



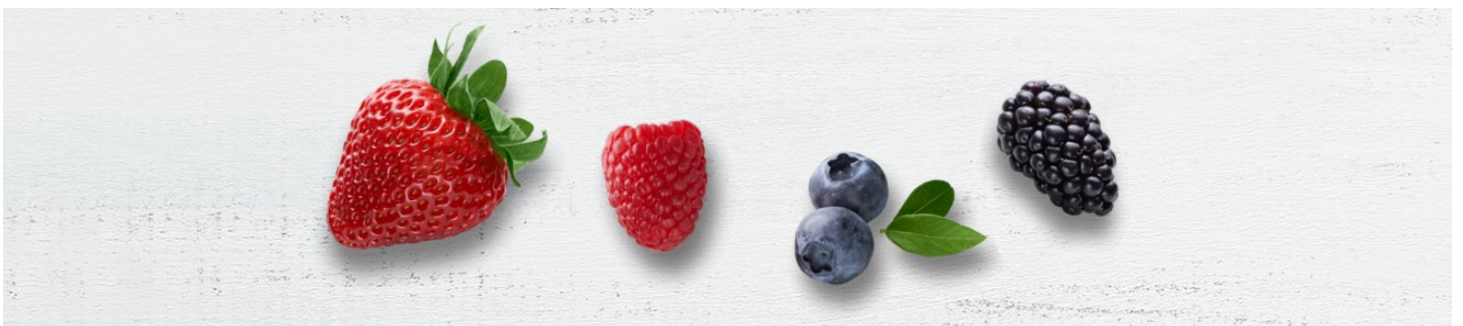
VBCDHD

ANNUAL REPORT

2019
EDITION

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COMMUNITY DENTAL

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.

25,574 DENTAL PATIENTS
74,024 DENTAL PROCEDURES PERFORMED

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.

864 STUDENTS SCREENED
406 STUDENTS RECEIVED SEALANTS
2,512 TOTAL SEALANTS PLACED
5,590 STUDENTS RECEIVED ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION
37 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 2019, 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 2019 our program focused on assisting our Environmental Health and Nursing Division with a variety of public health responses including EEE, PFAS and Hepatitis A as well as continued work on Whole Community Inclusion, infectious disease response, water contamination and mass medication distribution and dispensing campaigns.

NOTABLE ACTIVITIES:

- Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) community response
- Continued PFAS response
- Continued Hepatitis A response
- Completed Local Health Department Hazard Vulnerability Assessment
- Began working with local businesses to establish Closed Pod Programs
- Updated plans: All Hazards Plan; Communications Plan; Medical Countermeasure Response Plan; Whole Community Inclusion Plan
- **12 Emergency Preparedness Trainings including:** FEMA/NIMS Compliant Employees (78 employees trained); REP Trained (38); Inventory Management Training (IMATS) (4) Homeland Security Conference; MDHHS Emergency Preparedness Annual Meeting; MDHHS BOL (Laboratory Training) (3); MDHHS Pediatric Emergency Preparedness Conference; Nuclear Regulatory Commission Annual Meeting; Clinical CAPR (Respirator) Training (9).
Workaroup Participation: NACCHO Radiation Planning Workgroup; MDHHS/DEPR Medical Countermeasures Workgroup; Mass Fatality Regional Workgroup; Active Assailant/ Local Safety Workgroup; Statewide Pharmacy Preparedness Workgroup; Regional Long-Term Care Workgroup; Regional Emergency Preparedness Workgroup; 5th District Medical Response Coalition Executive Board; Van Buren & Cass County Local Emergency Planning Team; Van Buren & Cass County Local Homeland Security Planning Board; Multi-Regional/Cross jurisdictional Emergency Planning Team; MDHHS State & Local Public Health Emergency Preparedness Team

34 COMMUNICATION DRILLS

1 MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES DRILL

1 MI VOLUNTEER REGISTRY STATEWIDE EXERCISE

12 RADIOLOGICAL RESPONSE DRILLS (9 PRACTICE; 3 FEMA EVALUATED)

5 STAFF ASSEMBLY WITHIN 60-MINUTE TARGET DRILL & STAFF NOTIFICATION DRILLS

1 REGIONAL INFECTIONS DISEASE TABLETOP EXERCISE (112 PARTICIPANTS)

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

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.

234	ACTIVE NON-COMMUNITY FACILITIES	4	BODY ART FACILITIES
78	HOME LOAN EVALUATIONS	76	PUBLIC POOLS
535	SEPTIC PERMITS	50	CAMPGROUNDS
655	WELL PERMITS	47	SEPTIC PUMPERS
55	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.

0	FOODBORNE ILLNESS	1	FOODBORNE OUTBREAKS
411	LICENSED ESTABLISHMENTS	36	NEW/CHANGE OWNERSHIP
36	PLAN REVIEWS	0	SMOKING RELATED COMPLAINTS
60	SPECIAL TRANSITORY FOOD UNITS/	120	TEMPORARY LICENSES

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.

11,149 VISION SCREENS

6,428 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.*

538 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	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
CAMPYLOBACTER	26	29	35	45	39
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	2	7	8	8	14
NOROVIRUS	2	4	5	0	4
GIARDIASIS	5	3	8	7	14
SALMONELLOSIS	8	19	20	16	19
SHIGA TOXIN PRODUCING E. COLI (STEC)	1	1	8	14	5
YERSENIA ENTERITIS	0	0	4	5	6
LISTERIOSIS	1	1	2	0	0
SHIGELLOSIS	6	1	1	3	3
E. COLI 0157:H7	0	0	0	0	0
HEPATITIS					
HEPATITIS A	0	0	2	4	4
HEPATITIS B, ACUTE	0	0	0	0	2
HEPATITIS B, CHRONIC	5	6	3	4	7
HEPATITIS C, ACUTE	0	1	1	3	2
HEPATITIS C, CHRONIC	62	105	145	141	51
STD					
CHLAMYDIA	376	381	441	468	476
GONORRHEA	53	45	121	145	127
SYPHILLIS	3	4	3	5	5
TUBERCULOSIS					
MYOBACTERIUM-OTHER	9	12	6	10	6
TUBERCULOSIS	2	1	1	1	0
VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES					
VARICELLA (CHICKENPOX)	4	6	5	6	5
H. INFLUENZA DISEASE—INV.	4	4	5	6	3
PERTUSSIS	3	3	3	2	1
VECTORBORNE DISEASES					
ENCEPHALITIS CALIFORNIA	0	0	0	0	1
ENCEPHALITIS EASTERN EQUINE	0	0	0	0	3
LYME DISEASE	3	8	5	15*	16
MALARIA	0	0	0	0	0
RICKETTSIAL SPOTTED FEVER	0	1	1	0	1
WEST NILE	0	0	0	1	0
MENINGITIS					
ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	9	7	6	3	11
NON-MENINGOCOCCAL BACTERIAL MENINGITIS	5	0	1	0	0
MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE	0	0	0	0	0
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE – INV.	8	9	16	24	27
OTHER					
LEGIONELLOSIS	2	2	2	6	11
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE DRUG REST	3	2	2	0	1
VISA	0	1	0	0	0

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.

- 1,708 IMMUNIZATION CLINIC VISITS
- 2,403 DOSES ADMINISTERED BY NURSES
- 75.7% CHILDREN 19-35 MONTHS FULLY IMMUNIZED
- 94.9% SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCY RATE
- 2.5% SCHOOL WAIVERS

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.

- 431 STD CLINIC VISITS (230 VAN BUREN; 201 CASS)
- 645 INDIVIDUALS EDUCATED IN SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SETTINGS
- 676 INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED COUNSELING & TESTING (350 VAN BUREN; 326 CASS)

SPECIAL CYCLOSPORIASIS OUTBREAK REPORT

Cyclosporiasis Outbreak, Van Buren County, July 2019

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department received notification in July of 2019 via our Michigan Disease Surveillance System of two cases of Cyclosporiasis. As this investigation “unfolded” VBCDHD received a call from our State Epidemiologist reporting more cases of Cyclosporiasis in a nearby County that ate at the same location that was identified during our initial investigation of reported cases. At this point we classified this investigation as an official “outbreak.” With collaboration among multiple agencies including Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, local Hospital Labs, Providers, Public Health Nursing and Environmental Health Staff it was “all hands on deck.” Multiple interviews were conducted using a specific questionnaire to help identify the “culprit” of this outbreak. In total there were 124 interviewed which included 96 ill and 27 wells. Multiple Counties and States were affected by this outbreak. The final count from this outbreak was 45 confirmed cases and 47 probable cases. 65% were females and 35% were males with an age range of 15-96 years of age. It was noted that there was a high probability that “Fresh Basil” was the “culprit” identified. The product had already been consumed and unfortunately washing the product doesn’t always remove this parasite. Cyclosporiasis is a Reportable Disease in Michigan. This reportable pathogen is caused by a parasite called Cyclospora Cayetanensis. Cyclospora is spread by people ingesting the parasite through food or water that is contaminated with the parasite. The most common symptom of cyclosporiasis is watery diarrhea along with other symptoms including loss of appetite, weight loss, abdominal cramping, bloating, nausea, body aches and fatigue. There may also be vomiting and low grade fever.

Cyclosporiasis is found in many countries. The most common is in tropical and subtropical regions. In the U.S., foodborne outbreaks of cyclosporiasis have been linked to various types of imported fresh produce, including raspberries, basil, snow peas, and mesclun lettuce; no commercially frozen or canned produce has been implicated. Cyclospora typically takes at least 1-2 weeks after being passed in a bowel movement to become infectious to other people. Therefore, it is unlikely that Cyclospora are passed directly from one person to another. The best way to prevent cyclosporiasis is to avoid food or water that might be contaminated with stool. Follow safe fruit and vegetable handling recommendations: Wash hands with soap and warm water before and after handling or preparing fruits and vegetables. Wash cutting boards, dishes, utensils, and counter tops with soap and hot water between the preparation of raw meat, poultry, and seafood products and the preparation of fruits and vegetables that will not be cooked. Prepare all fruits and vegetables thoroughly under running water before eating, cutting, or cooking. Fruits and vegetables that are labeled “prewashed” do not need to be washed again at home. Scrub firm fruits and vegetables, such as melons and cucumbers, with a clean produce brush. Cut away any damaged or bruised areas on fruits and vegetables before preparing and eating. Storage- Refrigerate cut, peeled, or cooked fruits and vegetables as soon as possible, or within 2 hours. Store fruits and vegetables away from raw meat, poultry and seafood. For more information on Cyclosporiasis please visit www.cdc.gov/cyclosporiasis.



PUBLIC HEALTH

PROMOTES AND PROTECTS
THE HEALTH OF PEOPLE AND
THE COMMUNITIES WHERE
THEY LIVE, LEARN, WORK
AND PLAY.

HEALTH PROMOTION

HEALTH PROMOTION & COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS, SPECIAL PROJECTS

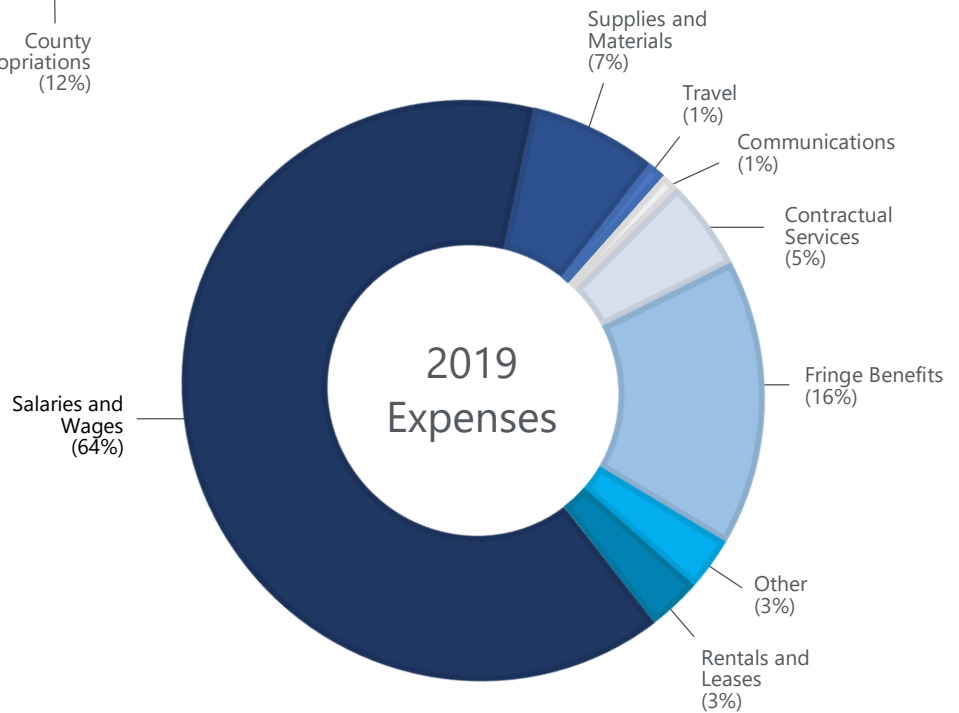
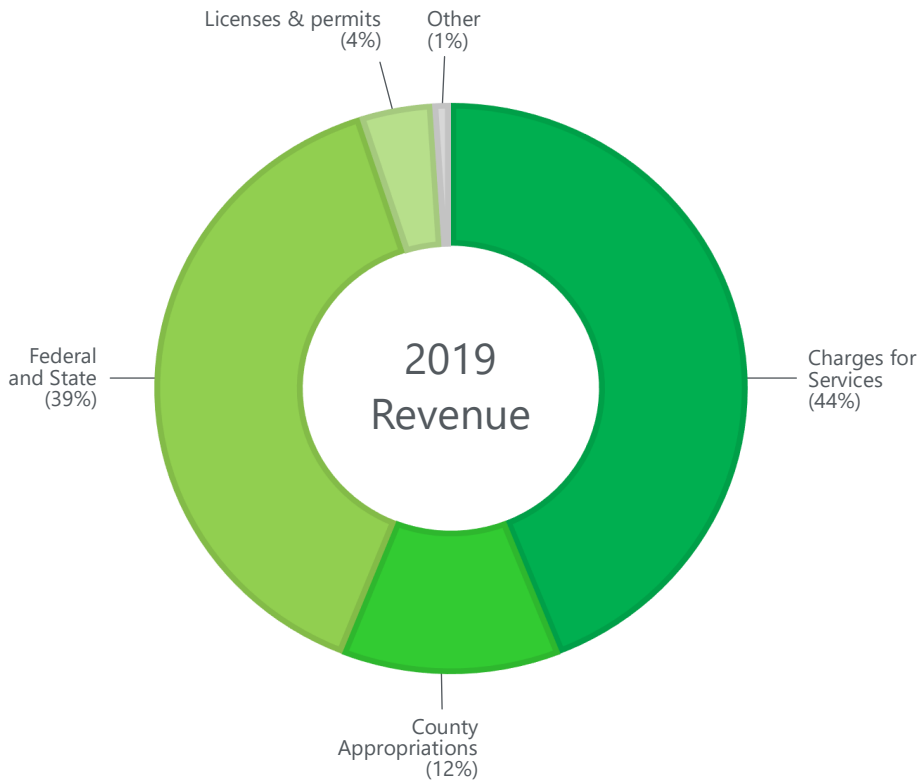
With a focus on social determinants of health and addressing health inequities, Health Promotion implements a range of social and environmental interventions including promoting healthy behaviors, creating supportive environments, encouraging healthy public policies and systems, and empowering people to increase control over and improve their health.

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 2019. Of the accomplishments, a few notable include:

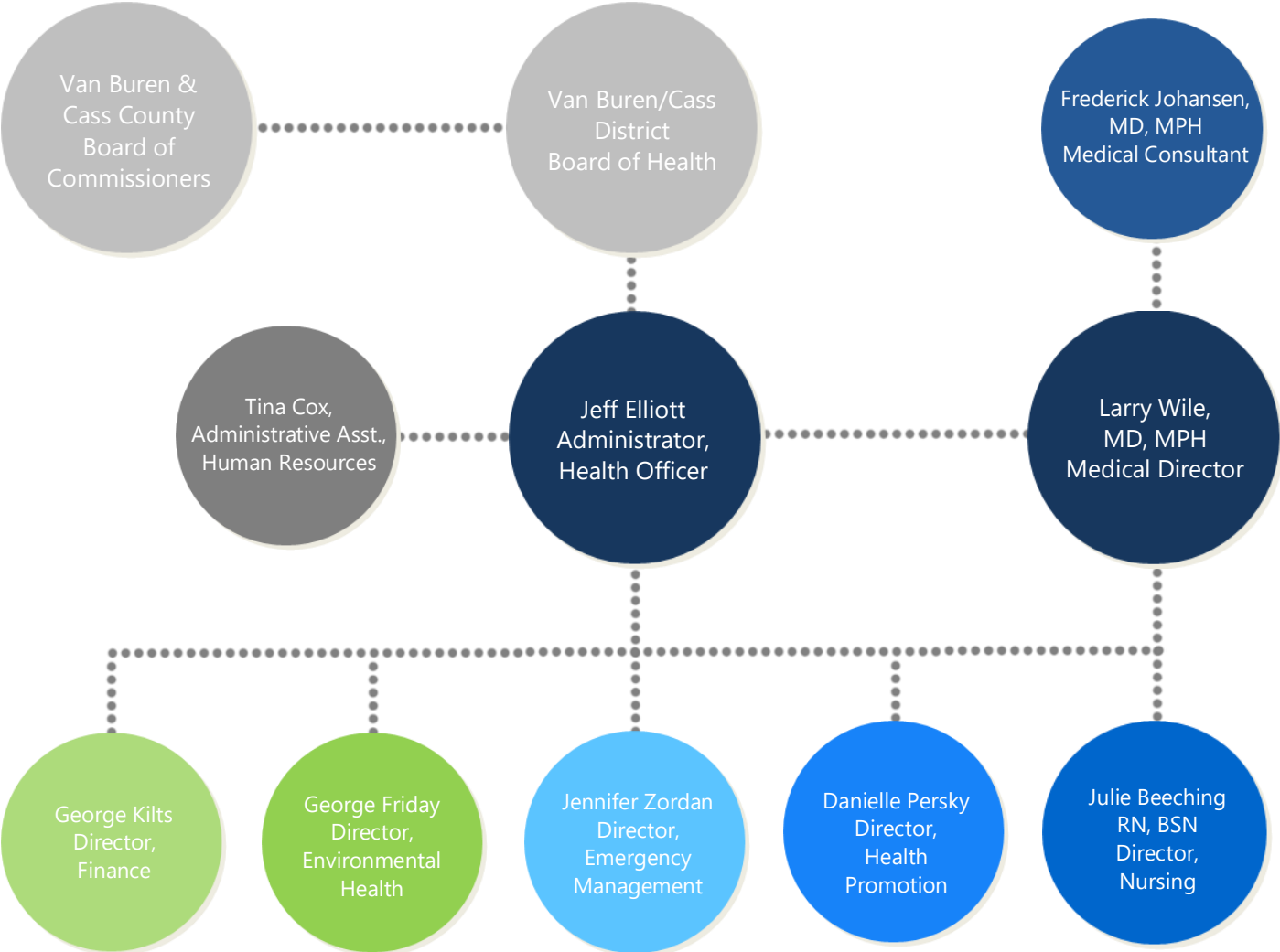
- Partnered with Bronson Healthcare Group to facilitate the **Van Buren Community Health Needs Assessment**
- Partnered with Ascension Borgess-Lee to facilitate the **Cass County Community Health Needs Assessment**
- Hosted “**Safe Sleep 201: Helping Families Practice Safe Sleep**” Training
- Hosted first annual **Cass County Community Resources Forum**
- Executive Leadership Team for the **Southwest Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative**
 - Quality Improvement Effort: Increase referrals to and enrollment in home visiting programs for pregnant women
 - Hosted regional “Quality Improvement (PDSA Model)” training
- Enhanced & Implemented a **Safe Summer** weekly summer campaign series
- **Hepatitis A prevention at county fairs**, increasing the number of handwashing stations
- Hosted four “**Back to School**” health events
- Began a **partnership with Van Buren Tech Marketing Program**; incorporating student involvement in the development of health promotion campaigns
- In partnership with Bronson Healthcare group, started a **policy, system, and environment (PSE) assessment** focused on uncovering opportunities for change related to nutrition and physical activity across Van Buren County (to be continued through 2020)

FINANCIALS

Our operating expenditures were \$7,926,181.00 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019.



LEADERSHIP



BOARD OF HEALTH

- Chair /** Don Hanson, Van Buren County Commissioner
- Vice Chair /** Dwight (Skip) Dyes, Cass County Commissioner
- Roseann Marchetti, Cass County Commissioner
- Randall Peat, Van Buren County Commissioner
- Dr. Vincent Cabras, Van Buren County Member-At-Large
- Robert Linderman, Van Buren County Member-At-Large
- Vicki Vaughn, Cass County Member-At-Large



HERE WHEN YOU NEED 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
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Mattawan, MI 49071

Community Dental Clinic

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