

## **Galion City Board of Health Health Commissioners Monthly Report for May 2022**

### **Fiscal/Funding**

We have continued interviewing several different candidates to fill the Business Services Officer/ Vital Statistics Registrar position. Jason and Andy have been taking on the financial tasks and Jessica has largely taken on the vital statistics reports. It has been challenging taking on these extra responsibilities in the interim, but we are doing our best. As of the end of May, we had not yet heard whether or not our application for Workforce 2023 grant was approved. If approved, this will provide significant funding through November 30, 2027, with the total being \$360,000. We believe all health departments would receive this funding if they applied.

### **Education/ Outreach**

Two child car seat checks were conducted, and there was a Spring Safety Day where Jason was joined by four additional child car seat techs. Two were from Wyandot County Health Department, and the other two were from Columbus Public Health. At this event, two of our own car seats were given to the community, and one car seat from the other techs was distributed. Jason was also pleased to receive a new shipment of child car seats, especially since we had run out of child car seats a few weeks before the shipment came.

The first Third Friday outreach event of the year was supposed to happen in May, but it was canceled and will start in June instead.

For the first time, Jason attended a coalition in Bucyrus at Crawford County Public Health called the Crawford Resource Council. He felt it was particularly important to attend this meeting because the featured speaker at this meeting was a representative from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), and Jason is interested in learning more about mental health resources in the area to help us more adequately carry out our Strategic Plan.

### **Staff**

This time of year has seen an additional amount of time off taken, especially for staff with children who have graduated from their respective schools, and for other reasons. Jason is a strong proponent of staff using their PTO, sick leave, personal leave, etc., and getting much-needed rest and taking care of themselves and their families. We miss them when they're not here, though we do our best to manage.

### **Accreditation**

Jason, Andy, and our PHAB accreditation specialist Sara continued working together to nearly complete the remaining requirements for our accreditation documentation. There was a glitch on the accreditation website which prevented us from submitting the required documentation by our deadline, and it lasted a few weeks. Once it was resolved, they said that our new deadline was June 15<sup>th</sup>. Overall, we are very pleased with all the progress that was made on this major project. Our understanding is that the group which will review our accreditation paperwork will reconvene in August, and we will know during that month if we will officially become an accredited health department. We are fully confident that we will be accredited and are in a good position.

### **ODH Updates**

From June to September, the weekly calls with ODH and the local health departments will switch from being a weekly call to a bi-weekly call.

There has been a new cluster of mpox cases (formerly called monkeypox) identified in Chicago.

During one of the weekly ODH calls in May, Jason learned more about efforts at the Ohio Department of Health for data modernization. In May, Jason passed this information along to a leader of a group he is in which shares data measurements among health departments within the state and within about two dozen states across the country, so we don't all have to 'reinvent the wheel' with collecting data, among other benefits. It was a very productive meeting, and there appears that ODH and this other group can combine efforts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason McBride  
Health Commissioner