

TUSCARAWAS COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT
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Health Commissioner

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Director of Environmental Health

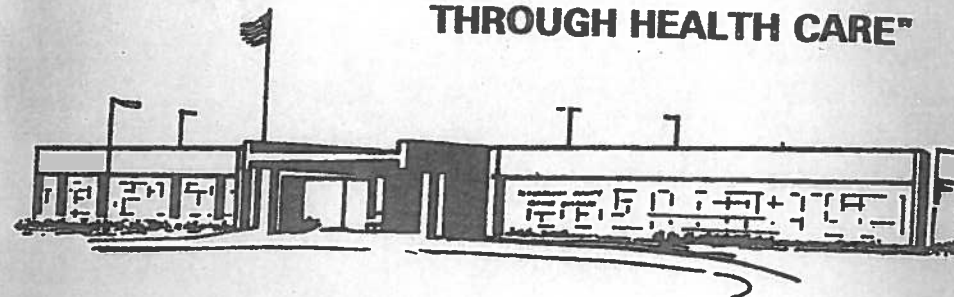
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"WE CARE

THROUGH HEALTH CARE"



1995 ANNUAL REPORT

TUSCARAWAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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TUSCARAWAS COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

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FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

I would like to take this opportunity to present to you the 1995 Annual Report of the Tuscarawas County Health Department. I hope as you read through this report you will become more familiar with the programs and services of the Tuscarawas County Health Department. 1995 was a year of stabilization for the health department. We made progress toward paying back the loan from the County Commissioners while over 43,000 client visits were recorded. Highlights during the year included the reopening of our prenatal clinic and expansion of some environmental health programs.

While many people may not realize how the federal government budget shutdowns effected local operations, we felt a major impact in 1995. Many of our federal grants begin in October of each year. As of December 31, 1995 the Tuscarawas County Health Department had not received approximately \$120,000 in grant funds. This caused some hardship with our end of the year finances, but we were able to work through it. As we look ahead to 1996, I firmly believe that some of these federal funds will not be available as they were in the past. Therefore, we as a health department must restructure ourselves so as not to be dependent on these funds. As many of you have heard, we are becoming more aggressive in collecting fees for services delivered. We will never deny anyone access to services, however we have to help our clients become more responsible for their portion of service fees. Terry Hiller, President of the Board of Health, has said it best; "If we believe we are offering a quality service, then we should not be ashamed to ask someone to pay for it."

The Tuscarawas County Health Department is here to serve the people of the county. The only way we can continue to do that is to ask clients to pay their fair share of those services. We will continue to do our part in providing quality, affordable services. With the support of the community, Township Trustees, County Commissioners, Mayors, and the Board of Health, the Tuscarawas County Health Department will remain a partner with other health care providers in the community as a leader in health care. Thank you for your interest and support.



Steven R. Wermuth, R.S., M.P.A.
Health Commissioner

**TUSCARAWAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1995 FINANCIAL REPORT**

HOME HEALTH PROGRAM

RECEIPTS

Beginning Balance 1/1/95	\$52,918.25
Dental	\$39,423.28
Speech Therapy	\$12,111.80
Patient Pay	\$146,227.28
Title XIX - Medicaid	\$194,524.48
Title XXIII - Medicare	\$298,915.68
Grants	\$908,866.37
Insurance	\$33,096.53
Vital Statistics	\$39,017.25
Permits/Licenses	\$256,478.76
State Subsidy	\$25,458.40
Subdivisions	\$25,000.00
Health Levy	\$756,145.71
Water Samples	\$3,855.00
Mosquito Program	\$2,494.80
Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps	\$22,809.00
PASSPORT grant	\$89,805.62
TB Registry	\$5,600.00
Coordinated Community Care	\$12,577.50
Other	\$15,022.69
General Relief	\$0.00
Capital Improvements	\$25,000.00
Total Receipts 1995	\$2,965,348.40

EXPENDITURES

Salaries	\$1,522,293.90
Supplies	\$108,704.14
Contracts	\$311,639.28
Rent	\$17,795.77
Travel	\$53,207.12
PERS	\$204,777.46
Worker's Compensation	\$18,756.97
Solid Waste Remittance - OEPA	\$57,500.00
Equipment	\$40,033.72
Other	\$112,361.11
Remittance to State	\$75,525.94
Medicare Insurance	\$15,120.56
Hospital and Life Insurance	\$279,874.30
Unemployment	\$11,733.21
Capital Improvements	\$17,050.00
Debt Service Fund	\$64,500.00
Total Expenditures 1995	\$2,910,873.48

ENDING BALANCE \$54,474.92

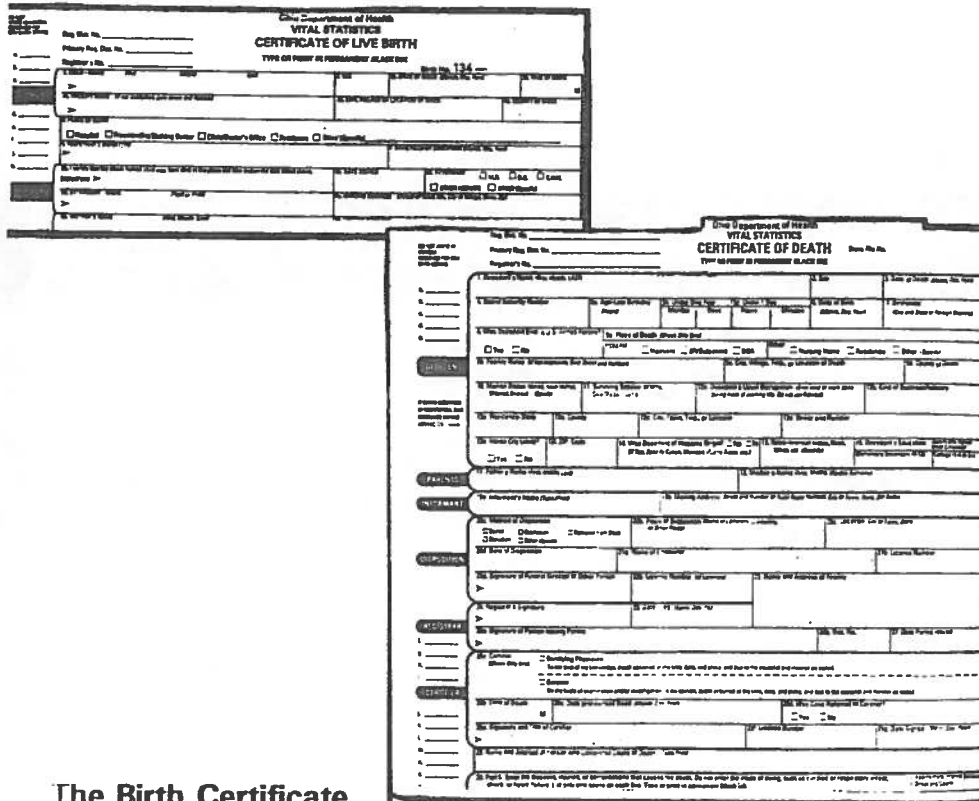
She is 63, totally disabled both mentally and physically. Her primary caregiver is suddenly struck with a debilitating illness and is recuperating. What are the options for her care now? Nursing home placement? Hire a caregiver? At whose expense?

For this patient, who requires monthly lab work, catheter changes, and monitoring of her disease process, the choice was easy: remain at home with a nurse providing necessary skilled in-home nursing care and a skilled home health aide to help with personal care, both from the Tuscarawas County Home Health Agency.

Since our agency is also a PASSPORT provider, the nurse from our agency and the PASSPORT case manager worked together to develop an aide program for sixteen hours of respite care a week so that her caregiver can do shopping, run necessary errands, or just relax and get away from twenty-four hour care for a few hours. This way, our client remains in familiar surroundings, yet still receives skilled care through Medicare and respite aide care through PASSPORT, necessary for her physical and mental well being, at a cost much less than nursing home care.

The need for skilled in-home care will continue to grow as our population grows older and in-patient hospital cuts are made. In 1995, 9,554 visits were made to residents of Tuscarawas County in all home programs served. The Tuscarawas County Home Health Agency will continue to provide the area with quality in-home services.

THE BEGINNING AND THE END The Story of BIRTH and DEATH Certificates



The Birth Certificate

The birth certificate is the legal record of the child's birth and is so recognized in any court. During the course of their lifetime the child may have many occasions to make use of this report.

For instance, before they can start going to a public school the child must have a copy of their birth certificate. Later, they will undoubtedly need this same proof of age to get their first driver's license.

Such proof is also necessary if, at any time, they should require public assistance, either as a dependent child or as a needy aged person. On this proof, too, may depend their right to collect a retirement or disability pension.

The Death Certificate

The death certificate also has many important uses. In clearing up an estate the legal proof of the individual's death rests upon the certificate filed at the time of their death. Without it, a life insurance claim will not be paid. Nor can a survivor's social security benefits be collected without proof of death. A widow applying for public assistance for her dependent children must furnish the necessary proof of her husband's death.

Vital Statistics in our Everyday Life

Vital statistics have been called the eyes and ears of public health agencies and sound community planning is based upon them.

A steady increase in the numbers of births, for example, may point to the need for more public health nurses or child health centers. Mortality data which show an increasing amount of chronic disease may underscore the need for special medical services for older people.

The cause of death entered on the death certificates may be used by the health authorities to chart the onset of any serious epidemic threatening the community.

The collection and analysis of vital records is a cooperative endeavor in which a vast number of people in the community and at all levels of government play an important role.

In 1995, the leading cause of deaths were Heart & Circulatory, Respiratory and Cancer.

TOTAL BIRTHS:	799
TOTAL DEATHS:	611
BIRTH CERTIFICATES ISSUED:	2,664
DEATH CERTIFICATES ISSUED:	2,287

NUTRITION/WIC PROGRAM

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is a federally funded program that provides nutrition counseling and supplemental foods to pregnant, post-partum and breastfeeding women plus infants and children to 5 years of age.

To qualify, the applicant must meet income requirements and have a medical reason or nutritional task that can vary from low blood iron, high or low weight to inadequate diet.

The federal government has made it possible for WIC to grow because feasibility studies have proven that this cost-effective health care program helps fight infant death and low birth weight and improves the diets of women and children. Every dollar invested in WIC for pregnant women produces \$1.92 to \$4.21 in medical savings for newborns and their mothers. Also children who participate in WIC appear to be better prepared for school. Four and 5 year olds whose mothers participated in WIC during pregnancy were found to have higher vocabulary scores and children who participated in WIC after their first birthday scored higher on memory tests.

WIC serves moderate to low income groups depending upon the family size, this includes one or two income families. Tuscarawas County WIC can serve monthly 2,100 or more through our sites in Dover, Dennison, Newcomerstown and Sugarcreek.

The nutritionist and program staff encourage breastfeeding for new mothers and their infants. The staff breastfeeding counselor can assist a new mom in getting off to healthy start.

The nutrition department also provides speakers for area groups and agencies.

The community dietitian is a consultant to the local Hospice agency and Passport program. She is also available for scheduled individual nutrition counseling.

Readers who would like additional information concerning the WIC program and other nutrition services should contact the Tuscarawas County Health Department.

NEW:	<u>1,194</u>
VISITS:	<u>8,542</u>

ALCOHOL & ADDICTION CENTER

The Tuscarawas & Carroll Counties Alcohol & Addiction Center opened in 1971 with a grant from the Ohio Department of Health. Since that time, chemical dependency treatment has become more refined, yet many individuals and families still suffer from this public health problem.

The agency has enjoyed many successful treatment outcomes. Two of our many hundreds of clients in 1995, generously permitted a published testimony of their service outcome. Excerpts from an article titled Help Is Already Here by Jacquenette Geggus were used with permission.

Lindsay's life became what she calls "a disaster area" on a Saturday night. She was 22, addicted to alcohol and serious drug - and arrested for drug possession.

The next Monday, she called the Tuscarawas & Carroll Counties Alcohol & Addiction Center, a program of the Tuscarawas County Health Department.

"I pretty much put myself into treatment," said Lindsay, who added she was already in counseling before she was granted treatment in lieu of conviction for the drug charge.

While she said she resisted the treatment at first, she has not looked back. She's now 24, attending college, holding a job and sober for 1 1/2 years.

And she is grateful for the program's help. Lindsay and her parents agreed to be interviewed.

Joe, 34, also is grateful for the program, even though he didn't start counseling voluntarily. New Philadelphia Municipal Court Judge Mary W. Space sent Joe to the program as part of his sentence for his third drunken driving conviction in five years.

"I was pretty rebellious at first," Joe said, confessing that while he quit drinking immediately, he refused to recognize that he was an alcoholic.

He erroneously believed, he said, that alcoholics were stereotypical "winos" huddled in the gutter, clutching bottles concealed in brown paper bags and not working men like him.

"I was a functional drunk," he said, "so I didn't see where I had a problem."

But after about a year of hearing well-groomed, well-dressed and functional alcoholics talk about their addictions in group counseling sessions, Joe said he recognized in March that he, too, is an alcoholic. "It kinda broke the picture of the stereotype," he said. "None of them had an old brown bag in the alley."

Although they now recognize their problems, it hasn't been easy for Lindsay and Joe who asked not to be identified by their real names because they're sure they would lose their jobs.

Lindsay, for instance, lost four jobs in six months. Although she was not convicted of drug possession, her name would appear in court news columns whenever she was charged, and her bosses would fire her.

ALCOHOL & ADDICTION CENTER (Continued)

"The family has got to support these people," said Lindsay's father. He was his wife said they became involved in the program to help Lindsay, but ended up learning more about their own lifestyle.

"We taught her it was OK," said her father, who added he routinely used to drink a fifth of liquor every night. Now, except for an occasional beer, he can barely stomach alcohol.

"You've got to look at what you've done, what behavior you've shown to your child," said Lindsay's mother.

Program Director Anthony Incarnato said the people who respond best to treatment are those who have family support, participate in group therapy and are trying treatment for the first time.

"Those are the characteristics that have the best outcome," said Incarnato, who is one of four certified chemical dependency counselors who at any given time work with about 150 people on a caseload.

"Some of the program's clients have been nearly at death's door, their addictions caused them to stop eating," Incarnato said.

And some older chemical dependency clients need the Health Department's clinic services, he said. Some need blood tests to begin treatments with Antabuse, a drug that makes a person physically ill if he or she drinks alcohol. Others, he said, require treatment for high blood pressure.

But the program doesn't stop there, he said. Through the young-oriented Teen Institute, for instance, Incarnato said the program seeks to keep youngsters from becoming addicted in the first place.

"We like to say that instead of just working with people with a substance abuse problem, we work with families and ...we try to prevent the onset of abuse," he said.

Home life is much better for Joe since he quit drinking alcohol and smoking marijuana, he said. The drinking alone caused a rift in his marriage, and he said he would have lost his wife and children if he had not quit.

Now, Joe said his wife has been a tremendous help to him during his recovery. "Who thought I'd ever change?" Joe said. "But it does work."

There is sacrifice, he said - recovery involves giving up bars and even many friends.

"But in the end, it's worth it," he said. "You can do anything."

ALCOHOL & ADDICTION COUNSELING:	<u>2,582</u>
GROUP THERAPY:	<u>1,087</u>

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Good health is a partnership between citizens and environmental factors. Every citizen of Tuscarawas County is entitled to become beneficiaries of good public health practices.

The Tuscarawas County Health Department is the guardian of your health. Environmental health helps to prevent disease, prolong life and promote health through environmental controls.

Sanitarians have the responsibility for environmental health. Some of these programs include:

1. **Food Service and Food Establishment** licensing and inspections to insure safe, clean eating establishments and grocery stores;
 2. **Private Sewage Disposal** - site review and soils testing to determine suitability of the soils for on lot sewage disposal. Surveillance and testing of effluent to determine quality of the operation;
 3. **Private Water Supplies** - site review and proper isolation from contaminates, inspect service of supply during construction and upon completion to assure proper construction and materials;
 4. **Water Sampling** - sampling upon request and on new wells, evaluation of supply service and recommendations for improvements if deficiencies are found;
 5. **Rabies Control** - our office by law receives all reports of persons bitten by animals. Animals are quarantined for an adequate period of time to eliminate the possibilities of the transmittal of this disease from animal to man. Animal owners are issued rabies immunization orders when necessary. Animal heads are secured and submitted to Ohio Department of Health Laboratory when need for rabies testing is indicated;
 6. **Mosquito Control** - conduct surveys to determine source, type, extent and seriousness of mosquito problem. Apply control in form of insecticides and larvacide, conduct further surveys to determine effectiveness of controls;
 7. **Rodent Control** - survey neighborhoods when problems exist to determine cause and source of infestation. Organize all parties involved for control measures, apply or give directions for controls or application of rodenticide;
 8. **School Environment** - conduct school inspections to ensure a safe, clean school environment for our children. Submit reports to the Board of Education, make recommendations for needed improvements;
 9. **Swimming Pools - Bathing Beaches** - conduct necessary water quality tests, check safety aspects and features;
 10. **Camps, Parks and Resorts** - review plans, issue operating permit, conduct inspections;
- Mobile Home Parks, Vending Machine sanitation, Housing and Premise Hygiene, Solid Waste Disposal and Nuisance abatement.

The programs seem endless but each program properly conducted and initiated has a long term influence on the public health of the residents of Tuscarawas County.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

Water Systems	285
Water Installations Completed	183
Water Samples Secured	668
Evaluation Exist Water	118
Sewage Inspections/Consultations	780
Sewage Systems Completed	237
Evaluate Exist Sewer	173
Evaluation New Site	471
Food Service Inspections/Consultations	1,021
Vending Inspections	89
Animal Bites Investigated	425
Animal Heads Sent to Lab	39
Positive Results	0
Insect Control Inspections/Consultations	29
Rodent Control Inspections/Consultations	37
Swimming Pol Inspections/Consultations	113
Nuisance Inspections/Consultations	161
Housing Inspections/Consultations	147
Vending Licenses Issued	98
Food Service Licenses Issued	463
Food Establishment Permits Issued	27
Water Permits Issued	250
Sewage Permits Issued	272

NURSING DIVISION
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Tuscarawas County residents have access to a variety of medical services provided by a staff consisting of physicians a dentist, nurse practitioners, a speech therapist, dietitians nurses, aides, clerks and a contracted lab service.

In 1995 many services were offered at the Dover Clinic, ir satellite clinics and in the community. Residents of all ages found help for many of their medical needs offered by the Tuscarawas County Health Department. A sliding fee scale medicaid, medicare and insurance all helped to make medica services affordable.

Providing the very basic well child care which includes monitoring growth and development immunization and providing formula and other nutritional needs could be an extremely expensive demand on a family budget. The Kelley and Wilbert Abel family with their triplets Willow, Echo and Landon to care for found the programs at the health department.

Primary Care Clinic

Dr. Michael Kelley served as the family practice physician and medical director for the health department. Persons needing blood or urine studies had these needs met through the services of the onsite technician provided by Lab Corp. The health department also served as a drawing station for othe area physicians whose patients needed phlebotomy services provided by Lab Corp.

NEW PATIENTS: 1,314
VISITS: 7,221

Pediatric Clinic

Dr. Umesh Betkerur, Pediatrician, offered pediatric care at the health department until November 1995. His growing practice required his full-time attention. It was with regret that we saw Dr. Betkerur leave the health department. He served the Tuscarawas County Health Department for 17 years and was loved by patients and staff. We are hoping to be able to fill the void in the near future for pediatric services.

NEW PATIENTS:	<u>633</u>
VISITS:	<u>2,490</u>

Early Intervention

Early Intervention is a program developed to provide a family centered community-based system of coordinated care for children with special needs from birth to three (3) years of age.

The Tuscarawas County Health Department serves as the fiscal agent for this grant which is provided through Ohio Department of Health. A Public Health Nurse, Parent Coordinator and a Clerk serve as the Early Intervention service team. In 1995 the parent coordinator established a parent group which began meeting monthly. A county Collaborative group which consists of a multi-agency representation serves as the program manager. To contact the Early Intervention team which are housed at the Early Childhood Center at Starlight School, telephone 339-9574.

Childhood Immunization Clinics

The use of immunizations to control and prevent specific infectious diseases is an important part of complete child health care. Immunizations are given as part of the well child exam and at special clinics for immunizations only. Clinics with appointments and walk-in clinics are both options. Once a month an evening clinic is offered to help our working parents. Locations for clinics in 1995 included Dover, Newcomerstown, Dennison and Sugarcreek. Students in the 6th grade must receive a second MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) before entering seventh grade. Special MMR 2 clinics were scheduled to meet this need.

DOVER:	<u>6,764</u>
DENNISON:	<u>575</u>
SUGARCREEK:	<u>255</u>
NEWCOMERSTOWN:	<u>164</u>

Well Child Care

Monitoring a child's growth, development, nutritional and immunization needs is a vital part of a child's early years. At a well child checkup many screening are performed to indicate if a child is growing and developing appropriately. Prevention of problems and early identification of problems are the emphasis of well child visits. In 1995 well child clinics were held at the health department in Dover and at two satellite locations.

Child Specialty Clinics

Orthopedics, Cardiology, Neurology and Hearing are specialty areas that clinics are held for at the health department. Physicians specializing in these areas of medicine come from Akron and Canton for these clinics. Bureau for Children of Medical Handicaps of the Ohio Department of Health sponsors these clinics. There is no charge for an appointment at one of these clinics.

ORTHOPEDIC:	<u>179</u>
CARDIAC:	<u>58</u>
NEUROLOGY:	<u>77</u>
HEARING:	<u>125</u>

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh)

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh) is a program that allows for Public Health Nurses to locate children who are either medically handicapped or are at risk of becoming handicapped. Public Health Nurses coordinate referrals for diagnosis and subsequent treatment for this program. They serve as case managers for children with special needs, their families and the service providers involved in their care.

CASELOAD:	<u>282</u>
VISITS:	<u>297</u>

Dental Services

Affordable dental care is available at the Tuscarawas County Health Department. Both preventive and restorative dental services are available Monday, Wednesday and Fridays.

NEW:	<u>157</u>
VISITS:	<u>1,716</u>

Adult Immunizations

OSHA regulations have required that many persons employed in "at risk" for exposure to blood borne pathogens be immunized with Hepatitis B vaccine. The health department worked with employers to provide Hepatitis B Vaccine. Many employers also utilized health department nurses to provide Flu Vaccine to their employees, to reduce the number of days lost to sick time. Rabies vaccine is an important preventive vaccine for veterinarians. The health department provided this service also.

HEPATITIS B:	<u>1,489</u>
RABIES VACCINE:	<u>56</u>
FLU VACCINE:	<u>1,175</u>

Communicable Disease Control

Ohio Department of Health provides the guidelines for communicable disease surveillance and follow-up. Case reports are monitored for detection of disease trends, the recognition of epidemics and for the minimization of disease.

The national and state goal of eliminating Tuberculosis increased. The demands on the Tuscarawas County Health Department Public Health Nursing. T.B. case monitoring, testing and providing some medications were services provided by the health department.

CASE FOLLOW-UP:	<u>154</u>
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Family Planning Clinic

Federal grant money assists with the support of the Family Planning Clinic. Patients are initiated into the program through participation in an educational and counseling session. Participants receive information about a variety of family planning methods, and sexually transmitted diseases. A complete physical exam and screening are then completed at a scheduled appointment by a physician or nurse practitioner.

An advisory board consisting of local agency representatives collaborates on programmatic issues related to family planning.

NEW: 247
VISITS: 2,742

WALK-IN SERVICES

Appointments are recommended for most all of the clinic services at the health department. Walk-in services include Blood Pressure screening, pregnancy tests, tuberculosis testing. Appointments for these services also ensure a more prompt attention.

TB TESTS: 604
B/P CHECKS: 5,607
PREGNANCY TESTS: 607

In November 1995 the Obstetrical Program was reinstated at the health department. Dr. Marcell Nwizu who is an obstetrician, works with the clinic staff on Friday of each week. Patients who choose to come to the health department may deliver at Union Hospital. Services of a social worker and dietitian are also provided.

NEW: 22
VISITS: 59

School Health Services

The Public Health Nurse provides a variety of services to county schools. All immunization records are checked for compliance with those required by CDC and Ohio Department of Health. The nurse works with families to help meet their needs for immunizations. Vision screening and scoliosis screening is also provided for the county school.

VISITS: 102
VISIONS SCREENED: 2,292
VISIONS RESCREENED: 341
VISIONS REFERRED: 57
SCOLIOSIS SCREENED: 292
SCOLIOSIS REFERRED: 66

Speech Evaluation/Therapy

Speech evaluation and therapy are provided for Head Start and individuals privately. The speech therapist visits the Head Start Centers and also conducted services at the health department and at a satellite clinic.

HEAD START and CLINIC VISITS: 596

Adult Special Clinics

Many adult county residents have found the special adult clinics to be great opportunity for monitoring their health status. Women's Health Day, Men's Health Day increased in popularity. Basic health screening services, education on health related topics and counseling for problems were among the services provided.

WOMEN'S HEALTH DAY: 225
MEN'S HEALTH DAY: 21

VOLUNTEER HOURS 1995

Evelyn Duerr	21.75 hours
Stanley Duerr	21.75 hours
Madge Dolly	2.25 hours
Eleanor Watson	2.50 hours
Mildred Painter	77.00 hours
Erica Spargrove	6.50 hours
Russell Reiger	5.00 hours
Annette Carl	5.00 hours
Lea Ann Cox	2.75 hours
Angela Burton	116.75 hours
Anna Collins	38.00 hours
Macie Bennett	30.00 hours
Barb Fair	33.75 hours
Jim Meachan	40.00 hours
Terrise Colaprete	2.00 hours

TOTAL HOURS

405.00 HOURS