

Annual Report 2022

District Health
Department No. 4

Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Message from the Health Officer and Medical Director	1
Leadership, Mission and Public Health Governance	2
Mandated Essential Services and Financials	3
Team Work Makes the Dream Work	4
Public Health Services Summary.....	5
Community Education, Communication and Engagement	6
Environmental Health	7
MiThrive	8
Pathways to Higher Aspirations and Locations.....	9

As we reflect upon 2022, the words that come to mind are recovery, resilience, and renewal.

As the demands of the pandemic response became incorporated into part of our everyday operations, we have been able to refocus our attention to serving the many other health needs of our communities. Our staff numbers have grown, and we have been able to shift from pandemic response to a more holistic approach to public health that had been the norm until a few years ago. We have many new staff, staff learning new roles and added responsibilities, and a new energy at DHD4 that is focused on service to our beautiful four-county region.

As a Chief Health Strategist, DHD4 is proud to lead the Northeast for the Northern Michigan Community Health Innovation Region (CHIR), a network comprised of health departments, health systems, mental health agencies, and community-based organizations. Based on findings from the three-year regional Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) cycle, MiThrive, the DHD4 is working to create a robust community health improvement plan to address identified priority areas as well as social and economic drivers that impact health – Social Determinants of Health (SDoH).

We know that simply promoting healthy choices won't eliminate health disparities and inequities in our communities. Instead, public health organizations and their partners in sectors like education, transportation, and housing take action to improve environmental conditions that allow people to thrive. This is where our evidence-based Community Health Worker (CHW) program, Community Connections, comes in. Community Connections helps people access the social supports and care they might need and connect them to resources to improve their health, well-being and quality of life. Utilizing nationally trained CHWs, we are able to assist area residents with applying for health insurance, finding/accessing primary care, linking to social assistance programs to pay for things like rent and utilities, and much more.

As you flip through the pages, we hope you will enjoy reading and seeing some of the highlights of the past year and join us in deep appreciation of the dedication of our DHD4 employees that have strived to provide our communities with a healthy environment and to support healthy individuals and families. We are also thankful for the support of the citizens and elected County Commissioners of Alpena, Cheboygan, Montmorency, and Presque Isle Counties that recognize the importance and benefits of our many public health programs.

In health,



Joshua Meyerson, MD, MPH
Medical Director



Denise M. Bryan, MPA
Administrative Health Officer



Mission Statement:

It shall be the responsibility of this board to continually and diligently endeavor to prevent disease, prolong life, and promote the public health through organized programs including prevention and control of environmental health hazards; prevention and control of disease; prevention and control of health problems of particularly vulnerable population groups; development of health care facilities and health service delivery system to the extent provided by law.

Vision:

A healthier community and environment for all!

Values:

- Service-Focused
- Communication and Collaboration
- Flexibility and Innovation
- Focus on Equity
- Responding to Need
- Sustainability

Our Leadership

Administrative Health Officer -

Denise Bryan, MPA

Medical Director -

Joshua Meyerson, MD, MPH

Human Resources Director -

Kendra Bartz, BS

Environmental Health Director -

Kevin Prevost, RS

Nursing Directors -

Chelsea Engle, BSN, RN

Kayla Keen, BSN, RN

Community Health Director/Epidemiologist -

Devin Spivey, MPH, SRAS

Emergency Preparedness Supervisor -

Nick Modrzynski, BS

2022 Board of Health

Alpena: Robert Adrian, Secretary/Treasurer
Brenda Fournier

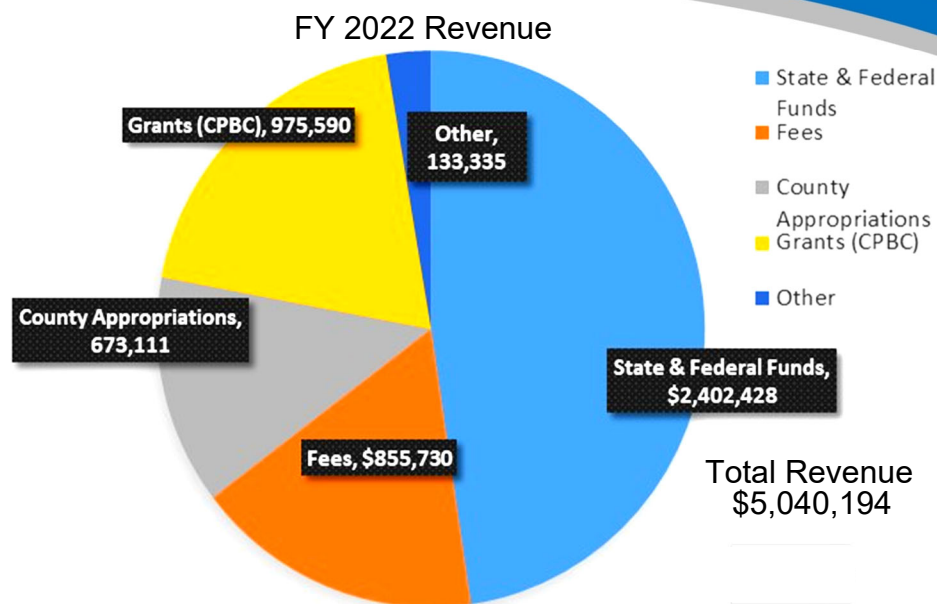
Cheboygan: Michael Newman
Steve Warfield

Montmorency: Robert Stacey
Geyer Balog, Vice Chairman
Lloyd Peltier, After Sept. 2022

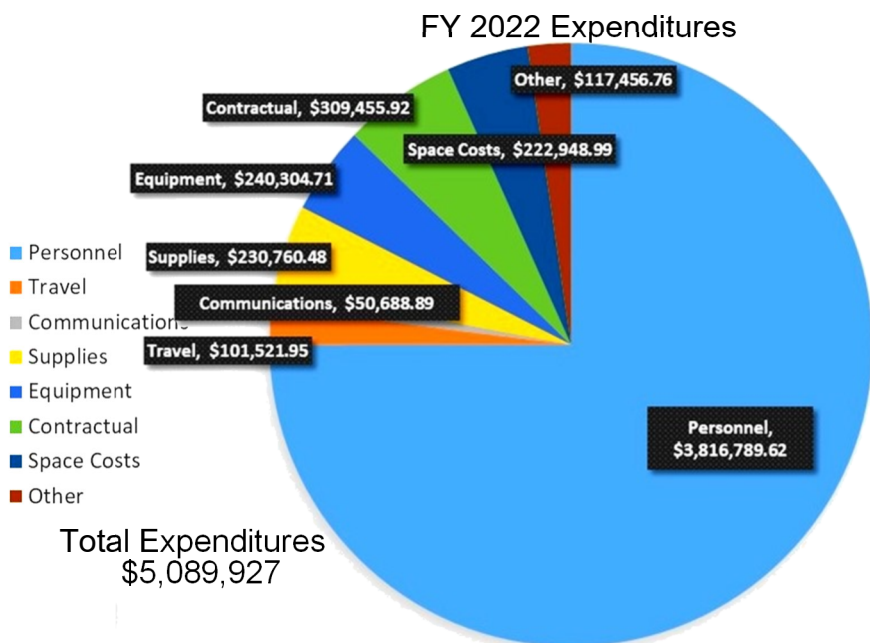
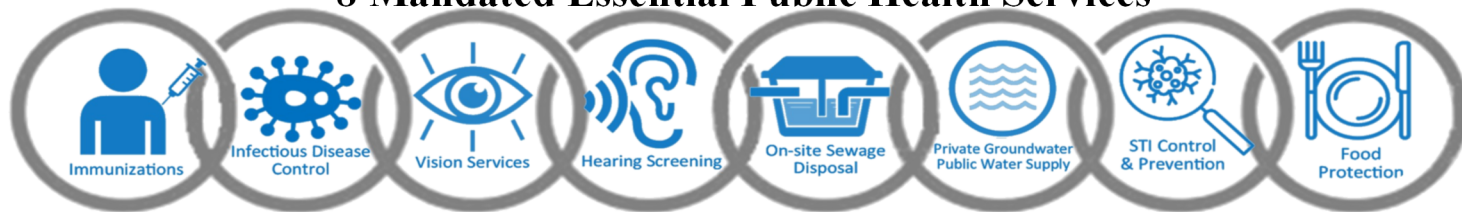
Presque Isle: Carl Altman, Chairman
Lee Gapczynski

6 Functions of Public Health Governance

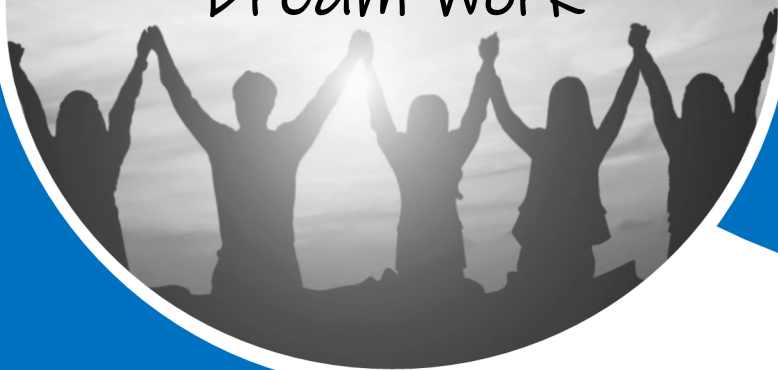




8 Mandated Essential Public Health Services



Teamwork Makes the Dream Work



DHD4's continued success is due to the incredible dedication of our employees. The following employees are recognized for their longevity and service of 10 years or more to public health.



Julie Tolan, Clerical	33 years
Cathy Goike, Health Education	32 Years
Mindy Daoust, Community Connections	29 Years
Jenny McNamara, Accounting	29 Years
Kevin Prevost, Environmental Health	29 Years
Kyle Keller, Environmental Health	28 Years
Nathan Scott, Information Technology	23 years
Brian Gapske, Environmental Health	20 Years
Michelle DeFour, Public Health Nurse	14 Years
Pixie Thompson, Hearing & Vision Tech	13 Years
Michele Geyer, Clerical	11 Years

Mindy Daoust

DHD4's 2022 recipient of the Distinguished Award of Exemplary Public Health Leadership

Congratulations to Mindy Daoust for being peer nominated and selected as the 2022 recipient of the District Health Department No. 4 Distinguished Award of Exemplary Public Health Leadership.

Mindy is recognized for her many years of dedicated public health service, willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty and exemplary customer service. Her dedication, knowledge, persistence, and compassion for helping all individuals makes her standout as an informal leader and community champion. She is very personable and spends countless hours on the telephone working through obstacles to provide positive outcomes for the residents of the DHD4 service area.

Over the years, Mindy has compiled an endless means of resources for helping clients, and if she encounters something she is unsure of she works through it until she finds the answer. She rolls with the punches, never complains, and no gives her all to her clients, testing all avenues to ensure that her clients' mental, physical

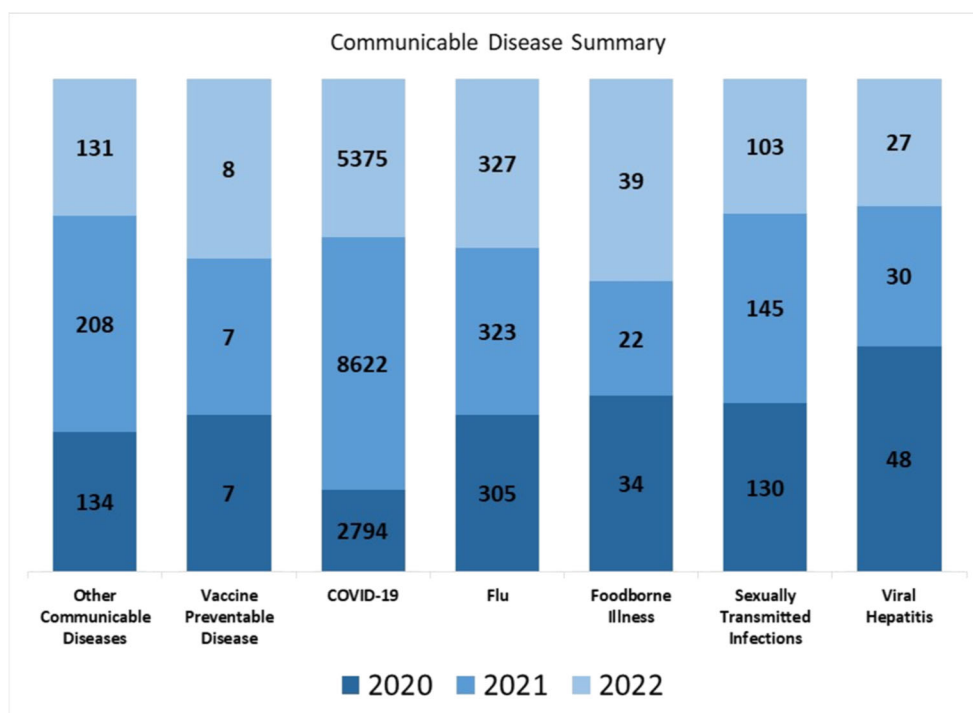
and social drivers are met. She is an exceptional advocate for the agency and the communities we serve.



Public Health Services Summary

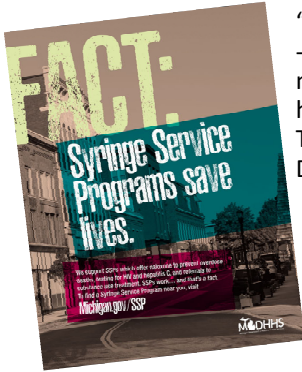


2022 Activities			
	2020	2021	2022
Children's Special Health Care Services			
Total Clients	306	286	292
Immunizations			
Immunizations Given	1,458	28,159	2,126
Immunization Waivers	68	136	219
Family Planning & Cancer Screening			
Family Planning Clients	175	216	155
Women's Cancer Screening Clients	48	61	54
Hearing & Vision Screenings			
Number of Hearing Screenings	1,664	2,278	2,476
Number of Vision Screenings	2332	3,852	4,024
WIC & Peer Counselor			
WIC	1,506	1,312	1,295
Breast Feeding Peer Counselor Services	737	343	292
Dental Varnish Applications	118	0	0
Communicable Disease			
Court Ordered HIV Testing	12	1	7
HIV Testing	60	44	61
HIV Self Testing kits			34
Hepatitis C Testing	67	46	63
Home Visiting Programs			
Maternal Infant Health Program	859	1,234	1,173
Public Health Services			
Community Connections	117	214	260



Community Education, Communication & Engagement

Harm Reduction/Syringe Services Program



“Harm reduction” is an evidence-based approach to reducing the negative personal and public health impacts of substance use. Through the Prevention Project, DHD4 staff empower high risk and hard-to-reach individuals via comprehensive, free programs and services to prevent the spread of diseases like hepatitis and HIV, prevent overdoses, and prevent deaths.

Marijuana Education, Communication and Outreach.

DHD4 educates the public on safe storage, prevention of accidental exposure to medical and adult use marijuana and the dangers of youth marijuana use.

2022 Billboard strategically placed throughout DHD4’s service area.



Emergency Preparedness

DHD4’s Emergency Preparedness Program coordinates and develops comprehensive public health emergency preparedness plans and partnerships in NE Michigan. This division participates in exercises with other agencies to ensure communications, partnering with the State to facilitate emergency medication distribution, contacting volunteers, emergency preparedness training, etc. Active Shooter training events were conducted along with annual Fit Testing of the N95 masks for all staff.



Community Connections

For those having trouble finding the Health Care and Social Services that they need...

OUR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS STAFF CAN HELP PUT THE PUZZLE TOGETHER



In 2022, DHD4 expanded from 1 to 3 highly trained Community Health Workers who engage with residents across the four counties. They help individuals develop a care plan based on identified risks and needs and connect them to resources to improve their overall health.

Empowering Youth Today (EYT)



EYT interventions focus on Positive Youth Development (PYD). PYD recognizes, utilizes and enhances young people’s strengths and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships and furnishing the support needed. EYT funded programs in 2022

implementing PYD curriculum were: Alpena Boys and Girls Club (83); Cheboygan Youth Center (61); Rogers City Natural Helpers (26).

Health Resource Advocates

DHD4 has three (3) HRAs who assist school districts with their COVID-19 prevention mitigation efforts while providing education tools to help keep students and staff safe, healthy and in school.



Communicating with the Public

27,916 webpage views
880 social media posts
49,729 social media reach
1,492 social media engagements
3,474 social media followers
17 Media release










Environmental Health

Whether it is at a restaurant, inspecting an onsite wastewater treatment system, a drinking water well, a public pool, or a campground, the Environmental Health Division is looking to make sure the conditions present do not represent a hazard or risk to people. This division is responsible for the administration and enforcement of Federal, State and Local laws, codes, and ordinances relative to health, environmental standards, and requirements for licensure or permits. The Environmental Health staff at DHD4 continues to provide timely, quality services to prevent illness, injury, and to protect the environment as part of the agency mission.



The Benefits of Environmental Health

It's not only important to strive for optimal environmental health. It's also beneficial, both for individuals and for their surrounding communities. Some of the benefits are:

-  Cleaner air quality
-  Improved health equity
-  Reduced hazardous waste
-  Improved population health
-  Cleaner water
-  Increased access to healthy foods
-  Safer outdoor environments for adults and children

Sources: American Public Health Association, Verywell Health, World Health Organization

Permits

Private & Type III Well Permits

393	427	419
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Type II Public Water Supply Permits Facility Inventory

320	289	293
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Type II Non-Community Well Permits

3	4	3
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Onsite Waste Water Treatment Systems

534	568	560
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Beach Monitoring

Inland & Great Lakes Beach Samples Collected

174	198	312
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Food Establishment Inspections

Licensed & Routine Food Establishments

396	400	416
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Temporary Food Service Licenses

18	61	43
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Other Program

Septage Hauler Inspection

45	45	50
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Swimming Pool Inspections

96	99	92
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Campground Inspections

73	78	69
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DHS Facility Inspections

45	52	43
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Vacant Land Evaluations

64	104	68
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Mortgage Evaluations

62	71	80
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2020	2021	2022
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Working together for a thriving Northern Michigan



DHD4 assisted with the 2021 MiThrive Community Health Assessment in partnership with the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance, Community Health Innovation Regions of Northern

Michigan, hospital systems, and cross-sector community-based organizations across the 31 counties of Northern Lower Michigan. The MiThrive assessment is a collaborative process for collecting and analyzing community data using the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships Framework. Thousands of community partners and residents participated in the assessment and are engaged in co-creating and implementing strategies to address the region's top identified priorities. Access the 2021 MiThrive data here: <https://northernmichiganchir.org/mithrive/>.

Community Health Innovation Regions, or CHIRs, represent a unique, coordinated approach to improving conditions where people live, work, learn, and play. CHIRs bring a broad group of stakeholders together to improve the wellbeing of the residents in their community, in particular, by addressing factors that affect a person's health. These partners use systems change to ensure that people's needs are met in and outside of the doctor's office.

Currently, there are three regional Community Health Innovation Regions (CHIR), each with prioritized focus areas:

Northwest Region: Housing, mental health/substance use, access to health care, chronic disease;

North Central Region: Mental health, access to health care, chronic disease, and economic security;

Northeast Region: Substance use, mental health, access to health care, chronic disease.



Pathway to Higher Aspirations

Administrative/Finance

- Advocate for stable Essential Local Public Health Services
- Fiscal stewardship with focus on sustainability
- Robust grant writing
- Building collective impact with MALPH, NMPHA and community partners

Information Technology

- EMR – Patagonia
- Enhanced cybersecurity measures
- Develop performance management dashboard
- Revitalization of fiber and cloud infrastructure

Human Resources

- Creating staff and community resiliency
- Fostering a culture of service and building teamwork
- Implementation of strategic planning
- Embracing inclusion and health equity



Alpena County

100 Woods Circle, Suite 200
Alpena, MI 49707
989-356-4507

Cheboygan County

825 S. Huron St., Suite 1
Cheboygan, MI 49721
231-627-8850

COUNTIES SERVED	SQUARE MILES	POPULATION SERVED
4	2,493	76,040

Montmorency County

12519 State ST
Atlanta, MI 49709
989-785-4428

Presque Isle County

106 E. Huron St., Suite A
Rogers City, MI 49779
989-734-4723