

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

health.clintoncountyny.gov

Clinton County Health Department
Clinton County, New York



DEAR CLINTON COUNTY RESIDENTS,

As we begin a new year, I am honored to address you as your Director of Public Health. Our community has faced various health challenges, but through resilience, cooperation, and dedication, we have persevered. Reflecting on the past year and looking ahead to the future, it's essential to recognize the crucial role each of us plays in protecting the health and well-being of our community.

Our community's health is determined not just by the absence of illness but also by supportive environments, equal access to resources, and opportunities for physical and mental well-being. We must continue to prioritize these aspects of public health to ensure that all community members can lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

The Clinton County Health Department is committed to promoting health equity and addressing the underlying factors that contribute to health disparities in our community. This includes advocating for programs and policies that promote access to healthcare, nutritious food options, safe housing, and a healthy environment.

Preventive measures like regular physical activity, healthy eating, and routine screenings are essential for staying healthy and preventing chronic diseases. I encourage each of you to prioritize your health and well-being by adopting healthy habits and seeking preventive care when needed.

In addition to individual efforts, collaboration among community organizations, healthcare providers, government agencies, stakeholders, and community members is crucial for achieving our public health goals. By working together, we can use our collective resources and expertise to address the diverse health needs of our community and create positive, lasting change. Let's reaffirm our commitment to building a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Together, we can create a healthier, more equitable future for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the health, well-being, and environment of Clinton County.

Jeffrey Sisson

OUR MISSION

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

OUR VISION

Healthy people in a healthy community.

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.

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

The Clinton County Health Department (CCHD) has provided quality public health services to the residents of Clinton County since 1955. The Board of Health (BOH) oversees the activities of the Health Department, aiming to protect the quality of life and health for all county residents.

Membership is determined by New York State (NYS) Department of Health (DOH) regulations and includes the Director of Public Health (non-voting), three NYS licensed physicians, three members representing the county at large, and one city representative. BOH members are appointed for six-year terms by the Clinton County Legislature.

BOARD MEMBERS

George Miller, RN, President

Victor Ludewig, MD, Vice President

Wendell Hughes, Legislative Liaison

Jeffrey Sisson, MS (Director of Public Health), Secretary

Erin Spees, MD

Gilbert Desmangles, MD

Lynn Howard, BSN

Rebecca King, VMD

Edward Garrow

Robert Smith

CCHD AT A GLANCE

CCHD achieved National Public Health Accreditation in 2015 and was reaccredited in 2021 for meeting the national standards of public health department performance.

60

Total
Employees

1,038

Square Miles
Served

79,843

Clinton County
Population

DIVISIONS



Administration



Environmental Health & Safety



Finance & Information Technology



Health Care Services



Health Planning & Promotion

Join our Team!

Visit clintoncountyny.gov/employment/job to view current job openings.

DIVISION OBJECTIVE

The role of the Administration Division (ADM) is to develop and manage the long-term and day-to-day operations of the CCHD through infrastructure oversight and systems management. ADM provides the primary support and coordination needed to achieve the goals and objectives of the health department and its divisions.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Led the establishment of the CCHD Employee Appreciation Committee. This committee strives to improve employee wellness and morale. It has organized appreciation activities and planned a peer-to-peer recognition program, which will start in the first quarter of 2024.
- Teamed up with Clinton County Mental Health and Addiction Services to provide nearly six months of complimentary on-site counseling services for CCHD staff members.
- Had 31 unique staff members participating in Quality Improvement projects, surpassing the goal of 27. This marks a 40% increase in participation compared to 2022.

FOCUS FOR 2024

- Finalize the 2023-2028 CCHD Strategic Plan.
- Create and implement the CCHD Performance Management System.
- Complete the CCHD COVID-19 Hot Wash After Action Report, using identified action items and corrective actions to update the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR) and its associated Emergency Response Plans.
- Redesign and implement a new onboarding and orientation procedure for CCHD.
- Revise the Workforce Development policy and update 25% of the CCHD Mandated Trainings.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION

The CCHD values accreditation and is committed to continuous improvement, transparency, and accountability. The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) is the sole national accrediting body for public health in the U.S. They work to advance and transform public health practice by promoting performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation. PHAB awards accreditation to health departments that meet nationally recognized, practice-focused, and evidence-based standards.

CCHD achieved National Public Health Accreditation in 2015 and was reaccredited by PHAB in 2021. In 2023, 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 to ensure the department remains in compliance with PHAB's requirements. PHAB accepted this report and stated:

“Kudos to the health department for its commitment to health literacy! Thank you for all your hard work serving the populations of Clinton County.”

Over the next year, the department will continue to foster teamwork, collaboration, and continuous quality improvement. Activities will include increased use of quality improvement tools, completion of formal quality improvement projects, staff training, sharing 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 its capacity to continue evolving, improving, and advancing while protecting the health of our community.



PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP) PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In 2023, the CCHD Emergency Preparedness Program acquired and set up a CCHD Vaccination Trailer. This trailer enhanced the department's ability to provide vital services, especially in remote areas with transportation challenges. It is equipped with advanced technology, including communication tools, a generator, heating and cooling systems, and a UV disinfection system. These features improve operational flexibility. The trailer may be used for routine and emergency vaccinations, off-site WIC and child services evaluations, environmental health operations, and community outreach opportunities.

With grant funding, the department was able to purchase three variable message boards (VMBs). These VMB's support effective public communication and can be monitored and controlled remotely via cellular service. With the guidance of the PHEP Coordinator, comprehensive training sessions, presentations, and staff walkthroughs have ensured that the team is skilled in operating both the trailer and the VMBs, enhancing their impact on community outreach.

The deployment of the trailer at events in Plattsburgh and Lake Placid provided valuable insights for future uses and continuous improvements. Meanwhile, diligent efforts are being made to manage maintenance and coordinate necessary repairs, highlighting the department's dedication to meeting community needs and delivering efficient public health services.



Image 1: Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Mark Lafountain poses with the CCHD vaccination trailer.

DIVISION OBJECTIVE

In accordance with the New York State and Clinton County Sanitary Code, the Environmental Health & Safety Division (EHS) 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 Systems
- Lead Risk Assessment (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

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Reviewed/investigated occurrence of turbidity issues within the Peru Water District.
- Conducted 24 Office Conference Enforcements in 2023 for various programs.
- Successfully fulfilled all mandated obligations set by the NYSDOH.
- Assisted municipalities in securing grant funding for various infrastructure projects.

ANNUAL OVERVIEW

In 2023, EHS remained dedicated to fulfilling mandated inspections. Across all programs, 700 facility inspections were completed, compared to 682 in 2022.

FOCUS FOR 2024

- Ensuring compliance with NYSDOH directives for inspection requirements and implementing any new procedures or programs.
- Conducting a comprehensive review of facility and program assignments for staff, with a focus on reassigning inspectors who have overseen the same facilities for more than three years.
- Collaborating closely with elected officials to identify and pursue grant funding for infrastructure projects and capital improvements.

FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

EHS issued permits to 469 Food Service Establishments (FSEs), including temporary events, in 2023. Additionally, EHS conducted six Office Conference Enforcements and numerous re-inspections throughout the year in response to violations identified at FSEs. Challenges persist due to a shortage of restaurant staff, impacting both labor availability and compliance with regulations.

The following is a summary of the required inspections of the FSE programs:

HIGH RISK INSPECTIONS

78 high-risk food service establishments, such as table-service restaurants and school kitchens, underwent a total of 154 inspections, meeting the inspection requirement.

MEDIUM RISK INSPECTIONS

248 medium-risk facilities received inspections, with only one active facility not inspected in 2023. This facility will be prioritized for inspection in 2024.

LOW RISK INSPECTIONS

30 low-risk establishments, such as bars and coffee shops, were inspected, ensuring compliance with health and safety standards.

INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS / ENGINEERING REVIEWS

In 2023, EHS approved 195 applications for Individual Sewage Treatment Systems (ISTS), increased from 184 applications in 2022. Clinton County also advanced Round 3 of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Septic System Replacement Program. Funding was allocated for residential properties within 250 feet of the Isle La Motte watershed shoreline, covering areas along Lake Champlain from Cumberland Head to Rouses Point. Despite limited interest from residents in 2023, surveys conducted by EHS in early 2024 indicate that NYSDEC is considering expanding the program to other water bodies within Clinton County later this year.

195

Permitted ISTS Applications

\$84K

Reimbursed DEC Septic System Replacement Funds

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

The Public Water System (PWS) program successfully completed all PWS Sanitary Surveys as outlined in the Drinking Water Enhancement Program (DWEPP) Work Plan for the grant year April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023. Progress remains on track to meet objectives for the April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024, grant year, with 142 out of 165 required inspections completed by December 31, 2023.

In addition, EHS played a crucial role in addressing water-related issues in various municipalities, including:

- Assisting the Town of Schuyler Falls and Clinton County to obtain a \$5 million grant to install a new waterline to address PFAS contamination.
- Supporting the City of Plattsburgh in securing a \$5 million grant to enhance its water treatment plant, increasing the total funding to \$13 million dollars.
- Collaborating with the Town of Peru to address turbidity issues in the water reservoir and pursue grant funding for capital improvements.

EHS also continued its non-mandatory private well sampling program, collecting and analyzing 95 samples in 2023. Funding from the Clinton County Soil & Water District will sustain this program into 2024.

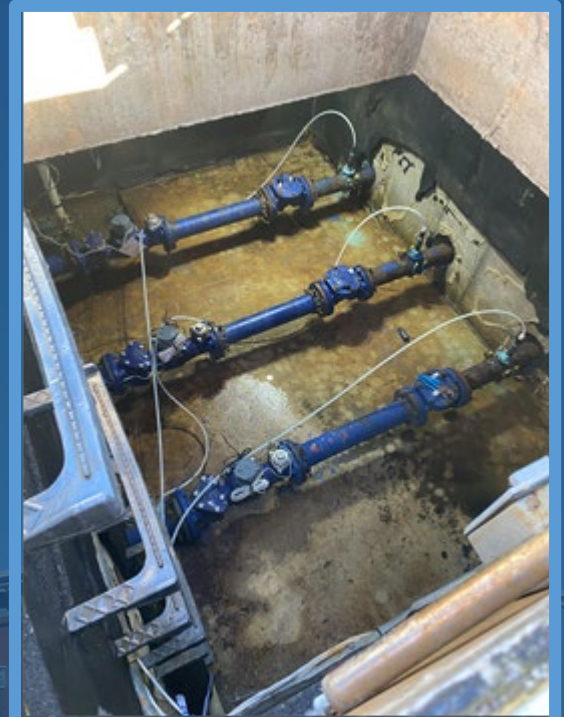


Image 2: Valve pit at a regulated public water system

RABIES PREVENTION PROGRAM

In 2023, seven rabies clinics vaccinated 965 domestic animals in Clinton County, using an online sign-up system. EHS plans to host seven more clinics in 2024. Additionally, the Division investigated 259 animal bite reports, marking a 7% decrease from 2022. No positive rabies cases were reported.

7

Rabies Clinics Held

965

Domestic Animals Vaccinated

259

Animal Bite Reports



Image 3: Rabies vaccination clinic

SEASONAL FACILITIES (CAMPGROUNDS, CHILDREN'S CAMPS, SWIMMING POOLS)

EHS oversees various seasonal facilities, including campgrounds, children's camps, beaches, and swimming pools. Throughout 2023, staff diligently conducted all mandatory inspections for seasonal facilities across Clinton County.

Notable highlights from these programs in 2023 include:

- The City of Plattsburgh reported several suspected cases of Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB); however, upon inspection by EHS personnel, it was confirmed that no HABs were present. Consequently, the City Beach remained fully operational throughout 2023 without any closures due to HABs or water quality issues.
- Staffing shortages at Children's Camps in 2023 led to compliance violations. In response, the EHS plans to enhance educational efforts, including participating in informational sessions for camp staff, in 2024.

42

Permitted Beaches & Pools

52

Permitted Campgrounds

9

Permitted Children's Camps

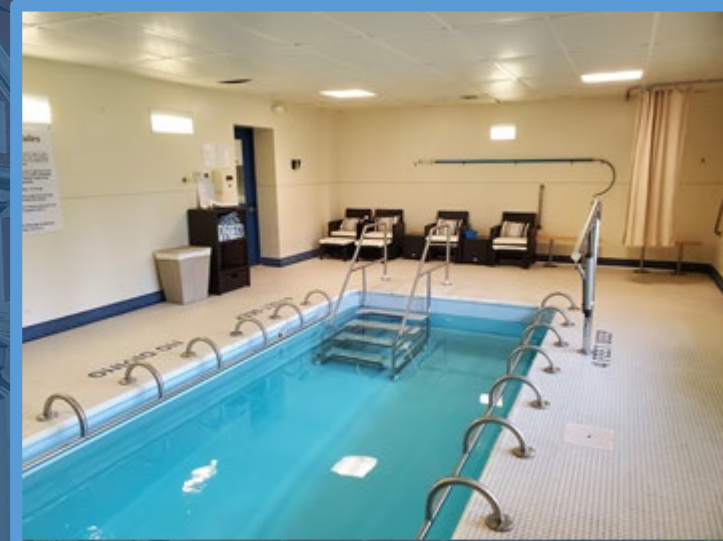


Image 4: Permitted pool operation

DIVISION OBJECTIVE

The Finance and Information Technology Division (FIT) manages the fiscal and IT affairs of the CCHD. This centralized office ensures accountability in handling taxpayer dollars and strives for the most effective and efficient use of resources. By implementing appropriate internal controls, FIT keeps the focus on frontline community public health efforts. Additionally, FIT supports CCHD staff by aligning with and promoting the department's vision, mission, and values, especially emphasizing integrity.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- \$15.3 million invested in public health locally.
- 109,494 staff hours dedicated to serving the community.
- \$9.5 million in funding to offset local taxes.
- Initiated, designed, and oversaw the implementation of the CCHD phone project.

FOCUS FOR 2024

- 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 63% to 0% by January 2024.
- Improve Use of Funding: Increase the number of CCHD Health Facility Comptroller meetings with division leadership by implementing quarterly budget meetings in 2024.

ANNUAL OVERVIEW

Teamwork is vital, as highlighted by the CCHD motto, "Working Together for a Healthier Community!" Maintaining proper staffing levels and resuming pre-2020 activities are crucial for effectively supporting CCHD's service divisions that directly impact public health. FIT is actively working to restore its critical pre-2020 staffing levels to meet deadlines and perform essential duties accurately and promptly.

During the pandemic, under the leadership of the Health Facility Comptroller, the FIT staff was reduced from eight direct reports (six in Fiscal and two in Information Technology) to five. By the end of 2023, the team had grown to seven, with plans to hire an additional clerk to return the division to its pre-pandemic staffing levels. As CCHD continues to regain—and in some cases exceed—its pre-pandemic functionality, FIT's tightly-knit team is expanding and advancing to keep pace with the increasing demand.

Join our Team!

ANNUAL FISCAL STATISTICS

Chart 1: 2023 Expenditures \$ by Service Division

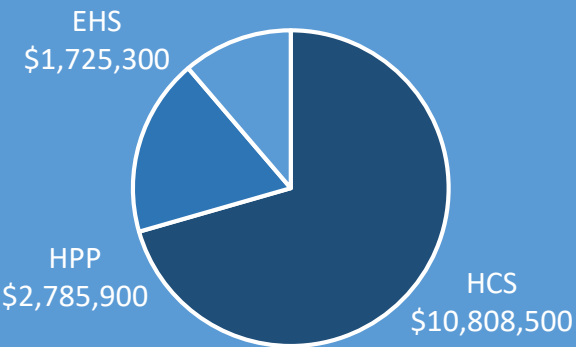


Chart 3: 2023 Revenues \$ by Service Division

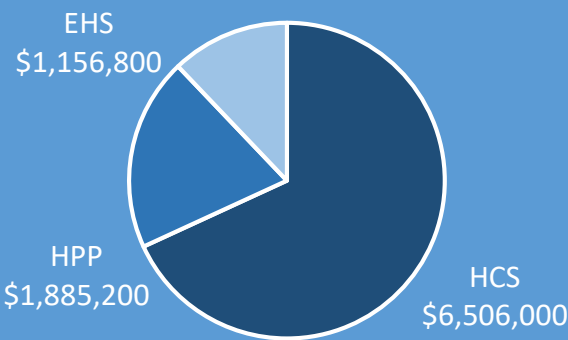


Chart 5: 2023 Funding \$

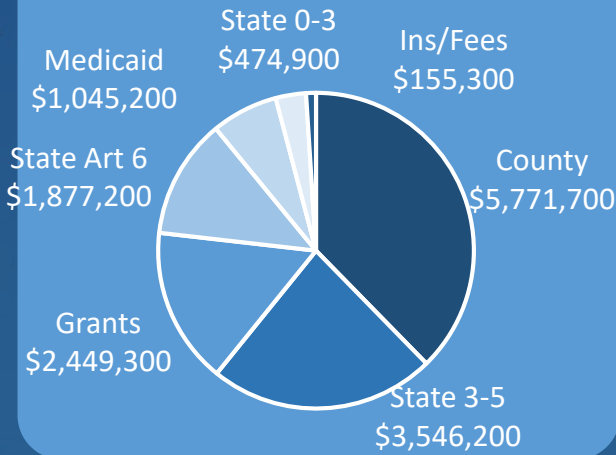


Chart 2: 2023 Expenditures % by Service Division

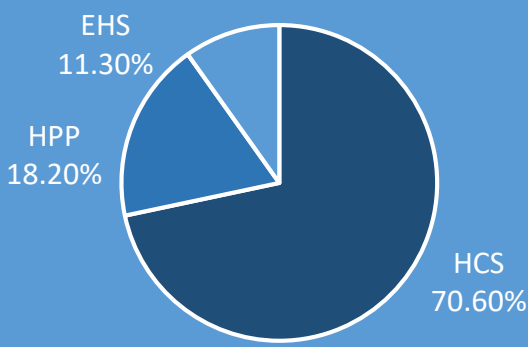


Chart 4: 2023 Revenues % by Service Division

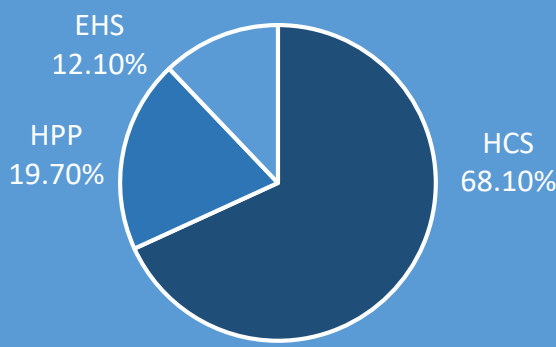
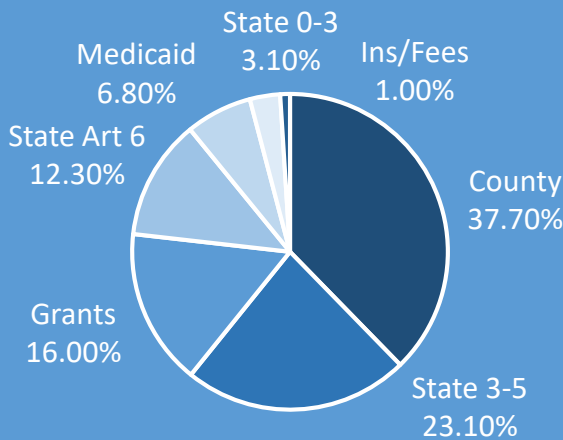


Chart 6: 2023 Funding %



DIVISION OBJECTIVE

Health Care Services (HCS) is a diverse division responsible for various programs and direct services, each subject to specific regulations and oversight. These programs include Communicable Disease under the NYS Sanitary Code, Early Intervention as addressed in Article 25, and the Committee for Preschool Special Education, which is overseen by the NYS Education Department. Additionally, Article 28 governs the Immunization Program, while the Licensed Home Care Services Agency (LHCSA) is covered by Article 36, which oversees the Family Health Home Visiting (FHHV) and Lead (LPPP) programs. HCS also maintains a Clinical Laboratory Certificate of Waiver (CLIA) for conducting on-site HIV, Hematocrit, COVID-19, and lead testing.

The HCS Division significantly impacts community health, especially for individuals vulnerable to adverse health outcomes, by implementing both primary and secondary preventive interventions.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Nurses from the Community Team successfully completed the Public Health Nurse Ready Program.
- Facilitated collaboration with community stakeholders to ensure that children affected by the closure of their medical home received essential services.
- Submitted an application for Exemplary Provider accreditation.
- Enhanced family engagement in the Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs program (CYSHCN).

ANNUAL OVERVIEW

With COVID-19 case investigations now prioritizing high-risk populations—those aged 5 years and younger and those 65 years and HCS was able to redirect its focus to its primary public health objectives.

The Compliance Team extended an invitation to the HCS team to participate as a Beta site for clinical services accreditation, aiming to achieve Exemplary Provider status. This accreditation would validate the team's efforts and strengthen quality measures and evidence-based practices. Ultimately, it would enhance readiness for future healthcare crises.

FOCUS FOR 2024

- Enhance recruitment and retention efforts for referrals to the CYSHCN program to ensure alignment of referral resources with families across Clinton County.
- Address ongoing provider shortage in the Clinton County Early Intervention (EI) program by identifying resources, services, and innovative solutions through the EI Ethics Council.
- To enhance pediatric blood lead testing rates for 1- and 2-year-olds, leverage NYS Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) data on individual provider practices and implement provider education campaigns.
- Complete the application process for Exemplary Provider accreditation through The Compliance Team.

CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM (CLPPP)

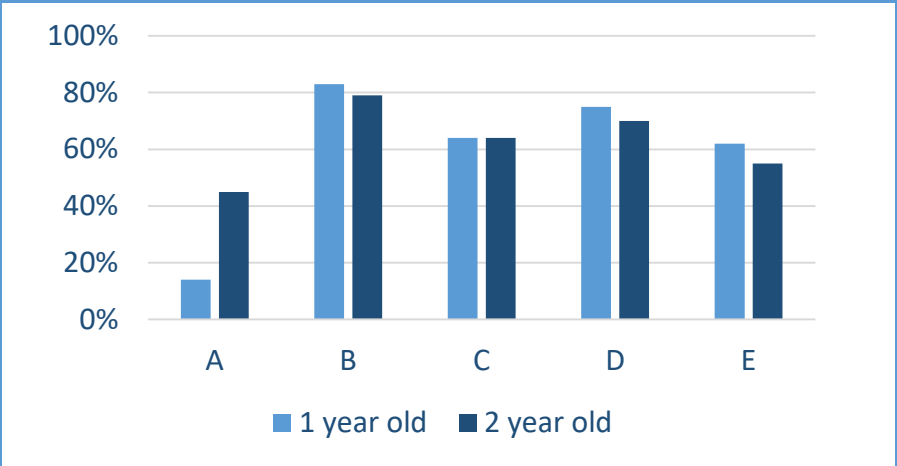
Supported by funding from NYS, the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) aims to protect children from lead exposure by identifying and eliminating its sources. Children with elevated blood lead levels receive nursing case management and undergo an environmental home assessment. A sanitarian from the EHS Division conducts a home inspection. Case management, overseen by a registered nurse, includes educating parents on lead sources, risk factors, and ways to reduce exposure through cleaning and nutrition. Emphasis is placed on foods rich in iron, vitamin C, and calcium to lower lead levels.

The CLPPP nurse maintains monthly contact with families to ensure compliance with follow-up care and conducts developmental screenings as part of the process. In 2023, there were 29 referrals to the CLPPP. The CLPPP nurse managed the cases of 18 children with confirmed elevated blood lead levels. Additionally, this nurse also monitors provider compliance and offers education and follow-up on lead testing requirements and guidelines as part of the grant deliverables and activities.

Table 1: Lead Cases by Year

Lead Data		2021	2022	2023
Blood Lead Level	5-9.9 mcg/dL	4	5	10
	10-14 mcg/dL	2	0	2
	15-19 mcg/dL	1	0	0
	>20 mcg/dL	0	1	0
New Elevated Lead Cases		7	6	12
Active Case Management		7	13	17

Chart 7: Lead Testing By Provider



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

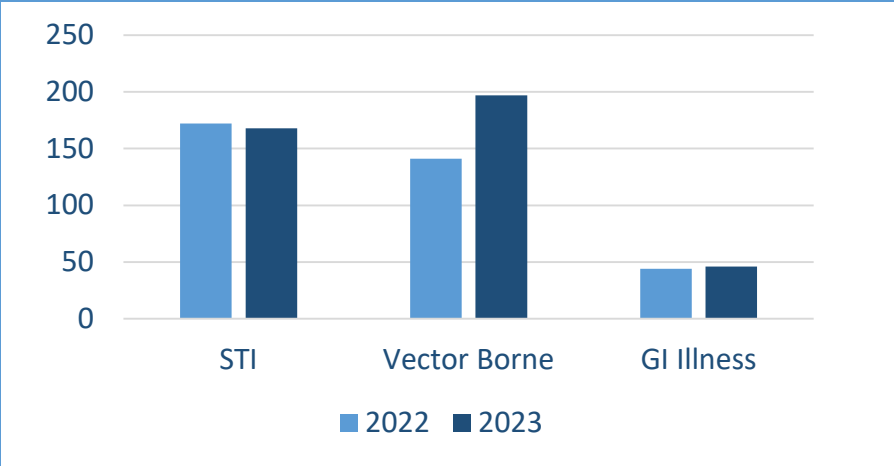
Public health nurses have several key responsibilities, including surveillance, conducting confidential case investigations, managing outbreaks, and identifying prevent the spread of infectious diseases. In 2023, nurses conducted 442 communicable disease investigations (excluding COVID).

The Public Health Corp Fellow continues to investigate COVID-19 cases, focusing on high-risk populations, such as children aged 5 or younger and individuals aged 65 and older. Notably, in December, the NYSDOH added varicella and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) to the list of reportable diseases to include

Communicable disease (CD) nurses conduct surveillance and investigate communicable diseases. In Clinton County, all reportable sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are thoroughly investigated by HCS CD nurses and NYSDOH personnel to provide partner services. Additionally, CCHD contracts with Planned Parenthood to offer STI screening, testing, and treatment free of charge to uninsured or underinsured individuals.

In both Clinton County and across the state, there has been a notable increase in the prevalence of chlamydia cases. Vector-borne diseases such as anaplasmosis, babesiosis, and Lyme disease also continue to pose significant challenges. Recent cases of gastrointestinal illnesses causing diarrhea include campylobacteriosis and salmonellosis, with salmonellosis being the most prevalent.

Chart 8: Reportable Communicable Disease by Classification



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE (CONT')

Table 2: Communicable Disease Cases by Year

	2021	2022	2023		2021	2022	2023		2021	2022	2023
Anaplasmosis	19	13	18	Hepatitis B – Acute	0	1	0	Pertussis	0	0	1
Babesiosis	0	3	4	Hepatitis B – Chronic	12	1	3	Powassan	0	1	0
Campylobacteria	10	9	10	Hepatitis B – Chr. Inmate	N/A	N/A	N/A	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	0
Chlamydia	163	142	137	Hepatitis B – Prenatal	0	0	0	Salmonellosis	8	15	20
COVID-19	8,467	8,111	3,220	Hepatitis C – Acute	3	5	1	Shigella	1	5	1
Cryptosporidiosis	2	3	6	Hepatitis C – Chronic	25	34	18	Streptococcal - Group A	0	1	14
E.Coli STEC not 0157	3	0	4	Hepatitis C – Chr. Inmate	N/A	N/A	N/A	Streptococcal - Group B	7	4	12
Giardiasis	4	1	8	Hepatitis C – AB+&RNA		20	25	Streptococcal - Pneumonia	6	6	6
Gonorrhea	57	23	25	Legionellosis	3	2	6	Syphilis	11	7	6
H.influenza (invasive) (Non-type B)	0	1	1	Lyme Disease	208	124	175	Tuberculosis	0	1	1
Hepatitis A	0	1	2	Meningitis – Aseptic	1	2	2	Yersiniosis	0	8	5
				Meningitis – other	0	0	0				

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

As of the end of 2023, there were 253 active Early Intervention Program (EIP) children and 22 At-Risk/Child Find Program children. Service Coordinators (SC) continued to follow above full-time caseloads, managing the needs of approximately 36-44 families. Clinton County, like much of the state, has many children on waitlists for services. At the end of 2023, EIP had 29 children waiting for Occupational Therapy, 34 waiting for Physical Therapy, 5 waiting for Special Instruction, and 3 waiting for Speech Therapy.

To ensure fairness to all families regardless of their location, a waitlist policy and procedure were put into place. The Children's Services Coordinator (CSC), under the direction of the Bureau of Early Intervention, monitors this list and contacts providers monthly to check for any changes that might allow them to serve these children. Additionally, the SCs regularly engage with families, offering activities and community resources to support their children's ongoing development.

In 2023, there were 283 children actively receiving services in the Preschool Program, but waitlists reached unprecedented levels. Several providers transitioned to school districts or focused solely on offering Early Intervention services. The transition often left children moving from the EIP to the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) without continued therapy because their providers did not continue in the CPSE program with them.

To tackle this ongoing issue, CDS staff collaborates closely with school districts, local agencies, and the NYS Department of Education to explore creative solutions. The Clinton County Preschool Steering Committee meets quarterly to address programmatic issues, with a key focus on managing waitlists and meeting the needs of children who are not receiving services.

Throughout 2023, the CYSHCN program engaged seven active participants who received referrals and education tailored to their specific diagnosis. During the same period, a total of nine children were referred. CDS staff continues to provide outreach, education, and referral information to pediatric offices, schools, and local partner agencies.



Image 5: CCHD's Early Intervention Team staff members

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (CONT')

Table 3: Children's Developmental Services Program by Year

Program Information		2021	2022	2023
Early Intervention Program (EIP)	Number of referrals	271	343	305
	Unduplicated count of children	302	376	372
	Total number of discharges	128	209	112
	Reasons for closure:			
	• Children – delay/condition resolved	8	14	12
	• EI Evaluation found child not eligible	10	46	10
	• Family refused	14	22	3
	• Unable to locate family/moved	19 / 4	32 / 7	8
	• Transitioned to 3-5 program	68	76	83
	• Age-out, not eligible for 3-5 program	5	12	6
Preschool Special Education Program	Number of referrals	245	243	276
	Unduplicated count of children on June 1st	323	328	354
	Number of Preschool meetings	765	749	830

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

In 2023, 1,511 vaccines were administered to 1,030 individuals aged 6 months and older at 142 immunization clinics. In February, a large pediatric office closed, leaving roughly 5,000 pediatric patients without care. To prevent service disruptions and ensure continued access to necessary healthcare, CCHD, Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital (CVPH), the Adirondack Accountable Care Organization (ACO), the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), and Plattsburgh Primary Care collaborated to devise strategies. CCHD stepped in to offer interim services, including immunizations, lead screening, and developmental screening, until families could find a new pediatric medical home.

During late summer and early fall, the immunization team organized 29 additional clinics specifically to vaccinate school-aged children. This proactive effort aimed to prevent school exclusion due to not meeting mandatory vaccination schedules. As a result, more than 150 children across the county were able to remain in school.

The HCS team administered MPox (Monkeypox) vaccines to 20 individuals at both the First Friday event in June and the Pride Parade in October.

1,511**Total Vaccines Administered**

Image 6: CCHD's variable message board



Image 7: CCHD staff at a mobile vaccination clinic

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (CONT')

Table 4: Number & Type of Vaccines Administered by Year

Vaccine	2021	2022	2023
Hepatitis A	0	3	7
Hepatitis B	7	30	43
TwinRix (Hepatitis A/B)	3	18	20
IPV (Polio)	5	34	55
Hib	1	2	0
HPV	8	2	6
Meningococcal ACWY	31	46	108
Bexsero (Meningitis B)	0	2	1
MMR	13	44	63
PPSV 23 (Pneumococcal-23)	1	1	0
PCV 13 (Pneumococcal-13)	0	1	3
PCV 20 (Pneumococcal-20)			18

Vaccine	2021	2022	2023
Pentacel	0	1	0
Rabies	47	46	61
Tdap	17	51	69
Dtap	4	4	13
Varicella	15	33	76
Influenza	345	464	276
High Dose Influenza		160	214
COVID-19 Moderna	11,828	1,716	413
COVID-19 Moderna Bivalent			8
COVID-19 Pfizer Bivalent			28
JYNNEOS		30	22
Total Vaccines Administered:	17,893	7,501	1,511

TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAM

The Tuberculosis (TB) Program is committed to identifying and treating both active TB disease and latent TB infection (LTBI). Despite decreases in state and national cases, Clinton County is still at risk of TB transmission due to its close proximity to the international border with Canada, a significant population of international college students, and the state prison system.

To address this, CCHD provides Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) to individuals with active TB. DOT involves nurses supervising patients directly as they take their daily TB medications. In 2023, CCHD nurses provided DOT to an active TB patient for 9 months, beginning with the 10-day contagious period and continuing until the completion of therapy and discharge from services.

Table 5: Tuberculosis Case Data by Year

Program Activities		2021	2022	2023
Tuberculin Skin Tests (TST) at CCHD		37	46	42
DOT Contacts	BY CCHD	0	0	6
	BY Partner Agency	0	0	40
Newly diagnosed Active TB Cases		0	1	1
Initiation of recommended 4 drug regimen – Active TB		N/A	100%	100%
Active TB Cases completing treatment within 12 months or less		N/A	1	1

DIVISION OBJECTIVE

The Health Planning & Promotion Division (HPP) specializes in community health education and engagement, and is dedicated to changing the context in which health related decisions are made. This is achieved through the locally sensitive systems, policies, and environmental change initiatives the division fosters to reduce health inequities experienced by our county's residents.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Facilitated 43 health related policies, across six domains (complete streets, school/early childhood education, breastfeeding friendly, school wellness, food waste reduction and worksite wellness).
- Supported 33 built environment/ activated spaces projects.
- Presented chest/breastfeeding policy successes at NACCHO 360° in Denver, CO.
- Launched Clinton County's first effort to measure community nutrition security.
- Five staff completed Cornell University's Public Health Essentials certificate program.

FOCUS FOR 2024

- Launch HPP's Performance Management System.
- Continue to serve as a leader in facilitating health related policies in our community.
- Develop an approach to evaluating the impact of local health policies over time.
- Make community level data available to partners and residents.
- Be a contributing partner in regional chronic disease prevention efforts.
- Use secured funding to address emerging public health issues like food waste reduction and firearm safety.
- Identify needed population health data and work with partners to better access, exchange, and use this data to inform public health undertakings.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & HEALTH EDUCATION

The HPP team was back out in the community in 2023, providing 16 educational events for professionals and residents. The team also attended 12 community events, including health fairs, safety days, and youth sports tournaments, reaching nearly 1500 residents with various health messages, tools and resources. These events continue to provide opportunities to learn more about how residents are approaching health and what obstacles they are facing. Based on this feedback, HPP invested time in refreshing a number of its long-standing health resources often used at these events; there are plans for releasing a re-invented safety guide series and a reworked monthly blog in 2024.

Building off successes realized through the pandemic, HPP continued to take advantage of virtual and innovative approaches to connect with residents. HPP created over 250 social media posts throughout the year, accounting for 45% of the department's social media engagements. The annual School Food Service Professional Academy was virtually in late August, reaching 60 school food service professionals across four school districts. The training helps them meet most of their required annual continuing education credits before the school year begins.

Three multi-week Food Waste Warriors Facebook groups with a total of 25 participants were facilitated. A small Climate and Health Adaptation grant from NYSACHO allowed HPP to continue its food waste reduction education efforts, including two unique campaigns outside of social media: a Turn the Page on Food Waste bookmark campaign and a Stick It to Food Waste sticker campaign that partnered with 16 different businesses. HPP presented its successes in promoting household-level food waste reduction strategies at the NYS Organics Summit in April and has also sought additional funding to continue to support this work through the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.



Image 8: Earth Day event table



Image 9: Stick it to Food Waste bookmark

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & HEALTH EDUCATION (CONT’)

While the Clinton County WIC Program welcomed a new Coordinator in May, NYS WIC announced that the program intended to maintain a virtual appointment option long-term. The WIC staff quickly began assessing resources and needs to provide the best experience possible to its families. Staff applied to and were accepted into the 2023 NYS WIC Learning Community “Adapting to the New Normal: Best Practices for Maintaining High Quality WIC Services in a Hybrid Clinic,” along with 11 other local WIC agencies. The six-month learning community kicked off in October and will run through March 2024, allowing Clinton County WIC staff to regularly meet with WIC staff from across the state to identify best practices for virtual counseling, scheduling strategies, and other program tasks.

While about half of WIC families continued to access the program virtually, the WIC team continued to welcome families for in-person appointments, especially new enrollees and moms seeking one-on-one breastfeeding assistance. For the second year in a row, Clinton County WIC experienced an overall increase in enrollment. To maximize the program’s use among eligible families in the community, the team also initiated a Quality Improvement Project aimed at recovering enrolled families that have missed multiple appointments.

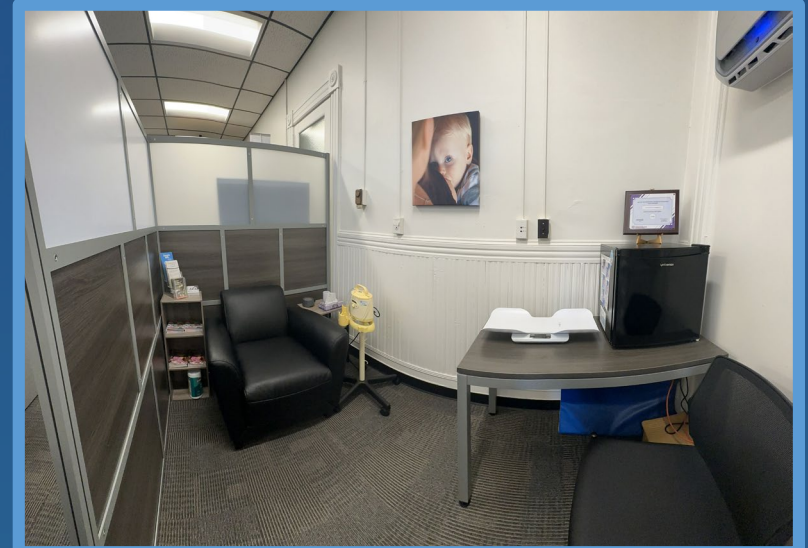


Image 10: WIC clinic lactation space



Image 11: WIC table at the Big Latch On event

HEALTHY POLICY & PLACEMAKING

HPP facilitated 43 health related policies in 2023, mostly through the work of the Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC) and Creating Breastfeeding Friendly Communities (CBFC) teams. CHSC moved into its third year and completed work with three worksites and recruited several more sites to develop wellness policies focused on food service guidelines, perhaps most notably because of its reach into the community is the ARC and its group homes. Work continued in all six county school districts and focused on enhancing nutrition and physical activity policies and interventions. While Early Care Education settings got a delayed start in 2022 while awaiting state guidance, four sites executed policies in 2023. Complete Street projects were completed in six townships this year and another four concept plans were developed for four other towns in year three, with implementation to continue in 2024.

One of the best demonstrations of collective work was a collaboration between the Village of Champlain, a Clinton County Legislator, Clinton County Public Transit, and the Pomerleau Group that brought a much needed bus shelter to the Price Chopper Plaza in Champlain.



Image 12: Traverse wall at Beekmantown Elementary School

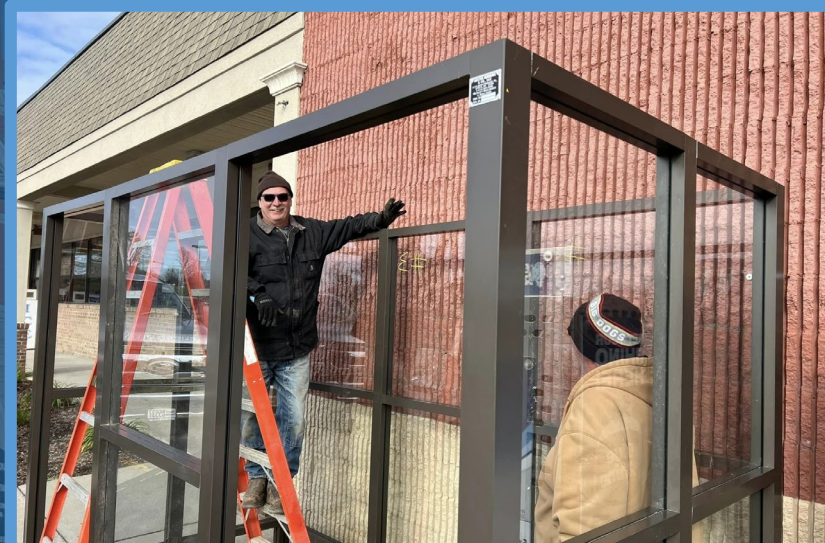


Image 13: Installation of a bus shelter in Champlain

HEALTHY POLICY & PLACEMAKING (CONT')

CBFC finished out its extension in June but HPP received award notification in March that it would continue for another five years through the NYSDOH's Breastfeeding, Chestfeeding and Lactation Friendly NY (BFF-NY). During the six-month extension period, the regional CBFC grant partnered with six new worksites to develop and implement lactation accommodation policies and spaces. Additionally, CBFC assisted 15 existing worksites in revising their lactation accommodation policies in accordance with the updated labor law. Eight child care providers developed and implemented Chest/Breastfeeding Friendly policies and received NYS' Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care designation. A total of three health care providers received NYS' Breastfeeding Friendly Health Care Provider designation. For two practices this was their initial designation, the other practice updated and resubmitted their policies for re-designation after a five year period.

Three Baby Café's[®] serving four counties hosted 48 meetings to support nursing families, and four coalitions continued work to normalize chest/breastfeeding in the region. In addition, over 200 employees received evidence-based lactation trainings, 73 traditional and social media advertisements aimed to normalize chest/breastfeeding were created and released, and nine professionals were trained as Certified Lactation Counselors (CLCs).



Image 14: Lactation space at a worksite



Image 15: Normalize chest/breastfeeding ad

HEALTHY POLICY & PLACEMAKING (CONT')

During the first six months of BFF-NY, two new lactation support groups opened in the fall of 2023 to serve families in Essex County. Additionally, 10 worksites and two health care providers were recruited, with one health care provider receiving re-designation from NYS. White Management Group, which owns franchises of KFC, Dunkin' Donuts, and Taco Bell, engaged in the Breastfeeding Welcome Here campaign, bringing a total of 32 participating establishments throughout Clinton and Franklin Counties.

The HPP team responded to a request from Clinton County Personnel to ensure all county departments complied with the updated NYS Labor Law 206-c, that took effect in June. Staff created a plan, tailored assessment materials, and visited each department, providing specific recommendations based on findings. Core staff also collected the seventh iteration of infant feeding data and is in the process of analyzing it. A more qualitative survey was developed to better understand chest/breastfeeding goal setting and obstacles. This survey was piloted with 100 WIC moms in 2023, and its analysis will be included in the quantitative data summary to be released in 2024. All 23 Better Choice Retailers (BCR) remained good standing throughout 2023. Maggy Marketplace, North Country Food Co-Op, and Mooers MountainMart were notable for their consistency in offering healthy options to their patrons, even with changes in seasonal options and availability.



Image 16: Social media post



Image 17: BCR sign board

Table 6: EHS Program Statistics

Program	2021	2022	2023
Food Service Establishments (FSEs)			
Inspections	418	496	518
Permitted Operations	366	446	452
Motels & Campsites			
Inspections	55	56	52
Permitted Operators	57	52	52
Individual Household Sewage			
Systems Approved	237	184	195
Nuisance Complaints			
Investigated	48	63	50
Rabies Prevention			
Bite Investigations	301	278	259
Individuals Authorized for Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)	18	18	22
Specimens Testing Positive for Rabies	1	2	0
Vaccinations (total numbers)	749	877	965
Dogs	502	629	738
Cats	247	221	141

Program	2021	2022	2023
Clean Indoor Air Act (Tobacco)			
Complaints Investigated	0	0	0
Water System Inspections	164	187	142
Migrant Labor Camps			
Inspections	15	17	18
Permitted Operators	15	15	16
Pools & Beaches			
Inspections	48	53	42
Permitted Operations	51	52	41
Mobile Home Parks			
Inspections	39	42	41
Permitted Operations	37	37	37
Children's Camps			
Inspections	8	9	9
Permitted Operations	8	8	6
Tanning			
Facilities Inspected	4	7	7
Facilities Permitted	8	8	7

Table 6: EHS Program Statistics (cont’)

Program	2021	2022	2023
Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA)			
Compliance Checks:			
Environmental Staff Only	21	39	91
Staff & Minor	0	42	91
Re-Inspections	88	5	6
Number of Operators	80	88	91
Number of Enforcements	0	2	6
Healthy Neighborhoods Program (HNP)			
Initial Visits	140	265	264
Re-Visits (90-180 day)	126	119	119

Table 7: HCS Program Statistics

Program	2021	2022	2023
Immunizations			
Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Routine Recommended Vaccines			
Influenza Vaccine	345	624	491
Pneumococcal Vaccines	1	1	21
Rabies Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)	39	46	61
COVID-19 Vaccine	17,475	6,529	452
Tuberculosis			
Active TB Cases (Civilian only)	0	1	0
Licensed Home Care Services Agency – Home Visiting Programs			
Family Health Home Visiting Program	7	8	9
Newborn & Postpartum Services – Phone Contacts & Home Visits	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lead Poisoning Prevention Program			
Active Case Management	7	13	12
Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN)			
Participants	2	0	7
Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI Clinic)			
Patient Visits	24	28	40

Program	2021	2022	2023
Early Intervention Program (EIP)			
Number of Referrals	271	343	305
Children Receiving Services (unduplicated count)	302	376	372
Total number of discharges	128	209	112
Reasons for closure:			
Children – delay/condition resolved	8	14	12
EI Evaluation found child not eligible	10	46	10
Family refused	14	22	3
Unable to locate family/moved	19 / 4	32 / 7	8
Transitioned to 3-5 program	68	76	83
Age-out, not eligible for 3-5 program	5	12	6
Committee for Preschool Special Education (CPSE) – County Supported Services			
Number of Referrals	245	243	276
Children Receiving Services (unduplicated count)	323	328	354
Number of Preschool Meetings	765	749	830

Table 8: HPP Program Statistics

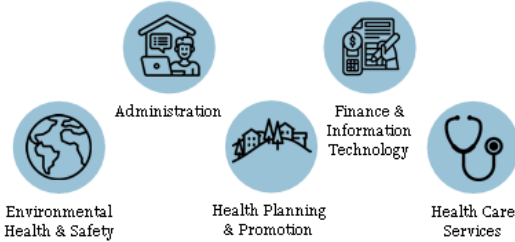
	2021	2022	2023
Community Events			
# of Events Attended	---	---	12
Estimated reach	---	---	1480
Education Events			
Professional Education Events	29	16	13
Public Education Events	24	12	3
Total Attendance	8,543	840	539
% of Attendees Who Report a Gain in Knowledge	86%	84%	66%
Better Choice Retailer Program (started in 2015)			
New Recruits	1	0	0
Total Participating Retailers	22	23	23
Social Media Engagements (Facebook, YouTube, X, Instagram, Blog)	887	444	260
Number of Health Related Policies Facilitated by HPP (Total)*	34	49	43
Worksite Wellness	---	12	3
Breastfeeding Friendly	25	29	34
Complete Streets	6	---	---
Food Waste Reduction	3	8	2
School & Early Childhood Education Wellness	0	5	8

	2021	2022	2023
Built Environment/ Activated Spaces/ Food Access Projects Supported*	18	18	33
WIC Program Enrollment (avg. per month)			
Women	259	291	315
Infants	267	271	300
Children	869	870	903
WIC Clinic Visits			
Nutrition/Certifications/Income	4,187	5,124	4,183
Telephone Appointments	132	3522	2,886
Food Dollars Expended	\$814,357	\$949,293	\$1,107,450
Farmers Market Coupons			
Booklets Distributed	1,255	1,060	1,260
Dollars Expended	\$8,080	\$5,500	\$31,500
Breastfeeding Program			
Breast Pumps Distributed	56	47	66
Hospital Grade Pumps loaned on average (per month)	22	14	13
Women Enrolled in Peer Counseling Services (average per month)	---	54	62
Peer Counselor and Designated Breastfeeding Expert contacts	730	616	819

*Includes policies enacted through regional grants

CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PREVENT • PROMOTE • PROTECT



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

1,825

public health clinics, inspections and investigations completed



\$15.5M

invested to support public health in Clinton County (supplemented in part by federal, state and private grant funding)

10,709

residents received direct services from CCHD



Launched Clinton County's **1st**

effort to measure **Community Nutrition Security**

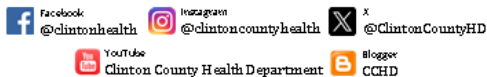
Nationally Accredited

by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) since 2015



More than 50% of staff participated in Quality Improvement projects aimed at improving CCHD processes and customer experience.

Visit CCHD at www.health.clintoncountyny.gov and follow us on social media:



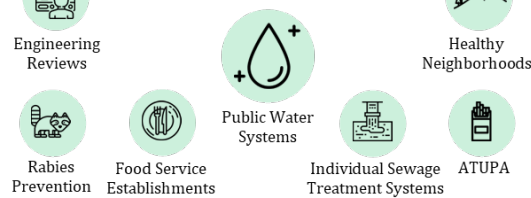
The mission of the Clinton County Health Department (CCHD) is to improve and protect the health, well-being, and environment of the people of Clinton County.



3/24

CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

14 TEAM MEMBERS



2023 HIGHLIGHTS



321

Home Visits by the Healthy Neighborhoods Program

195

Individual Sewage Treatment System (ISTS) Permit Application Approvals



259

Animal Bite Investigations

200+

Regulated Public Water Systems

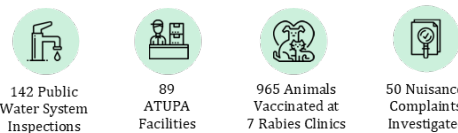


518

Food Service Inspections

~850

Regulated Operations in Clinton County



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.

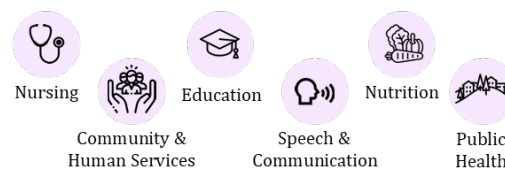
For more information about EHS initiatives, please call 518-565-4870.



2/24

CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH CARE SERVICES

17 TEAM MEMBERS



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

225

Maternal/Child Health Services Provided



581

Early Intervention (EI)/Preschool Referrals



142

Immunization Clinics Held

442

Communicable Disease Investigations (excluding COVID-19)



1511

Immunizations Given

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.

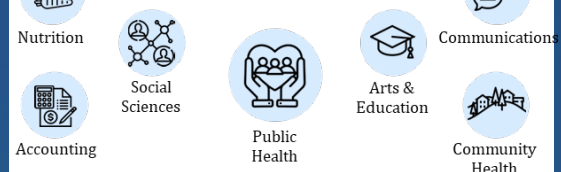
For more information about HCS initiatives, please call 518-565-4848.



2/24

CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH PLANNING & PROMOTION

17 TEAM MEMBERS



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Educated

2,019

Residents Through Professional & Public Events



Activated Spaces

33



Launched Clinton County's **1st**

Effort to Measure **Community Nutrition Security**



10

Projects featured at National & State Conferences or Trainings since 2017

Collected **Infant Feeding & Breast/Chestfeeding Experience Data** on almost

1,000 Clinton County Babies.



262

Health-Related Policies Facilitated since 2015



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.



2/24