

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 1997

**Health Commissioner**  
Susan Negron, R.N., M.S.

**Registrar/Admin. Assistant**  
Norma Piras

**Support Services Director**  
Judith A. McPeak



**Medical Director**  
J. Bradley Moritz, M.D.

**Environmental Health Director**  
Robert Weisdack, R.S., M.P.H.

**Personal Health Services Director**  
Lawrence Fergus, R.N., M.B.A.

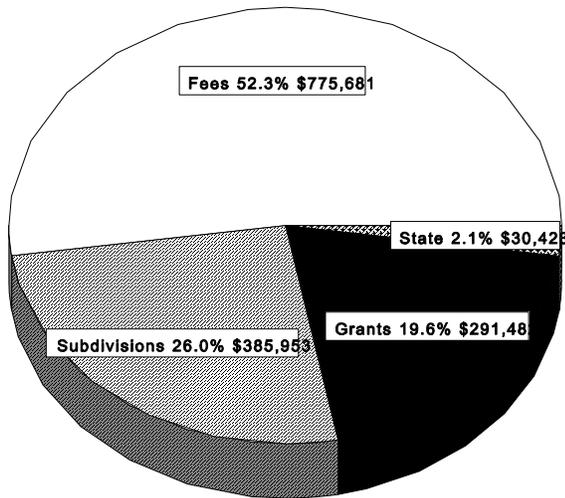
## Geauga County Board of Health

Darwin English, President - <i>Munson Township</i>	Term Expires: 1998
Helen O'Meara, Pres. Pro-tem - <i>Burton Township</i>	Term Expires: 1999
David W. Hudgel, M.D. - <i>Chardon Township</i>	Term Expires: 2000
Stephanie Szakallas - <i>Bainbridge Township</i>	Term Expires: 2001
Bonita Clemson - <i>Hambden Township</i>	Term Expires: 2002

The Geauga County Health District is dedicated to providing public health services by **detecting, educating, and preventing** personal and environmental health problems in our community.

## Financial Report - 1997

### Receipts



Fees	\$775,681
Subdivision Assessments	\$385,953
Grants	\$291,482
State Subsidy	\$30,423
Health Levy (Expired 1996)	\$96
Cash Carryover	\$703,629
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$2,187,255</b>

Personnel Costs	1,243,654
Supplies	52,174
Vaccine	17,154
Equipment	33,991
Maintenance Contracts	13,682
Travel & Training	44,187
Advertising & Printing	1,137
Remittance to State	30,555

### Expenditures

Liability Insurance	7,881
Telephone Service	12,850
Contract Services	45,072
State Audit	4,224
Other Expenses	41,006
Rent	6,500
Laboratory Fees	10,253
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,564,320</b>

## Environmental Health Division (EH)

The development of land for residential dwellings continues at a tremendous rate with approximately 550 new sewage disposal systems and private water wells each year. Most of the development is in the wooded areas of the county, therefore the amount of trees being removed for the development is dramatic.

Large areas of woods are coming under intense developmental pressure and will no doubt continue to do so in the future. In addition, 90% of our residents use an estimated 2.5 to 3 million gallons of ground water per day from the private water wells within the county. It is imperative that the water resource be protected at all costs in light of the role it plays in our daily life. The Geauga County General Health District continues to use good sound judgement and expertise in the area of public health when it comes to environmental and safety issues. We all must strive to protect our rural lifestyle and maintain a healthy environment for all.

Plumbing Permits	857	Food Establishment Inspections	190
Plumbing Inspections	2,506	Trailer Park and Camp Inspections	56
Sewage Permits	549	Swimming Pool Inspections	230
Sewage Inspections and Lot Evaluations	1,902	County Camp Inspections	19
Private Water System Permits	530	School Environment Inspections	121
Private Water System Samples & Insp.	1,790	Nuisance Complaint Inspections	661
Semi-Public Sewage Certificates	127	Nuisance Complaints Percent Abated	85%
Semi-Public Sewage System Inspections	500	Solid/Infectious Waste Inspections	623
Food Service Operation Inspections	1,435	Animal Bite Investigations	284
Vending Machine Inspections	48	Positive Rabies Cases Reported	0

### ***Rabies Surveillance, Prevention & Control Grant***

July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998

This is an Ohio Department of Health grant funded program to educate our residents about the rabies disease and to conduct surveillance testing of 100 raccoons for the rabies virus. All of the specimens must come from targeted areas within the county and all must be submitted with Global Positioning System (GPS) readings as to the exact location of the specimen. Educational presentations and mailings for county residents are also being completed for this program. The implementation of an active surveillance program helps assure the safety of all residents, domestic pets, and livestock. The mandatory immunization of all dogs and cats against rabies will help provide a barrier so the disease will not be passed on from these pets to their owners.

## Support Services Division

The Support Services Division encompasses fiscal administration, vital statistics, facilities and human resource administration, and our administrative and environmental health clerical staff. The clerical staff are the people on the front lines who service our customers by issuing permits and applications, keeping our data correct and current, and answering questions about our programs and regulations.

Client Visits:	3,298	Client Calls:	6,186
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### ***Vital Statistics***

Vital Statistics registers all births and deaths that occur in Geauga County. Residents' births and deaths occurring outside the county are not reflected in these numbers. The Vital Statistics Division also issues copies of birth and death certificates and burial permits.

<b>1997 Births</b>			
Girls:	434	Boys:	435
Birth Certificates Issued:	1,797		

**1997 Deaths**

Cardiovascular: heart & bloodvessel	206	Blood Cancer	15
Cancer	115	Accidental	10
Neurologic	88	Liver Disease	4
Infection	84	Miscellaneous	28
Lung Disease	39	Fetal Deaths	7
Kidney Failure	20		
Burial Permits:	228	Death Certificates Issued:	3,581

**Personal Health Services Division (PHS)**

People of all ages from infants to senior citizens have access to and take advantage of a wealth of services from the Personal Health Services Division. Clients receive services ranging from childhood immunizations, health awareness programs, nutritional education and assistance, to blood pressure checks and communicable disease control. These services are provided at a reasonable rate as a result of the tax support received from the county townships and villages, reasonable fees, and grants awarded by the Ohio Department of Health.

**Public Health Nursing**

Public health nurses work to maintain a healthy community by managing the county's communicable disease program, by providing health education, and by conducting a variety of clinics. Many clinics are held in local churches, schools, and community centers. They work in collaboration with area school nurses, physicians, therapists, the hospital, and the community to provide diagnostic screening, immunizations, and specialty clinics that are very specific to child growth, development, and prevention of diseases and disability. Adult and child preventive health services focus on home visits, immunizations, blood pressure screenings, and senior clinics.

Communicable Disease Investigations	140	Adult Immunizations Administered	3,944
Tuberculosis Tests Administered	467	Senior Clinic Participants	473
Positive Tests	2	Occupational Health Visits	36
Maternal/Newborn Home Visits	340	School Site Visits	157
Genetic Screenings	231	WIC Clinic Clients	1,853
Early Intervention Home Visits (Early Steps)	385	WIC Clinics Held	251
BCMHS Visits	278	Well Child Clients	192
Orthopedic/Scoliosis Clinic Visits	169	Well Child Visits	245
Neurology Clinic Visits	85	Prenatal Clients	55
Childrens' Immunizations Administered	9,023	Prenatal Visits	236

**Health Promotion and Education**

Health promotion and education offers a variety of materials and programs promoting healthy life-styles. Programs on stress reduction, choosing a health care provider, and services available from the health district are offered throughout the year. Input from the community is solicited in order to appropriately direct our services.

**AIDS Prevention Grant Program**

July 1, 1996 - June 30, 1997

The AIDS Prevention Program works to stop the spread of AIDS and to help people affected by HIV/AIDS in Geauga County. Projects are developed and guided by the Geauga AIDS Prevention

Consortium, an active group of agency and community volunteers concerned about HIV/AIDS. Current projects include: speaker's bureau (free educational presentations), AIDS instructor training, HIV support group, community events, and free confidential testing and counseling (both before and after testing) for the AIDS virus (HIV). This program is funded by a grants from the Geauga Community Board of Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, Tri-County Consortium, in-kind support from the Geauga Health District, and donations from concerned people.

***Child and Family Health Services Grant (CFHS)***

July 1, 1996 - June 30, 1997

Child and Family Health Services is a program by the Ohio Department of Health to provide preventive health care for mothers and children. Early access to prenatal care is provided for expectant mothers including pregnancy testing, individualized education, and referrals to appropriate resources. All services are offered on a sliding fee scale based on family size and income. Medicaid and insurance is accepted. The Well Child Clinic is held weekly and is staffed by a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner under the supervision of J. Bradley Moritz, M.D. The Prenatal Clinic is staffed by a Certified Nurse Midwife with Vichai Duangjak, M.D. as the Medical Advisor.

***Early Intervention Grant - Early Steps of Geauga***

October 1, 1996 - September 30, 1997

This is Geauga County's Early Intervention Program. It works to ensure that every Geauga baby between birth and three years of age has the best chance to grow and develop to their fullest potential. Services include: free in-home screenings for speech, hearing, and physical development milestones, information and assistance, coordination of services, and parent to parent support. The guiding force is the Geauga County Early Steps Collaborative, consisting of parents of special needs children and various agency representatives who work to coordinate, improve, and develop services for families of these children. Funding is provided by a federal grant through the Ohio Department of Health, and supplemental funds and in-kind support from the Geauga County Health District.

***Women, Infants, and Children Grant (WIC)***

October 1, 1996 - September 30, 1997

WIC is a supplemental food program that provides nutritious foods and education to pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum mothers and children from birth to five years of age with special nutritional and financial needs. Clinics are held in Chardon, Middlefield, and Bainbridge. Breastfeeding promotion and support is strongly encouraged by WIC to all mothers on the program. Geauga WIC is proud to be one of 15 counties in Ohio to offer the Farmer's Market Nutrition program whereby participants receive coupons valid for fresh fruits and vegetables, locally grown. WIC is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture through the Ohio Department of Health.

***Preventive Health and Health Services Grant***

July 1, 1997 - December 31, 1997

Preventive Health and Health Services Grant is a new grant for the Geauga County General Health District. The grant will have guaranteed funding through December 31, 1998. This grant targets nutrition efforts in Geauga County Public Schools. The funds have been used to purchase nutrient analysis software for all public schools and to provide current reliable sports nutrition education for athletic directors and coaches. The grant will also allow for the development of sports nutrition education for wrestlers and women athletes who are at nutritional risk. The grant has taken advantage of the collective expertise and input from the schools nutrition support staff in such areas as educational programs and a school system student nutrition consumption questionnaire.

**“Helping to maintain a healthy community”**