**Galion City Board of Health**

**STI/HIV Prevention January 2022 Monthly Update**

**Clinical Services**

* 35 client visits for STI/HIV testing between Galion and Cline Ave. sites
* 28 clients active in PrEP and associated care management services through the end of January

**Region 2 (Disease Investigation, etc.)**

***Crawford, Marion, Richland, Ashland, Knox, Erie, Wyandot, Seneca, & Huron Counties***

* Syphilis cases continue to rise in Ohio and within our region. When investigating, the individuals infected are within priority populations: men who have sex with men (MSM), and those who are engaging in injection drug use. **Methamphetamine use is a common factor in many of the infections.**
* We treated **9** cases and contacts in January throughout the region.
* We are thankful to partner agencies for volunteering space to meet many of these individuals throughout this rural area. These include Marion Public Health, Mid-Ohio Infectious Disease, Knox County Health Department, Dr. Crum and more.
* At the end of 2022, we learned that we were the only Ohio region that did not encounter a congenital syphilis case during the calendar year. We have worked very hard to prioritize treatment of women of childbearing age and those that are pregnant.
* We held an opt-in testing event on January 19th at Ashland County Jail—13 inmates were tested for HIV and syphilis.
* **We received 1 positive syphilis result. This individual named 4 contacts that needed to then be investigated. This shows the potential for far-reaching infection and the immense amount of time dedicated to each case.**

**Budget**

* Our notice of award (NOA) for each grant with amounts listed:
  + STI Prevention 2023 **$205,000**
  + HIV Prevention 2023 **$219,915**
* We are planning to use current funds for region-wide awareness campaigns to address the current syphilis burden and HIV prevention (PrEP)—target areas include Marion, Richland and Erie counties.
* Also, a portions of funds have been approved by the Ohio Dept. of Health for staff development to participate in the 2023 STI & HIV World Congress to be held in July, Chicago, IL.
* A budget revision will be needed to move funds on the STI Prevention grant as we are not filling the RN DIS position that was vacated by L. Corwin, RN in mid-2022. This excess will be used to supplement increased benefit costs for grant-funded employees and the remainder will be used for region-wide awareness campaigns.

**Respectfully Submitted, Sarah Miley APRN-CNP**