

# Livingston County Department of Public Health



Annual

Report



2004

Serving the Community in  
Environmental Health, Personal Health Services,  
& Chronic Disease Prevention

# Community Assessment

Community assessment is an ongoing partnership of numerous organizations and individuals in Livingston County working together to improve the health of Livingston County residents. With this goal in mind, a community survey was conducted to provide local data in 2004. The results from the community survey as well as other available data about Livingston County were reviewed and analyzed.

The collection of data is the basis of the development of a strategic plan. Data not only equals numbers but also represents people, discussions, experience, and relationships. Data increases the awareness of individuals and agencies and assists in aligning priorities with available resources. Analysis of data unifies efforts to achieve community goals. The data presented here was compiled from a variety of sources and is meant to be used by all in Livingston County who are working to improve the health status of our residents.

Since 2001, the Livingston County Chart Book has been a continuously updated profile of indicators of health, health status and well-being of the communities and residents of Livingston County. This year we are including the results of the health related Behavior Risk Factor Survey (BRFS). Questions dealt with county residents' behaviors, lifestyle factors and health status.

The BRFS was conducted by phone throughout each quarter of 2004 by Michigan State University and was supported by Livingston County, Human Services Collaborative Body, and the United Way.

Based on analysis of the above data, five primary issues were identified:

- Chronic Disease
- Birth Defects
- Senior Services
- Substance Use and Abuse
- Basic Needs

The accompanying insert will provide information to assist in the development of a strategic plan.

## 2004 Programs & Services

Whether providing programs, exercising our emergency preparedness plan or working with community partners, the Livingston County Department of Public Health is committed to providing and assuring services that protect the health of our residents and visitors and improves the overall health status of the community.

### COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM

To assure community health and safety, we inspected 7 seasonal and 10 children campgrounds and 23 mobile home parks.

### PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL AND BEACH PROGRAM

We inspected 53 indoor/outdoor pools, spas, and 25 public beaches to evaluate compliance with State of Michigan rules.

### SANITATION INSPECTION PROGRAM

We assisted 84 adult foster care facilities, county infirmaries, and child care organizations to help them comply with State rules regarding water supply, general sanitation and safety.

### FOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM

We provided public health protection evaluation for proper construction and operation of 368 food service establishments. The program also included the following: 38 plan reviews of new food service establishments, 57 food vending inspections, 653 food service inspections, 59 food-borne disease investigations, and 133 temporary food inspections. We licensed 14 mobile food service units and 11 special transitory food units.

### ONSITE SEWAGE TREATMENT PROGRAM

We evaluated 938 sites for onsite sewage disposal suitability and provided permits for 1053 sewage disposal systems to assure proper operation and maintenance of onsite sewage disposal facilities. We licensed 12 septage waste haulers and 14 disposal sites.

### ONSITE WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM

We issued 1485 permits for residential and small public water supplies. We sampled water from 300 private wells in proximity to sites of environmental contamination. We regulate 360 non-community public supplies, and of those, we conducted 114 evaluations this year.

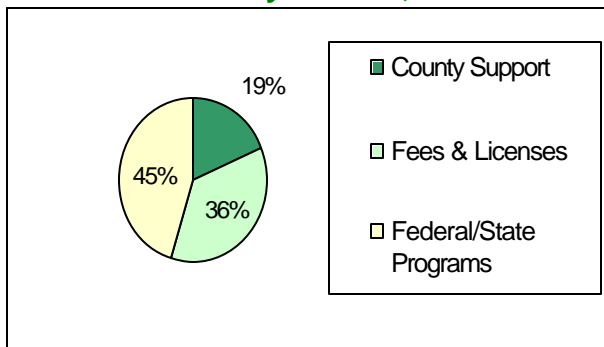
### WEST NILE VIRUS PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

We provided community outreach/education to senior citizens, public schools, local government and the public at large. We facilitated county wide mosquito surveillance (58 traps) and actively collected suspect birds for testing (submitted 19 birds with 8 positive results).

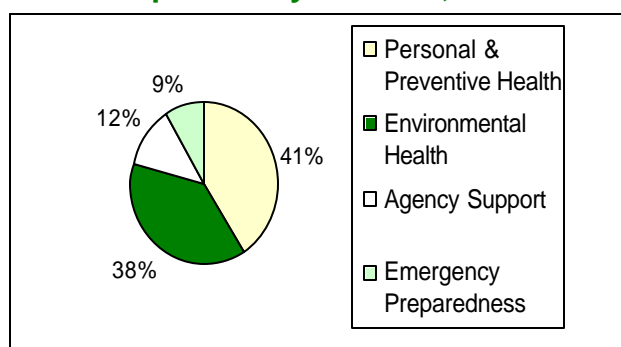
### EMERGENCY RESPONSE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

We continued to plan and develop a comprehensive public health response to potential threats from natural disasters, disease outbreak, chemical spills or intentional events. In 2004, we prepared staff to respond to emergencies by providing training opportunities and conducting a tabletop exercise.

**Revenue by Source, 2004**



**Expenses by Division, 2004**



## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROGRAM

The Livingston County Department of Public Health investigated 143 reportable communicable diseases and provided client education, treatment and follow-up as indicated. We also provided education and referral for evaluation and treatment to 167 individuals with sexually transmitted infections.

The chart shows selected items from the longer list of reportable diseases. Notable data in 2004 include:

- ◆ The steady rise in genital Chlamydia
- ◆ A steady decline in reported chickenpox
- ◆ Ongoing spread of Pertussis
- ◆ Low prevalence of TB
- ◆ Persistence of food and waterborne enteric diseases

Prompt reporting to the Health Department enables prompt follow-up for the prevention of transmission of serious communicable disease.

### Livingston County Selected Disease Data

Name	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>STD</b>					
Chlamydia	58	105	101	131	153
Gonorrhea	12	4	15	17	14
<b>Communicable Disease</b>					
Chicken Pox	234	108	186	111	86
Hepatitis A	2	5	2	1	1
Hepatitis B	0	4	2	1	1
Hepatitis C (acute)	0	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis C (chronic)	2	2	57	73	45
Meningitis (aseptic/viral)	17	38	20	31	20
Meningitis (bacterial)	2	5	3	1	1
Pertussis	3	1	0	4	2
Tuberculosis	1	0	1	0	1
<b>Enteric CD Activity</b>					
Campylobacter	14	12	11	8	14
E coli	4	1	6	3	2
Giardia	15	16	14	19	4
Salmonellosis	19	14	13	16	13
Shigellosis	2	1	3	0	2

Source: LCDPH Select CD Activity, 2005

## HIV TESTING

We provided HIV testing and education to 60 individuals.

## IMMUNIZATIONS & TB TESTING

We immunized 5154 individuals and assessed 7453 preschool and kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade student records for completeness. **A mass flu immunization clinic was held on November 4, 2004 – almost 1200 people were immunized in 7 hours.** To detect and control the spread of TB, testing was provided to 511 individuals.

## CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

We assisted 347 families with children who have special health care needs in obtaining coverage and referral for specialty services.

## HEARING AND VISION SCREENING PROGRAM

We screened 19,955 children in daycare centers, preschools, public, private, and charter schools throughout Livingston County.

## WOMEN, INFANTS, CHILDREN (WIC)

We provided health and nutrition education and coupons for nutritious foods, nutrition education and referrals to other health services for over 1300 pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women, infants and children. In an effort to increase the number of children tested for lead poisoning we initiated an outreach program to local physicians, plus began lead testing in our WIC clinic. We have been successful in increasing the percentage of children tested, from 2% in 2003 to 3.9% in 2004. We tested 39 children's blood lead levels. 200 participants also received additional nutrition education and Farmer's Market coupons to purchase fruits and vegetables locally.

## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

We provided screening, testing, prevention and treatment services to 689 women.

# Community Assessment Priority Areas

**Chronic disease in our community needs to be addressed by educating the public about prevention, early detection and screening and disease management.**

- Heart disease (1), Cancer (2) and Stroke (3) account for 60% of the deaths in Livingston County
- Behavioral and lifestyle factors such as tobacco and alcohol use, diet and inactivity contribute as much to mortality and morbidity as genetic and environmental influences
  - 10,000 adults in Livingston County have diabetes
  - 32,000 adults have been told they have hypertension
  - 50,000 adults have been told they have high cholesterol (higher than state average)
- 20% of our residents are inactive
- Only 18% of our residents consume 5 or more servings of fruits or vegetables daily
- The Chronic Disease Matrix below indicates Livingston County residents who are overweight or obese have a far greater risk for high blood pressure and diabetes

**Chronic Disease Matrix**

Weight	High Blood Pressure	Diabetes
Acceptable BMI	17%	12.8%
Overweight	37.1%	29.8%
Obese	45.7%	57.4%

Source: Livingston County BRFSS, 2004; Summary Report; Preliminary Estimates for Risk Factors and Health Indicators, State of Michigan 2004; CDC Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey 2003; US DHHS Healthy People 2010

**There is a need to properly plan for services needed for our increasing senior population. According to recent estimates:**

- Residents aged 65+ will more than triple by 2030
- Seniors will make up 15% of the population in 2030 compared to 8% currently
- While Livingston County has 3.4% of population living below the poverty level, 4.4% of seniors over 65 and 8.4% of seniors over 75 live in poverty (\$9310 year/single, \$18,850 year/family of four)

**We need to further study the rate of birth defects in Livingston County**

- Livingston County has the second highest birth defect rate in Michigan
- Michigan's average rate is 82.7 per 1000 live births. Livingston County's rate was 90.0 per 1000 live births in 1992 and 127.7 per 1000 live births in 2002. 9.5% of Livingston County mothers smoked while pregnant (Healthy People 2010 goal for the nation is 2%)
- Alcohol use among pregnant women in Livingston County has been significantly higher than Michigan as a whole over the past decade (2001 Data Book)

**The Livingston County community needs to understand and address the lack of basic needs (i.e., medical care, food, safe housing, heating costs, etc.), of some of our residents.**

- Lower income residents have more difficulty paying for basic needs.
- Those who are divorced, separated or members of unmarried couples are much more likely to have financial difficulty. In this group 35% indicated that it was very hard and 22% indicated it was somewhat hard to pay for basics. 24.1% were concerned about having adequate food and 16.4% with housing safety.
- Lower income residents were almost three times more likely not to have health insurance if residing in rural portions of the county.
- Residents are two times more likely not to have a personal physician if they reside in rural portions of the county.
- In the past year, one out of nine residents did not seek medical care due to costs. (70.5% of those not seeking care due to cost actually had health care coverage.)

**Livingston County residents must understand how substance abuse affects our community.**

- More educated and higher income residents consume more alcohol
- Females are somewhat more likely than males to be heavy drinkers
- Livingston County's binge drinking rate is 22.7% compared to 16.8% for Michigan
- Those that binge drink average 2.9 times per month
  - 44% of 18-34 year old residents binge drink
  - 22.3% of 35-54 year old residents binge drink
  - Of those that binge drink, 6.3% reported driving shortly afterward
- In 2003, 18-34 year old residents represent 26% of the drivers but were involved in 45% of alcohol related traffic accidents

**Rates for those who had been drinking and involved in fatal car crashes (per 100,000)**

	2000	2003
Livingston County	3.82	4.63
Michigan	4.10	3.59

Source: Livingston County BRFS, 2004: Summary Report; Preliminary Estimates for Risk Factors and Health Indicators, State of Michigan 2004; CDC Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey 2003; US DHHS Healthy People 2010

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