving 4 counties hosted 70 meetings to support nursing families and 4 coalitions continued work to normalize chest/breastfeeding in the region. In addition, over 500 employees received evidence-based lactation trainings, 246 traditional and social media advertisements aimed to normalize chest/breastfeeding were created and released, and 7 professionals were trained as Certified Lactation Counselors (CLCs). In November, a proposal for the new NYSDOH Breastfeeding, Chestfeeding, and Lactation Friendly NY (BFF-NY) grant was submitted.

**Focus for 2023**

- Continue to serve as a leader in facilitating health related policies and share our lessons learned.
- Further explore resident responses to the 2022 Resident Health Survey to better understand nuanced health experiences and disparities in our community.
- Be a contributing partner in regional chronic disease prevention efforts.
- Seek and secure funding to continue to support food waste reduction and other emerging public health issues, such as firearm safety.
- Identify needed population health data and work with partners to better access, exchange and use this data to inform public health undertakings.

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**HEALTH CARE SERVICES DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS**
**Division Objective**

Health Care Services (HCS) is a multi-programmatic and direct services division with very specific operating regulations and oversight. These include Communicable Disease under NYS Sanitary Code, Early Intervention covered under Article 25, the Committee for Preschool Special Education covered under the New York State Education Department., the Immunization Program covered under Article 28 and the Licensed Home Care Services Agency (LHCSA) program covered under Article 36. The LHCSA is the umbrella for the Family Health Home Visiting (FHHV) and Childhood Lead Poisoning Primary Prevention (CLPPP) programs. Health Care Services also maintains a Clinical Laboratory Certificate of Waiver (CLIA) for on-site Human Immunodeficiency Virus, hematocrit, COVID-19, and lead testing.

The HCS Division impacts the health of the community members, particularly those at risk for adverse health outcomes, through the implementation of primary and secondary preventative interventions.

**Health Care Services 2022 Annual Highlights**

- Administered 6,529 COVID-19 vaccines
- Administered 746 additional vaccines
- Held 205 immunization clinics
- Received 516 Early Intervention/Preschool referrals

**Annual Overview**

With COVID case investigations and contact tracing requirements being normalized, HCS was able to return to the pre-pandemic core public health focus.

**Immunization Program**

In 2022, 6,529 COVID-19 vaccines were administered to persons 6 months of age and older (See Table 2).

In early December, it was announced that one of the large pediatric offices was closing displacing approximately 5,000 pediatric patients. CCHD, CVPH, the Adirondack Accountable Care Organization (ACO) and Plattsburgh Primary Care collaborated to develop strategies to assure patients would continue to receive needed care. CCHD was identified as being able to provide gap services such as immunizations, lead screening, and developmental screening until the families could identify a pediatric medical home.

Table 2. Number and types of vaccines administered by year

Vaccine	2020	2021	2022
Hepatitis A	11	0	3
Hepatitis B	12	7	30
TwinRix (Hepatitis A/B)	5	3	18
IPV (Polio)	4	5	34
Hib	0	1	2
HPV	4	8	2
Meningococcal ACWY	33	31	46
Bexsero (Meningitis B)	0	0	2
MMR	13	13	44
PPSV 23 (Pneumococcal-23)	4	1	1
PCV 13 (Pneumococcal-13)	0	0	1
Pentacel	0	0	1
Rabies	105	47	46
Tdap	20	17	51
DTap	1	4	4
Varicella	14	15	33
Influenza	413	345	464
High Dose Influenza	*	*	160
COVID-19 Moderna		11,828	1,716
COVID -19 Pfizer >12		5,568	4,237
COVID -19 Pfizer Pedi (5-11)			488
COVID-19 Moderna Pedi (6m – 5y)			88
JYNNEOS			90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>17,893</b>	<b>7,561</b>

\*High Dose Influenza numbers were included in the Influenza number for 2020 and 2021

### Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP)

Funded by a grant from New York State, the CLPPP aims to protect children from lead exposure by identifying and removing the source.

Any child with an elevated lead level is offered nursing and environmental home assessments. A home inspection by a sanitarian from Environmental Health Services (EHS) is conducted. Case management by a registered nurse is completed, which includes parent education regarding sources of lead, risk factors, how to clean to minimize the lead exposure, and nutrition including foods high in iron, vitamin C and calcium which helps to reduce lead levels. The lead nurse makes contact with the families a minimum of monthly to assure compliance with follow-up care and the lead reduction plan. The nurse also completes developmental screening. In 2022, the nurse followed 6 children with elevated lead levels. The nurse tracks provider compliance with requirements. Provider education and follow-up regarding lead testing requirements and guidelines is another component of case management.

With the closure of the large pediatric practice, CCHD purchased a Lead Care II lead analyzer to provide lead screening which is covered under the CLIA certificate.

Table 3. Lead case data by year

Lead Data		2020	2021	2022
Blood Lead Level	5-9.9 mcg/dL	7	4	5
	10-14 mcg/dL	3	2	0
	15-19 mcg/dL	0	1	0
	>20 mcg/dL	0	0	1
New Elevated Lead Cases		10	7	6
Active Case Management		10	7	13

### Communicable Disease

Public health nurses perform surveillance, confidential case investigations, outbreak management and contact identifications in an effort to prevent the spread of infectious disease (see Table 4).

CCHD contracted with PCG to hire one contracted staff member through the Public Health Corp Fellowship program to continue with COVID-19 investigations within the identified high-risk populations (5 years or less and those 65 and older).

In June, the first case of Monkeypox (MPox) outside of New York City was confirmed. CCHD, along with community stakeholders, developed an MPox planning committee. New York State Department of Health identified CCHD as the North Country MPox vaccine provider. HCS staff hosted MPox vaccine Point of Distribution (POD) including a POD during the October Pride Parade. Throughout 2022, CCHD staff administered 90 Jynneos (MPox) vaccines to community members.

Table 4. Number of reported communicable diseases cases by year

<b>Communicable Disease*</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Anaplasmosis	14	19	13
Babesiosis	0	0	3
Campylobacter	13	10	9
Chlamydia	206	163	142
COVID-19	1,365	8,467	8,111
Cryptosporidiosis	4	2	3
E. Coli STEC not 0157	2	3	0
Giardiasis	11	4	1
Gonorrhea	17	57	23
H. influenza (invasive) (Non-type B)	2	0	1
<i>Hepatitis A</i>	0	0	1
<i>Hepatitis B – Acute</i>	1	0	1
<i>Hepatitis B – Chronic</i>	2	12	1
<i>Hepatitis B – Chronic Inmate</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>Hepatitis B – Prenatal</i>	0	0	0
Hepatitis C – Acute	4	3	5
Hepatitis C – Chronic	41	25	34
Hepatitis C – Chronic Inmate	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hepatitis C – AB+, RNA -	N/A	17	20
Legionellosis	2	3	2
Lyme Disease	95	208	124
Meningitis – Aseptic	1	1	2
<i>Meningitis – other(not bacterial/ meningococcal)</i>	0	0	0
<i>Pertussis</i>	1	0	0
Powassan	0	0	1
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	2	0	0
Salmonellosis	8	8	15
Shigella	0	1	5
Streptococcal - Group A (invasive)	2	0	1
Streptococcal - Group B (invasive)	11	7	4
<i>Streptococcal - Pneumonia</i>	5	6	6
Syphilis	0	11	7
Tuberculosis	0	0	1
Yersiniosis	0	0	8
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>9,127</b>	<b>8,544</b>



### Tuberculosis Program

The mission of the Tuberculosis (TB) Program is to identify and treat active TB disease and latent TB infection (LTBI). Despite reduced state and national cases, Clinton County remains at risk of TB spread due to its geographical position on the international border with Canada, large numbers of international college students and a state prison system.

CCHD provides Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) to any active TB cases. DOT requires the nurse to directly observe the patient taking their daily TB medications. In 2022, CCHD nurses provided DOT to one active TB patient (see Table 5).

Table 5. Tuberculosis case data by year

Program Activities		2020	2021	2022
Chest Clinic Referrals for LTBI or Active Tb		1	This is no longer a service provided by CCHD	
Tuberculin Skin Tests (TST) at CCHD		20	37	46
DOT Contacts	By CCHD	0	0	12
	By Partner Agency	0	0	0
Newly diagnosed Active TB Cases		0	0	1
Initiation of recommended 4 drug regimen – Active TB		N/A	N/A	100%
Active TB Cases completing treatment within 12 months or less		N/A	N/A	N/A

### Developmental Services:

In 2022, an evaluation of the Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) program was completed exposing a lack of quick resources for families on diagnosis of specific conditions. As a result of the evaluation, the team developed resource packets for specific diagnoses and programs including autism, Down syndrome, hearing & visual impairments, Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) access, and Social Security Disability. The packets were distributed to families and providers upon request and were made available electronically. CCHD received technical assistance from the Westchester Institute for Human Development to continue creating and updating the packets.

The Early Intervention Program team created an Ethics Council to explore the problem of provider and service shortages in Early Intervention children in Clinton County. The stakeholders included CCHD service coordinators, early intervention providers, preschool providers, CCHD Quality Coordinator, agency administrators and local community partners through the Birth to Three Alliance.

Table 6. Children’s Developmental Services program overview by year

<b>Program Information</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Early Intervention Program (EIP)</b>			
Number of referrals	252	271	343
Unduplicated count of children	312	302	376
Total number of discharges	139	128	209
Reasons for closure:			
• Children – delay/condition resolved	12	8	14
• EI Evaluation found child not eligible	31	10	46
• Family refused	18	14	22
• Unable to locate family/moved	13/3	19/4	32/7
• Transitioned to 3-5 program	74	68	76
• Age-out, not eligible for 3-5 program	6	5	12
<b>Preschool Special Education Program</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Number of referrals	198	245	243
Unduplicated count of children on June 1 <sup>st</sup>	296	323	328
Number of Preschool meetings	751	765	749

### Focus for 2023

- Recruiting and retaining referrals for CYSHCN program to align referral resources with families throughout Clinton County.
- Find resources, services and creative solutions to the on-going provider shortages through the Clinton County Early Intervention Ethics Council.
- Complete Inject-Safe Barrier trial.
- Streamline medical supplies inventory process.
- Program evaluation for families of newborns in Clinton County. Research and identification of an evidence based program to model in meeting the Prevention Agenda item – Promote Healthy Women, Infants and Children.
- Work with individual provider offices caring for children under 3 years of age to improve pediatric blood lead testing rates for 1 and 2 year olds.
- Plan for the gap in pediatric care providing developmental and lead screening, offering vaccination to keep children up-to-date per the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccination schedule.
- Educational campaigns for the public on the prevention of environmentally acquired diseases.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

### Division Objectives

In accordance with the New York State and Clinton County Sanitary Code, the Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Division implements and maintains authority over the following specific environmental programs:

- Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention
- Agricultural Fairgrounds
- Bathing Beaches
- Campgrounds
- Children's Camps
- Clean Indoor Air Act
- Cooling Towers
- Engineering Reviews
- Food Service Establishments
- Individual Sewage Treatment
- Lead Risk Assessments (residential)
- Mass Gatherings
- Migrant Labor Camps
- Mobile Home Parks
- Nuisance Complaints
- Public Functions
- Public Water Systems
- Rabies Prevention
- Realty Subdivisions
- Swimming Pools
- Tanning Facilities
- Temporary Residences

### Environmental Health and Safety 2022 Annual Highlights

- Returned to pre-pandemic inspection work capacity
- Received \$490,000 for the Septic System Replacement Grant from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)
- Investigated/reviewed the occurrence of discolored water in the City of Plattsburgh Water System
- Review and approval of the Emergency Water Main Replacement Project for the City of Plattsburgh Water System
- Conducted (20) Office Conference Enforcements and (1) Administrative Hearing in 2022 for all programs

### Annual Overview

The EHS Division returned to pre-pandemic capacity and focused on the required inspections in 2022. As described further in this section, a total of 682 facility inspections were completed in 2022 compared to 587 in 2021 and 466 in 2020.

### Food Service Establishments

There was a slight increase in permitted Food Service Establishments (FSEs) in 2022 (471 facilities, which includes temporary events) when compared to 2021 (429 facilities). The following is a summary of the required inspections of the FSE programs:

- High Risk Inspections (2 inspections per facility based menu complexity): 82 facilities permitted with 154 inspections completed. Two facilities were not inspected since they closed permanently and 1 facility did not operate (annual harvest dinner event). All other required inspections were completed.



- Medium Risk Inspections (1 inspection per facility, cook and serve menu): 234 facilities permitted with 228 inspections completed. Four facilities were not inspected since they closed early/permanently for the year, 7 facilities were permitted and did not operate, and 3 facilities opened in late 2022 and will be inspected in 2023. One active facility was not inspected in 2022 since they closed for the holidays; however, this facility was inspected in early January 2023. All other required inspections were completed.
- Low Risk Inspection (1 inspection per facility, minimal food preparation): 33 facilities were permitted with 32 inspections completed. Two facilities were not inspected due to not operating or opening late in 2022. All other required inspections were completed.

The EHS Division conducted 6 Office Conference Enforcements and numerous re-inspections throughout 2022 as a result of violations cited at FSEs. Numerous violations in 2022 were associated with facility cleanliness, which could be attributed to the change in work force as a result of the pandemic.



### **Public Water Systems**

The Public Water System (PWS) program completed all Public Water System Sanitary Surveys, as outlined in the Drinking Water Enhancement Program (DWEP) Work Plan (Grant Year: April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022). The April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 DWEP Work Plan is on track to meet the program objectives. As of December 31, 2022, EHS Division staff had completed 121 of 142 required public water system inspections for the 2022-2023 grant year. The EHS Division was part of a regulatory review for the 2 City of Plattsburgh issues, listed below:

- City of Plattsburgh Discolored Water: Ongoing discolored/stained water in the City water distribution system that lasted approximately 6 weeks. After further review and testing, the issue was attributed to increased manganese in the water. The EHS Division will continue to work with the City and New York State Department of Health in 2023 to review water quality for the City water system.
- City of Plattsburgh Emergency Water Main Replacement: The EHS Division completed a engineering review of plans and specifications for the replacement of approximately 5 miles of water mains on the former Air Force Base. The review and construction was expedited (as an emergency project) due to severe deterioration of the existing water main.



*City of Plattsburgh Water Supply Reservoir*

The non-mandatory private well sampling program was continued in 2022, with the EHS Division awarded \$2,000 from the Clinton County Soil & Water District. In 2022, 98 samples were collected and analyzed. Of the 98 samples, 41 samples (42%) were total coliform positive, while 0 samples were *E. coli* positive. The Clinton County Soil & Water District has awarded the EHS Division with \$2,000 to continue this program in 2023.

### **Individual Sewage Treatment Systems / Engineering Reviews**

The EHS Division permitted 184 Individual Sewage Treatment Systems (ISTS) applications in 2022, which is a decrease from 237 in 2021. Of the 184 approved applications, 107 approvals were for new construction (i.e., new homes). Furthermore, Clinton County was awarded an additional \$490,000 for Round 3 of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Septic System Replacement Program. These funds were available to resident dwellings located within 250 feet of the Isle La Motte watershed shoreline, which included shoreline along Lake Champlain from Cumberland Head to Rouses Point. In 2022, there was limited interest in the Septic System Replacement Program for residents. The EHS Division is exploring options to expand this program to other areas of Clinton County. Further, the EHS Division is working with the Lake George Lake Champlain Regional Planning Board to provide further outreach and education to the residents regarding failing septic systems and operation and maintenance of septic systems.

### **Rabies Prevention Program**

In 2022, 5 rabies clinics were held with a total of 877 domestic animals receiving free vaccinations in Clinton County (15% increase from 2021). The EHS Division continued to use an online sign-up for rabies clinics utilizing the NYS Health Commerce System. This new system has allowed for increased clinic efficiency, while reducing the number of required staff at each rabies clinic. The EHS Division is planning 7 rabies vaccination clinics in 2023. Furthermore, the EHS investigated 278 animal bite reports (8% decrease from 2021) and 34 non-bite investigations (88% increase from 2021). Two animal specimens tested positive for rabies in 2022, which is consistent with previous years.

### **Seasonal Facilities (Campgrounds, Children's Camps, Swimming Pools)**

The EHS Division regulates several seasonal facilities, which include campgrounds, children's camps, beaches, and swimming pools. During 2022, the EHS Division completed all required inspection for seasonal facilities in Clinton County. Specific highlights for these programs in 2022 include:

- Camp Jericho (Children's Camp) completed their required sewage treatment system upgrades.

- The City of Plattsburgh Beach expanded operating season from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The City also had several suspected harmful algal bloom (HAB) observations; however, when observed by EHS Division staff, it was confirmed that a HAB was not present. The City Beach did not lose any operating days due to HABs or beach water quality issues in 2022.
- Camp Tapawingo continued to have confirmed HABs at their regulated beach and had to cease operation for numerous days in 2022. This beach also had confirmed HABs during previous years.

### Focus for 2023

The primary goals for the EHS Division in 2023 are:

- Continue to meet the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) directives for inspection requirements and implement any new procedures, programs, etc. throughout the year.
- EHS Division Program Supervisors will work with inspectors on standardization of inspections for all programs. The goal is to evaluate and review each inspector and provide additional training and/or feedback, as necessary. The NYSDOH will also be working with select staff to provide additional training.
- Resume in-person trainings that are provided by the NYSDOH in the Capital Region.
- Evaluate all regulated programs and implement any required changes and/or processes that are identified as necessary or beneficial.

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## FINANCE & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

### Division Objective

FIT oversees the comprehensive fiscal and information technology affairs of CCHD. The work of this centralized office is done with the highest degree of accountability regarding taxpayer dollars and by the most effective and efficient use of resources, both human and physical. These appropriate internal control points help operations to focus on their frontline community public health work. FIT provides support to CCHD staff by being a partner that embraces public health and CCHD's vision, mission and values, especially the value of integrity.

### Finance & Information Technology (FIT) Office 2022 Annual Highlights

- \$14,875,600 invested in public health locally
- 110,619 staff hours serving the community
- \$9,427,500 in funding to offset local taxes

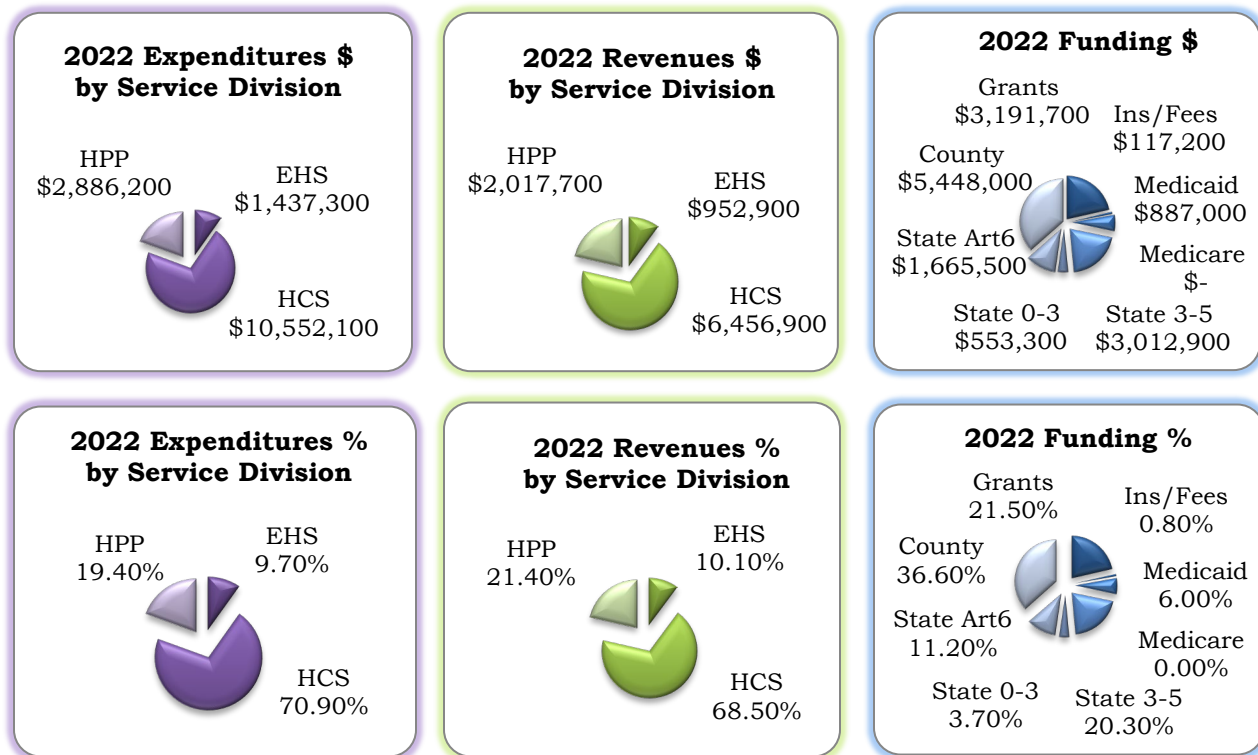
### Annual Overview

Teamwork is essential as encapsulated in CCHD's motto "Working Together for a Healthier Community!" Having the proper staffing levels and resuming pre-2020 activities are critical to adequately supporting CCHD's service divisions that directly impact public health.

FIT continues to seek critical pre-2020 staffing levels to meet deadlines and perform essential duties accurately and timely. During the pandemic, the FIT staff under the Health Facility Comptroller leadership was reduced from 8 direct reports (6 Fiscal/2 Information Technology-IT) to 5 direct reports (3 Fiscal/2 IT). At the beginning of 2022, a vacant full-time clerical position was reassigned to FIT, bringing the numbers up to 6 direct reports (4 Fiscal/2 IT). However, due to hiring challenges that position remained vacant until 10/24/2022 and is currently being shared 50/50 with the Clinton County Nursing Home until their expected

sale finalization of December 2023. As the CCHD continues to move toward pre-pandemic functioning, FIT has struggled to keep pace. At the beginning of 2023, FIT was approved to hire a new part-time fiscal position, which brings the staffing levels up to 6.5 direct reports (4.5 Fiscal/2 IT). As of 04/26/23, due to hiring challenges, this position remains vacant.

Table 7. 2022 CCHD annual fiscal statistics



**Focus for 2023**

- Continue to build rapport with the Public Health Director hired in May 2022 through weekly Monday morning meetings.
- Reconnect with service divisions through in-person grant work session meetings.
- Accounts Receivable Goal: Improve cash flow in by decreasing the number of invoices created 30 days after the date of service from 50% to 0% by April 2023.
- Accounts Payable Goal: Improve timeliness of cash outlays by decreasing the number of unauthorized costs from 5 to 0 by April 2023.
- Improve Use of Funding: Increase the number of CCHD Health Facility Comptroller meetings with Division leadership from 30 to 50 meetings per year by Dec 2023.



CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
PROGRAM & EVALUATION STATISTICS

**HEALTH PLANNING & PROMOTION DIVISION**

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Professional Education Events</b>	44	29	16
<b>Public Education Events</b>	3	24	12
<b>Total Attendance</b> (Professional & Public Education Events)	257	8,543	840
<b>% of Attendees Who Report a Gain in Knowledge</b> (Professional & Public Education Events)	83%	86%	84%
<b>Better Choice Retailer Program* (started in 2015)</b>			
New Recruits	12	1	0
Total Participating Retailers	23	22	23
<b>Better Choice Eatery Program (Re-branded in 2017)</b>			
New Recruits	0	1	0
Total Participating Eateries	1	2	2
<b>Social Media Engagements</b>	1,126	887	444
<b>Health Related Policies Facilitated by HPP (Total Number)</b>	12	34	49
Worksite Wellness	0	0	12
Breastfeeding Friendly	11	25	29
Complete Streets	1	6	N/A
Food Waste Reduction	N/A	3	8
<b>Built Environment/Activated Spaces/ Food Access Projects Supported</b>	11	18	18



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**HEALTH CARE SERVICES DIVISION**


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<u>Program</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Immunizations</b>			
Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Routine Recommended Vaccines			
Influenza Vaccines	383	345	624
Pneumococcal Vaccines	4	1	1
Rabies Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)	105	39	46
COVID – 19 Vaccine	N/A	17,475	6,529
<b>Tuberculosis</b>			
Active TB Cases (Civilian only)	0	0	1
<b>Licensed Home Care Services Agency – Home Visiting Programs</b>			
Family Health Home Visiting Program	14	7	8
Newborn & Postpartum Services – Phone Contacts & Home Visits	20	N/A	N/A
<b>Lead Poisoning Prevention Program</b>			
Active Case Management	10	7	13
<b>Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN)</b>			
Participants	24	2	0
<b>Early Intervention Program (EIP)</b>			
Number of Referrals	252	271	343
Children Receiving Services (unduplicated count)	312	302	376
Total number of discharges	139	128	209
Reasons for closure:			
• Children – delay/condition resolved	12	8	14
• EI Evaluation found child not eligible	31	10	46
• Family refused	18	14	22
• Unable to locate family/moved	13/3	19/4	32/7
• Transitioned to 3-5 program	74	68	76
• Age-out, not eligible for 3-5 program	6	5	12
<b>Committee for Preschool Special Education (CPSE) – County Supported Services</b>			
Number of Referrals	198	245	243
Children Receiving Services (unduplicated count)	296	323	328
Number of Preschool Meetings	751	765	749
<b>Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI Clinic)</b>			
Patient Visits	2	24	28

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**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY DIVISION**







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<u>Program</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Food Service Establishments (FSEs)</b>			
Inspections	309	418	496
Permitted Operators	405	366	446
<b>Motels and Campsites</b>			
Inspections	57	55	56
Permitted Operators	53	57	52
<b>Individual Household Sewage</b>			
Systems Approved	272	237	184
<b>Nuisance Complaints</b>			
Investigated	69	48	63
<b>Rabies Prevention</b>			
Bite Investigations	258	301	278
Non-bite Investigations	74	104	34
Individuals Authorized for Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)	26	18	18
Specimens Testing Positive for Rabies	1	1	2
Vaccinations (Total Number)	452	749	877
Dogs	252	502	629
Cats	200	247	221
<b>Clean Indoor Air Act (Tobacco)</b>			
Complaints Investigated	4	0	0
<b>Inspections</b>	166	164	187
<b>Migrant Labor Camps</b>			
Inspections	17	15	17
Permitted Operators	16	15	15
<b>Pools and Beaches</b>			
Inspections	59	48	53
Permitted Operators	40	51	52
<b>Mobile Home Parks</b>			
Inspections	38	39	42
Permitted Operators	38	37	37
<b>Children's Camps</b>			
Inspections	7	8	9
Permitted Operators	4	8	8







<u>Program</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Tanning</b>			
Facilities Inspected	5	4	7
Facilities Permitted	9	8	8
<b>Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA)</b>			
Compliance Checks:			
Environmental Staff Only	67	21	39
Staff and Minor	78	0	42
Re-inspections	13	88	5
Number of Operators	89	80	88
Number of Enforcements	5	0	2
<b>Healthy Neighborhoods Program (HNP)</b>			
Initial Visits	158	140	265
Revisits (90-180 day)	164	126	119

# CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**PREVENT • PROMOTE • PROTECT**

		
Administration	Finance & Information Technology	
		
Environmental Health & Safety	Health Planning & Promotion	Health Care Services

## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

<p><b>1,226</b> public health clinics, inspections and investigations completed</p> 	<p> <b>\$14.9M</b> invested to support public health in Clinton County <i>(supplemented in part by federal, state and private grant funding)</i></p>	<p><b>17,912</b> families received ongoing services from CCHD</p> 
<p> Developed Clinton County's first <b>Food Action Plan</b> to create a healthy, sustainable, accessible food system</p>	<p><b>Nationally Accredited</b> by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) since 2015</p> 	<p> Clinton County WIC Program recognized with the <b>2022 Gold Breastfeeding Award of Excellence</b></p>

Visit CCHD at [www.clintonhealth.org](http://www.clintonhealth.org) and follow us on social media:

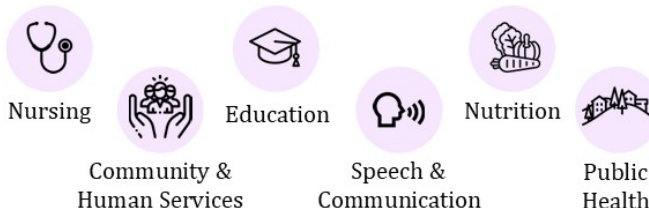
 Facebook @clintonhealth	 Instagram @clintoncountyhealth	 Twitter @ClintonCountyHD
 YouTube Clinton County Health Department	 Blogger CCHD	

*The mission of the Clinton County Health Department (CCHD) is to improve and protect the health, well-being, and environment of the people of Clinton County.*

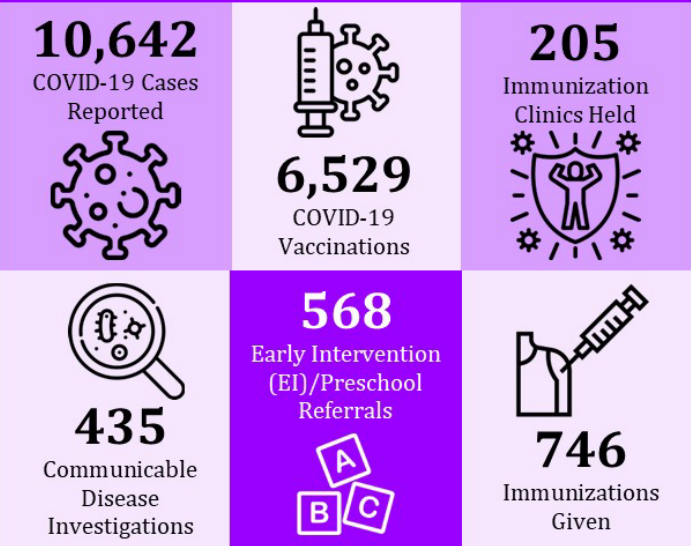


# CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH CARE SERVICES

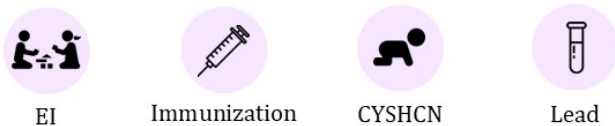
## 17 TEAM MEMBERS



## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS



## 4 Grants Executed



 Health Care Services (HCS) specializes in the use of surveillance, screening, education, and supportive interventions to promote individual, family, and community well-being. HCS focuses on the prevention of adverse health outcomes through targeted programs and services in order to help people attain their optimum health status.

**For more information about HCS initiatives, please call 518-565-4848.**

**CCHD**  
Clinton County HEALTH Department [www.ClintonHealth.org](http://www.ClintonHealth.org)

# CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH PLANNING & PROMOTION

**17 TEAM MEMBERS**

- Nursing
- Planning
- Human Services
- Community Health Education & Public Health
- Arts & Education
- Nutrition
- Public Relations

## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

<p><b>28</b> Professional &amp; Public Education Events offered</p>	<p><b>18</b> Activated Spaces</p>
<p>Clinton County WIC Program recognized with the <b>2022 Gold Breastfeeding Award of Excellence</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> Projects featured at National &amp; State Conferences or Trainings since 2017</p>
<p>Developed Clinton County's first <b>Food Action Plan</b> to create a healthy, sustainable, accessible food system</p>	

**223**

**Health-Related Policies Facilitated since 2015**

- Complete Streets
- Childcare Wellness
- Breastfeeding Friendly
- School Wellness
- Food Waste Reduction
- Worksite Wellness

Health Planning & Promotion (HPP) specializes in community health education & engagement and is dedicated to changing the context in which health-related decisions are made in the Clinton County community.

**For more information about HPP initiatives, please call 518-565-4993.**

Clinton County HEALTH Department [www.ClintonHealth.org](http://www.ClintonHealth.org)

# CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY



Engineering  
Reviews

## 14 TEAM MEMBERS



Healthy  
Neighborhoods



Public Water  
Systems



Rabies



Individual Sewage  
Treatment Systems



Food Service  
Establishments



ATUPA

## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS



**384**

Home Visits by the  
Healthy Neighborhoods  
Program

**184**

Individual Sewage  
Treatment System (ISTS)  
Permit Application Approvals



**278**

Animal Bite  
Investigations

**200+**  
Regulated Public  
Water Systems



**496**

Food Service  
Inspections

**~850**

### Regulated Operations in Clinton County



150 Public  
Water System  
Inspections



80  
ATUPA  
Facilities



877 Animals  
Vaccinated at  
5 Rabies Clinics



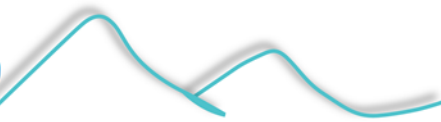
63 Nuisance  
Complaints  
Investigated



The Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) Division uses science, risk management, education, and enforcement to monitor and control environmental factors that may cause disease and injury in Clinton County.

**For more information about EHS initiatives,  
please call 518-565-4870.**

# CCHD



Clinton County **HEALTH** Department [www.ClintonHealth.org](http://www.ClintonHealth.org)



Public Health  
Protect. Promote. Prevent.

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