Resolutions/Contracts/Agreements

The Board of Health approved the following:

- 3rd and Final Reading of Resolution 21-09-03 - Food Service License Fees
- Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Lead Delegated Authority Provider Agreement
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Muskingum Behavioral Health for the Safe Point Bloodborne Infectious Disease Prevention Program
- MOU with Dr. Sheerer for Medical Director coverage
- MOU for Britco, LLC Software Access
- Information Services Agreement
- MOU for Tobacco Prevention and Cessation
- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations Agreement/Renewal
- ODH Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC)
- National Prescription Drug Take Back day was Saturday, October 23, 2021. Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., with the help of our partners Genesis Healthcare System, Muskingum County Sheriff’s Office, Muskingum Behavioral Health, Northside Pharmacies, we were able to collect 181.6 pounds of unused or expired medications from Muskingum County residents.

Avoid Frostbite & Hypothermia:

- Try to stay indoors. If you must go outside, dress properly; water-resistant boots, several layers of loose fitting clothing, gloves, water-resistant coat, hat, scarf or knit mask that overs face and mouth.
- Know who is at high risk; older adults, homeless, hikers, hunters, people who drink alcohol in excess or use illicit drugs.

At-Home COVID-19 Test Kits

With COVID-19 cases surging once again in December, finding an at-home test was a struggle as Omicron and holiday plans collided. ZMCHD and the Muskingum County Library System ran out of tests at the end of the month. However, the Biden administration is now providing tests. Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 FREE at-home COVID-19 tests. Order your tests now so you have them when you need them. Visit https://www.covidtests.gov/ to place your order. Call 1-800-232-0233 if you’re unable to access the website or need additional support placing an order for free.
In October, Muskingum County reported 1,892 cases of COVID-19. This was a 37.8% decrease in cases from September, which ended the month with 3,044 cases. We began to coordinate with PCG (Public Consulting Group) to assist with case investigation. A total of eleven COVID-19 outbreaks were investigated in the community. Our long-term care facilities reported 20 COVID-19 cases. Muskingum County schools saw a total of 327 COVID-19 cases. Most schools in the county adopted the “Mask-to-Stay, Test-to-Play” guidance put forth by the Ohio Department of Health.

COVID-19 cases started to decrease in November. Muskingum County reported 1,319 cases, a 30.3% decrease in cases from October. Sixteen COVID-19 outbreaks were investigated in the community. Our long-term care facilities reported 45 COVID-19 cases. Muskingum County schools saw a total of 170 COVID-19 cases.

In December, there was a 56.8% increase in cases. Muskingum County reported 2,066 cases in December. A total of 13 COVID-19 outbreaks were investigated in the community. Our long-term care facilities reported 15 COVID-19 cases. Muskingum County schools saw a total of 192 COVID-19 cases in December.

COVID-19 numbers declined in October and November. On November 30, 2021, Unified Command presented a COVID-19 Update encourage the public to get COVID-19 and flu vaccines at the same time as reducing the spread of COVID-19, flu, and respiratory illnesses was more important than ever in fall and winter. Guest Matt Perry, CEO Genesis Healthcare System said to help, Genesis would reopen the clinic housed in the former Elder Beerman store in Colony Square Mall for booster shots. Omicron, a new variant of SARS-CoV-2 was classified by the World Health Organization as a variant of concern on November 26, 2021. This new variant was first detected in South Africa. The first confirmed U.S. case of Omicron was identified on December 1, 2021. Community transmission of COVID-19 remained high in December. Unified Command continues to meet weekly.

COVID-19 Vaccination

October brought an upward trend in our vaccination numbers from 269 doses given in September to 591 doses. The vaccine clinic was very busy with COVID-19 vaccines after the CDC authorized booster doses for Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson and Johnson.

In November, Pfizer pediatric doses were made available for children age 5-11. Vaccination numbers continued to increase in November with 1,155 doses given. There were community volunteers to assist with COVID vaccinations three days a week. Vaccines are provided by the Ohio Department of Health at no cost. ZMCHD provides vaccines to Muskingum County residents free of charge with no billing to insurance.

In December, CDC authorized booster doses for everyone ages 16+. We gave 1,038 COVID vaccinations, a slight decrease from November. Community volunteers continued to assist with COVID vaccinations in December.
Different Symptoms for COVID-19/Flu/Colds/Allergies

It is often difficult to determine the difference between COVID-19, Flu (Influenza), Colds and Allergies. This makes decisions such as going to work or school difficult. The table below shows the comparisons between these conditions.

During a pandemic, it is always safer to err on the side of safety and get tested for COVID (and Influenza during flu season) to help determine if you should be going back into the public. So if you are unsure of your diagnosis, get tested.

If you test negative for COVID-19, fever free, and your symptoms are improving, it is reasonable to return to work or school. However, if you still have a fever or your symptoms are not improving, even if your test is negative, you should consider waiting another day or two before returning to work or school.

Is it Covid-19, Influenza, a Cold, or Allergies?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>COVID-19</th>
<th>Influenza</th>
<th>Cold</th>
<th>Allergy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sore throat</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td>Usually (dry)</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New loss of taste or smell</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle/body aches</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiredness/fatigue</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Often</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runny or stuffy nose</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
<td>Usually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausea and/or vomiting</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>Never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>Never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink eye</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Itchy nose and/or eyes</td>
<td>Never</td>
<td>Never</td>
<td>Never</td>
<td>Usually</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accreditation Update**

Small groups are continuing to work towards our Public Health Accreditation.
Our deadline for submission is June 26, 2022.
Ann Hollingsworth, Accreditation Coordinator is reaching out to staff for assistance when necessary.

**Personnel Update**

The Board of Health approved the following:

**Reclassifications**

Jacqueline Layton from Administrative Assistant to Grant Specialist

Jacob Wilson from Contact Tracer to Readiness Staff Support

**ZMCHD welcomed the following employees:**

Elizabeth Bishop, Contact Tracer

Kimberley Cook, Administrative Assistant

Lakyn Craig, Community Health Planner

Angela Kelly, Public Health Nurse

Kassandra Settles, Social Worker

**WELCOME!**
Mission:
Prevent. Promote. Protect. Public Health is Our Passion!

Vision:
For Our Agency: One team, striving for excellence, educating and empowering with every encounter.
For Our Community: Muskingum County is the healthiest place to live, learn, work and play.

Values:
Work Together: We engage with our community to establish common goals and achieve desired results.

Help Others: We are helpful, adaptive, and take pride in providing excellent service.

Do the Right Thing: We are fair, honest, ethical, and accountable.

Improve: We continually look for ways to improve our efficiency and effectiveness.

Upcoming Events

February Events
Feb 14: Valentine’s Day
Feb 17: Board of Health Meeting, 6:00pm/Virtual Board of Health Meeting, Google Meet
Feb 21: Closed Washington’s Birthday

March Events
March 2: Ash Wednesday
March 13: Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 17: St. Patrick’s Day
March 17: Board of Health Meeting, 5:30pm/Virtual Board of Health Meeting, Google Meet
March 17: Health District Advisory Council & Muskingum County Township Association Spring Meeting, 7:00pm/Virtual Board of Health Meeting, Google Meet

April Events
April 10: Palm Sunday
April 15: Good Friday
April 17: Easter
April 21: Board of Health Meeting, 6:00pm/Virtual Board of Health Meeting, Google Meet