

## **January 2026 BOH Update**

### **STI & HIV Prevention Grants, Ohio Dept. of Health Region 2**

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

#### **Clinical**

- Galion Clinic Visits: January = 76, Marion Public Health (held once weekly, every Tuesday): January = 27
- There are currently 46 active in-person PrEP clients (Galion and Marion) and 520 active on Q Care + platform. These clients receive every 3-6 month follow up visits for comprehensive STI and HIV testing and HIV prevention (PrEP).

#### **Region 2 Disease Investigation & Grant Activities**

- Abby Volk, DIS investigated 34 cases (combined HIV and syphilis) in January 2026.
- After meeting with our State Consultant and STI and Viral Hepatitis Interventions Planner in mid-December to discuss a slight increase in syphilis cases in Richland County during the months of July, September and October 2025, we met again in January to re-evaluate. After looking at November and December cases, we are confident that we were not moving in the direction of an outbreak and that we can continue with routine surveillance.
- The next Community Planning Group (CPG) meeting (HIV Prevention) will be held in the late spring 2026. This is scheduled to be at OSU Mansfield, Riedl Hall Room 232. We continue to look at ways to improve services to our nine-county region. If anyone would like to be a part of this group, please email me, Sarah Miley, [sarah.miley@galionhealth.org](mailto:sarah.miley@galionhealth.org)
- **Outreach Testing:**
  - Scheduled monthly testing was held at Richland County Jail and Ashland County Jail. Three outreach events were held at Kenyon College, Wayfinders shelter in Richland County, and Knox County Jail.

#### **Grant Management**

- The 2026 HIV Prevention grant was submitted at the end of January. The funding request is for \$114,737. This grant cycle will begin June 1, 2026 and end May 31, 2027.
- We were notified at the end of January that the STI Prevention grant solicitation will be released in early February. The current project period/grant cycle ends February 28, 2025. We do not know the award amount that we are able to apply for at this time. This is NOT a competitive grant.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sarah Miley APRN-CNP, STI/HIV Grants Project Director