

Annual Report 2015



INDEPENDENCE HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Disease Prevention

Environmental Public Health

Communicable Disease and Immunization



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Health Administration	325-7986
Disease Prevention	325-7185
<i>Building a Healthier Independence</i>	325-7006
Maternal and Child Health	325-7192
Birth and Death Certificates	325-7185
Emergency Response Planning	325-7189
Environmental Public Health	325-7818
<u>Property Maintenance</u>	
Complaints/Questions	325-7193
www.independencemo.org/health/codecompliance.aspx	
Neighborhood Code Compliance Program	325-7004
<u>Permitted Establishments</u>	
Complaints/Questions	325-7803
Food Handler/Manager Class Information	325-7194
www.independencemo.org/foodsafety	
Smoking Ordinance Complaints	325-7185
www.independencemo.org/health/smokingcomplaint.aspx	
<u>Animal Services</u>	
Dispatch	325-7205
Barking Dog Hotline	325-7213
www.independencemo.org/health/animal_barkingdogs.aspx	
Communicable Disease and Immunization	325-7185
Communicable Disease Hotline	325-7204

ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH

The Advisory Board of Health advises the City Council, City Manager, and Health Department on matters pertaining to public health. The Board may also make such investigations and studies in the field of public health that, in its judgment, will be helpful in carrying out its general purposes.

The Board consists of ten members who represent various professions directly concerned with general matters of health. In 2015, the Board was involved in the following activities:

- Budget
- Building a Healthier Independence Initiative
- Health Impact Assessment
- Immunization Rates
- Missouri Association of Local Boards of Health (MALBOH)
- National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH)
- Neighborhood Code Compliance Program (NCCP)
- Raising of America, Kansas City Screening Event
- School-based Immunization Clinics
- Social Service Summit
- Tobacco and Vapor Product Use Ordinance Change

Ralph Ruckman, DDS, Chair

Christopher Sullivan, MD, Vice Chair

Kathleen Bennett, RN

Lori Halsey, RN, BSN

Lois McDonald

Donald Potts, MD

John Ruddy, PhD

Howard H. Braby, MD

Rick Schrock, DVM

Jason White

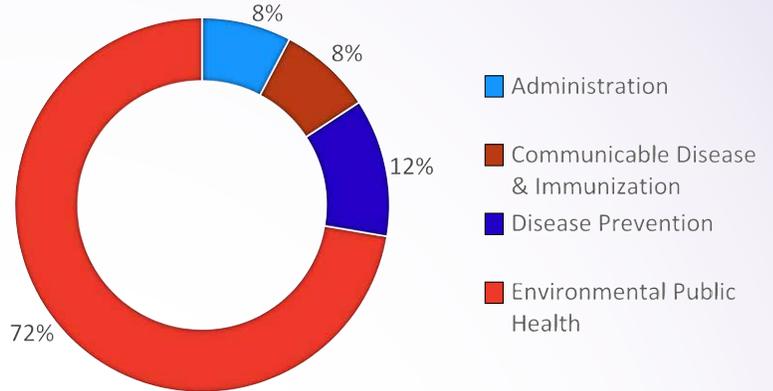
ADMINISTRATION

Health Department Budget

Financial support for the Independence Health Department is derived from two primary sources: the City of Independence and state/federal grants.

The Department's budget during the 2015-16 fiscal year totaled \$3,077,940, of which \$427,229 was from various state and federal grants. This amount is further divided into the following areas: Administration, Communicable Disease and Immunization, Disease Prevention, and Environmental Public Health.

2015-16 Budget by Category



TOP 3 PRIORITIES

1. Overweight/Obesity

The 4th Annual Independence Park Trot 5K Run/Walk, The Mile Starts Here walking program, 23 gardens, a new Stock Healthy Shop Healthy store, wellness strategies with five businesses and the Independence School District, and more contributed to increasing opportunities for physical activities in Independence.

2. Tobacco Use

A tobacco use prevention media campaign aimed at teens was continued for a third year to decrease youth initiation of smoking, including a youth anti-tobacco night at the Missouri Mavericks Hockey game. The City Council also passed an ordinance limiting the purchase of tobacco and alternative nicotine products to age 21 and over.

3. Teen Pregnancy

Staff continued communication with the teen pregnancy prevention coalition members on prevention efforts throughout the region. A teen pregnancy prevention webpage, including information for teens and parents, was updated on the Department's website.

Darlene Dieckmann Retires

After 42 years of service Darlene Dieckmann, Administrative Specialist III, retired this year. Darlene leaves the City after working for multiple departments, including Power & Light and Police.



Andrew Warlen Becomes Health Director

Andrew Warlen, MPH, became Health Director on January 6, 2015, after the retirement of Larry Jones, MPH.

Warlen started with the Health Department in 2001 as the Code Compliance Manager, became the Environmental Health Manager in 2011, and Assistant Health Director in early 2013. Before his employment with the City, Warlen worked with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services as an Epidemiology Specialist and was a Public Health Specialist with the City of Kansas City, Missouri, Health Department in the Communicable Disease Prevention Division. He is a Certified Environmental Health Specialist and Certified Code Enforcement Officer.

Warlen received his Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Truman State University (MO) and his Masters of Public Health from the University of Kansas Medical Center. He is an active member of Kiwanis and a proud Eagle Scout.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND IMMUNIZATION

Immunizations

School-based influenza vaccination clinics were offered in both the Independence and Fort Osage School Districts for grades pre-K-12, with 1,843 influenza vaccinations administered. The overall flu vaccination rate for students was 10%, some schools had a rate as high as 26%. The vaccination effort in the schools was effective in reducing the number of missed days related to respiratory illnesses for the students.

School-based Tdap (pertussis booster) clinics were also offered in both districts. To prepare for eighth grade requirements, 292 students were vaccinated with Tdap.

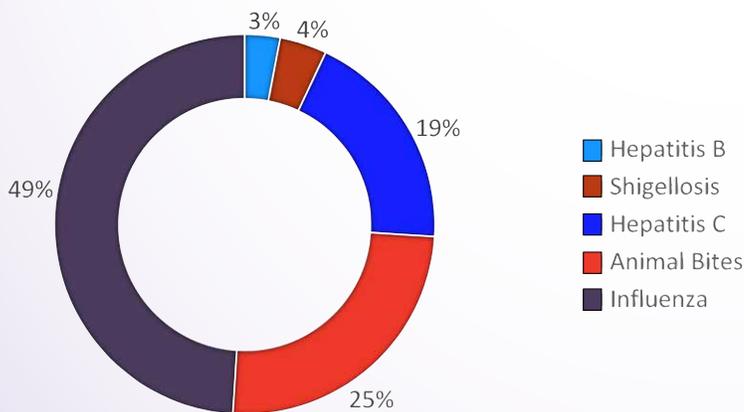
The Independence Health Department became recognized as a Specialty Provider in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, which allows for a focus on community or school-based clinics. Vaccine is offered at no cost for Medicaid eligible, uninsured, or underinsured children. The Department also partnered with Vaxcare to be able to bill insurance companies for those that are insured.

2700+
residents received a vaccination

Communicable Disease

There were 42 cases of Shigella this year, compared to three last year, a 1300% increase. This increase was seen metro wide. Of the 42 cases, 64% of the cases were among children under 18. Overall, there was a 42% increase in the total number of cases that required investigation compared to the previous year.

2015 Top Five Reportable Disease/Conditions



79
childcare classes on handwashing, healthy eating, poison prevention, and oral care were provided in childcare centers and home daycares

Asthma Education

Through a grant awarded from the Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City, the Health Department provided the Open Airways asthma education program for third through fifth graders in the Independence School District's elementary schools. The grant also seeks to assure tobacco-free campuses at childcare centers and provide education to school staff, parents, and the community. This program decreased school nurse visits and absences related to asthma and increased knowledge among students and adults.

Ebola

Communicable disease staff were responsible for directly monitoring travelers that returned from Ebola-impacted countries. Health status was monitored frequently to assure a proper response should symptoms appear.

Immunization Audits

Bi-annual onsite immunization audits were conducted at 52 childcare centers and home daycares. All records were reviewed and current vaccine recommendations were reviewed.

4,717
child immunization records were reviewed, and, after vaccination education, were 100% compliant

DISEASE PREVENTION

361

individuals were trained in CPR and/or first aid

Promoting Physical Activity

The 4th Annual Independence Park Trot 5K Run/Walk was held with more than 2,000 participants.



Park Trot participants begin the 5K route.

As many as 54 participants met weekly to walk a one-mile route at several city parks and trails for The Mile Starts Here walking program. Approximately 900 miles were walked.

Partnered with the Missouri Mavericks for a fourth year to promote the Get Healthy Independence app. This free app lists parks, trails, farmers' markets, and community gardens in Independence. Search "Get Healthy Independence" and download for free.

International Walk to School Day at Santa Fe Elementary was a success. Students met at Santa Fe Park to enjoy a healthy smoothie on the Bike Blender before walking a mile to school.



Santa Fe students made smoothies using the Bike Blender.

The Department partnered with five local businesses to provide assistance on their worksite wellness initiatives. Ideas for challenges, fitness promotion, the Bike Blender, and program evaluation were some of the ways support was provided.

500+

municipalities participated across the nation in the White House's Let's Move! initiative, with only

52

achieving gold medal status in all 5 goal areas, including Independence. Staff attended a special ceremony with Michelle Obama.

Reducing Tobacco Use

A tobacco use prevention media campaign aimed at teens was continued for a third year. Independence youth assisted in determining the locations of advertisements placed on billboards near schools, the Independence Center and social media. A youth anti-tobacco night was also held at a Missouri Mavericks Hockey game.



A billboard for the youth tobacco prevention campaign.

The City Council passed an ordinance limiting the purchase of tobacco to age 21 and over. The ordinance was recommended by the Advisory Board of Health after research by staff.

Improving Access to Healthful Foods

One additional store in Independence agreed to participate in the Stock Healthy Shop Healthy Initiative, which aims to create greater access to healthful foods for Independence residents.

Staff provided assistance to the 254 community and school garden beds in Independence, while several new school gardens and community gardens were added. Over 1300 packets of seeds and 960 plants were delivered to low-income residents and school gardens.



Volunteers prepare White Oak Community Garden for 2015.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Permitted Establishments Inspections

	2013	2014	2015
Food Establishment	1,466	1,496	1,361
Complaint Investigations	195	196	218
Childcare Facilities	106	115	104
Swimming Pools	80	79	76
Tattoo Parlor Inspections	8	8	7
Soft Serve Inspections	70	82	72
Lodging Inspections	44	46	48
Temporary Events	208	223	255
Total:	2,259	2,453	2,141

5,812
Food Handler/Food Manager Permits
issued,
27%
processed online

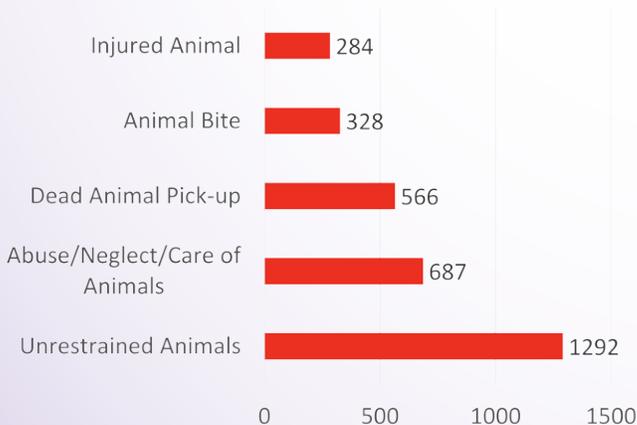
Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) Grants Awarded

The Health Department was awarded several grants from AFDO to pursue three different projects. Staff worked to develop the project ideas, which included foodborne illness investigation training for five staff members, pursuit of retail food program standards, and tablet integration into the field inspection process.

Operation Litter Less

Independence Animal Services continues to offer free and reduced-cost spay and neuter vouchers to qualifying Independence and Jackson County residents. 291 vouchers were issued in 2015.

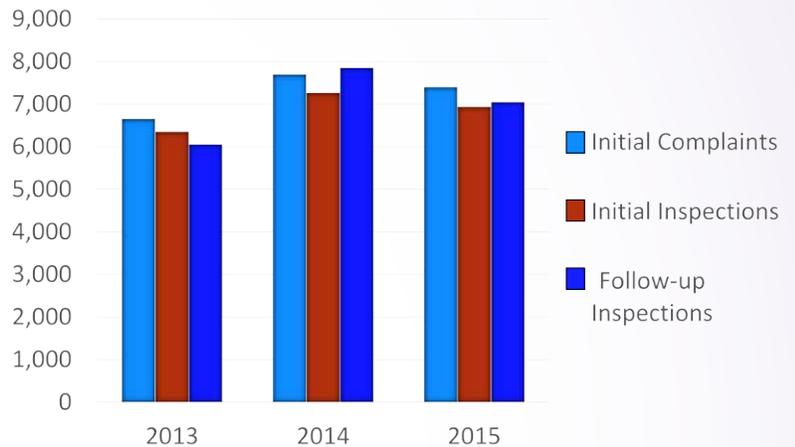
Top Five Animal Services Case Types



Property Maintenance Officer Named "Code Enforcement Officer of the Year"

This summer, David Dickerson, Property Maintenance Officer, received the Missouri Code Enforcement Officer of Year award from the Missouri Association of Code Enforcement (MACE). MACE is a dedicated organization to providing exceptional quality and cutting-edge training for code enforcement professionals. The award was presented to Dickerson at the Association's annual meeting in Lake Ozark, Missouri.

Property Maintenance Comparison by Year

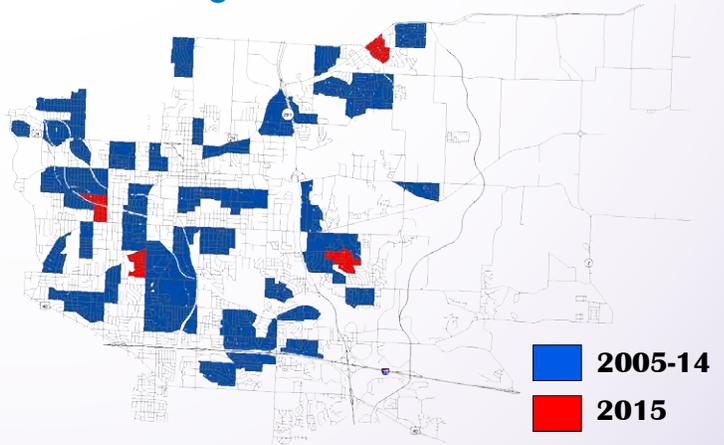


The Neighborhood Code Compliance Program (NCCP)

Staff conducted four NCCP cleanups with a final compliance rate of 98.9% for the year. The map below shows recent and previous NCCP areas.

90
tons of trash and brush were collected
during four NCCP cleanups

NCCP Neighborhoods



STAFF LEADERSHIP AND RECOGNITIONS

American Lung Association; Education Steering Committee	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC
Delta Omega; Gamma Eta, Honorary Society in Public Health	Alicia Nelson, MPH, CHES
Emergency Services Committee	
Member	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Member	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC
Government Training Institute; Successful Facilitator Certification.....	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Graceland University	
Adjunct Professor	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC
Community Advisory Board	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC
Human Impact Partners; Public Health and Equity Cohort	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Jackson County Child Fatality Review Committee	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Kansas City Metro Heroine/Opiates Steering Committee	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Healthcare Provider Education	Mary Ripley, BSN, RN
Healthcare Provider Education	Michael Onsongo, MPH
Kansas City Terrorist Early Warning (KCTEW) Advisory Board	Mike Jackson, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
March of Dimes; Nurse of the Year, Public Health	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC
Metropolitan Official Health Agencies of the Kansas City Area	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Mid-America Immunization Coalition; Steering Committee	Vicki Sears, BSN, RN
Missouri Association of Local Boards of Health (MALBOH)	Independence Health Department
Missouri Center for Public Health Excellence Member	Independence Health Department
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services	
Coordinating Council for Chronic Disease Prevention and Management	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Director's Advisory Council, Assistant Chair	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Outreach for Core Public Health Workgroup	Mike Jackson, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Missouri Public Health Association (MPHA); Board Member, At Large	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)	
Immunization Workgroup	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC
Member	Independence Health Department
New Local Health Official Community of Practice Member	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Preparedness, Planning, Outcomes, and Measurement Committee	Mike Jackson, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Project Public Health Ready Review Board	Mike Jackson, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
National Association of Local Boards of Health	Independence Health Department
Raising of America Kansas City Coalition	
Member	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Member	Christina Heinen, MPH, MFS, CCEO
Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee	Andrew Warlen, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
University of Missouri	
Adjunct Professor	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC
Master of Public Health	Alicia Nelson, MPH, CHES
Master of Public Health	Christina Heinen, MPH, MFS, CCEO
University of Missouri Kansas City	
Adjunct Professor	Mike Jackson, MPH, CEHS, CCEO
Adjunct Professor	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC
School of Nursing, Community Advisory Board	Shawwna Jackson, MSN, RN, APHN-BC

Building a
Healthier
Independence



Environmental Public Health



Communicable Disease and Immunization



Administration



Disease Prevention



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