



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Knox County Health Department

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knoxcountyhealth.org
309.344.2224



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Knox County Health Department

COVID 19, LOOKING BACKWARD AND FORWARD

Michele Gabriel, MPH, Public Health Administrator

The virus SARS-Co-V-2, coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus that was first identified in Wuhan, China, in late 2019. On March 11, 2020 it was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization... and then our world began to shift and change.

The Health Department spent the year 2020 figuring out how to provide all of our regular services to the community at the highest level we could, much of it in our parking lot, while learning and providing public information and education about COVID 19. The Health Department established testing, again in the parking lot for COVID 19 for anyone who wanted tested regardless of symptoms or ability to pay in many different types of weather, from five days a week down to three. Quarantine, Isolation, and contact tracing was being completed at the beginning of April 2020 and we ended the year with a full division created specifically for that purpose; however, those staff do so much more than that. And then, late in December 2020, the vaccine began to slowly trickle out and your public health heroes have begun to shift and change again.

I want to thank the staff of the Knox County Health Department. They are your public health servants Knox County and you should be grateful for each of them. Over the past ten plus months they have given you countless hours of their lives. They delivered many of you good news and others of you bad news. They have educated themselves and did their very best to aid this community as it has struggled to make sense of frequent changes to information early and now as we move forward. They feel your struggles pertaining to the Knox County economy; education be it hybrid, remote learning, or all in; as well as the isolation everyone feels as a result of the virus. I feel honored to work side by side with them and cannot thank them enough for their hard work and dedication to this cause.

Locally, at the State and at National level public health officials continue monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic, for all though we are a way from the beginning, we are still nowhere near the end. Vaccination efforts are only just the beginning. We do not know when we will see significant amounts of vaccine become available. Our partners at the Illinois Department of Public Health forecast that it may be November before we even catch a glimpse of the finish line of vaccination. But that could change, right? For if there is anything that this novel virus has taught the public health workforce is that it needs to be ready to change and adapt.

A Special Thank you!

We wish to extend a special thank you to our Board members who have guided us through unusual circumstances throughout 2020. Meeting virtually this year is far from being the greatest change these leaders have guided us through.

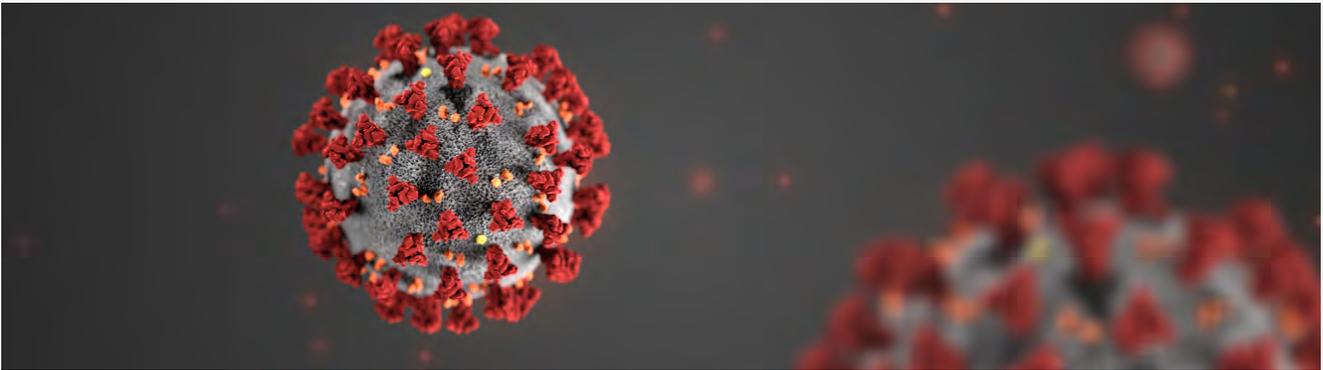
Knox County Board of Health

Dan Harris, President; Kevin Satsky, Vice President; Doug Gibb, Treasurer; Elvith Santoyo, Secretary; DuRae Fletcher; Clifford Martin; Bruce Bobofchak; Stephanie Grimes; Robert Bondi, County Board Liaison.

Knox Community Health Center Governance Board

Karen Lynch, President; Marty Andrews, Vice President; Sally Fischell, Treasurer; Therese Shelton, Secretary; Christina King; Angela Petersen; Harlan Cook; Annadoria Ledbetter; Hunter Chernin; Sammi Durdle; Bill Butts

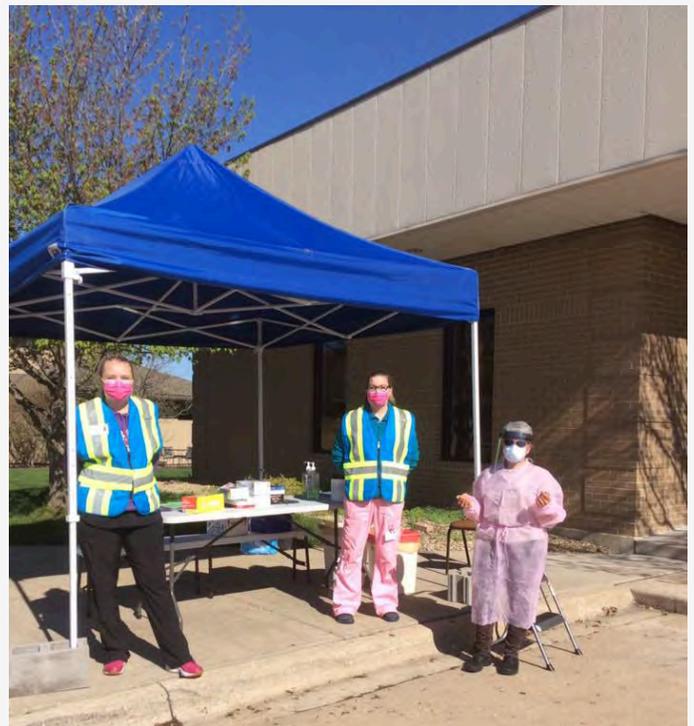
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)



Covid-19 is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. It is easily spread from person to person during close contact through respiratory droplets. Three important ways to slow the spread of the virus are wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, and avoiding crowds. Taking these simple safety precautions, in addition to washing hands frequently, can prevent disease and save lives.

CONTACT TRACING

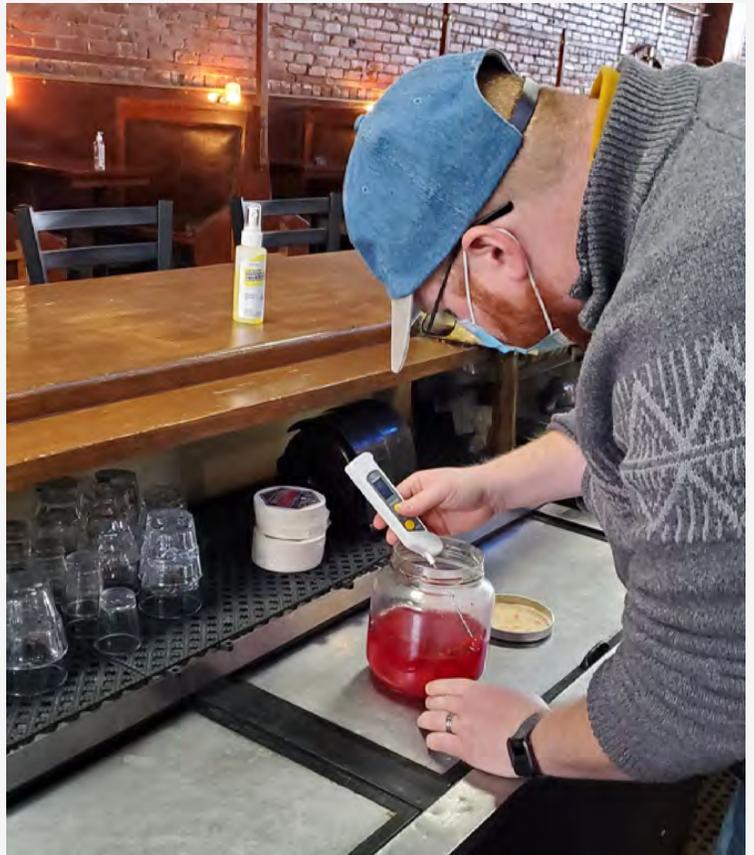
Contact tracing has been an integral part of fighting Covid-19. Public health workers are trained to answer questions and provide resources available at the health department or within the community. Positive individuals and their close contacts are interviewed to gather relevant health information and to educate them on isolation and quarantine guidelines, respectively. Before the contact tracing team was implemented, health department staff stepped up to the challenge and recognized the importance of contact tracing for the county. Since then, the Knox County Health Department has implemented Salesforce and Twilio which are online applications designed to record and track all cases, close contacts, and calls, to ensure that contact tracing is consistent, timely, and efficient.



COVID-19	2020
COVID-19 Tests Administered	9,166
COVID-19 Cases	4,183
COVID-19 Deaths	133
COVID-19 Contacts	5,877
COVID-19 Outbreaks	64
Contact Tracing Calls	>20,000
Resources Requested (food, housing, etc.)	74
Education Presentation	12

HEALTH PROTECTION PROGRAMS

Health Protection Programs provide for the four core services that all local health departments must provide to be certified in the State of Illinois. In addition to the core programs of food, water, onsite wastewater, and communicable disease surveillance, Health Protection also conducts West Nile Virus surveillance, childhood lead poisoning prevention, immunizations, STD testing, and Prep case management. The Program utilizes regulatory codes, best practices, education, enforcement, surveillance, and case management to prevent exposure, eliminate hazards, and provide treatments to protect every visitor and resident of Knox County, whether they are dining out, grocery shopping, drinking water, or participating in recreational activities.



FOOD PROTECTION	2020*	2019	2018
Licensed Food Establishments in Knox County	294	321	352
Routine Inspections Conducted	96	653	610
Re-Inspections Completed	37	185	187
Temporary Food Permits Issued in Knox County	100	333	368
ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROGRAM	2020*	2019	2018
Sewage System Permits Issued in Knox County	36	42	35
Sewage Systems Installed in Knox County	32	24	25
Sewage Systems Inspected in Knox County	34	24	26
POTABLE WATER SAFETY	2020*	2019	2018
Water Well Permits Issued in Knox County	11	16	16
Water Wells Installed in Knox County	10	7	13
Water Wells Inspected in Knox County	7	9	17
Water Wells Sealed in Knox County	11	13	22
CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION	2020*	2019	2018
Children Screened for Lead at Health Department	9	67	582
Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels in Knox County	25	31	40
Nurse Home Visits to Children with EBLL**	24	31	32
Environmental Investigations for Children with EBLL**	24	23	6

*Lower numbers reflect the changing priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**EBLL (Elevated Blood Lead Level)

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE	2020	2019	2018
Tuberculosis Disease*	1	1	2
Tuberculosis Infection*	7	3	1
*Tuberculosis Testing Provided	117	278	236
Hepatitis A	0	1	1
Hepatitis B	7	3	1
Hepatitis C	78	16	21
Salmonellosis	4	12	12
Shigellosis	2	0	10
Legionellosis	0	0	1
Histoplasmosis	3	1	0
Lyme Disease	8	0	1
Malaria	0	0	1
MRSA Community Cluster	0	0	2
Streptococcal Disease Inv	1	2	7
Streptococcal Toxic Shock	0	1	0
Streptococcal Pneumonia	0	0	1
HIV	0	4	0



SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE	2020	2019	2018
Chlamydia	283	231	239
Gonorrhea	135	88	78
Syphilis	17	20	6
STD Tests Provided through the Program	106	391	581
HIV Tests Provided through the Program	67	327	52

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM	2020*	2019	2018
Children Served through the Program	253	540	458
Immunizations Provided to Children through the Program	570	1039	902
Adults Served through the Program	270	557	814
Immunizations Provided to Adults through the Program	334	650	868

***Lower numbers reflect the changing priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

WELLNESS AND HEALTH PROMOTION

The Wellness and Health Promotion Programs promote good health within Knox County. As part of these efforts, health educators encourage healthy lifestyles through serving as a resource center for health education materials, conducting health education presentations on a variety of topics throughout the community, as well as coordinating and participating in screening activities and health prevention program development.

HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMMING	2020*	2019	2018
Health Education Presentations Provided in Community	33	86	250
Community Members Who Received Health Education	736	2,115	8,727

*Health education in schools from January-March only due to COVID-19.

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

On March 17, 2020, in response to the novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) the Knox County Emergency Management Agency activated its Unified Emergency Operation Center (EOC). Staff from multiple disciplines continually work together to constantly monitor COVID-19 outbreaks and follow protocols developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Illinois Department of Public Health. Members of the EOC include representatives from Knox County, City of Galesburg, Knox County Health Department, Galesburg Hospital Ambulance Service, Galesburg Cottage Hospital, OSF Health Care, Regional Office of Education, Community Unit School District 205, and others.



LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

	2020
Applications Entered through the Program	2,358
Furnace Repaired or Replaced through the Program	6

FAMILY HEALTH PROGRAMS

The WIC [Women, Infants, and Children] Program is a supplemental nutrition program which provided food, healthcare referrals, breastfeeding education, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and infants and children up to five years of age in order to combat nutritional risks.

WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN [WIC]	2020*
WIC Clients Certified in Program	3,012
WIC Clients Receiving Nutrition Education	523
WIC Clients Receiving Breastfeeding Education	76
Farmer's Markets Vouchers Distributed to WIC Participants	301
Average Number of Clients Enrolled Monthly in WIC	597

The Family Case Management Program provides services to ensure that Knox County Babies are born healthy and remain that way after birth. The program assists women and infants up to one year of age with supportive personal contact, health education, assessment of needs, coordination of medical care, and referral to other social service agencies.

FAMILY CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	2020*
Face to Face Visits Completed with Program Clients	208
Home Visits Completed with High-Risk Program Clients	21

**No home, or face-to-face visits after mid-March due to COVID-19.*

The Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program [IBCCP] serves women and men between the ages of 35 and 64 living in Knox, Warren, and Henderson Counties providing qualifying individuals with free screenings and treatment for breast and cervical cancer.

ILLINOIS BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER PROGRAM	2020*
Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program Participants	25
Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program Services Provided	52



KNOX COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDED	2020	2019	2018
Medical Visits Provided	1,361	2,922	2,192
Medical Patients Who Received Care	700	1,365	894
Dental Visits Provided	3,304	5,277	6,184
Dental Patients Who Received Care	2,005	3,031	3,528
Behavioral Health Visits Provided	3,171	2,793	3,707
Behavioral Health Patients Who Received Care	578	566	637
Patients Who Utilized More Than One Center Service	398	--	--
Total Visits Provided	7,839	10,992	12,083
Total Patients Who Received Care	2,890	4,356	4,632

MEDICAL

- Established curbside COVID-19 testing for community health and safety three days per week.
- Established Telehealth services for Medical appointments.
- Replaced medical tables in all examination rooms.

DENTAL

- Dental Hygienists obtained credentials as Public Health Dental Hygienists to increase operational capacity.
- Acquired HEPA filtration systems for each operatory to ensure the air quality is void of contaminants from the utilization of dental equipment.
- Ordered high speed suctions to utilize while drilling with a hand piece or ultrasonic scaler to further eliminate the microbes from getting released into the air thereby maintaining a clean air environment for our staff and patients.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Maintained uninterrupted Behavioral Health counseling through the pandemic.
- Established Telehealth services for Behavioral Health appointments.
- Hired an additional CADC certified counselor.

Knox Community Health Center accepts Medicaid coverage through ANY Medicaid Managed Care Organization [MCO], and patients with private insurance coverage for medical, dental, and behavioral health care services through a variety of carriers. **Call for an appointment 309.344.2225!**

El Departamento de Salud utiliza Language Line para ayudar a sus pacientes de habla Hispana.

Le ministère de la Santé utilise la ligne linguistique pour aider ses patients qui parlent Français.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FY20 Revenue Summary

Grants & Foundation Awards	\$5,150,253.34
Service Fees	\$823,085.26
Tax Levy	\$683,553.90
Miscellaneous	\$97,679.13
Interest	\$17,719.99
Account Transfer	<u>\$178,000.00</u>

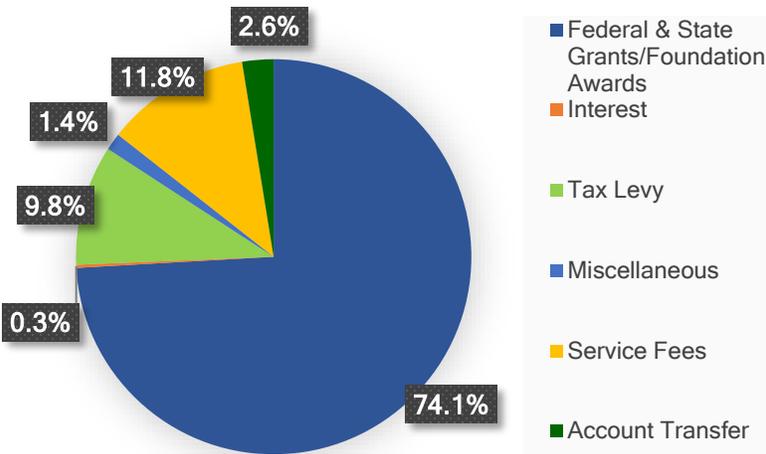
\$6,950,291.62

FY20 Expenses Summary

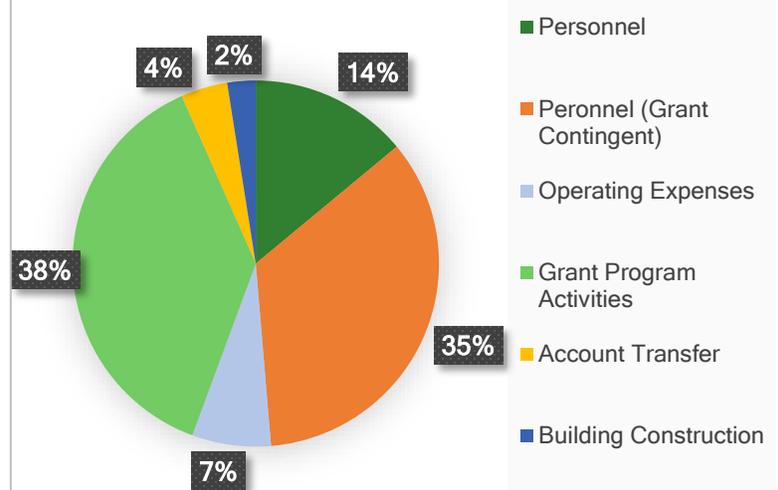
Personnel	\$1,008,197.44
Personnel (Grant Contingent)	\$2,501,284.56
Operating Expense	\$502,420.25
Grant Program Activities	\$2,721,989.40
Account Transfer	\$296,500.00
Building Construction	<u>\$180,564.71</u>

\$7,210,956.36

FY 20 Revenue Summary

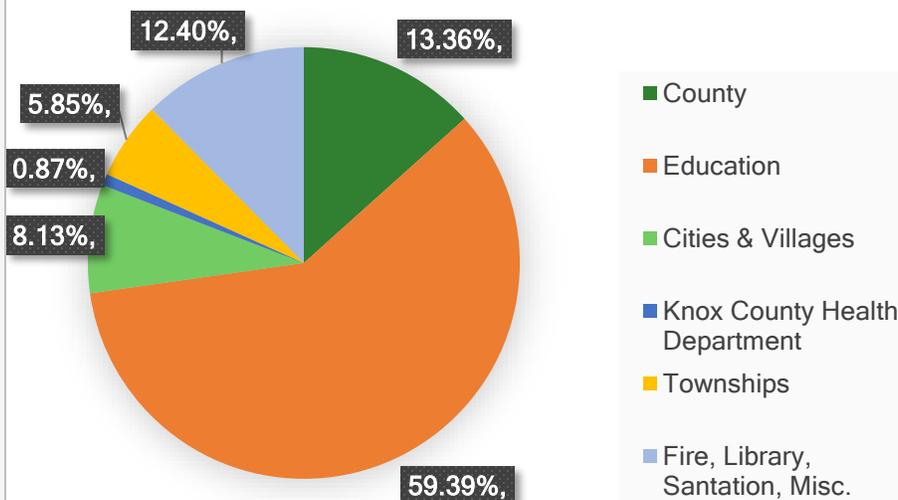


2020 Expense Summary



Distribution of Knox County, IL 2020 Property Taxes

Distribtion in Knox County-2020



2020 HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Community testing program for COVID-19 providing 9,166 tests.
- Added and administered six (6) additional grants to address COVID 19.
- Expanded the Health Department parking lot to provide greater access for clients.
- Jointly stood up and participated in Unified Command to address COVID-19 Pandemic for Knox County.
- Expanded the availability of telehealth virtual visits in the Knox Community Health Center to allow for healthcare services throughout the year.
- Received approval from the Board of Health to waive the 2021 Food Safety Permit renewal fees to ease some of the financial burden on food establishments.
- LIHEAP developed and implemented a phone and curbside appointment system.
- Updated the Health Department phone system and increased Internet speed.
- Developed and staffed a new Contact Tracing Division due to the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Donated COVID-19 support supplies to Knox County area EMS and the Knox County Courthouse.



KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

“To serve Knox County by assessing health and environmental needs, developing policies, and assuring those needs are effectively addressed.”

Vision Statement

“Healthy people in a healthy community”