

**LaPorte County
Health Department**

2014 Annual Report



*Keeping the Public
Informed and Protected*



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MISSION STATEMENT:

To engage and partner in a collaborative and responsive effort with the community and local organizations with respect to the diversity of the community to better serve the present and future generations.

LaPorte County Health Department

Office Hours

8:00am-4:00pm

Monday-Friday

“Serving the Public Health Needs of LaPorte County”

Main Office

809 State St Suite 401 A

LaPorte, IN 46350

(219) 326-6808 ext.2200

(219) 325-8628(fax)

Branch Office

302 W. 8th St Suite 4

Michigan City, IN 46360

(219) 874-5611 ext. 7780

(219) 873-3018(fax)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

Sandra Deausy, MD, Health Officer
Tony Mancuso, Administrator
Julie Davies, Administrative Assistant/Office Manager LaPorte Office
Nancy L. Meehan, Office Manager Michigan City Office
Lana Buckles, Environmental Health/Food Supervisor
Jenny Smith, RN, Nursing Supervisor
Julie Fetters, Billing Coordinator
Ann Klute Environmental Planner/Health Educator

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF MEMBERS

Public Health Clerks LaPorte Office

Jayne Staggers, Vital Records Registrar
Michelle Bealor, Public Health Clerk
Tempest Miller, Public Health Clerk
Faith Chapman, Public Health Clerk

Public Health Clerks Michigan City Office

Kristen Joseph, Vital Records Registrar
Linda Fike, Public Health Clerk

Public Health Nurses, LaPorte Office

Carrie Lafountain, RN, Nursing Supervisor Assistant
Katie Griffin, RN, Public Health Nurse
Debra Holtzlander, RN, Public Health Nurse

Public Health Nurses, Michigan City Office

Karen Stringer, RN, Public Health Nurse
Joanne Beckman, RN, Public Health Nurse
Marcia Metzcus, RN, Part-time Public Health Nurse

Environmental Health/Food Specialist

Amanda Lahners, Environmental Health/Food Supervisor Assistant
Patty Nocek, Environmental Health/Food Specialist
Rob Sheffer, Environmental Health/Food Specialist
Julie Cuson, Environmental Health/Food Specialist
Patricia Wozniak, Environmental Health/Food Specialist
Ken Johnston, Environmental Health/Food Specialist/Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Brian Campbell, Part-time Environmental Health/Food Specialist

Water Laboratory

Cynthia Ebert, Technician

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Willie Milsap, President	January 2011-December 2014
David Decker, Vice President	January 2013-December 2016
Dr. Vidya Kora, Member	January 2013-December 2016

LAPORTE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mark Yagelski, President	January 2011-December 2014
Richard Mrozinski	January 2011-December 2014
Matthew Bernacchi	January 2013-December 2016
Earl Cunningham	January 2011-December 2014
Jeffrey Santana	January 2013-December 2016
Terry Garner	January 2011-December 2014
Lois Sosinski	January 2013-December 2016

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Michael Sandy, President	January 2011-December 2014
Monique Gillard, Vice President	January 2012-December 2015
Tamara Yagelski	January 2013-December 2016
Aileen Stiller, MD	January 2012-December 2015
Annabelle Juhasz, MD	January 2013-December 2016
Richard Houck, MD	January 2013-December 2016
Ali Luan	January 2014-December 2017

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH ATTORNEY

Michelle Bazin-Johnson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF 2014

HEALTH BOARD: The LaPorte County Board of Health consists of seven (7) members who serve four-year terms on a staggered basis and are appointed by the LaPorte County Board of Commissioners. The Health Board elects its own officers each year. The Board appointees include individuals with affiliation to the medical field along with interested citizens of the community. Michael Sandy served as the President of the Health Board in 2014.

HEALTH OFFICER: The Health Officer serves a four (4) year term in a part-time capacity and is appointed by the Board of Health. Sandra Deausy MD was appointed in September of 2012 to fulfill the vacated Health Officer's position and was reappointed in January 2014.

ADMINISTRATOR: Tony Mancuso has served as Administrator of the La Porte County Health Department since May 2010. Mr. Mancuso has had a major influence on establishing and the revising of many of the department's ordinances, which address and reflect current issues of the local community. Additionally, Mr. Mancuso has initiated and enforced updated department policies to positively affect the services offered to the local community. These changes have initiated a greater rapport with the public, offering improvement to the department's health and environmental services. The responsibilities of the Administrator can be quite challenging at times when a decision is made, sometimes creating opposing public reactions. It is the overall responsibility of the Administrator to protect public health and have the best interest of the community in mind, while still adhering to department policies.

STAFF: In 2014 the LaPorte County Health Department operated with a staff of 25 full-time employees, 2 part-time employees, and 3 seasonal interns.

DEPARTMENTS: The Health Department provides various services to the LaPorte County area. The following is a brief description of each division.

VITAL RECORDS: Our Vital Records Division provides efficient and effective service from both office locations. Our staff interprets, implements, and enforces compliance with policies, procedures and safety regulations through all aspects of Vital Records processing. This division may also be likened to a Public Informatics Branch as the following critical core services are as follow: the issuance of certified birth and death certificates, establishment of voluntary paternity, amendments and corrections to birth certificates, genealogical searches for birth and death records dating back to 1882, as well as the processing of on-line orders that result in a turnaround time of 24 hours.

NURSING SERVICES: Located in both offices, this division offers immunizations, communicable disease control and investigation, lead screening, tuberculosis testing and counseling, blood profile screenings, HIV/AIDS testing and counseling, travel immunizations and STD testing and counseling.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH/FOOD: Located in the La Porte office, this division issues Onsite Sewage System permits for new residential construction and for repairs to older septic systems. The section investigates complaints and advises residents on a variety of topics such as substandard housing, rodent/vector/bed bug infestation, open burning, trash and garbage, mold, foodborne outbreaks, radon, outdoor wood boilers, childhood lead exposure and unsanitary living conditions. The section also inspects and issues permits for public and semi-public pools and spas, tattoo and piercing establishments and temporary and retail food establishments. Testing is also provided for the certified food safety certification and the registered contractor's exam for septic system installers.

WATER LABORATORY: Located in the LaPorte office, the water lab tests water samples from drinking water sources, surface water sources including area bathing beaches, and public swimming pools, spas, and whirlpools. The following tests are offered on water samples: Total Coliform with E. coli confirmation, E. coli (for surface water), lead, nitrate, nitrite, iron, fluoride, and phosphorus.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING/HEALTH EDUCATION: The Health Educator provides the community with various public health topics. The educator works with surrounding agencies and forms partnerships to share knowledge of social, economic, and cultural factors impacting the health of the community.

BILLING COORDINATOR: In February of 2011, due to shrinking budgets and tough economic times, local health departments were encouraged by Dr. Greg Larkin, State Health Commissioner to seek out new opportunities to enhance their revenue streams. Dr. Larkin strongly encouraged the local levels to explore billing Medicaid for reimbursement opportunities for services that used to be provided at no charge. We followed Dr. Larkin's lead and moved forward with the lengthy and detailed enrollment process to receive provider status from the Indiana Family of Social Services Administration to bill Medicaid for reimbursement for our VFC vaccine eligible patients. Medicaid reimbursement entities include the following; Anthem, MHS, MDWise Hoosier Alliance and Traditional Package A. We anticipated a one year turn around on our investment. Towards the later part of our application process which took the better part of a year, federal and state eligibility guideline changes were put into effect which unfortunately decreased the scope of patients whose eligibility requirements met our service criteria. The new guidelines not only impacted our department but local health departments statewide. We were hopeful the new guidelines would be reexamined as there was an enormous outcry to reverse the decision on behalf of the public and physicians to better serve the needs of our local communities.

In 2013 the department was reimbursed \$8,403.76 by Medicaid for services that would not have been realized prior to securing eligibility with the Indiana Family of Social Services. In 2014 the department realized a substantial reimbursement increase of \$20,371.35. The department continues to strive in creating new funding streams in order to maintain and increase available services to our community.

Our Billing Coordinator's scope of duties also includes the reconciliation of account receivables and payables handling \$1,491,517.00 in expenditures for the department. Billing cycles include: the water sampling program, adult vaccination program, lead testing, private accounts that are established with the various county, city and other community based organizations and month end billing for our local funeral homes.

FINANCIAL

GENERAL HEALTH FUND

1159-219

<u>STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Property Tax	1,018,738.70	508,995.81
License Excise Tax	00.00	220,582.10
Permits (Water, Food, Septic, etc.)	189,964.50	198,146.19
Immunizations	3,345.25	2,907.00
Birth & Death Certificates	90,850.50	99,080.50
Misc./Reimbursements/Receipts	2,014.46	1,602.05
Total Receipts	\$1,304,913.41	\$1,031,313.65

<u>STATEMENT OF PERSONAL SERVICE</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Salaries	882,605.75	878,988.44
OASI Withheld	52,274.32	52,274.32
Medicare Withheld	12,225.20	12,225.20
County Retirement Contribution	98,446.15	98,446.15
Employee Group Insurance	230,750.32	230,750.32
Unemployment Compensation	2,500.00	2,500.00
Extra Hire/Part time/seasonal	20,607.00	20,500.00
Total Personal Services	\$1,299,408.74	\$ 1,295,684.43

<u>SUPPLIES</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Office Supplies	11,000.00	10,203.13
Equipment (Service/Repair)	10,000.00	7,740.85
Clothing	1,000.00	864.01
Microfilm/Photocopy/Claims	2,705.92	1,846.92
Laboratory Supplies	47,000.00	46,655.09
Education Supplies	5,200.00	5,137.82
Environmental Supplies	8,000.00	5,305.08
Total Supplies:	\$84,905.92	\$77,752.90

<u>SERVICES</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Professional Services – Health Officer	25,500.00	25,500.00

Compensation – Health Board	2,792.26	2,760.00
Professional Healthcare Services	30,000.00	29,692.24
Postage	10,700.00	9,021.72
Mileage	32,000.00	22,144.50
Telephone	11,500.00	10,958.90

GENERAL HEALTH FUND **1159-219** **continue**

Dues	1,420.00	1,410.00
Subscriptions	1,000.00	967.65
Publishing	1,580.00	395.00
Printing	4,000.00	2,100.77
Education & Training	11,800.00	11,689.60
<u>Litigation Expense</u>	<u>5,500.00</u>	<u>1,440.00</u>
Total Services:	\$137,792.26	\$118,080.38

TOTAL:	APPROPRIATIONS	EXPENDITURES
	\$1,522,106.92	\$1,491,517.71

YEAR END BALANCE: \$30,589.21

LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE FUND (GRANT) **9152-0801**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

Grant from Indiana State Department of Health	72,672.00
<u>Carryover money from 2013</u>	<u>7,835.13</u>
Total Receipts:	\$80,507.13

<u>STATEMENT OF PERSONAL SERVICES</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Salaries (Full /Part time)	44,000.00	40,325.28
OASI, Medicare, County Retirement,	21,400.00	14,292.27
<u>Employee Group Insurance</u>		
Total Personal Services:	\$65,400.00	\$54,617.55

<u>SUPPLIES</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
<u>Claims</u>	<u>7,272.00</u>	<u>7,086.10</u>
Total Supplies:	\$7,272.00	\$7,086.10

TOTAL:	APPROPRIATIONS	EXPENDITURES
	\$72,672.00	\$61,703.6

YEAR END BALANCE: \$10,968.35

INDIANA LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TRUST ACCOUNT (GRANT) 1206-0723

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

Grant from Indiana State Department of Health	45,758.55
Carryover money from 2013	22,798.00
Total receipts:	\$68,556.55

<u>Service/ Supplies</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Part-Time Employee	10,371.49	6,492.50
Oasi	400.00	402.58
Medicare Withheld	100.00	94.14
Claims	57,685.66	22,270.98
Total Supplies/ Personal Services:	\$68,557.15	\$29,260.20

Total:	APPROPRIATIONS	EXPENDITURES
	\$68,557.15	\$29,260.20

YEAR END BALANCE: \$39,296.95

BEACH ACT (GRANT) 9162-0789

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

Grant Money from Indiana Department of Environmental Management	12,785.04
Carryover 2013	4,225.44
Total:	\$17,010.48

<u>STATEMENT OF PERSONAL SERVICE</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Salaries	7,960.50	7960.50
OASI Withheld	183.83	183.86
Medicare Withheld	43.00	43.00
Total Personal Services	\$8,187.33	\$8,187.36

SUPPLIES/SERVICES/OTHER

Claims	8,914.15	838.64
Total:	\$8,914.15	\$838.64

TOTAL:	APPROPRIATIONS	EXPENDITURES
	\$17,101.48	\$9,026.00

YEAR END BALANCE: \$8,075.48

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE FUND (Non-Reverting)

2704-0526

<u>STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
TOTAL:	\$127,439.61	\$51,080.53

YEAR END BALANCE: \$76,359.08

SERVE-SAFE (Non-Reverting)

2705-0526

<u>STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
TOTAL:	\$4,066.55	\$2,836.00

YEAR END BALANCE: \$1,230.55

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FUND

9119-519

<u>STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Carryover	58,873.67	58,873.67
Receipts	0.00	0.00
Expenditures	587.10	0.00
YEAR END BALANCE:	\$58,286.57	\$58,286.57

2014 REPORT OF COLLECTIONS FOR LAPORTE OFFICE

	General Fund							Non-Reverting Funds			
	CORONER'S FUND	FOOD, OSS TAT-TOO POOL RAILROAD WATER LAB	BIRTH&DEATH CERTIFICATES	IMMUNI- ZATIONS	MISC	MEDICAID FUND	TOTAL	COMMUNIC ABLE DISEASE	SERVSAFE FUND	STD FUND	TOTAL
	7106-03391- 000-0339	1159-02194- 000-0219	1159-02195-000- 0219	1159- 02196-000- 0219	1159-01065- 000-0219	1159-02251- 000-0219		2704-0261- 000-0526	2705-01065- 000-0356	2704-0261- 000-0526	
JAN	\$ 822.00	\$ 14,965.00	\$ 3,857.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 324.00	\$ 304.00	\$ 20,284.00	\$ 2,025.00	\$ -	\$ 180.00	\$ 2,205.00
FEB	\$ 676.00	\$ 3,734.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 87.50	\$ 213.00	\$ 6,113.56	\$ 14,439.06	\$ 5,985.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 6,290.00
MAR	\$ 662.00	\$ 4,909.00	\$ 4,211.00	\$ 336.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 3,570.56	\$ 13,798.56	\$ 3,331.00	\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$ 3,556.00
APR	\$ 684.00	\$ 7,279.00	\$ 3,730.00	\$ 146.75	\$ 57.90	\$ 456.00	\$ 12,353.65	\$ 3,530.00	\$ 560.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 4,270.00
MAY	\$ 816.00	\$ 12,370.00	\$ 4,172.00	\$ 43.00	\$ 52.00	\$ 337.28	\$ 17,790.28	\$ 3,070.00	\$ -	\$ 80.00	\$ 3,150.00
JUNE	\$ 738.00	\$ 16,436.00	\$ 3,847.00	\$ 125.85	\$ 31.00	\$ 1,051.36	\$ 22,229.21	\$ 3,565.00	\$ 440.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 4,105.00
JULY	\$ 834.00	\$ 10,554.00	\$ 4,244.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 52.20	\$ 224.00	\$ 16,043.20	\$ 2,315.00	0	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,415.00
AUG	\$ 772.00	\$ 11,912.00	\$ 4,651.00	\$ 224.00	\$ 181.00	\$ 744.64	\$ 18,484.64	\$ 3,045.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 145.00	\$ 3,470.00
SEPT	\$ 820.00	\$ 8,677.00	\$ 3,948.00	\$ 278.00	\$ 87.00	\$ 2,066.24	\$ 15,876.24	\$ 1,770.00	0	\$ 190.00	\$ 1,960.00
OCT	\$ 688.00	\$ 21,609.00	\$ 3,602.00	\$ 373.00	\$ 38.95	\$ 964.69	\$ 27,275.64	\$ 3,758.40	\$ 920.00	\$ 265.00	\$ 4,943.40
NOV	\$ 516.00	\$ 20,238.00	\$ 2,538.00	\$ 102.00	\$ 77.00	\$ 835.86	\$ 24,306.86	\$ 3,140.00	0	\$ 100.00	\$ 3,240.00
DEC	\$ 820.00	\$ 35,562.00	\$ 3,881.00	\$ 112.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 3,703.16	\$ 44,084.16	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 2,260.00
TOTAL	\$ 8,848.00	\$ 168,245.00	\$ 46,296.00	\$1,975.10	\$ 1,230.05	\$ 20,371.35	\$ 246,965.50	\$ 36,659.40	\$ 3,240.00	\$ 1,965.00	\$ 41,864.40
	Total of General Fund:		\$ 238,117.50	<i>(This figure excludes Coroner's & Non-Reverting Fund)</i>							

2014 REPORT OF COLLECTIONS FOR MICHIGAN CITY OFFICE

	General Fund						Non-Reverting Funds				
	CORONER'S FUND	FOOD, OSS TAT-TOO POOL RAILROAD WATER LAB	BIRTH&DEATH CERTIFICATES	IMMUNIZATIONS	MISC	MEDICAID FUND	TOTAL	COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	SERVSAFE FUND	STD FUND	TOTAL
	7106-03391-000-0339	1159-02194-000-0219	1159-02195-000-0219	1159-02196-000-0219	1159-01065-000-0219	1159-02251-000-0219		2704-0261-000-0526	2705-01065-000-0356	2704-0261-000-0526	
JAN	\$ 722.20	\$ 5,382.00	\$ 4,239.80	\$ 28.00	\$ 39.00	\$ -	\$ 10,411.00	\$ 1,295.00	\$ -	\$ 180.00	\$ 1,475.00
FEB	\$ 854.00	\$ 648.00	\$ 5,135.00	\$ 38.00	\$ 27.00	\$ -	\$ 6,702.00	\$ 2,388.00	\$ -	\$ 220.00	\$ 2,608.00
MAR	\$ 932.00	\$ 780.00	\$ 5,481.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 22.00	\$ -	\$ 7,295.00	\$ 2,885.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 3,085.00
APR	\$ 562.00	\$ 884.00	\$ 4,251.00	\$ 101.00	\$ 26.00	\$ -	\$ 5,824.00	\$ 2,485.00	\$ -	\$ 260.00	\$ 2,745.00
MAY	\$ 564.00	\$ 1,957.00	\$ 3,647.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 16.00	\$ -	\$ 6,212.00	\$ 3,085.00	\$ -	\$ 140.00	\$ 3,225.00
JUNE	\$ 629.80	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 4,446.20	\$ 31.00	\$ 39.00	\$ -	\$ 6,596.00	\$ 2,655.00	\$ -	\$ 180.00	\$ 2,835.00
JULY	\$ 940.00	\$ 1,910.00	\$ 4,999.00	\$ 112.00	\$ 55.00	\$ -	\$ 8,016.00	\$ 2,645.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 2,945.00
AUG	\$ 626.00	\$ 1,870.00	\$ 4,956.00	\$ 126.00	\$ 97.00	\$ -	\$ 7,675.00	\$ 2,481.00	\$ -	\$ 280.00	\$ 2,761.00
SEPT	\$ 1,088.00	\$ 1,414.00	\$ 5,253.00	\$ 142.00	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 7,927.00	\$ 2,025.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,225.00
OCT	\$ 640.00	\$ 1,557.00	\$ 4,233.00	\$ 99.90	\$ 25.00		\$ 6,554.90	\$ 2,780.00		\$ 320.00	\$ 3,100.00
NOV	\$ 520.00	\$ 2,836.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 47.00	\$ 27.00		\$ 6,430.00	\$ 1,600.00		\$ 240.00	\$ 1,840.00
DEC	\$ 668.00	\$ 8,833.00	\$ 3,933.00	\$ 93.00	\$ 10.00		\$ 13,537.00	\$ 2,160.00		\$ 140.00	\$ 2,300.00
TOTAL	\$ 8,746.00	\$ 29,521.00	\$ 53,574.00	\$ 925.90	\$ 413.00	\$ -	\$ 93,179.90	\$ 28,484.00	\$ -	\$ 2,660.00	\$ 31,144.00
	Total of General Fund:		\$ 84,433.90	<i>(This figure excludes Coroner's & Non-Reverting Fund)</i>							

2014 REPORT OF COLLECTIONS FOR LAPORTE and MICHIGAN CITY OFFICES (COMBINED)

	General Fund						Non-Reverting Funds				
	CORONER'S FUND	FOOD, OSS TAT-TOO POOL RAILROAD WATER LAB	BIRTH&DEATH CERTIFICATES	IMMUNIZATIONS	MISC	MEDICAID FUND	TOTAL	COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	SERVS SAFE FUND	STD FUND	TOTAL
	7106-03391-000-0339	1159-02194-000-0219	1159-02195-000-0219	1159-02196-000-0219	1159-01065-000-0219	1159-02251-000-0219		2704-0261-000-0526	2705-01065-000-0356	2704-0261-000-0526	
JAN	\$ 1,544.20	\$ 20,347.00	\$ 8,096.80	\$ 40.00	\$ 363.00	\$ 304.00	\$ 30,695.00	\$ 3,320.00	\$ -	\$ 360.00	\$ 3,680.00
FEB	\$ 1,530.00	\$ 4,382.00	\$ 8,750.00	\$ 125.50	\$ 240.00	\$ 6,113.56	\$ 21,141.06	\$ 8,373.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 445.00	\$ 8,898.00
MAR	\$ 1,594.00	\$ 5,689.00	\$ 9,692.00	\$ 416.00	\$ 132.00	\$ 3,570.56	\$ 21,093.56	\$ 6,216.00	\$ -	\$ 425.00	\$ 6,641.00
APR	\$ 1,246.00	\$ 8,163.00	\$ 7,981.00	\$ 247.75	\$ 83.90	\$ 456.00	\$ 18,177.65	\$ 6,015.00	\$ 560.00	\$ 440.00	\$ 7,015.00
MAY	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 14,327.00	\$ 7,819.00	\$ 71.00	\$ 68.00	\$ 337.28	\$ 24,002.28	\$ 6,155.00	\$ -	\$ 220.00	\$ 6,375.00
JUNE	\$ 1,367.80	\$ 17,886.00	\$ 8,293.20	\$ 156.85	\$ 70.00	\$ 1,051.36	\$ 28,825.21	\$ 6,220.00	\$ 440.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 6,940.00
JULY	\$ 1,774.00	\$ 12,464.00	\$ 9,243.00	\$ 247.00	\$ 107.20	\$ 224.00	\$ 24,059.20	\$ 4,960.00	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 5,360.00
AUG	\$ 1,398.00	\$ 13,782.00	\$ 9,607.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 278.00	\$ 744.64	\$ 26,159.64	\$ 5,526.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 6,231.00
SEPT	\$ 1,908.00	\$ 10,091.00	\$ 9,201.00	\$ 420.00	\$ 117.00	\$ 2,066.24	\$ 23,803.24	\$ 3,795.00	\$ -	\$ 390.00	\$ 4,185.00
OCT	\$ 1,328.00	\$ 23,166.00	\$ 7,835.00	\$ 472.90	\$ 63.95	\$ 964.69	\$ 33,830.54	\$ 6,538.40	\$ 920.00	\$ 585.00	\$ 8,043.40
NOV	\$ 1,036.00	\$ 23,074.00	\$ 5,538.00	\$ 149.00	\$ 104.00	\$ 835.86	\$ 30,736.86	\$ 4,740.00	\$ -	\$ 340.00	\$ 5,080.00
DEC	\$ 1,488.00	\$ 44,395.00	\$ 7,814.00	\$ 205.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 3,703.16	\$ 57,621.16	\$ 3,285.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 315.00	\$ 4,560.00
TOTAL	\$ 17,594.00	\$ 197,766.00	\$ 99,870.00	\$2,901.00	\$ 1,643.05	\$ 20,371.35	\$ 340,145.40	\$ 65,143.40	\$ 3,240.00	\$ 4,625.00	\$ 73,008.40
	Total of General Fund:		\$ 322,551.40 (This figure excludes Coroner's & Non-Reverting Fund)								

VITAL RECORDS

Vital Record Divisions are located in both offices, La Porte and Michigan City Health Departments. This section issues and maintains birth and death records starting in 1882 for persons who were born or passed away in La Porte County. 2014 has been a very busy year in both offices.

Vital Records Staff's unwavering commitment of service to the public cannot be overstated. This section is accurate and well organized in preserving and maintaining Vital Records.

Vital Records Division collects and distributes statistics and data. The statistics that are collected are a critical national information resource for understanding public health and examining key indicators of fertility, mortality, and causes of death and the factors associated with them. The birthrate and mortality components of the vital statistics continue to be essential to a wide variety of governmental and research uses. The implementation of the Electronic Birth and Death Registry Systems has proven to be quite effective in streamlining the filing procedures of these records. Through periodic electronic updates, both administrative and research ends were achieved. A birth and death certificate is an essential government record documenting one's personal identity.

This section also provides genealogical research, inputting and updating statistical data on a daily basis. There is a steady increase for genealogy information over the last few years due to the public's curiosity of family history and internet access.

Cross training continues among the front line staff. The effort has proven to be quite effective in allowing the shifting of available resources between departments during busy seasons. The public's needs in turn are served and met in a very efficient manner.

The front line staff continues to stress to our clients the importance of safeguarding their personal information in order to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft. Again, identity fraud/theft is on the rise.

The Vital Records staff in the Michigan City office process Vital Chek, an express, online, overnight service for ordering birth and death certificates. Vital Chek is simple, fast and secure. Express delivery is available nationwide and government certified for most official uses. Vital Chek has 24/7 access via online, phone, or fax. In 2014, a total of 638 Vital Chek orders for birth and death certificates were processed.

Goals

The Vital Records front line staff will continue to strive in providing birth and death documents in an accurate, efficient manner to the general public.

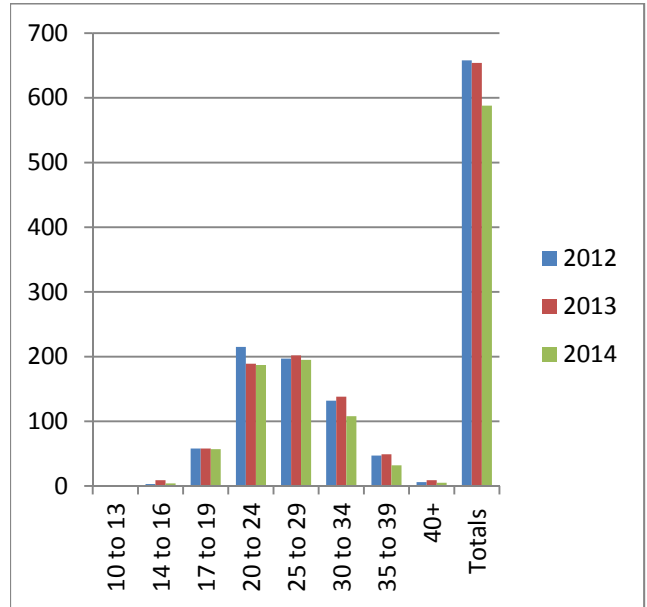
The Vital Records front line staff will continue to enhance their cross training efforts in order to provide rapid, accurate service to the consumer.

The Vital Records front line staff will continue to collaborate with other professional organizations to enhance their level of proficiency.

2014 LaPorte County Births

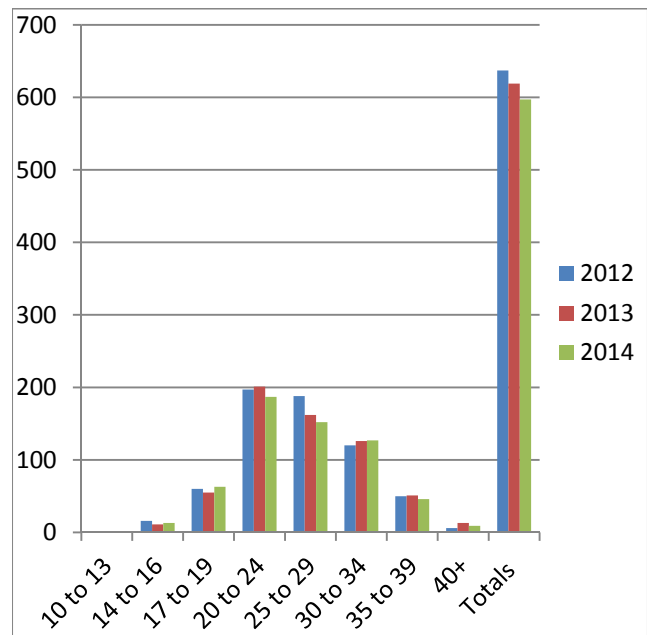
Deliveries by Maternal Age IU-LaPorte Hospital

Age Group	2012	2013	2014
10 to 13	0	0	0
14 to 16	3	9	4
17 to 19	58	58	57
20 to 24	215	189	187
25 to 29	197	202	195
30 to 34	132	138	108
35 to 39	47	49	32
40+	6	9	5
Totals	658	654	588



Deliveries by Maternal Age St. Anthony Memorial Hospital

Age Group	2012	2013	2014
10 to 13	0	0	0
14 to 16	16	11	13
17 to 19	60	55	63
20 to 24	197	201	187
25 to 29	188	162	152
30 to 34	120	126	127
35 to 39	50	51	46
40+	6	13	9
Totals	637	619	597



2014 LaPorte County Births

IU Health LaPorte Hospital		St. Anthony Memorial Hospital	
Males	295	Males	304
Females	293	Females	293
Total Births	588	Total Births	597

Combined Births For 2014

1,185

IU Health LaPorte Hospital Births

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Male	336	317	295
Female	322	337	293
Total Births	658	654	588

St. Anthony Memorial Hospital Births

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Male	312	302	304
Female	325	317	293
Total Births	637	619	597

Total Number of County Births

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Male	648	619	599
Female	647	654	586
Total Births	1,295	1,273	1,185

2014 Annual Birth & Death Certificates Issued

Michigan City & LaPorte Office Break Outs

	<u>MC Birth</u>	<u>LP Birth</u>	<u>MC Death</u>	<u>LP Death</u>
January	231	153	361	411
February	266	183	427	338
March	290	258	466	331
April	305	191	281	342
May	231	193	0	408
June	299	181	315	369
July	243	190	470	417
August	361	250	313	386
September	219	160	544	410
October	262	175	320	344
November	160	109	260	258
December	<u>211</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>334</u>	410
Totals	3,078	2,196	4,091	4,424

NURSING SERVICES

We are excited to share with you another year of great achievements from our nurses at the La Porte County health Department. The activities highlighted within this 2014 Nursing Annual Report demonstrate our commitment and dedication to our clients and the community. No matter what role in nursing we play, we are striving to build a culture that facilitates and encourages quality health care for the public. The Nursing Supervisor is a member of the Purdue University North Central Department of Nursing Advisory Board, La Porte County Neonatal Task Force, Child Fatality Review Team, and the Head Start Advisory Board. The Nursing Department is comprised of one nursing supervisor, five full-time nurses, and one part-time nurse.

Goals

Protecting the health and safety of our community is important work and we cannot tackle it alone. Our goals in 2014 were focused on enhancing community partnerships and the delivery of public health services in our community. We accomplished that by partnering with public agencies, private sector organizations, and community groups working together to enhance the delivery of health care services. In 2015 we will strive to strengthen our partnerships around local public health issues and national reforms.

Immunization Services

Vaccines have been hailed as one of the most important public health advances in human history. Vaccines save lives by preventing the transmission of infectious diseases and are unique in that they protect health at both the individual and the community level. The LaPorte County Health Department strives to increase immunization rates and prevent vaccine preventable disease by providing quality vaccination services and minimizing barriers to immunization. In addition to providing general childhood and adult immunizations, the department promotes targeted immunizations to high risk individuals including international travelers. The LaPorte County Health Department participates in the Vaccine for Children program (VFC). This program is a federally funded program that provides vaccines for eligible children at no cost. The LaPorte County Health Department is also a Federally Qualified Health Center

(FQHC). This is a delegation of authority that authorizes the department to administer VFC vaccines at no charge to underinsured children up through the age of 18. The LaPorte County Health Department administers immunizations in accordance with recommendations of the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The staff regularly participates in continuing education offered by the Indiana State Department of Health, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and vaccine manufacturers.

Children from birth through the age of 18 may receive vaccines through the VFC program if they fall into at least one of the following categories:

- Medicaid Eligible
- Uninsured
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Underinsured (have health insurance that does not cover vaccines)

The following vaccines for children are available through the LaPorte County Health Department:

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------|
| • DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) | • IPV (Polio) | • Hepatitis B |
| • DT (Diphtheria, Tetanus) | • MMR | • Hepatitis A |
| • Hib (Haemophilus Influenza B) | • Td (Tetanus, Diphtheria) | • Varicella |
| • Tdap (Adolescent Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis) | • Pneumococcal | • Rotavirus |
| • Meningococcal Conjugate | • Gardasil (HPV) | • Influenza |

The following adult vaccines are available through the LaPorte County Health Department

- Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis)
- Hepatitis A vaccine
- Gardasil (HPV)
- Zostavax (Shingles)
- Varicella
- MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- Hepatitis B vaccine
- Influenza
- Polio
- Twinrix (Hepatitis A and B)

International Travel

The LaPorte County Health Department is a designated Yellow Fever vaccination clinic. Clients traveling outside of the United States are counseled regarding recommended and required vaccines after a review of the client's itinerary, health history, and immunization history by the nursing staff. Recommendations are made based on current information published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Current outbreaks and travel advisories are taken into consideration during the consultation. Although Malaria prophylaxis is not available through the health department, travelers are given the medication recommendations for prophylaxis and instructed to consult with their physician.

The following vaccines are available to international travelers in addition to adult and childhood vaccines that are available:

- Yellow Fever
- Typhoid

❖ 113 clients received 212 immunizations for international travel in 2014.

There were 3133 client visits and 5621 immunizations provided in 2014.

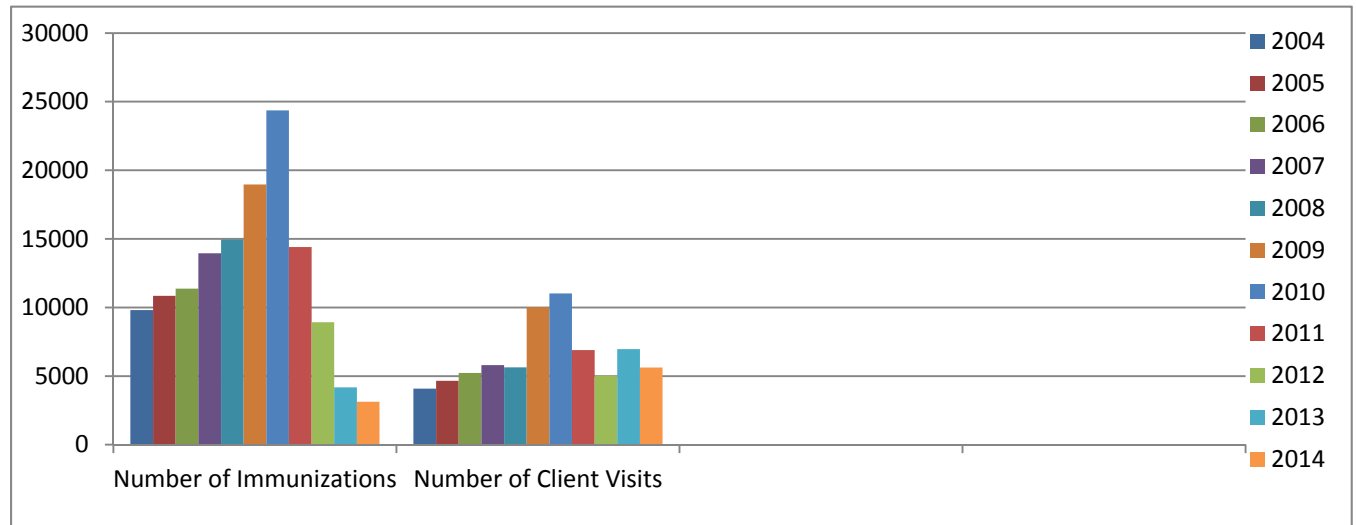
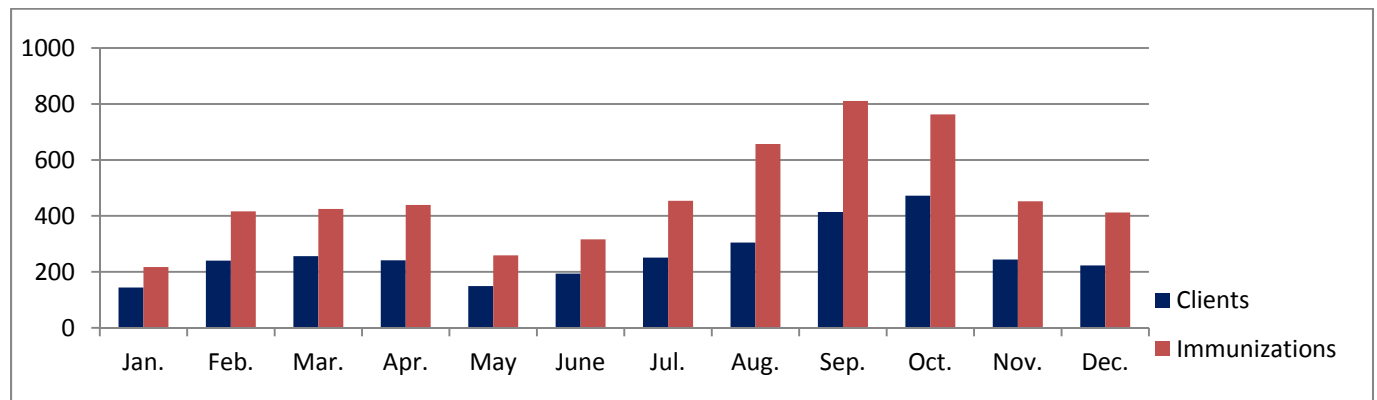


Figure 1: Number of vaccines and patient visits per year (Visits include childhood immunizations, adult immunizations, adult flu clinics, and travel immunizations.)



Number of clients and immunizations by month 2014

Communicable Disease

The Communicable Disease Reporting under Indiana Code 16-41-2-1 allows the Indiana State Department of Health to establish reporting, monitoring, and preventive procedures for communicable diseases. Upon receiving a communicable disease report, the public health nurse must investigate the reported disease with a specified time frame outlined in section 47 of the rule. Any disease that is nationally reportable, vaccine preventable, emerging, exhibits drug resistance, has a high potential for bioterrorism, and would require a public health response is reportable under the communicable disease rule.

Below is a list of diseases that were directly reported to the LaPorte County Health Department in 2014. **

Campylobacterosis	26	Chlamydia	269
Cryptosporidiosis	2	Shiga Toxin Escherichia Coli	3
Gonorrhea	66	Hepatitis, Viral, Type A	1
Hepatitis, Viral, Type B (Acute)	0	Hepatitis, Viral, Type B (Chronic)	3
Giardiasis	2	Measles	0*
Hepatitis, Viral, Type B (Perinatal)	0	Hepatitis, Viral, Type C (Acute)	1
Hepatitis, Viral, Type C (Chronic)	48	Legionellosis	3
Hepatitis C (Unable to Determine)	66	Lyme Disease	19
Listeriosis	0	Mumps	0*
Meningococcal – Invasive	0	Salmonellosis	8
Pertussis	2*	Shigellosis	8
Varicella	4	Streptococcus, Group B, Invasive	8
Streptococcus, Group A, Invasive	2	Syphilis	4
Streptococcus Pneumonia, Invasive	14	Toxic Shock Syndrome	0
West Nile Virus	0	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0
Animal Bites	123	Haemophilus Influenzae	2*
Yersiniosis	1	Dengue Fever	0
Histoplasmosis	4	Referred for Rabies Prophylaxis (bat bites)	9
Q Fever	0		

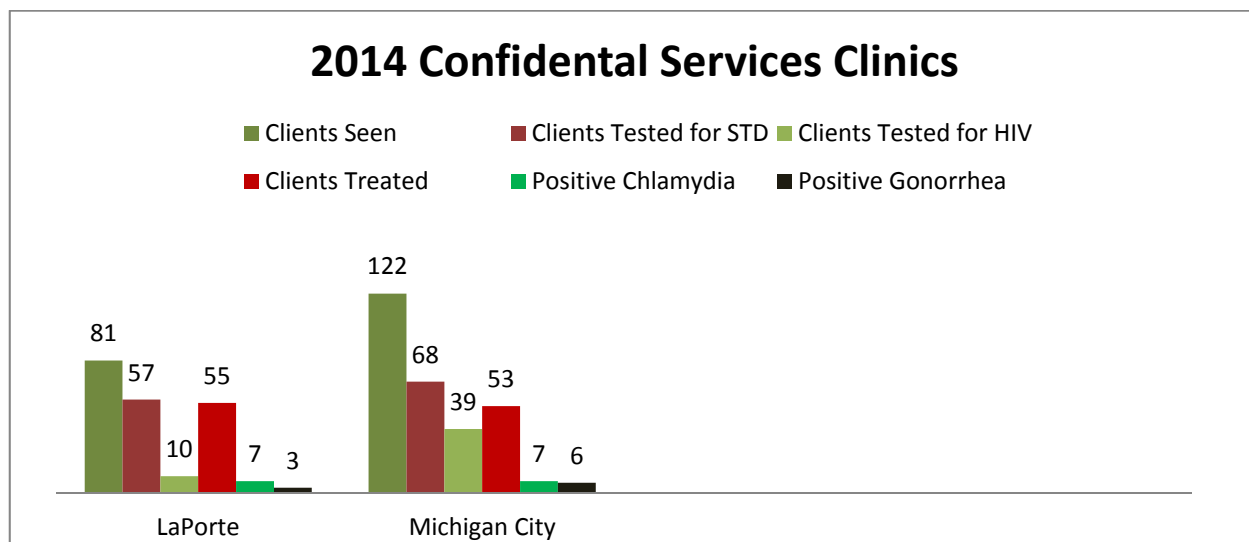
**** Note: Some physicians and laboratories report directly to the Indiana State Department of Health. Therefore, the above data may represent lower numbers than the actual occurrence of these diseases in the county. * Reported to and investigated by the Indiana State Department of Health.**

Confidential Services

The LaPorte County Health Department remains committed to providing services for the prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections. Two confidential service clinics are held weekly in our offices each Wednesday in LaPorte and each Thursday in Michigan City. Appointments for these services are advisable. Diagnostic services, treatment, and referrals are provided for a \$20.00 fee.

203 Clients were seen in our Confidential Services Clinics in 2014. 125 clients were tested for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea and 49 clients were tested for HIV.

	LaPorte Confidential Clinic	Michigan City Confidential Clinic
Number of Clients Seen	81	122
HIV Tests Performed	10	39
Number of Clients Tested	57	68
Positive Chlamydia Tests	7	7
Positive Gonorrhea Tests	3	6



Wellness Lab Screening

The wellness lab screening service is offered once per month in Michigan City and twice per month in LaPorte. This low-cost preventative health care screening provides the client and their physician with valuable information regarding their overall health. We offer the Complete Metabolic Panel (CMP), Complete Blood Count (CBC), Thyroid Panel (TSH, Free T4), Hemoglobin A1C, and Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA.) All lab results are forwarded to the client and their physician for review.

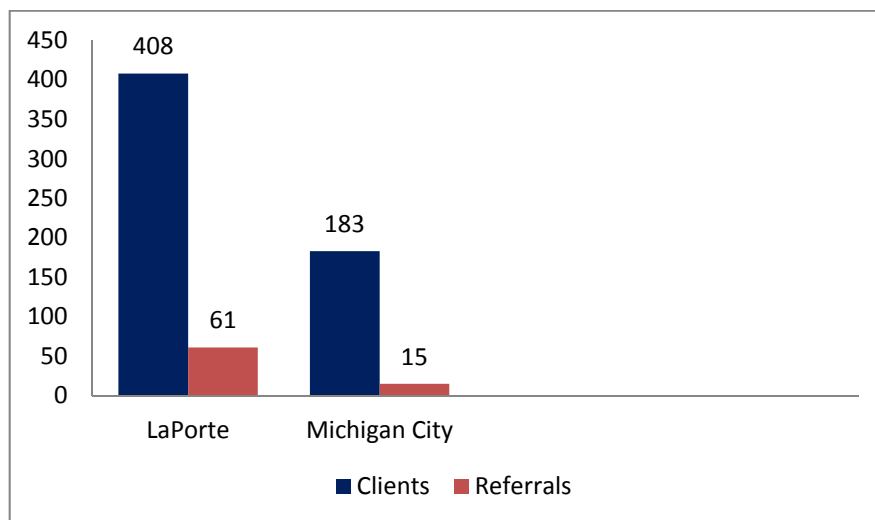
The complete metabolic panel includes the following components:

- Calcium
- Phosphorus
- Chloride
- Potassium
- Sodium
- AST (SGOT)
- HDL
- LDL
- BUN
- Creatinine
- Triglyceride
- ALT (SGPT)
- Iron
- Cholesterol
- Bilirubin
- Albumin

The complete blood count includes the following components

- White Blood Cells
- Red Blood Cells
- Hemoglobin
- Hematocrit
- MCV
- MCH
- MCHC
- RDW
- Platelets
- MPV
- RBC Morphology
- Neutrophils
- Lymphocytes
- Monocytes
- Eosinophils
- Basophils

2014 Wellness Lab Screening Statistics



In 2014 - 591 clients received services and 76 referrals were made for abnormal lab results.

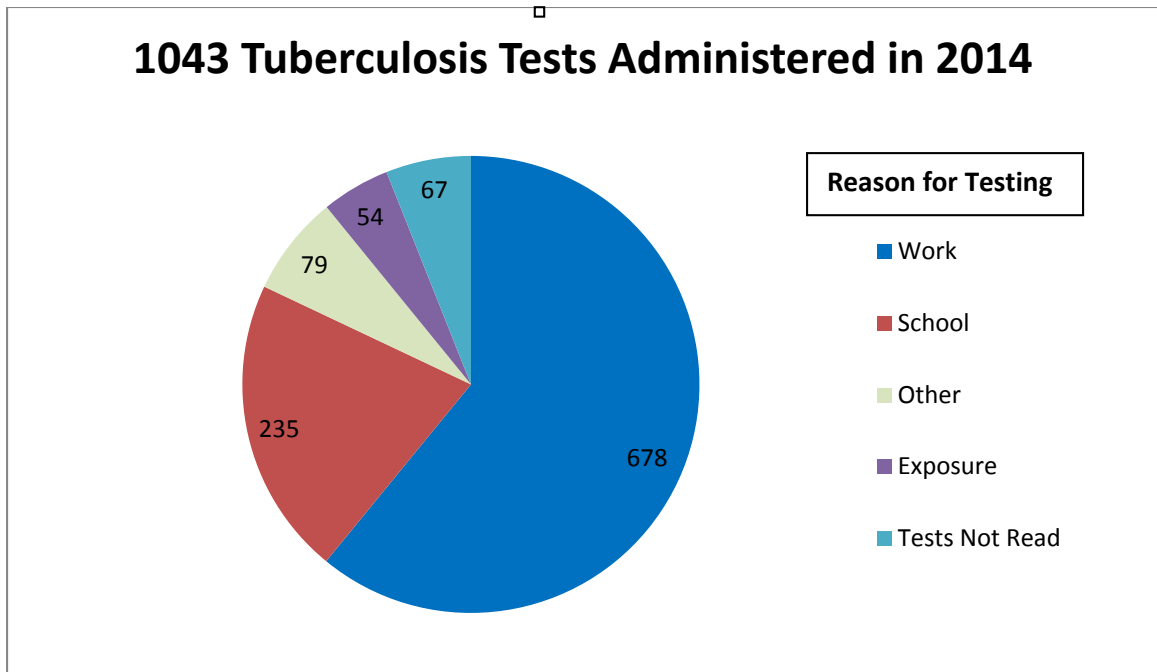
Tuberculosis Prevention and Control

The overall priorities for the treatment of Tuberculosis are early identification and complete treatment of infectious patients and minimizing the transmission of Mycobacterium Tuberculosis to others. The Tuberculosis Case Manager works under the supervision of the Health Officer and assures that complete and appropriate information regarding each patient is shared with the Indiana State Department of Health Tuberculosis program.

All persons with active Tuberculosis (infectious) receive medications by Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) to ensure adherence and completion of treatment. Patients remain under the care of their physician and health department until this is accomplished.

Contact investigation to identify all people exposed to Tuberculosis is the second priority of Tuberculosis control. Intensive efforts are made to identify untreated individuals who are infected so they do not become infectious. Contact investigations are done through extensive interviewing and follow up of all infected contacts with Tuberculosis skin testing. Persons who are found to have latent Tuberculosis infection (non-infectious) also receive medications free of charge through the health department.

In 2014, we had four active Tuberculosis cases and twelve latent Tuberculosis cases.



Lead Program

Capillary lead testing is provided free of charge to children 6 months through 6 years of age and pregnant women. The health department provides this service in both offices by appointment. Families of children who are identified as having elevated blood lead levels receive an environmental assessment and case management services provided by the nursing case manager and a certified lead risk assessor.

We tested 98 clients for lead in 2014. We followed up on 15 elevated blood lead levels found during screening by either the health department or by the primary care provider.

Pregnancy Testing Program

The pregnancy testing program's mission is to reduce the county's rates of unintended pregnancy, smoking during pregnancy, premature birth and infant mortality through improved access to primary medical care, pre-contraception/inter-conception counseling, family planning, prenatal care and prenatal care coordination services.

We tested 19 women for pregnancy in 2014. We were able to enroll 9 women into presumptive eligibility to assure early access to prenatal care.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education Department (HED) has continued to assist the nursing and environmental departments in the health department with any communication needs to the public via press releases, newspaper ads, posters, pamphlets, bulletin boards, and power point presentations. HED also continues to promote activities of the health department through community engagement and agency sharing.

The HED attended health fairs from various groups throughout the year carrying many different topics including but not limited to health department services and clinics, tobacco cessation, sexually transmitted diseases and healthy choices regarding sex and drugs, healthy pregnancies, protecting the environment, navigating the Affordable Care Act, and healthy homes addressing radon, lead poisoning and well water.

Notable events were the Lyme Awareness Month activities, National Drinking water week, Bed bug presentations at a local apartment complex, Managed Health Systems Baby Community Shower, Asthma Awareness Event at Garwood. We also host Purdue North Central Nursing Students for a presentation and tour of the facilities.

HED sits on various boards and committees throughout the community engaging in the best interests for the community. Partnering on topics and sharing of information is vital to a cohesive managing of public health interests and needs. Health Educator sits on New Prairie Wellness Committee, Healthy

Communities, CKF Coalition, Tobacco Cessation Partnership, Neonatal Task Force, and Board of Directors for the Community Health Center in LaPorte. New partners this year was the LaPorte County Drug Free Partnership, Purdue Extension Office, Purdue North Central Gay Straight Alliance, American Lung Association, Indiana Commission for Higher Education (IHEC), and Garwood Orchards.

HED has continued to keep the health department connected with social media hosting a webpage, a facebook page and a Pinterest board.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Environmental Health programs serve to prevent disease, preserve the environment, and improve the quality of life. The environmental section implements a wide variety of environmental health programs. These programs include: retail food inspection and permitting; complaint investigations and inspections; environmental and unsanitary complaint investigations; on-site sewage system geographical information systems (GIS) mapping, permitting and inspections; public and semi-public pools, wading pools and spas, permitting and inspection; outdoor wood boiler unit registration; radon awareness; vector control; tattoo and body piercing permitting and inspection; meth house condemnation; Lake Michigan and inland lake sampling; environmental lead assessments; mobile camp car permitting and inspection; and emergency preparedness. In addition to these services we have a water laboratory that is certified in bacteriological and nitrate testing.

Lead Risk Assessments

The Environmental Health section of the health department has a licensed lead risk inspector/assessor on staff. The assessor/inspector investigates the interior and exterior of homes within the county for the presence of deteriorating lead based paint and other lead hazards. Lead risk assessments/inspections are performed as required by the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and in compliance with Indiana Administrative Code Title 410, Article 29 Reporting Monitoring and Prevention of Lead Poisoning.

The inspection/assessment process is prompted when a health department nurse is notified, by a licensed physician or ISDH, that a child has been identified with an Elevated Blood Lead Level (EBLL) in their system. This notification prompts the inspector/assessor to contact the child's parents/guardians and set up an initial consultation within the home. At this time an interview is conducted, and paint chip samples and dust wipe samples are collected throughout the home. These samples are then sent to the ISDH Indoor Air Quality Laboratories for analysis. If lead hazards are found to exist within the home, then the assessor/inspector provides additional consultation with the property owner by prescribing the

appropriate actions best suited to remediate the situation within a given prescribed timeframe. There were 6 new cases of childhood lead poisoning in La Porte County in 2014

Public Swimming Pools

The Environmental staff continues to inspect and review plans for all public and semi-public aquatic recreational facilities in La Porte County. Guidelines for inspection are set forth in the Indiana State Department of Health Rule 410 IAC 6-2.1 and La Porte County Ordinance No. 2008-15.

Outdoor/seasonal facilities were inspected once prior to opening for the season. There were 31 outdoor/seasonal facilities, resulting in a total of 37 seasonal inspections. Indoor/year-round facilities are inspected 3 times per year. There were 22 year-round facilities, resulting in a total of 96 inspections. Inspection totals do not include re-inspections that may have been performed. Some facilities have more than one type of pool (i.e. pool and/or kiddie pool) resulting in multiple inspections for some facilities. The environmental section has 8 staff members that are Certified Pool Operators. All pools in La Porte County must employ a certified pool operator to operate their pools. These pools are a mix of recreational pools, spas, wading pools, splash pads, diving pools, therapy pools, and competition lap pools.

Outdoor Hydronic Heater Program (Outdoor Wood Boilers/Outdoor Wood Burning Furnaces)

The Environmental staff continues to educate owners, register units, and investigate complaints under the La Porte County Ordinance 2007-10-B "Ordinance for Regulation of Outdoor Hydronic Heaters." There are 153 registered units in La Porte County. In 2014, there were four complaints, two of which were valid and corrected. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) enforces state rule 326 IAC 4-3 as it pertains to outdoor hydronic heaters, and the La Porte County environmental staff will liaison on those complaints if necessary.

On-Site Sewage System (OSS)

The OSS section works closely with property owners, developers, soil scientists and surveyors to ensure that septic systems are designed and installed in accordance with the minimum standards established by Indiana State Department of Health Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3 and La Porte County Ordinance No. 2012-01. There were 120 septic permits issued in 2014 and 97 septic systems were installed and inspected. The environmental health specialists also completed 108 individual on-site evaluations and consultations.

Vector control (West Nile Virus)

West Nile Virus surveillance continues to take place in La Porte County to monitor the spread of the virus during the months of July through September. This was accomplished setting up mosquito traps throughout the county. Several hundred mosquitoes were sent to the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Molecular Laboratory for West Nile Virus (WNV) testing. One pool collected from an Indiana State Department Health trap tested positive for the 2014 season. All of the LPCHD traps were negative. Larvicides were applied in areas with stagnant water to control mosquito populations.

Beach Sampling

Grant monies secured through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) allowed the La Porte County Health Department (LPCHD) to continue to monitor the water quality of the swimming areas of Lake Michigan for the thirteenth consecutive year. This contract originally was put in place to supplement our existing program with federal funds from the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act (BEACH Act). The Act was set up for states to develop and implement beach water quality monitoring and notification programs. 215 routine samples were collected from Lake Michigan from stops 20, 24, 31, 34, and 37. 309 samples were collected from the Inland Lakes. Inland Lake sampling sites include Waverly Beach, Kiwanis Beach and Holton Beach on Pine Lake, Stone Lake Beach, Old Stone Lake Beach and the Boat Launch on Stone Lake, Hudson Lake, Upper and Lower Fish Lake. Results from the previous day's water sample are entered into the IDEM website called *Beachguard*. The LPCHD has had an existing sampling and notification program for our Inland and Lake Michigan Beaches for over twenty years.

Food Protection

The inspectors of the Environmental Health/Food Division enforce 410 IAC 7-24 and Ordinance no. 2013-15 to ensure that the public is served food that meets standards for healthful and safe preparation and consumption. Restaurants, bed and breakfasts, convenience stores, private clubs, lunch trucks, grocery stores, bars, taverns, certain non-profit organizations, schools, mobile units and temporary vendors receive unannounced inspections throughout the year. In 2014, the inspectors performed 1,141 routine inspections on the retail food establishments.

The division works closely with public health nurses, physicians and the state field epidemiologist to investigate suspected foodborne disease outbreaks.

Food Licenses Issued:	2012	2013	2014
Food Service Establishment	510	505	526
Mobile Units	42	28	37
Temporary	287	311	339
New Establishments	37	68	60

Inspections:	2012	2013	2014
Retail Food Service	1159	1133	1141
School Kitchens	86	80	76
Non Profit Organizations	34	36	43
Temporary/Mobile	329	339	376

Other:	2012	2013	2014
Fire Investigations	1	2	5
Complaint Investigations	61	39	35
Possible Foodborne Illness	6	3	14
Food Recalls	268	260	168
Temporary Closures	1	2	6
Administrative Hearings	4	7	6

Water Laboratory

The La Porte County Health Department is 1 of 5 health departments in Indiana with an on-site water laboratory certified by the ISDH Laboratories. The LPCHD is certified for the analysis of drinking water, pools and spas for the presence of total coliform with E. coli confirmation, surface water, including recreational beach waters for the enumeration of E.coli, Nitrate and heterotrophic plate counts. The LPCHD is 1 of 2 Health Departments in Indiana certified by ISDH Laboratories for the presence of Nitrate in drinking water. The ISDH Laboratories are responsible for certifying laboratories under the Safe Drinking Water Act. This includes conducting on-site evaluations and evaluating proficiency test samples. ISDH re-certification is done every three years. In addition, the lab offers chemistry screening analysis such as nitrate, nitrite, lead, iron and fluoride.

The lab's last re-certification with the State Department of Health Microbiology Certification officer took place on November 22, 2013. The ISDH's inspection for the recertification process is due to take place on or before June 10, 2016 for Nitrate and December 31, 2016 for Microbiology.

2014 National Drinking Water Week took place May 7th thru the 14th. The LPCHD offered FREE bacteria tests to La Porte County residents with residential wells. 123 test bottles were handed out at the LPCHD offices in La Porte and Michigan City, Trail Creek Town Hall, Wanatah Utilities and Rolling Prairie La Porte County Public Library. Residents were instructed to collect their water sample, drop it off at either County Health Dept. office and their results would be mailed within the week. 93 water tests were returned for testing.

Environmental/Sanitation Complaints

This section concerns all complaints made to the health department. Complaints range from trash and garbage to unsanitary living conditions. In 2014, our office investigated 114 complaints. An investigation into these complaints begins with a phone call and/or site inspection. If there are no health code violations, the complaint is considered invalid and it is closed out of the database. If the complaint is found to be valid by violation of a health code, then environmental staff will consult with the subject of the complaint and inform them of the appropriate action that needs to be taken in order to remediate the situation. The chart below is a representation of the types and quantity of complaints that are investigated. Not all complaint types are listed. Ongoing and open investigations are not included in these totals.