

**BERRIEN
COUNTY
HEALTH
DEPARTMENT**

... to prevent disease,
prolong life, protect
the health of the
community, and
promote an optimal
quality of life for the
citizens of Berrien
County.



Opening doors to quality health care

The 2006 Berrien County Board of Commissioners

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Victoria Chandler, Vice Chair
Richard Bartz
Donald Gast
Gloria Gillespie
John LaMore
Jeanette Leahey
Debra Panozzo
Donald Ryman
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(William Wolf, County Administrator)

The 2006 Berrien County Board of Health

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Donald Gast, Vice Chair
John Carter, MD
Grace Gordon, RN
John McCord
Lottie Pugh, RN
Robert Spies

Larry Clymer, Commission Liaison

Five Convenient Locations and visit us on the web
www.berriencohlthdept.org

Benton Harbor

769 Pipestone
P.O. Box 706
Benton Harbor, MI 49023
269-926-7121

M-139 Office
2106 S. M-139
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
269-927-5623

School-Based Clinic
870 Colfax Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
269-925-4500

Niles

South County Building
1205 N. Front Street
Niles, MI 49120
269-684-2800

Three Oaks

21 North Elm
Three Oaks, MI 49128
269-756-2008

Berrien County Health Department



BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

2006 Annual Report



**Berrien County
Health Department**



Michael A. Mortimore
EdM, MPH
Health Officer/Director

Message from the Health Officer...

To the Board of Commissioners and the Citizens of Berrien County:

It is a pleasure, on behalf of the Board of Health and the dedicated staff of the Department, to present the 2006 Annual Report for the Berrien County Health Department. This report identifies the activities and initiatives of the Department over the past year.

First, we must acknowledge the tremendous support and leadership of the elected (Board of Commissioners) and appointed (Board of Health) policy makers that provide this Department with the direction and resources needed to excel in providing Public Health services to the citizens of Berrien County.

Second, the accomplishments achieved and programs provided over the past year would not have been possible without the Department's experienced and dedicated staff. It is the staff who provide the high quality services to the citizens that ultimately defines the Department and makes us proud to be members of this professional Public Health Team.

Our 2006 Report is entitled "Building Healthy Communities". The highlights of the past year which follow certainly reflect how the Public Health services provided by the Department are essential to building a strong and healthy community.

Director's Award – The Department received the State of Michigan's most prestigious Public Health Award for pioneering the nationally recognized Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) program (see page 3).

Public Health Ready – The Berrien County Health Department was nationally recognized for its ability to be ready to face bioterrorism threats, new epidemics, and other public health emergencies (see page 3).

Lead Safe Kids Coalition – Tremendous strides were made in 2006 in organizing the community to combat lead poisoning in our children (see page 5).

Critical Health Message – The Department, in cooperation with the Berrien County Youth Fair, provided a basic yet critical health message to the community concerning the importance of hand washing and the prevention of communicable diseases (see page 6).

Public Health Friend – In May of 2006, the Department and the health community took time to recognize a long time friend and tireless public health advocate. William Emery, M.D. (Dr. Bill) was the 2006 Friend of Public Health Award Recipient (see page 3).

Smoke Free Berrien – During 2006, with the vision of the Board of Health and Board of Commissioners, an exceptionally strong and diverse foundation was established to provide the citizens of Berrien County with a smoke free environment (see page 6).

Building a healthy community can not be accomplished without the collaboration and support of community health care partners. The Berrien County Health Department is fortunate to have committed community partners through the work of the Healthy Berrien Consortium. We can not begin to express the Department's appreciation for the support provided by our health care partners who share the vision of a healthy Berrien County.

We look forward to the many public health challenges and opportunities facing us in the coming year and appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Mortimore, EdM., M.P.H.
Health Officer/Director

Frederick Johansen, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P.
Medical Director



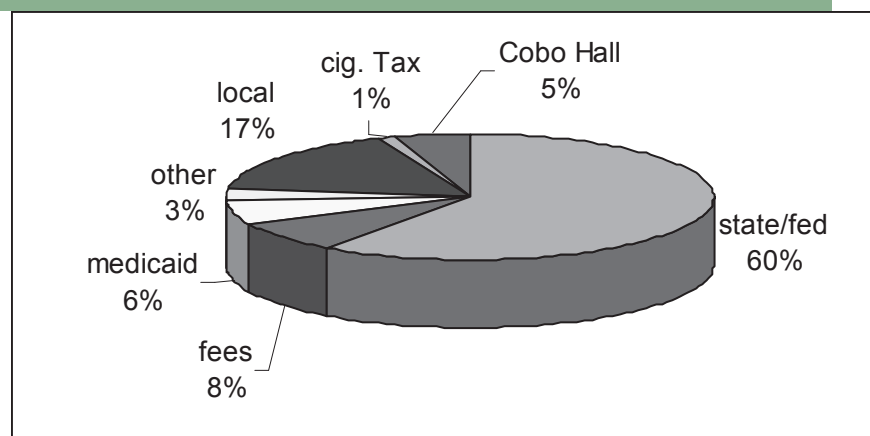
Dr. Rick Johansen,
MD, MPH
Medical Director

Rick Johansen, MD received a master of public health degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee in 2006. Johansen is medical director of the Berrien County Health Department and the VanBuren/Cass District Health Department, as well as pediatrician at Southwestern Medical Clinic.

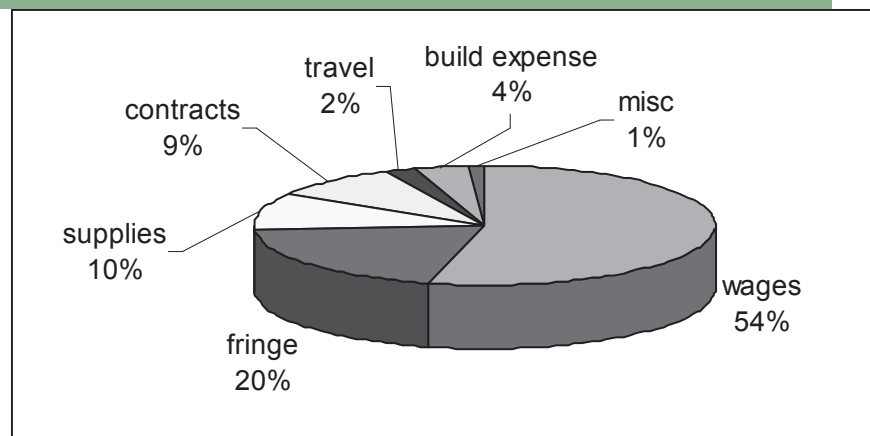
"We cannot begin to express our appreciation for the support provided by our health care partners..."

Financial Report

Revenue \$6,405,703



Expenses \$7,087,117



Special Project Grant Funding 2006

Keeping Infants and Children Healthy

Heart of Cook for Baby's Own Bed
MDCH for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
MDCH for Childhood Lead Prevention
United Way for Nurse-Family Partnership



United Way of Southwest Michigan

Smoking Cessation

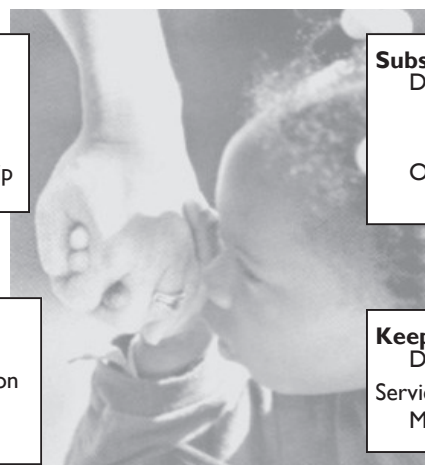
MDCH for Smoke Free Berrien
Michigan Gateway Community Foundation
Berrien Community Foundation

Substance Abuse Prevention

DHHS/SAMHSA and MDCH for the
Community Alliance Against
Substance Abuse
Office of Drug Control Policy for
The Inspiration House

Keeping Students Healthy

DHHS/SAMHSA for Mental Health
Services at Benton Harbor Area Schools
MDCH for School Based Clinic





GAPS—Guidelines for Adolescent Prevention Services—is provided online at the School Based Clinic

New Technology: GAPS at the School Based Clinic

The GAPS assessment tool is used by the Nurse Practitioner (NP) at the School Based Clinic (SBC) to identify the health needs of the student. An electronic adaptive version of the GAPS questionnaire was initiated in 2006 through a partnership with MedNet Systems*. MedNet Systems developed the questionnaire software, provides tech support as needed, and has even donated the laptop computers used by the students and the NP.

The electronic GAPS format

provides several advantages over the paper format: (1) **The NP's interaction with the student is enhanced** because during the visit the NP can focus immediately on that student's specific negative behaviors; (2) The students are receiving **more exposure to computer technology** through the use of the laptops and it appears **students are more open** regarding their behaviors when using the computer than if they were responding to the clinician during a face-to-face interaction; (3)

Because of the nature of the adaptive questionnaire **a more detailed history is obtained** and **data collection is enhanced**; and (4) **The ability to generate accurate reports** regarding students' behaviors is also enhanced.

(*-Thank you Tom Jennings, MD, MedNet Systems for partnering with the SBC on this technology advancing project!!)

"For every \$1 spent to provide family planning, \$3 are saved that would otherwise be spent in Medicaid costs for pregnancy related care."

New Services: PlanFirst!

As part of the State's goal to prevent unintended pregnancies, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) initiated a plan to provide family planning services to women – ages 19 through 44 – who otherwise would not have medical coverage for these services through PlanFirst! Enrollment for the state's new PlanFirst! program began July 1 after the Federal government approved Governor Gran-

holm's request for a Medicaid waiver to fund the program. It is estimated that 200,000 women at or below the 185% of poverty who reside in Michigan and meet Medicaid eligibility could benefit from the extension of family planning services through PlanFirst!

Cost savings: It is estimated that each public dollar spent to provide family planning services saves \$3 that would otherwise

be spent in Medicaid costs for pregnancy-related care for newborns. The services of PlanFirst! provide cost-savings solutions for the Medicaid program, as well as prevent unintended pregnancies.

527 eligible women enrolled for Berrien County in 2006.

New Initiatives: House to House Program

The House to House (H2H) project was initiated in Berrien County by the Raising Up Healthy Babies (infant mortality reduction) Taskforce in 2006. H2H was designed and implemented to provide education and outreach to Benton Harbor/Benton Township women of childbearing age who are at high risk for infant mortality and birth defects. At a H2H gathering, Health Promoters (peer educators) provide group education, primarily provided in

the home setting, focusing on healthy pregnancies, prenatal care, cessation of substance abuse (including tobacco and alcohol), safe sleep, good nutrition, and recognition of pre-term labor. A total of 39 educational sessions were conducted with 395 participants attending.

Funding for the project in the amount of \$21,000 was provided by the March of Dimes of Michigan.



The House 2 House program was a big success in 2006.

Friend of Public Health

Dr William Emery was presented with the 2006 Friend of Public Health Award by the Board of Health in May, 2006. The Friend of Public Health Award, presented annually, was created in 2000 to honor an individual or organization who has made outstanding contributions to the health of the community while reflecting the health department's mission to enhance the health of Berrien County residents.

"It was the unanimous feeling and vote of the Board of

Health that no other individual in Berrien County was more deserving of this year's award," said Duane McBride PhD, Chair of the Board of Health upon presenting the award to Emery.

"Dr. Emery's years of service to the residents of our county as a member of the Board of Health for 15 years, and the leadership he has provided as a founding member of the Healthy Berrien Consortium exemplify the true spirit in which the award was created,"

McBride said.

Besides being a family physician, Emery served as medical director for Whirlpool Corporation for 37 years. He has served as adjunct instructor at Western Michigan University, teaching in the areas of health systems and policy.



Dr. William Emery was awarded the 2006 Friend of Public Health award.

MDCH Director's Award to Berrien County

The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program was recognized as Michigan's best community health improvement program in 2006. The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Director's Award is presented annually to local health departments for programs of innovation and excellence in public health. The award was accompanied by a trophy and \$5,000 which will be used to purchase developmental items such as books.

NFP is one of several reasons that the county has been successful in reducing the infant mortality rate over the past six -years. Berrien County went from being ranked highest in the state to below the state average.

The NFP program services were provided to 165 families of 1st time pregnant women in Berrien County in 2006. Since start-up in 2000, 304 babies have been born to NFP pro-

gram participants. Some outcomes of interest - 93% were born at or above 2500 grams; 92% were born at or more than 37 weeks gestation; and 55% initiated breastfeeding.

The Berrien County NFP program is a partnership program of the United Way of Southwestern Michigan. In addition, funding is provided through the Michigan Department of Community Health.

"I have long been committed to reducing infant mortality and morbidity and teen births. I think that the one-on-one counseling that is the hallmark of your program is one of the most effective, if not the most cost effective, ways of achieving these goals."

Congressman Fred Upton

Project Public Health READY!

BCHD received national recognition for being ready to face bioterrorism, new epidemics, natural disasters and other public health emergencies. The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) recognized a total of only seven (7) local health departments and regional partnerships nationwide in 2006 for being Project Public Health Ready (PPHR).

Project Public Health Ready is a tool that measures preparedness. PPHR prepares local public health departments to respond to emergencies and to protect the public. Through PPHR, local health departments (LHD) develop concrete evidence to demonstrate capability to respond to emergencies through all-hazards response plans, and competency-based training and exercises.



Berrien County was only one of seven (7) local health departments recognized as public health ready in the nation!

Berrien County at a Glance: Epidemiologist Perspective

Community Statistics

Berrien County	2005 ACS*	2005 ACS %	2000 Census	2000 Census %	July 1, 2005 Population Estimates	Pop Est. %
Total population	158,224		162,453		162,611	
Male	77,443	48.9	78,738	48.5	78,925	48.5
Female	80,781	51.1	83,715	51.5	83,686	51.5
Median age (years)	39.2	(X)	37.4	(X)	(X)	(X)
Under 5 years	10,694	6.8	10,583	6.5	10,832	6.7
18 years and over	117,914	74.5	120,151	74	(X)	(X)
65 years and over	22,729	14.4	23,449	14.4	24,005	14.8
One Race	154,862	97.9	159,796	98.4	160,413	98.6
White	128,014	80.9	129,459	79.7	132,443	81.4
Black or African American	23,071	14.6	25,879	15.9	24,912	15.3
American Indian and Alaska Native	561	0.4	691	0.4	687	0.4
Asian	2,069	1.3	1,849	1.1	2,238	1.4
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0	0	73	0	133	0.1
Some other race	1,147	0.7	1,845	1.1	(X)	(X)
Two or more races	3,362	2.1	2,657	1.6	2,198	1.4
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	4,995	3.2	4,888	3	12,138	7.5

*The 2005 American Community Survey is limited to the household population and excludes the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. However, data is updated yearly instead of every decade as with the Census. Population Estimates are done on a yearly basis using the 2000 Census as the base population.

2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey*

Risk Factor	Berrien 2002	Berrien 2005	Michigan 2005	Nation 2005
Reported Overall Poor or Fair Health	18.1%	18.6%	15.1%	14.9%
Reported No Health Coverage	21.3%	22.2%	12.6%	14.5%
Reported Currently Smoking	23.7%	26.0%	22.0%	20.6%
Reported No Dental Coverage	54.6%	48.6%	N/A	N/A
Reported Having Diabetes	11.3%	9.1%	8.1%	7.3%
Categorized as Obese	21.0%	31.1%	26.2%	24.4%
Reported Having Asthma	13.9%	15.0%	13.9%	12.6%
Reported Inadequate Fruit & Vegetable Consumption	N/A	76.3%	77.2%	76.8%

*Survey administered in 2005, but analyzed in 2006. Random survey of Berrien County adults 18 years and older

Program	Description	2006	2005	2004
Health Promotion Services (HPS): Health education activities with an emphasis placed on substance abuse prevention. Presentations in classroom and community settings.				
Project ALERT	Number of students who participated in this 11-session program	319	736	N/A
Drunk Driver Education	Advanced classes - # of participants	16	72	x
	Basic class - # of participants	194	246	x
	Drug Education Class - # of participants	2	48	x
	Adolescent Class - # of participants	113	50	x
Smoking Cessation	Stop smoking classes conducted in community settings	17 adults; 25 teens	34 teens & 28 adults	35 participants
TIPS: Training for Intervention Procedures	Alcohol beverage server education	4 trainings; 25 participants	N/A	N/A
Substance Abuse Treatment Services (SATS): Assessment & evaluation services; individual & family counseling; and specially-focused counseling groups				
Counseling Services	Number of clients	1,161	1,455	1,486
Drug Screens administered	Number of drug screens administered.	7,469	9,405	11,055



New programs have been started and strong programs continue to decrease drunk and drugged driving in Berrien County.

"We are determined that the citizens of Berrien County be afforded the right to live and work and dine in smoke free environments"

Bob Dolsen
Chair, Healthy Berrien Consortium

Berrien Health Plan and Prescription Drug Plan

Berrien Health Plan: The primary purpose of the Berrien Health Plan, initiated in 2004, is to improve access to health care by providing covered health services for low income people who typically fall through the cracks of the system. BCHD continues to provide outreach and enrollment services as well as health education to the 850 currently enrolled participants. The Berrien Health Plan B offers discounts for doctor's

office visits, specialty services, lab tests and X-rays and prescription medications.

Discount Prescription Drug Program: A new discount prescription program for Berrien County residents who have no other prescription drug coverage was initiated by the Board of Directors of the Berrien Health Plan in 2006. The discount program is a way for county residents who lack drug coverage to get

medicine for less (about 20%) at participating pharmacies. Enrollment is coordinated by the Berrien County Health Department.



Berrien Health Plan has initiated a new discount prescription drug program.

Program Services at a Glance



WIC—safeguarding the health of women, infants and children.

“Berrien County trails the state and nation in health statistics”
Herald-Palladium
Aug 2006



Environmental health keeps Berrien County food healthy.

Program	Description	2006	2005	2004
Clinic Health: Health Promotion/Disease Prevention activities in a clinic setting.				
Family Planning (FP) -	FDA approved birth control methods. (Unduplicated count.)	2,530	2,675	2,499
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP)	Women 40-64 years old screened for breast and cervical cancer. (Unduplicated count.)	266	230	232
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	Serves children from birth to age 5, and eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women. (Monthly caseload)	3,800	3,824	3,843
School Based Clinic (SBC) -	Provides primary health care for teens at Benton Harbor High School. (Unduplicated count.)	840	907	820
Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Clinic -	Number of persons examined for the presence of sexually transmitted disease.	1,783	1,733	1,993
HIV Counseling and Testing	Number of HIV tests conducted.	287	405	290
Immunizations	Number of Children (18 & younger) Vaccinated (Unduplicated)	1,426	1,639	1,751
Influenza Vaccinations	Number of vaccinations administered.	4,500	6,000	8,000
Hearing and Vision Screening	Pre-school and school-aged children screened.	8,440 hearing	9,167 hearing	9,800 hearing
		8,716 vision	11,672 vision	12,304 Vision
Environmental Health Services (EHS): Inspections and educating the public to prevent or abate environmental health hazards.				
Food Service Facilities	Number inspected.	1,102	1,607	1,726
Private Wells	Number of permits issued.	582	690	690
Individual on-site sewage systems	Number of permits issued.	584	700	676

Infant Mortality Reduction Task Force

The Raising Up Healthy Babies (infant mortality reduction) Taskforce continued its communitywide efforts to keep more babies alive and well. Activities for 2006 included: (1) Hosting an Infant Mortality Summit in March; (2) Conducting a poster campaign to promote prenatal care, safe sleep and good nutrition; (3) A Jam Jar Festival in remembrance of babies who have died in Berrien County and to celebrate healthy births; (4) Baby's Own Bed portable crib distribution campaign; and (5) the

Initiation of the House to House (H2H) healthy pregnancy peer education program.

The Baby's Own Bed program continued to help to improve the county's infant mortality rate. The Taskforce purchases and distributes portable cribs for new (eligible) parents who otherwise would have no safe place for their infants to sleep. The Heart of Cook Foundation (American Electric Power) awarded a grant in the amount of \$2,500 to purchase 62 beds.

The Raising Up Healthy Babies Task Force, along with Baby's Own Bed, Nurse Family Partnership and Fetal Infant Mortality Review Boards are working hard to assure that any baby born in Berrien County can expect a safe and healthy infancy.



The infant mortality reduction task force developed this logo and marketing tool to promote their message of healthy babies.

Lead Safe Kids Coalition

The Lead Safe Kids Coalition was established to end childhood lead poisoning in Berrien County. Initial efforts targeted Benton Harbor's Census Tract V, where lead poisoning is extremely high among children. Interventions included a state funded education and outreach door-to-door campaign in October that reached 1,000 homes as well as lead training and certification for two environmental health specialists. The Outreach blitz

occurred during Lead Poisoning Awareness Week from October 22-29. Approximately 20 volunteer canvassers went door-to-door in Census Tract V in Benton Harbor to provide lead poisoning awareness information. 850 bags containing lead poisoning literature were distributed.

The Lead Safe Kids Coalition meets monthly to discuss ways to keep children in Berrien County, especially those in

Benton Harbor's Census Tract V, safe from the harmful effects of ingesting lead.

“1000 homes in Benton Harbor were educated on childhood lead poisoning prevention”

Community Alliance Against Substance Abuse

Community Alliance Against Substance Abuse (CAASA) secured a five year (\$100,000 per year) grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to continue its mission to achieve a common vision of eliminating substance abuse among youth. Additionally, the Governor's Discretionary Grant through the Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) funded CAASA in the amount of \$100,000 for FY

2006. The ODCP grants are awarded to agencies that have worked to foster safe and drug free environments for children while promoting academic achievement.

CAASA Goals: (1) To empower youth, families and the community to make healthy, drug-free choices. (2) To become a centralized resource for substance abuse data and prevention programming guidance and assistance. The Goals

are to be achieved through the four (4) Committees of CAASA including: (1) Parent Advisory; (2) Youth Advisory; (3) Systems Coordinating; and (4) Public Relations/Public Policy.



Working towards ending substance abuse.



Second Hand Smoke is harming Berrien County residents and BCHD is doing something about it!

How the Health Department Serves You

Berrien County Health Department has five service areas committed to the mission to prevent disease, prolong life, protect the health of the community, and promote optimal quality of life for the citizens of Berrien County. The basic functions of the health department remain constant, but some administrative changes were made. **The Division of Community Health Planning** was created with the Administrative Re-organization of BCHD that was initiated in December 2006. With the

creation of the Division of Community Health Planning, the Department has completed a long-term strategic planning goal of instituting the required components for the public health core functions of assessment, policy development and assurance.

Smoke Free Berrien. Under the direction of the *Healthy Berrien Consortium*, a Smoke Free Berrien Partnership was established and MDCH grant funding was secured for the purpose of **eliminating second hand smoke in Berrien**

County. A proposed Berrien County Clean Indoor Air Regulation received Board of Health approval on December 6 and is awaiting discussion and consideration for approval by the County Commissioners. The proposed regulation, if approved, would prohibit smoking in all public places and all public and private businesses except bars and restaurants in Berrien.

(Post Script: Regulation received Board of Commissioners approval on March 1, and will take effect on June 1, 07!)

Environmental Health Services

“Berrien County beaches consistently meet state standards”

Training of specialized Environmental Health Services staff for the **Private and Type III water supply program (Private Wells)** was completed. This ensures that timely pre-drilling site inspections are completed to properly site new wells. After installation, wells are inspected and sampled to make sure water meets public health standards. The BCHD program was evaluated by the Michigan

Department of Environmental Quality in August of 2006 and all Minimum Program Requirements were met.

Surface Water Sampling. Environmental Health Services completed **weekly sampling of 13 public beaches** in Berrien County from June through August of 2006. Bacteria sampling was done to determine if surface water quality meets state standards for swimming.

Berrien County beaches consistently meet state standards and none were closed during the 2006 bathing beach season.

Community Preventive Health Services



Hand Washing is the first step in prevention of many infectious diseases.

Vaccinations. 11,297 vaccines were administered to children and adults in Berrien County. 63% of children 19-35 months of age who reside in Berrien County were fully immunized (70% is the goal set by MDCH to attain). 99% of school entrants and 6th graders were compliant with receiving the required immunizations. Additionally, 98% of day care and pre-school children were compliant with the required immunizations. (The compliance

levels set by the State are 95% for school entrants and 90% for day care/pre-school.)

Hand Washing. The Berrien County Health Department worked in conjunction with the Berrien County Youth Fair to promote good hand washing practices during fair week in August. Hand washing is the first step in prevention of many infectious diseases, but preventing E. Coli infection is the primary concern when residents

are in close contact with farm animals. The Health Department purchased a hand washing station that was set up in the *Wonders of Birth Barn* and staffed a booth in the same location to promote hand washing among patrons of the fair.

Substance Abuse Treatment Services

The Women’s Specialty Services Program of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (SATS) receives special funding through the Lakeshore Coordinating Council (LCC) to meet the needs of eligible women and children. In addition to substance abuse counseling, the program helped women and their children in 2006 directly with \$14,420 worth of financial assistance for such things as rent and utility bill assistance, medical assistance, prescription drug assistance, furniture/

household appliances, and dental assistance.

The Inspiration House, a transition house that provides women committed to recovering from substance abuse with a drug free place to live, received a grant to continue its mission. The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) awarded \$144,947 to the Berrien County Health Department to continue its partnership with the Citizen’s for Progressive Change (CPC) for the continued operation of

this transitional house located in Benton Harbor. CPC hires and supervises a 24-hour staff.

Since it opened in 2005, the house has been funded by grants from MDCH’s Office of Drug Control Policy.



SATS: Helping to build strong healthy women.

Health Promotion Services

Smoking Cessation programs were presented to Berrien County residents as the result of funding through the **Berrien Community Foundation (\$8,000)** and the **Michigan Gateway Community Foundation (\$4,500).** Adult Cessation – 17 adults completed smoking cessation classes. Youth Cessation – 25 youth completed smoking cessation classes.

The BCHD initiated TIPS, Training for Intervention Procedures, in 2006 which is a nationally recognized alcohol management certification available to alcohol vendors. The program is designed to help any and all types of alcohol vendors in regards to the serving of alcohol.

TIPS was chosen as the vendor education program in Berrien County because it uses the best practice option of skill

based training. The program incorporates real world situations along with role plays to ensure each participant walks away from the training with a new skill. It was also chosen for Berrien County based on its acceptance by the commissioners of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC). Also TIPS is constantly being improved on and updated based on the ever changing alcohol retail market.

“Smoking cessation and alcohol abuse prevention continue to be a strong focus”

Personal Preventive Health Services

Two hundred sixty-six (266) women received critical screening as part of the **Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP).** (Over 230 in 2005). Early detection is the best defense against breast and cervical cancer. The Southwest Michigan Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) provides cancer screening on an annual basis to help women detect breast or cervical cancer at an early stage. Women age

40 and older may qualify to receive a mammogram, breast examination, pelvic examination, and/or Pap test under BCCCP.

Breast Feeding Peer Counselor: Berrien County was chosen as a pilot site for a breast-feeding peer counselor program and has received \$36,635 from the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to hire a full-time counselor to encourage

women to nurse their babies for up to a year. The program targets clients of Women, Infants and Children (WIC). The project goal is to increase the percentage of women who breast-feed their babies at birth from 48.9% to 54% and the number who nurse for six months from 13.6% to 18 %.



BCCCP of Berrien County promotes wellness and prevention to many women.