

STICKNEY PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

www.stickneypublichealthdistrict.org

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 1, 2020 – MARCH 31, 2021



Louis S. Viverito, President

Jay Grider, Treasurer

Ettore "Hector" Cesario, Secretary

Stickney Public Health District Board of Health



Louis S. Viverito
President/ Supervisor



Jay Grider
Treasurer



Ettore "Hector" Cesario
Secretary



Dr. Christopher L. Grunow
Health Director

INTRODUCTION

The Public Health District spent this past year in a full agency response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the stay at home order in March 2020, the Health District moved to providing health services over the phone and then to telehealth. Clinic procedures were changed, new protective equipment was purchased and regular command meetings were held. For the first time, remote work became essential in the response.

The Communicable Disease staff expanded hours to handle the case investigations and outbreaks in long-term care settings. Additional funding was received to build out an entire Covid-19 contact tracing department.

The Health District returned to some in-person services during the summer of 2020 until a surge of Covid-19 cases in the fall of 2020 and winter of 2021 forced another restriction of in person services.

In January 2021, the Health District began to provide Covid-19 vaccinations to the health care workers in the Township and continued to expand its vaccination efforts throughout the community during the late winter and early spring. Health District staff, community partners and volunteers all participated in the vaccine rollout. The Illinois Department of Public Health did provide funding for these vaccines activities. All vaccines were provided by the federal government.

As the fiscal year ended, there were signs of the pandemic abating but by no means was the response over. As stated last year, the Health District will be facing unknown challenges over the next many months. Given the professional, dedicated response of the Health District staff over the past year, the residents of Stickney Township can be sure that these challenges will be met.

Christopher L. Grunow, Psy.D
Health Director

STICKNEY PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT
STICKNEY TOWNSHIP, ILLINOIS – MARCH 31, 2021

The Board of Health of the Stickney Public Health District, County of Cook, State of Illinois, herewith submits its annual report, as required by the statutes, showing the condition of its trust on the 31st day of March, 2021: The sums of money received from taxation and from other sources, how all monies have been expended and for what purpose, and such other statistics as the board deems of the public interest.

Amount of public funds on hand at the commencement of the fiscal year commencing the 1st day of April, 2020:

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| | <u>\$4,429,922.61</u> |
| Real Estate Taxes - General Fund | 2,480,156.86 |
| Personal Property Replacement Tax | 304,851.64 |
| Interest Income - General | 3,589.58 |
| Patient Payments | 6,178.00 |
| Third Party Insurance Payments | 53,512.97 |
| Miscellaneous | 3,685.87 |
| Health & Family Service Payments | 8,087.62 |
| Environmental Health Inspections | 2,160.00 |
| Environmental Health Licenses | 24,775.00 |
| Tanning Facility Grant | 100.00 |
| Mosquito Abatement | 7,220.76 |
| Local Health Protection Grant | 66,393.00 |
| Seasonal Workers Reimbursement | 20,000.00 |
| Vision & Hearing Grant | 364.00 |
| Vector Surveillance Grant | 12,000.00 |
| Women, Infants & Children Grant | 112,087.43 |
| Breastfeeding Peer Counseling | 13,829.51 |
| PHEP Grant | 43,447.42 |
| Lead Poisoning Prevention | 12,893.49 |
| COVID-19 Crisis Grant | 45,577.00 |
| COVID-19 Contact Tracing Grant | 415,863.88 |
| Mass Vaccination Grant | 125,000.00 |
| Village of Bedford Park | 3,835.32 |
| Tort Interest | 58,020.78 |
| Medical Records | 371.20 |
| CRI Grant | 44,008.05 |
| Illinois Public Risk Grant | 2,502.75 |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | <u>\$3,870,512.13</u> |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS & OPENING BALANCE | <u>\$8,300,434.74</u> |

EXPENDITURES
PRIMARY CARE SERVICES

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Clinic Nurses Salaries | 282,686.95 |
| Physicians Salaries | 444,319.30 |
| Clinic & Lab Supplies | 8,083.45 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 19,273.93 |
| Podiatrist & Assistant | 49,667.93 |
| Contract Lab Tech Fees | 9,126.24 |
| Lab Equipment & Repair | 972.59 |
| TOTAL PRIMARY CARE SERVICES | \$814,130.39 |

NURSING SERVICES

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Nursing Directors Salary | 83,981.80 |
| Nurses Salaries | 167,146.61 |
| Nursing Expense | 638.66 |
| Continuing Education | 237.00 |
| Mileage Reimbursements | 126.76 |
| Emergency Response Coordinator | 68,666.44 |
| Emergency Response Expenses | 56.00 |
| TOTAL NURSING SERVICES | \$320,853.27 |

DENTAL SERVICES

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Dentists' Salaries | 256,410.09 |
| Dental Assistants' Salary | 55,726.69 |
| Dental Equipment | 1,810.00 |
| Dental Instruments/Supply | 48,244.40 |
| Mobile Unit Transport | 500.00 |
| Mobile Unit Repairs | 69.95 |
| Radiation Safety Inspections | 300.00 |
| TOTAL DENTAL SERVICES | \$363,061.13 |

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Director's Salary | 95,819.16 |
| Behavioral Health Services | 262,062.50 |
| Clerical Salary - BH | 45,428.23 |
| Psychiatrists Fees | 33,410.00 |
| Mileage Reimbursements | 17.94 |
| Operating Expenses | 1,333.53 |
| TOTAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES | \$438,071.36 |

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Environmental Health Management Salaries | 152,733.96 |
| Environmental Health Expenses | 14,664.06 |
| Environmental Health Salaries | 82,196.02 |
| Operating Expenses | 4,076.70 |
| Mosquito Abatement | 15,211.52 |
| TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES | \$268,882.26 |

GRANTS

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Illinois Public Risk Grant | 3,235.32 |
| WIC Salaries | 61,251.40 |
| WIC Expenditures | 2,349.30 |
| WIC Coordinator | 66,855.17 |
| Covid 19 Crisis Grant Expenses | 4,739.64 |
| Covid 19 Contact Tracing Grant Expenses | 52,917.57 |
| CRI Grant | 42.51 |
| PHEP - Bioterrorism Grant | 773.01 |
| TOTAL GRANTS | \$192,163.92 |

ADMINISTRATIVE

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Payroll Expenses | 4,533.61 |
| Director's Salary | 79,519.76 |
| Clerical Salaries | 432,528.18 |
| Chairman's Salary | 25,889.19 |
| Treasurer's Salary | 10,787.39 |
| Secretary's Salary | 10,787.39 |
| Certified Audit | 14,011.00 |
| Contingencies | 3,826.60 |
| Public Relations | 27,000.00 |
| Office Supplies | 14,791.61 |
| Postage | 2,000.00 |
| Legal Notices | 586.95 |
| Computer IT Services | 27,300.00 |
| Conferences, Meetings, Dues, Etc. | 3,547.00 |
| Medical Records System | 24,614.80 |
| Computer Expenses | 28,460.28 |
| TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE | \$710,183.76 |

GENERAL

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Group Insurance | 317,043.88 |
| Work Comp / Unemployment Comp | 23,627.25 |
| Bank Charges | 14.80 |
| TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE | \$340,685.93 |

PENSION EXPENSES

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| IMRF | 210,809.48 |
| FICA | 201,680.90 |
| TOTAL PENSION EXPENSES | \$412,490.38 |

TORT LIABILITY EXPENSES

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Casualty Insurance | 57,532.78 |
| Tort Officer | 96,339.11 |
| Certified Audit - Tort | 6,960.00 |
| TOTAL TORT LIABILITY EXPENSES | 160,831.89 |

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 4,021,354.29 |
|---------------------------|---------------------|

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| TOTAL RECEIPTS & OPENING BALANCE | 8,300,434.74 |
|---|---------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| DEDUCT DISBURSEMENTS | 4,021,354.29 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| TOTAL CASH BALANCE MARCH 31, 2021 | 4,279,080.45 |
|--|---------------------|

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| CASH ON HAND | 263,628.31 |
| INVESTMENTS | \$1,088,126.72 |
| TORT BALANCE | \$2,927,325.42 |
| TOTAL CASH BALANCE | \$4,279,080.45 |

VITAL STATISTICS

Leading Causes of Deaths in Stickney Township

1st Quarter Only 2019

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Diabetes Mellitus | 2 |
| Alzheimer's Disease | 3 |
| Anemias | 1 |

Infectious and Parasitic Diseases

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| All Causes | 68 |
| Tuberculosis | 1 |
| Septicemia | 4 |
| Viral Hepatitis | 0 |
| HIV Disease | 0 |
| Mycoses | 0 |
| Influenza | 0 |
| Other | 0 |
| Sarcoidosis | 0 |

Malignant Neoplasms

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Total Malignant Neoplasms | 68 |
| Cervical | 9 |
| Lip, Oral Cavity & Pharynx | 0 |
| Colorectal | 1 |
| Bronchus & Lung | 3 |
| Skin | 0 |
| Female Breast | 0 |
| Prostate | 0 |
| Leukemia | 0 |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms | 5 |

Cardiovascular System Diseases

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Total Diseases of the Heart | 22 |
| Coronary Heart | 15 |
| Other Heart Diseases | 7 |
| Primary Hypertension & Hypertensive Renal Disease | 0 |
| Cerebrovascular Diseases | 8 |
| Atherosclerosis | 1 |
| Aortic Aneurysm & Dissection | 0 |
| Hypertensive Heart | 1 |
| Ischemic Heart | 14 |
| Other Cardiovascular Diseases | 0 |
| Major Cardiovascular Disease | 31 |

| <i>Respiratory Diseases</i> | |
|--|----------|
| Total Respiratory Diseases | 5 |
| Total Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases | 2 |
| Chronic & Unspecified Bronchitis | 0 |
| Pneumonia | 1 |
| Emphysema | 0 |
| Asthma | 0 |
| Other CLRD | 2 |
| Other Respiratory Diseases | 2 |

| <i>Other Selected Causes</i> | |
|--|----|
| Peptic Ulcer | 0 |
| Cholelithiasis & Gallbladder Disorders | 0 |
| Hernia | 0 |
| Chronic Liver Disease & Cirrhosis | 1 |
| Nephritis Nephrotic Syndrome & Nephrosis | 1 |
| Pregnancy Childbirth and the Puerperium | 0 |
| Certain Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period | 0 |
| Congenital Malformations | 0 |
| Other Diseases N.O.S. | 10 |

| <i>External Causes</i> | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 0 |
| Suicide | 0 |
| Homicide | 0 |
| Other Accidents | 1 |
| Undetermined Causes | 0 |
| Other External Causes | 0 |

| <i>Other Tabulations</i> | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Firearms | 0 |
| Drug Induced | 0 |

| <i>Infants</i> | |
|----------------|---|
| S.I.D.S. | 0 |
| Neonatal | 0 |
| Post-Neonatal | 0 |

TABULATIONS:

Illinois Department of Public Health
Bureau of Statistics
Annual 2019 (1st Quarter)



PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES

NURSING SERVICES

| | |
|---|------|
| Home Nursing Visits | 168 |
| Communicable Disease Investigations | 4755 |
| STD Disease Investigations | 22 |
| Children Elevated Lead Level –Case Management | 3 |
| Pre-Natal Elevated Lead Level-Case Management | 0 |



shutterstock.com • 437187358

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS-CLINIC

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Total Patients Screened | 2392 |
| Newly Diagnosed | 75 |
| Controlled Hypertension | 21 |
| Uncontrolled Hypertension | 51 |

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS-OUTREACH

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Total Patients Screened | 596 (596 Dental) |
| Newly Diagnosed | 127 |
| Controlled Hypertension | 127 |
| Uncontrolled Hypertension | 106 |
| Normal Range | 237 |



Blood Pressure Screening is a duplicated service due to the management element of the disease. Patients with an elevated BP are followed per the Clinic/PHN Departments. Uncontrolled HTN is being managed through the Clinic Doctors until HTN is controlled.

CLINIC

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Clinic Patient Visits | 7126 |
| Sport Physicals | 116 |
| School Physicals | 274 |
| Influenza Vaccine/Children | 94 |
| Influenza Vaccine/Adult | 176 |
| Adult & Children Immunizations | 925 |

SCHOOL SERVICES

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Vision Screenings | 133 |
| Vision Referrals | 5 |
| Hearing Screening | 173 |
| Hearing Referrals | 0 |
| Scoliosis Screening | 15 |
| Scoliosis Referrals | 0 |



TUBERCULOSIS SERVICE

| | |
|----------|-----|
| TB Tests | 191 |
|----------|-----|

PODIATRY

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Podiatry Patient Visits | 1190 |
|-------------------------|------|

ESTIMATED VALUE OF SERVICE

Stickney Public Health District offers many clinic services at no charge or minimal charge. The following reflects value of the above statistics *if* charges were applied. All of the services listed in the table below were provided at no charge.

| Service | Amount Provided | Estimated Cost Per Service | Estimated Residents' Savings |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Home Nursing Visits | 168 | \$100 | \$16,800 |
| Vision Screenings | 133 | \$25 | \$3,325 |
| Hearing Screenings | 173 | \$25 | \$4,325 |
| Scoliosis Screenings | 15 | \$25 | \$375 |
| Clinic Patient Visits | 7126 | \$30 (co-pay estimate) | \$213,780 |
| School Physicals | 274 | \$50 | \$13,700 |
| Sport Physicals | 116 | \$50 | \$5,800 |
| Podiatry Visits | 656 | \$75 | \$49,200 |

VACCINES

SPHD is committed to keeping children safe from vaccine preventable diseases. Therefore, SPHD purchases vaccines for all children and adolescents in the community. This “Private Purchase Program” has been utilized by SPHD for many years. SPHD also participates in the Federal Program, Vaccines for Children, or VFC and CHIP. The VFC Program is a Federal Program administered by IDPH to provide vaccines free of charge for children that qualify. CHIP is a partnership between the federal and state governments that provides low-cost health coverage to children in families that earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid and VFC vaccines. SPHD

Vaccines, regardless of which program the vaccines are obtained through, are provided free of charge to all children and adolescents. However, a \$5 administration fee may be charged for every child and adolescent vaccine.

SPHD also, provides privately purchases vaccines (no VFC) for adult use. However, adults pay the purchase price of the vaccines being provided.

Manufacturer’s adult and children vaccines have a wide price range depending on the vaccine ordered – example: Polio, Mumps, Measles, Rubella, Shingles, etc. ... may vary in cost anywhere from \$22 per dose to \$250 per dose. Both adult and children’s vaccines that are free or supplied at cost is a great example of your Stickney taxes working for the community.

Vaccines are given at Stickney Public Health District Monday through Friday at all clinic sites for adults and children.

SPHD purchased and administered approximately \$17466 worth of adult and children’s vaccines. SPHD administered approximately \$2300 worth of vaccines provided free of charge through the Vaccines for Children Program and CHIP \$7,000.

COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

| | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Patients received COVID-19 vaccine | 1940 |
| Total # of COVID-19 vaccines given | 3269 |

Total of 3269 Covid-19 vaccines were given starting 12/28/20. Vaccines were offered in both, South and North clinic locations. Louis S. Viverito Senior Center was used as an off-site location to accommodate larger groups. Off-site vaccination clinics were also planned at Reavis High School to provide vaccines to school staff from all of our School

Contact Tracing

Since the beginning of the pandemic SPHD hired 8 Contact Tracers (CT) to support the Public Health Department's efforts to help curb the spread of Covid19 infections. Contact Tracers live in and reflect our community. 3 CTs speak Polish, 2-Spanish and 1 Arabic.

In this fiscal year we had total of 3813 Covid-19 positive cases. 63 Covid-related deaths were reported.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Total COVID-19 Positive Results | 3813 |
| Deceased | 63 |

On July 2, 2020 Salesforce was implemented as a Contact Tracing platform/program. Total of 3,331 cases (confirmed and probable) were processed using this program. 3,077 were confirmed cases. Over 4,800 calls were made since the calling feature in the program was implemented. Demographics obtained on the total 3,331 cases.



DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

The Public Health Nursing Department provides services to the community with the goal of promoting and protecting the health of the Stickney Township residents. This is achieved through health assessment, health planning and direct care services. The direct care services include skilled nursing care and health education. These services are provided to individuals, families and community groups through the following programs.



HOME NURSING

The Public Health Nurses provide services to the chronically ill, homebound patient and his/her family. The goal of the Home Health Care Program is to promote, maintain and restore health so that the patient can achieve his highest level of wellness while being treated in his own home. The services include: skilled nursing care, health assessment, health care planning, supervision of the rehabilitation process, nutritional guidance and emotional support. The Public Health Nurses visit patients in their home first to evaluate their nursing needs and then revisits them to administer care for a multitude of conditions. The six most common conditions are listed below. The care is achieved through cooperative efforts that include the patient's primary care physician, the nurse, and the patients and their families.

- Cardiovascular Diseases
- Cerebral vascular Disease
- Diabetes Mellitus
- Pulmonary Disease
- Degenerative Joint Disease
- Mental Status Change



SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Some School Health Services provided include:

- Vision and Hearing Screening, referral and follow-up care.
- Spinal screening, referral and follow-up.
- Immunization Surveillance
- Communicable Disease Control
- Health Education
- Health Consultation



CHRONIC DISEASE PROGRAM

Health counseling and educational materials are available to consumers who are interested in learning about the prevention and treatment of chronic disease. DM, Cholesterol, and hypertension screenings are available upon request. Monthly hypertensive screenings are done at the Stickney Township Senior Centers.

SPHD has the goal to prevent disease. However, disease itself is affected by many conditions. Cardiovascular and cerebral vascular disease along with diabetes, joint disease and a myriad of other diseases can be affected by an individual's "Body Mass Index" or BMI. BMI provides a reliable indicator of body fat for most people and is used to screen for weight categories that may lead to health problems. The following are the results that were calculated from de-identified clinic physical form statistics. As portrayed these statistics were gathered and differentiated by age and sex for the community's youth. Programs will be developed to address the information that has been collected.



| Summary of Children's BMI-for-All Students Tested | | | |
|---|------|-------|-------|
| | Boys | Girls | Total |
| Number of children assessed: | 154 | 161 | 315 |
| Underweight (< 5th %ile) | 3% | 0% | 1% |
| Normal BMI (5th - 85th %ile) | 53% | 63% | 58% |
| Overweight or obese (≥ 85th %ile) | 15% | 14% | 15% |
| Obese (≥ 95th %ile) | 29% | 23% | 26% |



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM

Public Health techniques are employed in order to prevent and control communicable disease. Public Health works in cooperation with the county and state using the I-NEDSS (Illinois National Electronic Disease Surveillance) to identify and follow-up and treats all communicable diseases.

Ongoing immunization clinics are provided at two sites for adults and children.

Case finding and follow-up care are provided for tuberculosis patients in conjunction with the Suburban Cook County Tuberculosis Sanitarium District.

Information concerning travel immunizations may be provided. SPHD is not a travel clinic.

Consultation and health education services are available to consumers, health care providers and institutions regarding the control and prevention of communicable disease.

Information is available for the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections. (S.T.I.) SPHD has collaborated with Howard Brown Health Center to offer free STD Screenings and counseling at the south or Burbank Location. This collaboration allows the extension of STD screening services to anyone, not only residents, to use this service. It is offered on the second and fourth Thursday of each month between the hours of 3:30 pm and 7 pm.



STD SCREENINGS

Chlamydia

29 total **positive** cases tested by providers located in Stickney Township.

9 out of 29 lived in Stickney Township.

3 Females 6 Males

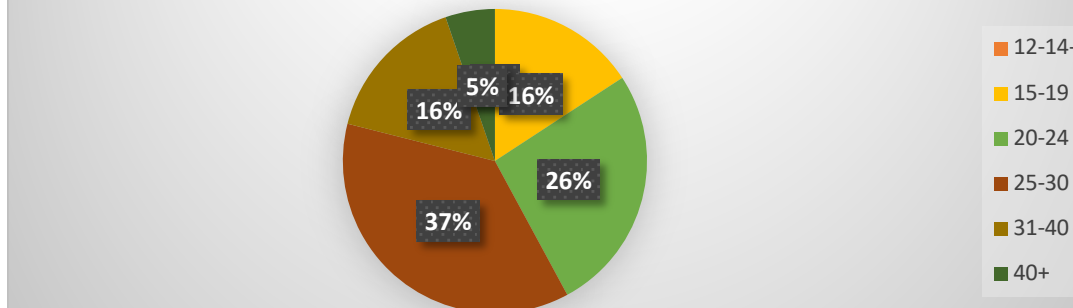
Gonorrhea

14 total **positive** cases tested by providers located in Stickney Township

7 out of 14 live in Stickney Township

2 Females 5 Males

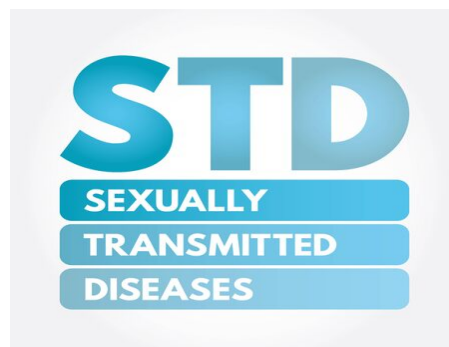
Stickney Residents Positive Cases by Age Group



During 2020-2021- 59 patients were tested at Stickney Public Health Clinic. We have had a great response for STI Testing. We test for HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia. HIV cases are currently being followed by Howard Brown/Chicago Local Health Department/IDPH. Our Stickney Public Health Nurse assures to provide follow up/counseling and treatment if not already provided to patients in our Jurisdiction.

30 out of 59 Patients tested were Stickney Township residents.

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, reduction in screening and prevention resources occurred. COVID-19 response was prioritized meaning delays in services. Total of 12 clinics were offered. During these hard times, it's critical we continue to rise to the challenge and continue to protect our community's health by being easily accessible to test, treat and provide education.



MATERNAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

- A network of services is available that include pregnancy testing, counseling, referral services.
- A special emphasis is placed on health care services for pregnant teens and their infants.
- Women are assisted in obtaining prenatal care through cooperative arrangements with surrounding health care agencies.
- Women are assisted in obtaining family planning services through cooperative arrangements with surrounding health care agencies.



WIC PROGRAM

The WIC Program is a supplementary food program sponsored by USDA. WIC participants must meet income guidelines and have a medical or nutritional need to qualify. WIC provides free nutritious food, breastfeeding support, referrals, and health and nutrition information to women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or a new mom, infants, and children up to age 5.



| Year 2020 -2021 | Clients |
|-----------------|---|
| April | 537 |
| May | 544 |
| June | 555 |
| July | 552 |
| August | 536 |
| September | *Not Available Due to system Conversion |
| October | *Not Available Due to system Conversion |
| November | *Not Available Due to system Conversion |
| December | 533 |
| January | 560 |
| February | 541 |
| March | N/A |

PODIATRY SERVICES

Stickney Public Health District offers palliative podiatric care to residents of all ages. The most common ailments that are treated include: routine diabetic foot care, corns, calluses, arthritic deformities, heel spurs, and soft tissue inflammation.



DIVISION OF LABORATORIES

Clinic laboratory services are provided at two CLIA-waived laboratories operating at the north and south building in order to serve both the clinic physicians and public health staff. The chart below is a breakdown of laboratory services performed.

PREGNANCY TESTING

THE UCG method of pregnancy testing is available through the Public Health District.

LABORATORY PROCEDURES

Clinic staff provides limited clinical laboratory service. The chart below is a breakdown of the laboratory services.

| | |
|--|----|
| Urinalysis | 48 |
| Hematocrit | 0 |
| Glucose <i>Clinic & Outreach</i> | 0 |
| Lead Level Screening | 19 |
| Hemoglobin | 0 |
| E.C.G. | 14 |
| UCG Screening | 5 |
| Cholesterol Chemistry <i>Clinic & Outreach</i> | 2 |
| Strep Screenings | 15 |
| Phlebotomy | 0 |



DIVISION OF DENTAL HEALTH

This year was an unusual one in the functioning of the dental department. Many unforeseen changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic took place during this year which drastically affected the function of our department and the ability to provide dental services. Happily, we were able to be flexible and work as a team together with all of the departments in the Township to do whatever was needed at any given time to get through this pandemic to this point.

Ms. Sandy Paluch announced her retirement during this year, and we wish her all the best. Ms. Laura Gonzalez has been hired to replace her as the full time dental assistant to Dr. Andrew Marchese. Laura has 10+ years previous experience in dental assisting at the Union Clinic in Chicago and at Loyola University. She is also bilingual in English and Spanish, and is a huge asset to our department.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting statewide shutdown from 3/16/2020 through 7/10/2020, and out of adherence to CDC guidelines, the dental department modified its list of available services to include treatment of dental emergencies only. This was done to minimize potential exposure of staff to the COVID-19 virus. Great care was taken to see that this was done with the recommended use of personal protective equipment (PPE) in accordance with CDC guidelines. We found that our nursing department's previously reliable source for PPE had difficulty getting all of the PPE that we required for our operations, so much of the Township's PPE in the early stages of the pandemic were obtained through dental supply through our good relations with the dental supply company.

Many local private dental offices were closed completely during this period, so the dental department temporarily removed all age restrictions so that residents of all ages with a dental emergency could be helped during this time. This was an invaluable asset to many residents, as there were no other alternatives other than overcrowded emergency rooms for them to have dental emergencies handled. Many emergencies were able to be handled utilizing a smartphone system where we were able to see and treat or refer the problem of the patient without actually seeing them in the office. Our HIPPA compliant system enabled us to utilize the camera in the patient's smartphone to see and remotely navigate the patient to manage their problem without having to make an office visit in a high percentage of emergency calls.

Once the COVID-19 vaccine was made available to our Township in January 2021, the dental department participated in administration of the vaccine to residents together with the nursing department. Dr. Andrew Marchese and Dr. Marci Barnes directly administered the vaccines alongside the Township nurses and volunteer nurses that stepped in to lend a hand. Our assistants Laura Gonzalez and Christine Lesniak worked with the organizational staff checking in and directing patient flow in what was a very efficient and well run program.

After 7/10/2020 with the shutdown lifted for dental visits, the dental department resumed its pre-COVID-19 procedures and patient eligibility, but on a restricted basis to enable proper cleaning, disinfecting, and purifying the air of all dental operatories. The podiatry office at the North Clinic, in cooperation with our podiatrist Dr. Thomas Mack, was converted into a treatment room for both podiatry and dental treatment utilizing the equipment from the previously abandoned dental office at the Central Clinic. This enables us to alternate between rooms so that while one room is being

used, the other is having its air sanitized, which enables us to conduct continuous treatment for patients unlike the old 1-chair setup.

Despite the statewide shutdown due to COVID-19 and the resulting diverting duties of our department, the number of actual dental procedures completed by our department was a total of 6555, which is only a decrease of 28.4% from last year's total of 9160. This demonstrates the dental needs of the residents being at least partially met by our department, and a remarkable achievement considering the restraints that the pandemic forced upon us.

Residents of Stickney Township continue to take advantage of the dental program offered by the Township. This service is available to Township residents that are in Kindergarten through 8th grade, and also to residents that are 55 years of age and older. Our program offers:

- Dental examinations
- Dental radiographs
- Dental prophylaxis
- Fluoride treatments
- Dental sealants
- Routine fillings
- Routine extractions
- Routine adjustment/repair of removable partial or full dentures
- Emergency management of dental pain as time and facilities permit
- Application of silver diamine fluoride to untreatable carious lesions

All of our services are provided at no out-of-pocket cost to the patient.

Our dental sealant program provides sealants targeting students in kindergarten, 2nd, and 6th grades. With written permission from the parent or guardian, the children are brought directly from the classrooms to the mobile dental unit during the school day for exams, cleanings, fluoride treatments, and to have dental sealants placed on their permanent molars. This service is provided by the Township free of charge. Of note, we also provide these same services for all resident children from kindergarten through 8th grade by appointment during our regular working hours with the parent or legal guardian present.

Services are provided at the **Mobile Dental Unit** on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00 to 4:00 and on Wednesdays from 8:30 to 4:00. Services are presently provided at the **South Clinic** on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 to 4:00, and at the **North Clinic** on Mondays from 9:00 to 4:00. The schedules for the North and South clinics will revert back to their original days (North Thursdays, and South Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday) once the need for vaccinators drops and we can return to treating dental patients exclusively. These services are provided by 1 full time dentist, 2-part time dentists, and by 2 full time dental assistants. Patients are seen in our department by appointment.

Dental Services Provided- 6555 total, including the procedures performed on all ages during the pandemic shutdown.



DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The goal of the Stickney Public Health's Division of Environmental Health is to reduce the incidence of disease and injury related to environmental and food safety factors and to help ensure a safe, wholesome, and nutritious food supply through inspections, training, education, enforcement, and abatement activities.

Division activities include maintaining required programs as prescribed by the Illinois Department of Public Health as well as other recommended programs, such as vector, mosquito, nuisance, and animal control, all designed to protect the general health, safety and welfare of the public.



Environmental Health Services Provided

| | | | |
|--|-----|---|------|
| Day Care | | Solid Waste Disposal Inspections | |
| Inspections | 8 | Garbage/Debris | 7 |
| | | Sewage/Plumbing | 0 |
| Food Establishments | | | |
| Permitted | 238 | Tanning Salons | |
| Inspections Performed | 16 | Inspections | 1 |
| Plans Reviewed | 5 | | |
| Food borne Illness Complaints | 0 | Water Sanitation | |
| Other Establishment Complaints | 3 | Swimming Pool Complaints | 5 |
| Special Use Permits Issued | 2 | Water Samples Collected | 0 |
| Special Use Inspections Performed | 2 | Consultation | 5 |
| Itinerant Permits Issued | 0 | | |
| | | Mosquito Control | |
| Insect & Rodent Control | | Inspection of harborage sites | 25 |
| Complaints | 283 | Sites treated for larvae | 25 |
| | | | |
| | | Sewers inspected | 2200 |
| | | Sewers treated for larvae | 2200 |
| | | | |
| Motels/Beauty/Barber Shops & Other Businesses | | | |
| Inspections | 5 | Vending Machine Inspections | |
| | | Inspections Performed | 122 |
| | | | |
| Nuisance Complaints | | | |
| Investigated by Type | 277 | | |

ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES PROVIDED

Release Permit

Established 11/1/99 for Arie Crown Forest, Lake Ida, Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit

Type Class C (governmental)

| Animal | Handled | Impounded | Released | Dead |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Bats | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Birds | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Cats | 34 | 2 | 29 rescued | 3 |
| Dogs | 32 | 13 | 2 rescued 15 returned | 2 |
| Livestock/Chickens | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Opossums | 4 | 11 | 4 | 2 |
| Rabbits | 2 | 1 | 1 rescued | 4 |
| Raccoons | 8 | 3 | 5 rehabbed | 5 |
| Squirrels | 1 | 1 | 3 | 10 |
| Skunks | 1 | 3 | 1-ran off | 1 |
| Coyotes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Deer | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Woodchucks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Snakes | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Bullfrog | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ducks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Turtle | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Rat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 90 | 30 | 62 | 31 |

| Complaints | Total |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Barking | 0 |
| Feces | 5 |
| Humane | 6 |
| Dog Bites | 14 |
| Citations | 0 |
| Uncontrolled Animal | 39 |
| Total | 64 |



DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The 2021 fiscal year began with the on-going challenge of delivering services during a global pandemic. Initial stay at home and social distancing guidelines due to COVID19 continued to be implemented and the Behavioral Health Division immediately established a plan to ensure uninterrupted service delivery to existing consumers.

During the first quarter of the fiscal year, in-person sessions were cancelled and replaced with therapy provided solely via telephonic means. In addition, scheduling of intake appointments for new consumers was temporarily cancelled. Gradually, a limited number of in-person appointments were provided to existing consumers based on individual needs.

The Division transitioned to utilizing an interactive telecommunication system in June 2020. Virtual sessions were provided via the 8x8, HIPPA compliant platform. Consumers who did not have the technology to meet virtually, continued to receive therapy by phone. Tatiana Buonicore, APN, provided medication monitoring sessions telephonically. A limited number of in-person appointments were also provided based on individual medication needs.

Initial intake appointments for new consumers were reinstated during the second quarter of the fiscal year. All intakes were provided by virtual means to allow sufficient time to perform the initial assessment. The logistics of providing the initial interview proved challenging due to obtaining the required signed documentation, resulting in a delay in scheduling the appointment. This eventually became a more fluid process.

The Division continued to deliver services using a hybrid model of virtual, in-person, and phone sessions. In-person sessions were temporarily postponed in November 2020 due to the increase in the region's reported COVID cases; however, a return to the hybrid model of services occurred during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year.

Many consumers were significantly impacted by the pandemic. Illness due to COVID and its resulting rate of contagion, exacerbated an already stressful living environment. Those consumers with serious mental illness also experienced more challenges and required additional support and direction. In addition, the impact upon the mental health of children and adolescents has been alarming. Parents were also feeling overwhelmed by the demands of hybrid learning.

Despite the challenges of service delivery during the public health crisis, the Behavioral Health Division was able to provide a total of 3,262 sessions. This is a slight decrease from the previous fiscal year but is due to the closing of intakes for an extended period of time. The similar totals also confirmed the success of providing services virtually. Many consumers preferred the convenience and safety that virtual sessions provided. A decrease in the number of cancelled and failed appointments was also noted.

The number of new consumers attending intake appointments decreased significantly compared to the previous fiscal year. This was due to the closing of intakes for an extended period of time, resulting in a 54% decrease. Intake demographics reflected that most consumers seeking services were female. Those consumers who identified as Hispanic accounted for the largest demographic

at 54%. The most significant change in demographics compared to the previous fiscal year was the increase in children and adolescents needing services.

Demographics for all consumers receiving services indicated that most consumers are female (62%). The 51-70 age group totaled 31%, followed by ages 18-34 at 28%. Most consumers identified as white (54%), followed by those identifying as Hispanic (38%).

Data continues to be collected regarding clinical diagnoses of all consumers currently receiving services. Analysis of the data indicated that most commonly diagnosed disorders included the following: Major Depressive Disorder (32%), Generalized Anxiety Disorder (20%), Bipolar Disorder (13%), and Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders (8%).

In an effort to obtain feedback regarding services provided during the pandemic, the Division mailed surveys to each consumer. During the time frame in which the surveys were mailed, 50% of consumers participated in phone sessions. This grouping also included a small percentage of consumers who received a combination of phone and in-person sessions. The other 50% of respondents participated in virtual sessions.

Overall, results of the surveys were very positive. The most interesting results are as follows: 86% of respondents who participated in virtual sessions marked “Strongly Agree” (14% “Agree”) that the therapist listened carefully to their concerns, compared to 79% who participated in phone sessions; also, 93% of respondents who participated in virtual sessions marked “Strongly Agree” (7% “Agree”) that they would recommend the Behavioral Health Division’s services to a friend, compared to 86% of respondents who received phone therapy sessions. The most significant result was that 93% of respondents who received virtual sessions and 93% of respondents who received phone sessions, “strongly agreed” that they made progress in treatment. The remaining 14% of respondents in both groups marked “Agree”; therefore, both groups had identical satisfaction ratings despite the mode of treatment they were provided.

In-person workshops were not provided during the fiscal year due to social distancing guidelines. As an alternative, the Division utilized its Facebook page to highlight daily coping strategies during the pandemic. In addition, a Zoom presentation was provided to address the concerns regarding the impact upon children and adolescents and their parents. The Division’s Child and Adolescent Therapist, Eloisa Rosales, LCSW, collaborated with the Student Services Coordinator at SAHS School and provided information to Spanish speaking parents. Three separate Zoom presentations were provided on the following topics: Parenting During Uncertain Times; Managing Fear; and Wellbeing for Families. Positive feedback was received from participants regarding these presentations.

The Behavioral Health Division’s change in designation from a Community Mental Health Center to a Behavioral Health Clinic was approved in August 2020. The application was submitted during March 2019. The long delay in approval was due to various complications within the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) application system. The transition also involved updating various forms and contracts with existing insurance companies, including all Medicaid Manage Care Organizations (MCOs). The process of gathering necessary information for contract applications was initiated but the response by the respective insurance companies was delayed due to workforce challenges as a result of the pandemic.

The Behavioral Health staff worked diligently to meet the challenges of delivering services to residents of Stickney Township during the COVID19 public health crisis. Clinical staff quickly adapted to a consistently evolving situation, which also required continuous assessment of mental health services and service outcomes. This continues to be an on-going process, and much has been learned about the effectiveness of teletherapy. Although the pandemic has challenged us in many ways, an opportunity exists to re-evaluate service delivery models and improve mental health-care. As we progress through this new fiscal year, the Behavioral Health Division will be examining its mission with a focus on ensuring that high quality services are easily accessible to all residents of Stickney Township.

