Cabell-Huntington Health Department

Annual Report

FY2026

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Officers and Directors

Cabell-Huntington Board of Health

Daniel Konrad, Chair

Danny Porter

William Dennison, MD

Robert Sweeney

Bruce Felder

Eduardo Pino, MD

Cabell-Huntington Health Department

Board of Directors

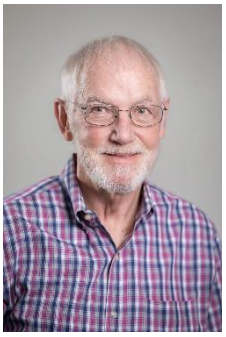
Board Member	Appointed	Re-Appointed	City/County	Precinct	Magisterial District	City Council District (Ward)
Daniel J. Konrad Democrat	1-01-2018 - 12-31-2021 Replacing Previous Board Member	1-1-22 – 12-31-26 Reappointed	City	22	2	6
Danny Porter Republican	1-01-2018 – 12-31-2022 First full term	1-1-23 – 12-31-27 Reappointed	County	49	2	County
William Dennison Republican	5-8-2025 – 12-31-2028 Replacing Previous Board Member		County	61	3	County
Robert (Bo) Sweeney Democrat	1-01-2018 – 12-31-2022 First Full Term	1-1-23 – 12-31-27 Reappointed	City	07	2	4
Bruce Felder Independent	1-1-24 to 12-31-28 First Full Term		City	16	5	5
Eduardo Pino, MD Independent	1-1-22 – 12-31-26 First Full Term		County	22	1	County

Note: County is limited to two (2) full terms******City has no limits.

Cabell-Huntington Health Department
Executive Leadership

Michael E. Kilkenny, M.D., MS
Chief Executive Officer and Health Officer

Tim Hazelett
Chief Operating Officer



Jack Mease, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

Elizabeth A. Adkins, MS
Administrator

Program Managers

Kathleen Napier, RN
Director of Nursing

Rodney Melton, RS
Director of Environmental Health

Allen Woodrum
Director of Information Technology

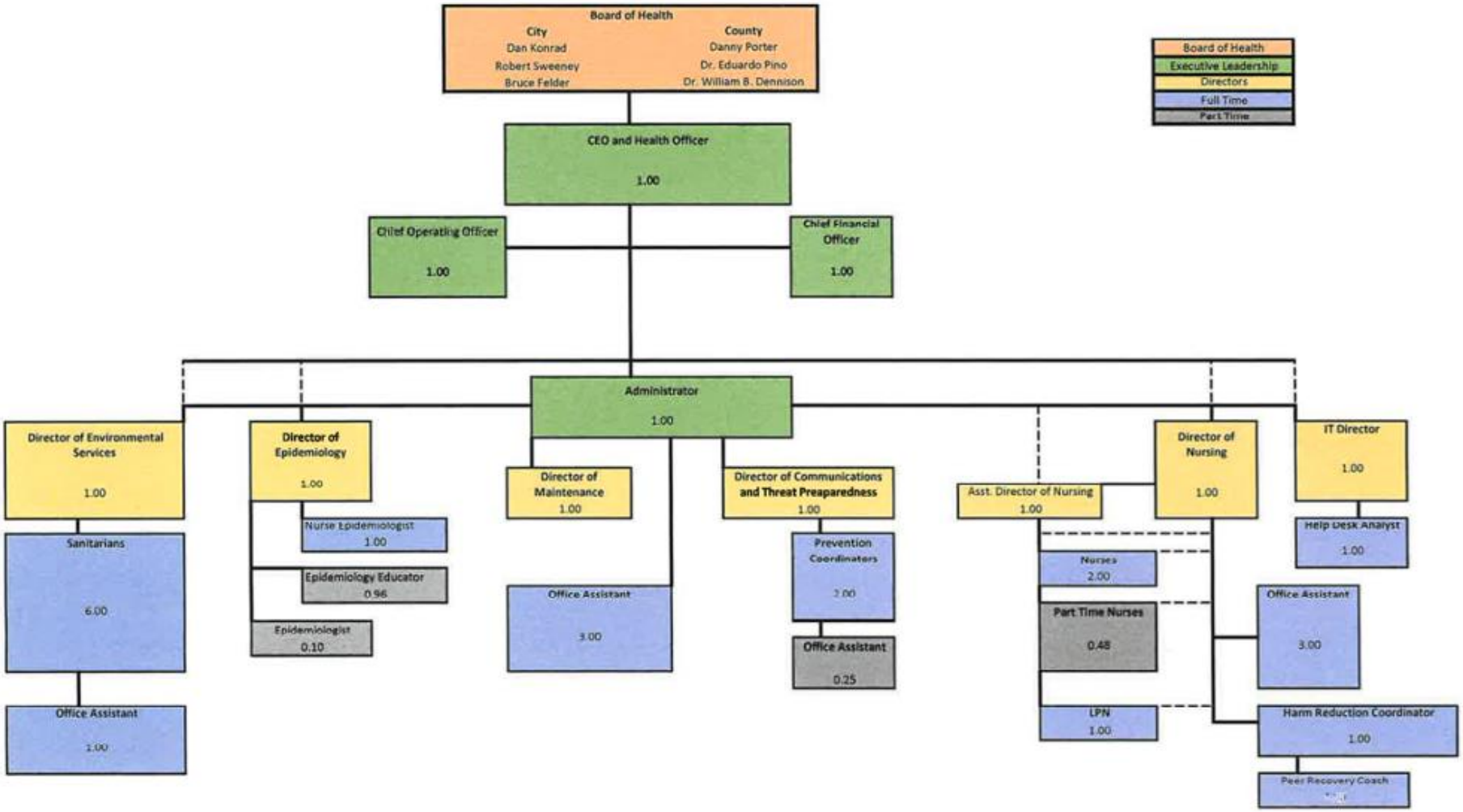
Leland Steele, MBA
Director of Communications and Preparedness

John Jarboe
Director of Maintenance

Liz Chambers, RN, BSN
Director of Epidemiology

Harley Walden, Ed.D.
Assistant Director of Nursing

CHHD Organizational Chart



CEO and Health Officer Report

Fiscal Year 2026 was a year of significant achievement for the Cabell-Huntington Health Department. Our commitment to operational excellence is reflected in our December 2025 five-year national reaccreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board. We are the only health department in West Virginia to achieve this status. In addition, we earned a 97% score with full compliance in the statewide Capacity Assessment.

The agency strengthened workforce development through 2,347 student training hours, maintained a diverse $2.7 million grant portfolio, expanded statewide leadership representation, and advanced cybersecurity readiness with 100% staff training compliance.

Major operational improvements included facility upgrades, expanded clinical services and strengthened data capabilities. A reimagined Overdose & Infectious Disease Program distributed more than 1,500 naloxone doses and transitioned away from syringe service to a new STEP model developed in-house to serve the unique needs of our community.

Protecting the community through food safety, we trained over 2,500 food handlers, exceeded inspection requirements and met all FDA program standards.

Protecting the community from communicable diseases, our Epidemiology teams enhanced surveillance, outbreak response, and community education. Regional Epidemiology, supported by the state and housed at CHHD, addressed about 100 outbreaks across nine counties and improved coordination with healthcare and public health partners.

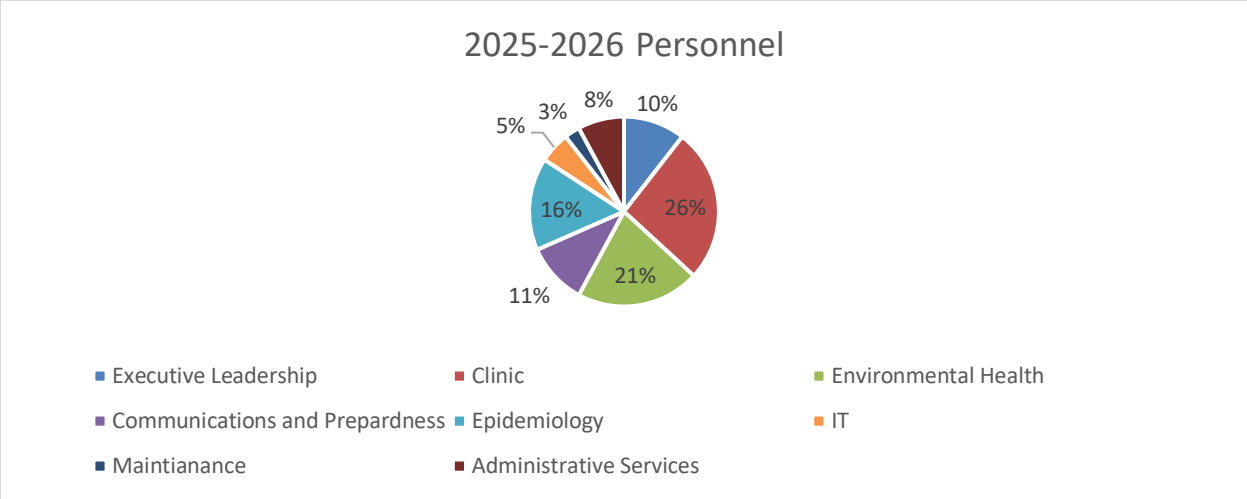
Collectively, these accomplishments demonstrate CHHD's continued commitment to public health service delivery, leadership, and community impact.

As always, we appreciate the support of our community, which makes this work possible. Our heart is here. Our community and its people are always our first priority.

Submitted by Michael E. Kilkenny, MD, MS, CEO and Health Officer

Administrator Report

The Administration Department provides the operational backbone of the Cabell-Huntington Health Department (CHHD), overseeing personnel systems, grants management, information technology, regulatory compliance, and strategic planning that support the agency's public health mission across the community.



Key Accomplishments (July 2025 – June 2026)

Statewide Capacity Assessment — Compliant in All Five Domains. CHHD completed its mandatory Capacity Assessment on April 8, 2026, achieving an overall score of 97% and full compliance across all five domains reviewed. State health surveyors evaluated 76 performance measures spanning Community Health Promotion, Immunizations, Threat Preparedness, Communicable and Reportable Diseases, and Environmental Health Promotion.

Sustained Improvement in Performance Standards. The department tracked measurable, quarter-over-quarter gains in meeting internal performance standards throughout the fiscal year, rising from 77.4% of standards met at the 100% level in the first quarter to 95.6% by the fourth quarter — reflecting strengthened operational execution across departments.

Expanded Academic and Clinical Training Partnerships. CHHD hosted 92 students for a combined 2,347 training hours during the fiscal year, spanning medical, nursing, graduate, undergraduate, and resident placements, in continued partnership with Marshall University and St. Mary’s School of Nursing.

Diversified Grant Funding Portfolio. The department secured and managed a funding portfolio exceeding $2.7 million for the fiscal year, drawing on more than 20 distinct federal, state, and foundation sources — including continued support for threat preparedness, epidemiology, substance use recovery, and workforce infrastructure — underscoring the department's success in sustaining diverse revenue streams for agency programs.

Statewide Leadership Recognition. Elizabeth Adkins was elected Vice President of the West Virginia Association of Local Health Departments, was reappointed to a two-year term on the state Public Health

Advisory Council, and began a three-year appointment as a Member at Large for the West Virginia Public Health Association — extending CHHD's influence in shaping public health policy statewide.

Continued Investment in Cybersecurity and Technology. All agency directors completed a sponsored Marshall University cybersecurity course, and the department maintained a 100% monthly staff response rate on cybersecurity training, while beginning development of formal Artificial Intelligence use policies for the agency.

Submitted by Elizabeth A. Adkins, MS, Administrator

Maintenance

The Maintenance Department keeps the Cabell-Huntington Health Department's buildings, grounds, vehicles, and equipment safe and working well for staff and the public.

This year, the team finished several big safety projects. They repaired and coated the front and east-side roofs to help keep water out. All required yearly life-safety inspections — covering fire sprinklers, backflow preventers, fire extinguishers, and smoke detectors — were completed, and the sprinkler system was tested every quarter to stay in compliance.

The department also kept moving forward on a multi-phase elevator upgrade. After the Board approved a $52,600 contract, the project moved through site review, ordering equipment, and installation, with the work expected to finish in August 2026.

A new security fence and green space were mostly finished this year. The new area has a shade screen and a staff garden, and by spring it had become a favorite spot for employees to take breaks and eat lunch — a sign of the department's growing focus on staff wellness.

The team also strengthened the building's heating and cooling systems, replacing a compressor and coil on one rooftop unit and swapping out a second HVAC unit, plus changing filters every quarter. Other upgrades included a new automatic door sensor at the front entrance, five new LED lights in the parking lot, and keyless FOB entry for the front office — improvements that boosted both security and energy savings.

All year, the department's five-vehicle fleet stayed serviced and ready to go, and monthly contracts for pest control, elevator upkeep, and building cleaning ran without a hitch. When winter storms hit, the snow and ice removal contractor kept the grounds safe and passable.

Looking ahead, the department has a signed contract to repair the parking lot asphalt, starting in September 2026, and expects the elevator project to wrap up soon. The team will also keep building out the green space for staff wellness and continue upgrading emergency exit lighting.

Submitted by John Jarboe, Maintenance Director

Clinic Report

The Clinical Division provides direct care and disease prevention services to the community. This includes testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and tuberculosis (TB), immunizations, HIV testing and treatment support, and outreach for people in substance use recovery. Through both clinic visits and community outreach, the division works to make testing, treatment, and preventive care easier to reach for Cabell County residents.

This year, the division provided 1,666 STI screenings and added on-site provider coverage up to five days a week by the end of the year, making it easier for symptomatic clients to get seen quickly.

The team also gave 1,258 HIV tests and kept running a medication storage and pickup program for clients living with HIV, helping people stay on treatment even if they don't have stable housing or a safe place to store medicine.

For tuberculosis prevention, the division placed 811 TB skin tests and read the results on 700 of them, along with ongoing T-Spot testing, risk checks, and medication management for TB patients.

On the immunization side, the division gave 1,497 vaccines to 956 people, including free flu shots for the community and COVID-19 vaccines throughout the year.

Through the STEP Initiative, the division recorded 1,029 client visits, delivered 642 education sessions, and logged 776 conversations with recovery coaches, connecting 112 clients with substance use treatment programs.

The division also grew its outreach to underserved communities, serving 107 clients through Marshall Medical Outreach and 93 through West End Community Outreach, while starting new partnerships with Valley Health at The Hub and Branches Domestic Violence Outreach.

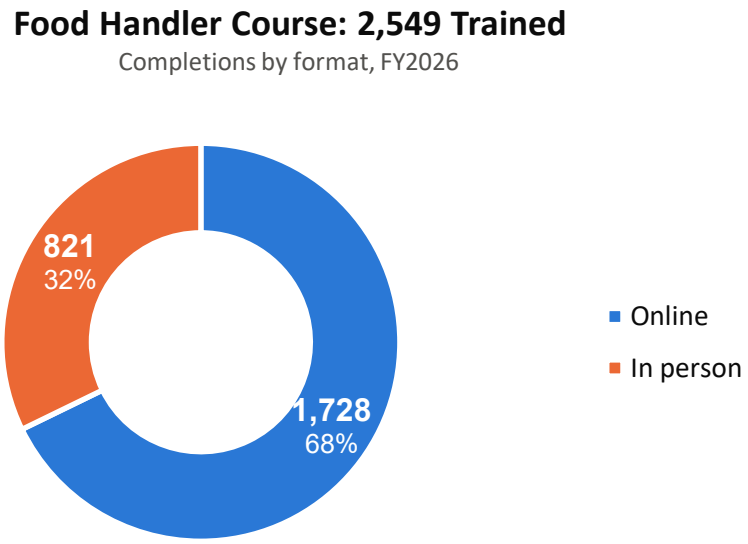
Looking ahead, the Clinical Division will build on the partnerships it started this year and pursue new funding, including the Take Your Best Shot Grant, to expand vaccination and outreach work across Cabell County.

Submitted by Kathleen Napier, Nursing Director and Harley Walden, Ed.D., Assistant Nursing Director

Communications and Preparedness

The Communications and Preparedness Department is the public information and emergency-readiness arm of the Cabell-Huntington Health Department. The team handles media and public relations, digital communication, tobacco prevention and cessation programs, food safety training, employee wellness, and regional emergency planning.

This year, the department trained 2,549 food service workers across the county through its Food Handler Course, with 821 people attending in person and 1,728 finishing online. This training helps restaurants and other food businesses follow the 2013 FDA Food Code.



The health department also earned another five years of accredited status from the Public Health Accreditation Board, showing its continued commitment to quality public health work.

Staff earned statewide recognition this year, too. Prevention Coordinator Casey Napier joined the first group of the American Diabetes Association's Obesity Master Trainer program — one of only ten health agencies chosen nationwide — and was later featured in a Herald-Dispatch story about the department's work on obesity awareness. The health department also won the “Rooted in the Ridge” Award at the 2025 West Virginia Workplace Wellness Conference for its employee wellness programs.

The team grew its reach online and in the media, growing its Facebook following to almost 12,000 people. In several months, its stories reached more than 14 million people and earned hundreds of thousands of dollars in free publicity — all without spending money on ads.

Staff also connected with thousands of residents through health fairs, tobacco prevention events, and community gatherings, including a drive-thru flu vaccination clinic, the Cabell County Community Baby Shower, and the Military and Veterans' Appreciation Picnic. To stay ready for emergencies, the department took part in a Medical Surge Response Exercise, a measles tabletop exercise, a cybersecurity

tabletop exercise, quarterly call-down drills, and Incident Command System training for department leaders. The team also held two Community Threat Preparedness Forums, one in Huntington and one in Barboursville.

The department kept up its tobacco-free work across the region, teaching the Tar Wars tobacco-prevention program to more than 275 fourth- and fifth-grade students in thirteen classroom visits. Staff also kept supporting people trying to quit tobacco through partner sites like Point Café, Project Hope, and Huntington Addiction Wellness Center.

Looking ahead, the department will keep sharing its weekly Threat Preparedness Tips on social media and start planning a fall exercise with the Local Emergency Planning Committee, building on this year's hazard review to make the region even more ready for emergencies.

Submitted by Leland Steele, MBA, Director of Communications and Preparedness

Overdose & Infectious Disease Prevention Program

The Overdose & Infectious Disease Prevention Program, known as CHHD-ODIP, gives people affected by substance use, unstable housing, or limited access to care a judgment-free way to connect with public health services. Through outreach, testing, education, and recovery support, the program meets people where they are and helps connect them to the wider health system.

After ten years of service, the syringe service program closed this year because of funding cuts and changes in federal policy. Even with that change, the health department remains committed to reducing the harm caused by substance use in our community and has shifted its approach to match the field's changing priorities.

This year, the program gave out 1,592 doses of naloxone, a medicine that can reverse an overdose, putting it directly into the hands of people most likely to witness one. Before the program changed, it also safely collected more than 141,000 used syringes for proper disposal between July and December 2025.

In December 2025, the program launched the STEP Initiative — which stands for Support, Testing and Treatment, Education, and Prevention. STEP grew the program beyond syringe services into a fuller model that offers vaccines, HIV and hepatitis testing, mental health support, and recovery coaching, all while keeping care going for people already in the program.

Nurse-led clinical services grew fast this year. The number of patients tested each month for HIV, hepatitis, and STIs rose from fewer than 30 in early fall to more than 110 by spring 2026, showing that more people trust and use the program.

The program also strengthened its community partnerships, holding joint testing events with St. Peter's Episcopal Church Community Outreach, Ebenezer Medical Outreach, and Valley Health. A Save A Life Day event gave out 52 naloxone kits and tested 75 community members for HIV, and a National HIV Testing Day event tested 52 more residents. The program also started new partnerships with The Point Café and Passages to help connect people to recovery services.

The program kept working with students from Marshall University's Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health, along with St. Mary's School of Nursing, giving future health workers hands-on experience serving this community.

Looking ahead, the program plans to deepen its work with the Faith Alliance, a group of local churches, to bring testing and vaccination events to more neighborhoods in Huntington and Cabell County. The department will also keep building on the STEP Initiative's early success, with growth expected in education services, wound care, and recovery coaching.

Submitted by Michelle Perdue, Prevention Specialist

Environmental Health Services

The Environmental Health Department protects Cabell and Huntington residents by inspecting and permitting the places that affect public health and safety. This includes restaurants, water and septic systems, pools and other recreational facilities, childcare centers, and responses to public health nuisances.

This year, the department stayed busy keeping the community safe. Inspectors completed 1,508 routine food safety inspections, going beyond the state's requirement of 1,410. Add in complaint investigations, plan reviews, and inspections of new restaurants, and the department carried out 2,118 total food safety actions. The team also completed 346 septic system and subdivision site evaluations, and performed 1,240 inspections of childcare centers, pools, hotels, motels, manufactured home communities, and body art shops.

The department also checked 128 businesses for compliance with the Clean Indoor Air law, which keeps public spaces smoke-free. And the department hit an important milestone: it met every standard under the FDA's Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program for the year ending in March 2026. That achievement keeps the department eligible for program funding and shows that its food safety program meets the best practices used across the country.

The department also worked to teach and train others. About 150 cooks from Cabell County schools completed food handler safety training under the guidance of department sanitarians. Medical and pediatric students spent time shadowing staff to learn about environmental health work, and the team kept up tick surveillance to track ticks and the diseases they can carry.

Staff also grew their own skills this year, attending the West Virginia Association of Sanitarians conference, radon training, and exercises that keep inspections consistent and accurate across the department.

Looking ahead to FY2027, the department will keep taking part in the FDA's food program, grow its radon grant work, and expand tick surveillance to help catch disease risks early.

Submitted by Rodney Melton, RS, Director of Environmental Health

Epidemiology Report

The Epidemiology Department works to protect the health of the Cabell County community through disease surveillance, case and outbreak investigations, emergency preparedness, and timely communication with healthcare providers, schools, and community partners.

Disease	2025 Totals	2024 Totals	YOY Variance
Alpha-gal Syndrome	105	0	**105**
Animal Bites and Other Potential Rabies Exposure	48	73	**-25**
Campylobacter	34	32	**2**
Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae	12	24	**-12**
Chlamydia	244	368	**-124**
Cryptosporidium	0	<5	**<5**
Ehrlichiosis	<5	0	**<5**
Giardia	<5	5	**<5**
Gonorrhea	63	83	**-20**
Haemophilus influenzae	<5	<5	**<5**
Hepatitis A	<5	11	**<5**
Hepatitis B, acute	11	17	**-6**
Hepatitis B, chronic	14	24	**-10**
Hepatitis C, acute	17	22	**-5**
Hepatitis C, chronic	251	305	**-54**
Hepatitis D	<5	<5	**<5**
Latent Tuberculosis	33	34	**-1**
Legionella	6	<5	**<5**
Lyme Disease	89	61	**28**
Mpox	0	<5	**<5**
Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS-C)	0	0	**0**
COVID-19	641	2,382	**-1741**
Pertussis	28	11	**17**
Rubella	<5	0	**<5**
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	26	<5	**21**
Salmonella	10	21	**-11**
Shiga-toxin producing E. coli	<5	<5	**<5**
Shigella	0	<5	**<5**
Streptococcus pneumoniae	26	30	**<5**
Syphilis	94	79	**15**
Vibriosis	<5	<5	**<5**
Yersiniosis (non-pestis)	0	0	**0**

Throughout the year, the department monitored a broad range of infectious diseases, including COVID-19, influenza, RSV, norovirus, H5N1 avian influenza, measles, and emerging threats such as Ebola, hantavirus, and New World screwworm. Weekly surveillance reports were shared with school nurses,

hospitals, universities, and other community health partners to provide timely information on local disease activity. This ongoing surveillance supported the identification and investigation of dozens of local outbreaks and helped guide response efforts to limit the spread of disease.

Preparedness remained an important priority. Epidemiology staff completed Incident Command System (ICS) 300 training, attended monthly Homeland Security meetings, participated in a measles tabletop exercise with health department staff prior to the increase in measles activity nationally, and attended the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) Annual Conference in Boston to stay current on emerging disease surveillance practices. Staff also expanded their data analysis skills through training in R programming, including an introductory course through Emory University, strengthening the department's ability to analyze and interpret public health data.

The department continued to strengthen relationships with healthcare, academic, and community partners. Quarterly Infection Control Committee reviews were attended with both St. Mary's Medical Center and Cabell Huntington Hospital as well as infection prevention training provided to hospital environmental staff. Throughout the year, the department also hosted medical, pharmacy, and public health students for shadowing experiences, providing opportunities to learn more about local public health and epidemiology. Staff participated in community events, including Marshall University's Minority Health Month celebration and an on-site HIV testing event at the health department clinic. Public education efforts also continued through television and newspaper interviews, including WSAZ segments focused on seasonal health concerns and tick-bite prevention.

Looking ahead, the department is expanding its use of data through a new partnership with Metopio to strengthen disease surveillance, analysis, and community health assessment. The department will also continue preparing for measles and other emerging infectious disease threats through ongoing training, tabletop exercises, and collaboration with regional healthcare, public health, and emergency management partners.

Submitted by Liz Chambers, RN, BSN, Director of Epidemiology

Regional Epidemiology – Western Surveillance Region

The Regional Epidemiology Program is funded by the Regional Epidemiology Grant from the West Virginia Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services. It supports public health across nine counties in the Western Surveillance Region: Boone, Cabell, Jackson, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, Putnam, and Wayne. The Regional Epidemiologist tracks disease across the region, investigates outbreaks, reviews case data, and gives technical help to local health departments and healthcare partners. The role also strengthens communication between local, regional, and state public health teams.

This year, the region tracked about 100 confirmed or suspected outbreaks, including respiratory illnesses, stomach illnesses, rashes, and drug-resistant infections. Regional support helped local partners spot trends, plan their response, and put the right public health steps in place.

Quarterly meetings with St. Mary's Medical Center and Cabell-Huntington Hospital through the Infection Control Committee strengthened teamwork between healthcare and public health partners and supported coordinated disease tracking and outbreak response.

All nine counties in the region received weekly updates on priority illnesses, including COVID-19, flu, RSV, H5N1 bird flu, measles, Lyme disease, and mpox. These updates gave local partners the timely information they needed to respond and prepare.

The Regional Epidemiologist represented the department at state and national public health conferences and completed extra training in data analysis and introductory R programming through Emory University, building the department's ability to use data for tracking disease and making decisions.

The department also shared Management of Infectious Disease reference materials with regional childcare centers, gave a public health talk to Milton Middle School's Future Farmers of America chapter, and trained Cabell-Huntington Health Department sanitarians on investigating animal exposures.

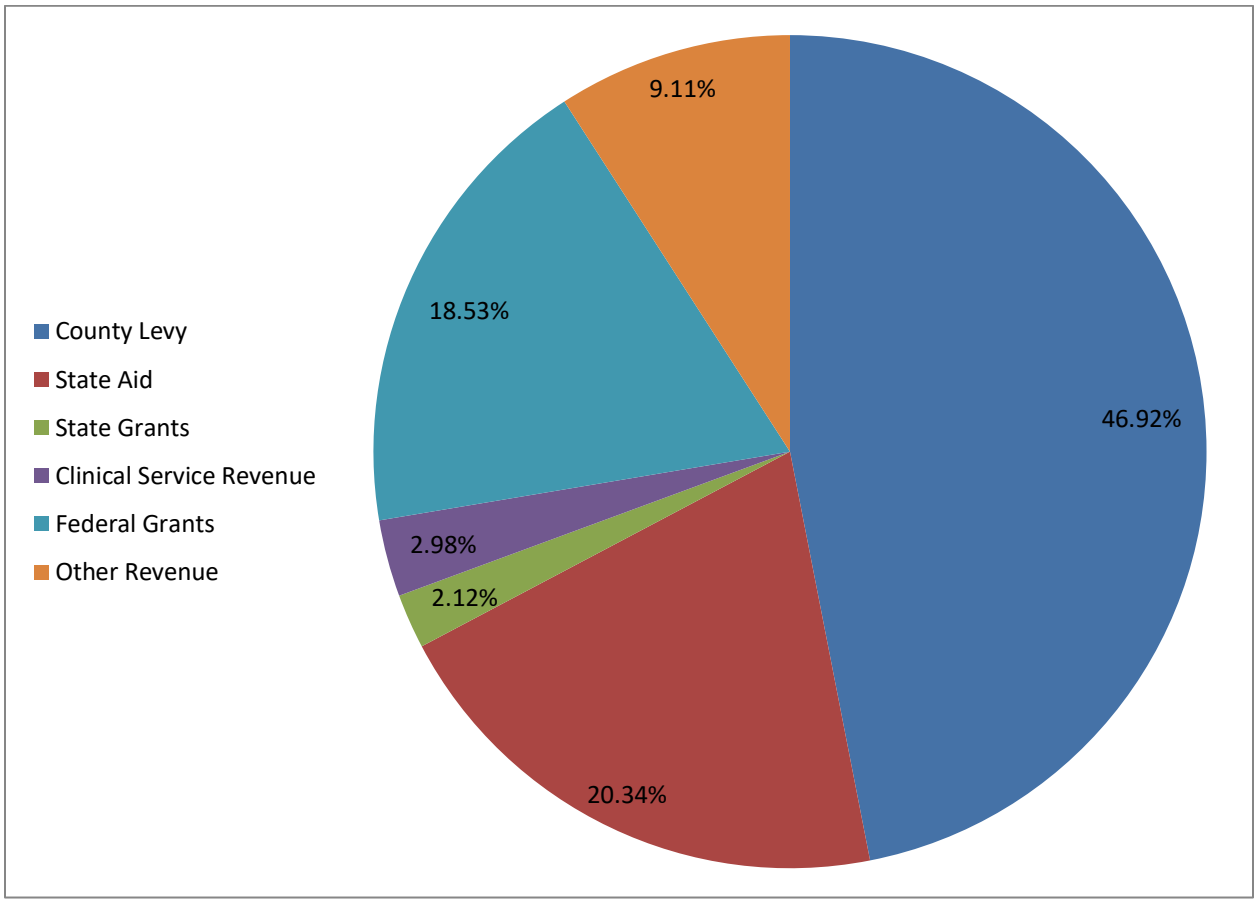
With continued support from the Regional Epidemiology Grant, the program will keep building on this year's progress by strengthening data-driven surveillance, healthcare and county partnerships, outbreak response, and workforce training across the Western Region. Continued investment in regional epidemiology helps make sure local health departments have the information, skills, and support they need to catch emerging threats and respond quickly.

Submitted by Alyssa Reed, Regional Epidemiologist

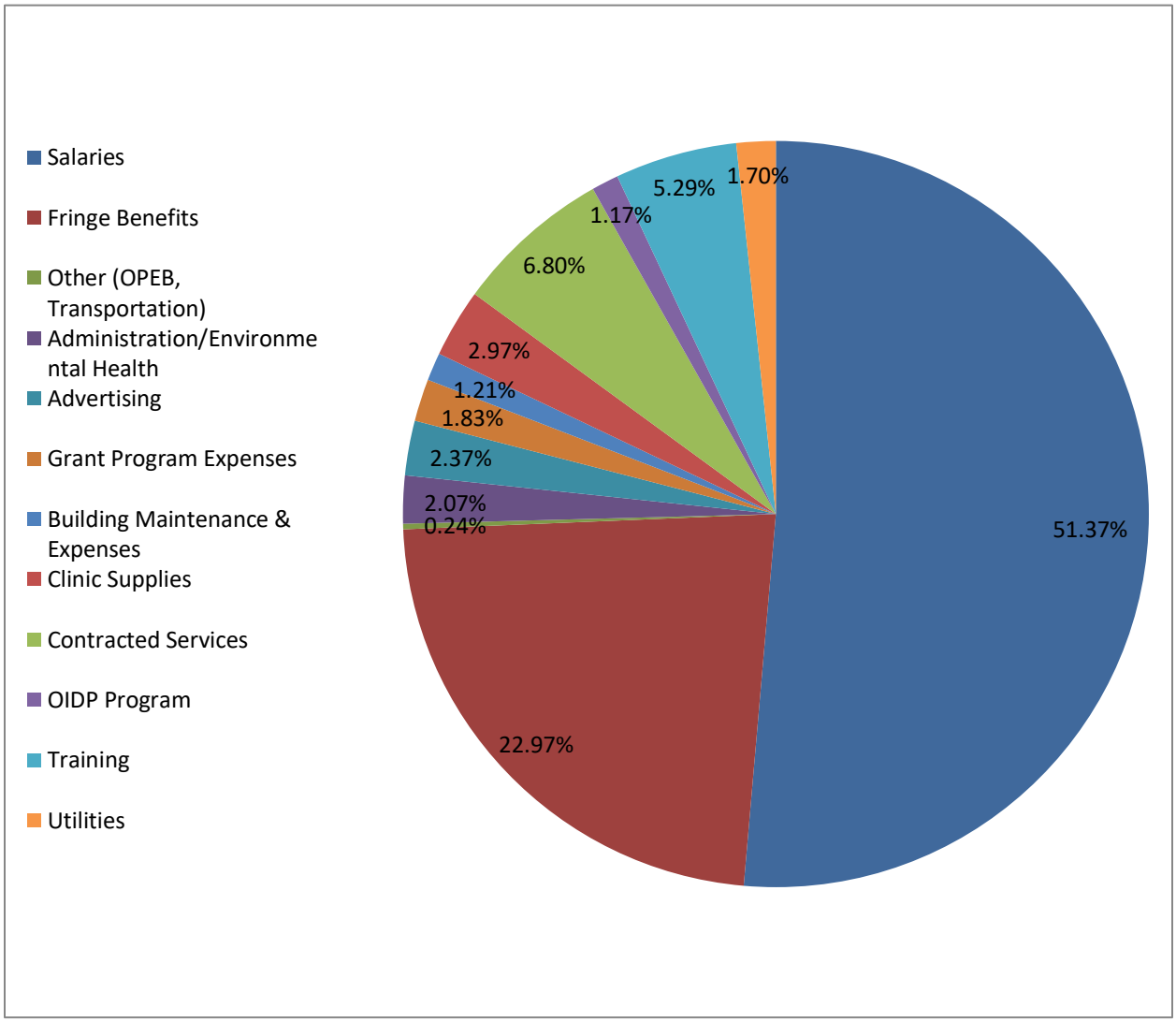
Chief Financial Officer

Revenue		
County Levy	$ 1,814,157	46.92%
State Aid	$ 786,190	20.34%
State Grants	$ 82,012	2.12%
Clinical Service Revenue	$ 115,271	2.98%
Federal Grants	$ 716,461	18.53%
Other Revenue	$ 352,042	9.11%
Total Revenue	$ 3,866,133	100.00%

Revenue, FY2026



Expenses		
Salaries	$ 2,013,318	51.37%
Fringe Benefits	$ 900,226	22.97%
Administration/Environmental Health	$ 81,296	2.07%
Advertising	$ 92,794	2.37%
Grant Program Expenses	$ 71,582	1.83%
Building Maintenance & Expenses	$ 47,611	1.21%
Clinic Supplies	$ 116,325	2.97%
Contracted Services	$ 266,681	6.80%
OIDP Program	$ 46,039	1.17%
Other (OPEB, Transportation)	$ 9,295	0.24%
Training	$ 207,401	5.29%
Utilities	$ 66,794	1.70%
Total Expenses	$ 3,919,362	100.00%



Submitted by Jack Mease, Chief Financial Officer and Tim Hazelett, Chief Operating Officer