



vbcassdhd.org

VAN BUREN/CASS DISTRICT
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2018





COMMUNITY MESSAGE

To the residents of Van Buren and Cass County, we are pleased to submit to you the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's 2018 annual report. This report highlights our key initiatives during the past year to protect and improve the health of all residents of Van Buren and Cass counties and how we are working with partners at the state and local level by preventing disease, promoting good health and assuring access to quality health care services to those with limited resources and access. This past year we emphasized our efforts towards hard-to-reach and at-risk populations including our local Amish community, individuals at high risk for hepatitis A and sexually transmitted diseases including HIV, and individuals with dental problems and limited resources and/or access to dental care.

Throughout the year, we worked hard to provide vital services to the community, including:

- Preventing and containing disease outbreaks through education, vaccination, surveillance, and follow-up on reportable illnesses;
- Making sure our food, water, and environment are safe and clean through restaurant inspections, water testing, well testing and more; and
- Strengthening community engagement by nurturing existing partnerships and cultivating new ones in order to build a strong infrastructure of health/social care providers. We're building engagement through initiatives like the development of a Community Health Advisory Council and continued partnership with the Van Buren Intermediate School District to build a new public health education campus adjacent to the Van Buren Technology Center.

The initiatives outlined in this annual report demonstrate the Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's commitment to fulfilling our mission to promote and contribute to the highest level of health possible for the people of Van Buren and Cass County.

We are honored to work for you and we look forward to continuing to work with members of our communities.

Jeff Elliott
Health Officer

Larry Wile, MD, MPH
Medical Director



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"Healthy citizens are the greatest asset any country can have."

- Winston Churchill

COMMUNITY DENTAL HEALTH



COMMUNITY DENTAL CLINICS

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department's Community Dental Clinics provide quality dental care at an affordable price for adults and children. As fully functioning dental clinics with state of the art dental equipment, community members have access to an array of dental services including: preventive, restorative, prosthetic, and surgical services. Dental services are provided at three different office locations (Dowagiac, Hartford, Mattawan) with a total of 27 operatories.

25,862	DENTAL PATIENTS
88,149	DENTAL PROCEDURES PERFORMED

DENTAL LABORATORY

As part of the network of dental services, VBCDHD operates a full-service laboratory. Dental laboratory technology is the art and science of manufacturing corrective devices for replacement of natural teeth. As each dental patient's needs are different, dental laboratory technicians communicate and collaborate with dentists to plan, design and fabricate prostheses for individual patients. Following a five step process, dental laboratory technicians create full dentures, partial dentures, and denture repairs, working with a variety of materials.

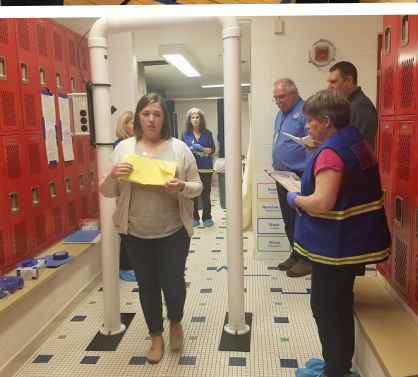
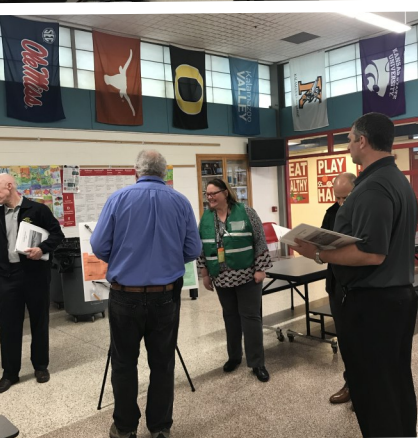
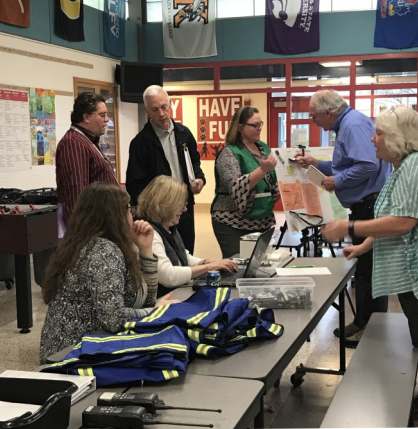
1,855	DENTURE LAB PROCEDURES
585	NEW DENTURES DESIGNED
1,173	DENTURE REPAIRS, RESETS, RELINES, AND PRIORS
171	EMERGENCY DENTURE REPAIRS

MOBILE DENTAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

VBCDHD proudly delivers a mobile dental outreach program, providing screening and fluoride varnish, oral health education, and referrals to dental homes/restorative care to students preschool through 12th grade in Van Buren and Cass County schools. Through the Mobile Dental Outreach Program a Dental Hygienist and Dental Assistant travel to area schools to administer services on site, making it easy and convenient for children to get the preventive care and oral health education they need. Students receive dental kits (toothbrush, toothpaste, floss) and dental staff work with parents to set up care plans to ensure students with treatment needs—restorative and emergent—are linked to the care they need. Community mobile dental outreach also extends to community sites and adult programming.

843	STUDENTS SCREENED
696	STUDENTS RECEIVED SEALANTS
2,835	TOTAL SEALANTS PLACED
6,403	STUDENTS RECEIVED ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION
43	SCHOOLS IN VAN BUREN & CASS COUNTY VISITED





EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Emergency preparedness program continues to update plans, policies and procedures per state and federal guidelines of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant. During 2018, updated plans were submitted to the Bureau of EMS, Trauma and Preparedness. Partnerships with groups such as Van Buren and Cass County Local Emergency Planning Teams, schools, hospitals and other community programs continue to be a great benefit to the Health Department. The Emergency Preparedness Program continues to be an influential partner across the State of Michigan as it successfully completes all requirements of the Office of Public Health Preparedness. In 2018 our program focused on Radiological response planning, Whole Community Inclusion, infectious disease response, water contamination and mass dispensing.

NOTABLE ACTIVITIES:

- PFAS Response (water system testing)
- Radiological Response training & exercise program
- Presented at the Michigan Environmental Health Fall Seminar
- Trained Barry-Eaton and Ottawa County Health Department's on REP 50 mile EPZ
- Updated plans: Mass Fatality; All Hazards Plan; Communications Plan; Continuity of Operation Plan; Mass Vaccination Plan; Medical Countermeasure Response Plan; Whole Community Inclusion Plan
- 12 Emergency Preparedness Trainings including: FEMA/NIMS Compliance; REP; Homeland Security Conference; MDHHS Emergency Preparedness Annual Meeting; Center for Domestic Preparedness: Respiratory Protection; PREP Summit—National Presenter; FEMA Continuity of Government; TEEX Mass Dispensing Course; AWR 317: Radiological Emergency Preparedness Core Concepts; MGT 453: Post Plume Plan Review course; MGT 403: Planning for Special Needs; Nuclear Regulatory Commission Annual Mtg
- Workgroup Participation: NACCHO Radiation Planning Workgroup; MDHHS/DEPR Medical Countermeasures Workgroup; Mass Fatality Regional Workgroup; Active Assailant Workgroup; Statewide Pharmacy Preparedness Workgroup; Regional Long-Term Care Workgroup; Regional Emergency Preparedness Workgroup

- 30 COMMUNICATION DRILLS
- 1 MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES DRILL
- 1 MI VOLUNTEER REGISTRY STATEWIDE EXERCISE
- 12 RADIOLOGICAL RESPONSE DRILLS (9 PRACTICE; 3 FEMA EVALUATED)
- 1 STAFF ASSEMBLY WITHIN 60-MINUTE TARGET DRILL
- 4 STAFF NOTIFICATION DRILLS

Our Mission

To promote and contribute to the highest level of health possible for the people of Van Buren and Cass County by:

- *Identifying & reducing health risks in the community;*
- *Detecting, investigating & preventing the spread of disease;*
- *Promoting healthy lifestyles;*
- *Promoting a safe & healthful environment;*
- *Promoting the availability of accessible quality healthcare services through the private sector;*
- *and Providing quality healthcare services to those with limited resources and access.*

Our Personality

ACCESSIBLE

We are available to meet your needs. We make it easy to receive health services by making your healthcare affordable. Accessible is thoughtful when determining the priorities most important to our community.

PASSIONATE

We care about you and our community. Your health is our health—we advocate for you in everything we do. Passionate is energized but never overbearing or intrusive.

DEPENDABLE

We are trustworthy and reliable. Dependable means we take pride in our history of serving the community and are committed to always being here when you need us.

DEDICATED

We get things done. We are smart, hard-working and responsive to the needs of our community. We remain focused on our goal—protecting and promoting health. Dedicated is driven and strategic but not arrogant or short-sighted.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health Division is compliant with a broad set of issues affecting public health in Van Buren and Cass Counties, including septic system design and inspection, well construction code compliance, body art licensing, raw land evaluations, campgrounds and swimming pool inspections, non-community public water supply oversight, subdivision development, housing complaint investigations, water supply monitoring in areas of contamination, and public beach monitoring along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

256	ACTIVE NON-COMMUNITY FACILITIES	3	BODY ART FACILITIES
127	HOME LOAN EVALUATIONS	80	PUBLIC POOLS
639	SEPTIC PERMITS	56	CAMPGROUNDS
687	WELL PERMITS	42	SEPTIC PUMPERS
48	SOIL EVALUATIONS		

FOOD SERVICE

VBCDHD's Food Service Program identifies food handling issues associated with the preparation, processing, and serving of food and beverages within our district. Food Service Environmental Health staff are responsible for: licensing and inspecting fixed mobile and transitory food establishments; issuing temporary permits to transient vendors that provide food at summer festivals and special events; performing plan reviews as an essential component to food establishment development and operator training; providing education and training opportunities to food service operators; tracking and reducing risks when food-related illnesses are reported.

3	FOODBORNE ILLNESS	0	FOODBORNE OUTBREAKS
403	LICENSED ESTABLISHMENTS	44	NEW/CHANGE OWNERSHIP
10	PLAN REVIEWS	0	SMOKING RELATED COMPLAINTS
61	SPECIAL TRANSITORY FOOD UNITS/ MOBILE UNITS	101	TEMPORARY LICENSES



PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

CHILDHOOD HEARING AND VISION SCREENING PROGRAM

VBCDHD Hearing and Vision Technicians provide objective hearing and vision screenings to children entering kindergarten through seventh grade. Vision screens are conducted once before entering kindergarten, in grades 1, 3, 5, 7 and in conjunction with driver's education or in 9th grade. Hearing screens are conducted once before entering kindergarten and in grades K, 2 and 4. All screenings are free of charge and offered in collaboration with Michigan grade schools and preschools including public, private, parochial, and charter. Parents are notified if their child fails a screening so they may seek medical intervention, diagnosis and treatment, and recommendations for care.

12,402 VISION SCREENS

5,865 HEARING SCREENS

CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES (CSHCS) PROGRAM

The mission of the Children's Special Health Care Services* program is *to enable individuals with special health care needs to have improved health outcomes and an enhanced quality of life*. CSHCS nurses help families access specialty health care services by encouraging and facilitating parent involvement and collaboration with professionals, and working to remove barriers that interfere with access to and delivery of services and supports to meet clients' special health care needs. CSHCS serves individuals under 21 years of age, who have one or more of the 2,700+ medically qualifying conditions, including individuals 21 years and older with cystic fibrosis or hemophilia. The program helps pay for specialty medical care, transportation, co-pays and deductibles, and assists families with maintenance of private health care insurance. Families of all income levels are eligible.

**CSHCS is provided in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the federal government under Title V of the Social Security Act.*

526 CHILDREN ACTIVE IN CSHCS PROGRAM

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

VBCDHD Communicable Disease Control program monitors and receives reports of all suspect and confirmed cases of communicable disease by area health providers, laboratories, schools, and daycare centers, including reports received from community members, as required by Michigan law. Utilizing the Michigan Disease Surveillance System, or by fax or phone to the Health Department, reports are made to trained VBCDHD Nursing Staff. Nursing staff are trained in disease investigation, treatment, case management, and contact follow up. Nurses educate partners and community members on transmission, prevention and intervention of communicable diseases and how to protect themselves, their families and the community. Local Public Health staff operate under protocols established by MDHHS according to Michigan Public Health Codes and Local Public Health policies and procedures.

See next page for Van Buren and Cass County reportable disease statistics for the past 5 years.

VAN BUREN/CASS DISTRICT REPORTABLE DISEASES 2014-2018
Number of cases per year

ENTERIC DISEASES	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
CAMPYLOBACTER	19	26	29	35	45
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	3	2	7	8	8
NOROVIRUS	0	2	4	5	0
GIARDIASIS	9	5	3	8	7
SALMONELLOSIS	11	8	19	20	16
SHIGA TOXIN PRODUCING E. COLI (STEC)	2	1	1	8	14
YERSENIA ENTERITIS	0	0	0	4	5
LISTERIOSIS	1	1	1	2	0
SHIGELLOSIS	10	6	1	1	3
E. COLI 0157:H7	0	0	0	0	0
HEPATITIS					
HEPATITIS A	2	0	0	2	4
HEPATITIS B, ACUTE	0	0	0	0	0
HEPATITIS B, CHRONIC	3	5	6	3	4
HEPATITIS C, ACUTE	0	0	1	1	3
HEPATITIS C, CHRONIC	57	62	105	145	141
STD					
CHLAMYDIA	365	376	381	441	468
GONORRHEA	41	53	45	121	145
SYPHILLIS	0	3	4	3	5
TUBERCULOSIS					
MYOBACTERIUM-OTHER	4	9	12	6	10
TUBERCULOSIS	3	2	1	1	1
VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES					
VARICELLA (CHICKENPOX)	7	4	6	5	6
H. INFLUENZA DISEASE—INV.	2	4	4	5	6
PERTUSSIS	10	3	3	3	2
VECTORBORNE DISEASES					
LYME DISEASE	4	3	8	5	15*
MALARIA	0	0	0	0	0
WEST NILE	0	0	0	0	1
MENINGITIS					
ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	5	9	7	6	3
NON-MENINGOCOCCAL BACTERIAL MENINGITIS	0	5	0	1	0
MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE	0	0	0	0	0
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE – INV.	5	8	9	16	24
OTHER					
LEGIONELLOSIS	1	2	2	2	6
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE DRUG REST	2	3	2	2	0
VISA	0	0	1	0	0

*Number of cases may vary based on final case classification upon review

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Local immunization efforts serve to protect the public from epidemics or threatened epidemics of vaccine preventable diseases as well as protecting individuals from avoidable diseases and their complications. VBCDHD's Immunization Program is based on state immunization program guidelines and monitored for its' effectiveness, compliance with state program guidelines, and adherence to professional standards of practice as detailed by the Standards for Child and Adolescent Immunization and Standards for Adult Immunization Practices. VBCDHD maintains highly trained nursing staff responsible for providing immunization clinics for residents to dispense publicly funded vaccine; educating local school staff to ensure they understand school immunization requirements and accurately report student immunization status to MDHHS and the Michigan Department of Education; conducting site visits to local medical provider offices for quality assurance and compliance with the federal requirements of the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program; monitoring for fraud and abuse of publicly funded vaccine; and ensuring accessibility to vaccine, Improving local immunization rates, providing immunization education, and developing private and public partnerships to promote high immunization coverage rates in the district.

- 1,932 IMMUNIZATION CLINIC VISITS
- 2,504 DOSES ADMINISTERED BY NURSES
- 74.4% CHILDREN 19-35 MONTHS FULLY IMMUNIZED
- 96.2% SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCY RATE

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE PROGRAM

The goal of VBCDHD's STD/HIV program is to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted disease through clinical and educational services. STD/HIV Nurses provide counseling, testing, treatment and referrals, and facilitate individual and group education at schools, jails, substance abuse programs and other community sites. Partner services are offered to all infected individuals and STD/HIV nurses maintain ongoing communication with local medical providers to ensure appropriate treatment standards are upheld.

- 425 STD CLINIC VISITS (193 VAN BUREN; 232 CASS)
- 746 INDIVIDUALS EDUCATED IN SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SETTINGS
- 660 INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED COUNSELING & TESTING (322 VAN BUREN; 338 CASS)



SPECIAL HEPATITIS A REPORT

Since August of 2016, Michigan has been involved in a Hepatitis A outbreak that began on the east side of the state. In 2018, Cass County had a total of 4 acute cases all related to a Michigan-Indiana outbreak genotype; Van Buren County had 2 cases in 2017—1 in late December of 2017 that was genotyped and connected early in 2018 to the Hep A outbreak in southeast Michigan.

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department staff have been diligently educating and vaccinating individuals at high risk for Hepatitis A, individuals who were contacts of the confirmed cases of Hepatitis A, and those who requested vaccination for Hepatitis A. The increase in our vaccination numbers reflect the “fruits of our efforts” in protecting those at risk in our district. Van Buren/Cass District health Department will continue to educate the public and offer Hepatitis A vaccine through outreach efforts in the community.

- 1 RADIO INTERVIEW WITH 103.7 COSY-FM (MEDICAL DIRECTOR, LARRY WILE, MD, MPH)
- 5 HEP A PREVENTION BILLBOARDS, POSTED FOR 8 WEEKS
- 23 SPECIAL HEP A COMMUNITY CLINICS,
Locations include: Cass County Jail, Decatur Homeless Shelter, Project Connect (VB),
Tri-County Head Start Annual Meeting, Van Buren Community Mental Health Authority,
Van Buren County Drug Court, Van Buren County Family Court, Van Buren County Jail,
Woodlands Behavioral Health
- 295 HEP A VACCINE DOSES GIVEN (124 VAN BUREN; 171 CASS)


Prevent Hepatitis A

Wash Hands & Get Vaccinated



Van Buren/Cass District
Health Department

2018 Hep A Billboard Design



"Healthcare is vital to all of us some of the time, but public health is vital to all of us all of the time."

- C. Everett Koop

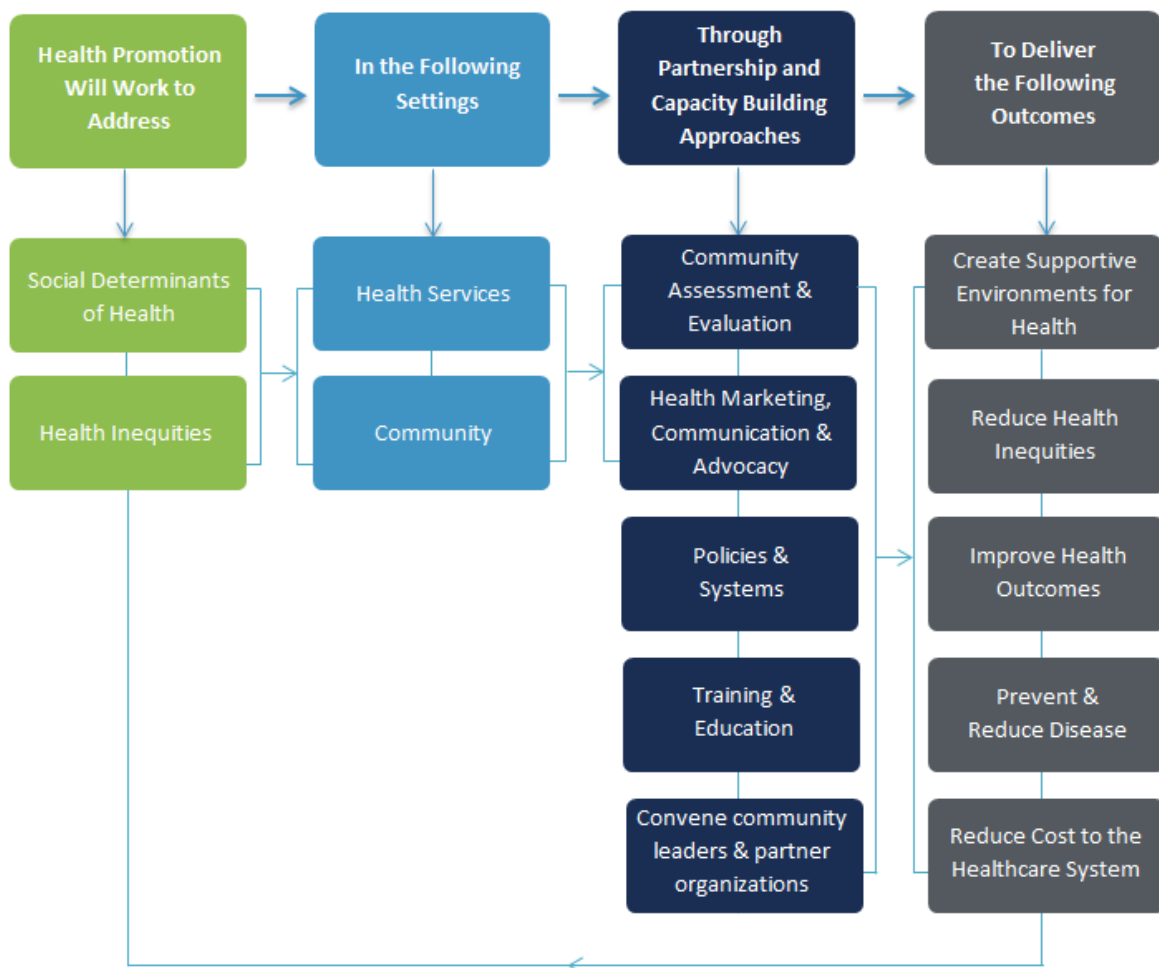
HEALTH PROMOTION



HEALTH PROMOTION

Protecting and improving health and quality of life for our community requires partnership, strategy, and continual evaluation. With a focus on social determinants of health and addressing health inequities, the Health Promotion department implements a range of social and environmental interventions including promoting healthy behaviors, creating supportive environments, encouraging healthy public policies and systems, and enabling people to increase control over and improve their health.

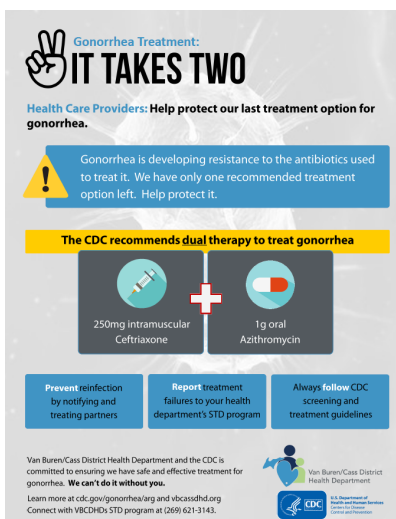
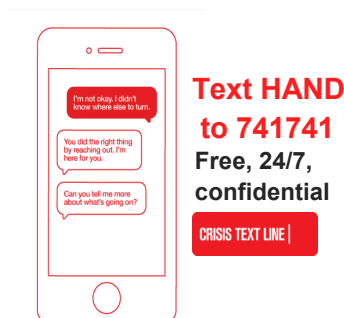
VBCDHD's Health Promotion Strategic Focus



HEALTH PROMOTION & SPECIAL PROJECTS

Through community leadership and supporting other local efforts our department is focused on being a change maker and thought leader for our district. It is because of our collective impact efforts—the work of multiple organizations working together towards a common goal—that we recorded many successful initiatives in 2018. Of the accomplishments, a few notable include:

- Developed a **Van Buren Community Health Advisory Council**
- Developed a **Van Buren/Cass Safe Sleep Collaborative**
- Developed & Implemented a **Safe Summer** weekly summer campaign series
- Began a partnership with and continue to promote **Crisis Text Line**
- Leader of the **Southwest Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative**
 - “Go As Soon As You Know” prenatal care promotion campaign
 - Hosted regional “Mother Infant Health Equity Improvement Plan” town hall meeting
- Educated community on **MI Proposal to Legalize Recreational Marijuana**
- **Hepatitis A** outdoor, social media and radio promotion
- Re-designed community dental program flyers and consent forms in English & Spanish
- **“It Takes Two” Gonorrhea treatment** provider promotion

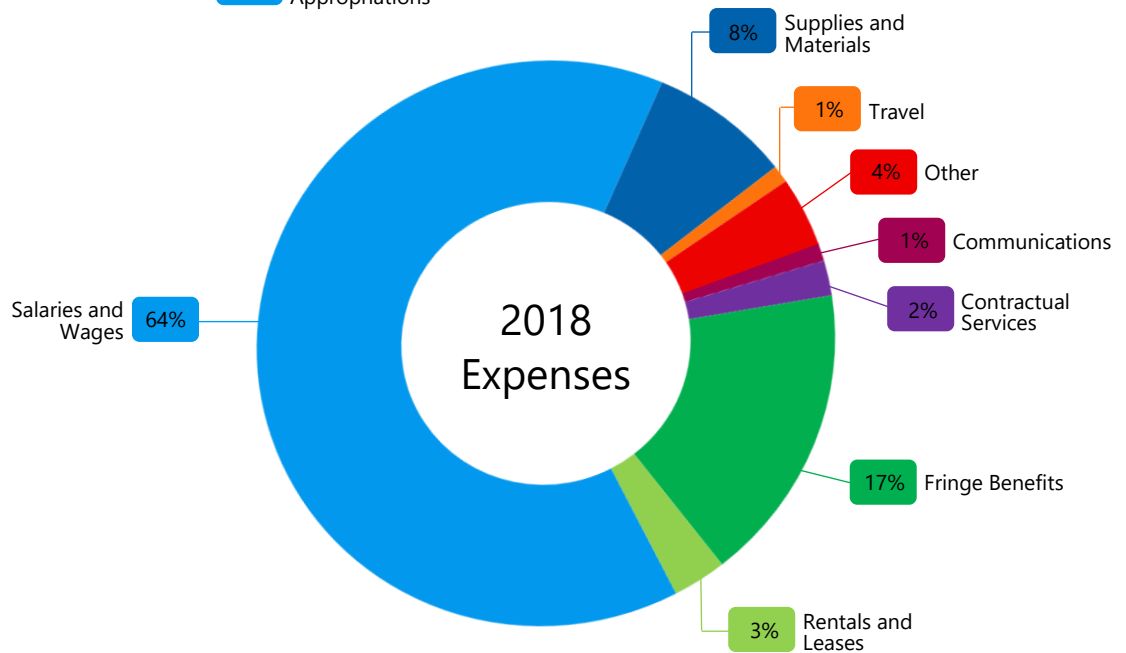
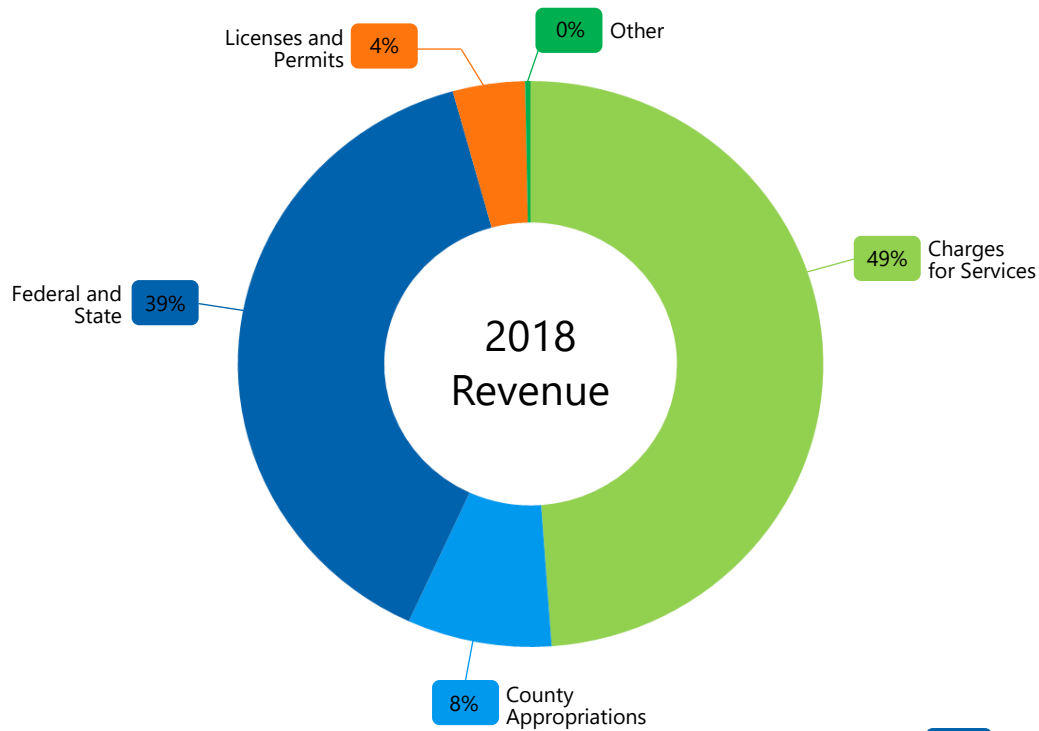


FINANCIALS

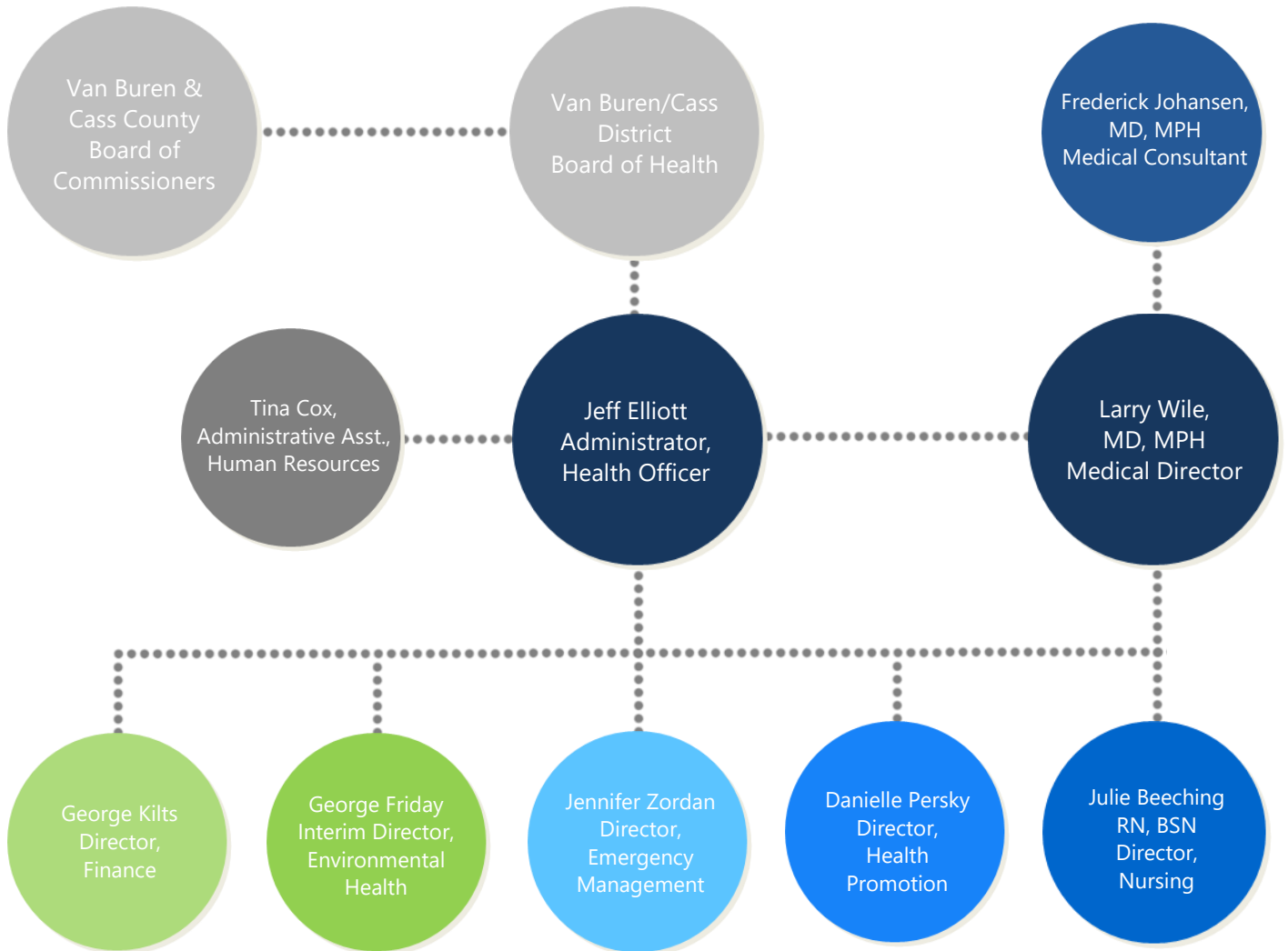


Our operating budget was \$7,562,911.00 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018.

These charts reflect audit figures.



LEADERSHIP



BOARD OF HEALTH

Chair / Don Hanson, Van Buren County Commissioner
Vice Chair / Dwight (Skip) Dyes, Cass County Commissioner
 Annie File, Cass County Commissioner
 Dr. Vincent Cabras, Van Buren County Member-At-Large
 Richard Freestone, Van Buren County Commissioner
 Robert Linderman, Van Buren County Member-At-Large
 Vicki Vaughn, Cass County Member-At-Large





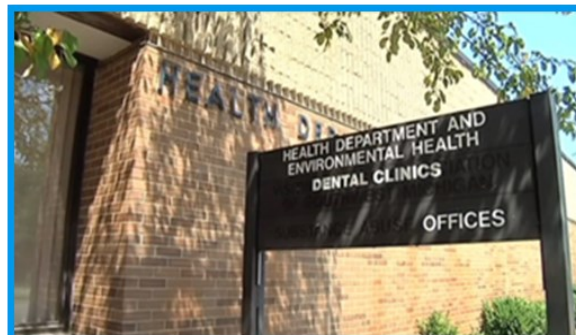
WHERE YOU CAN FIND US



Cass County DOWAGIAC

(269) 782 0064
302 S. Front St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Community Dental Clinic
Environmental Health
Public Health Nursing



Van Buren County HARTFORD

(269) 621 3143
57418 CR 681
Hartford, MI 49057

Administration
Community Dental Clinic
Environmental Health
Public Health Nursing



MATTAWAN

(269) 668 6715
23200 Red Arrow Hwy.
Mattawan, MI 49071

Community Dental Clinic

Let's get
social

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www.vbcassdhd.org