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Dutchess County Department of Health

2011 Annual Performance Report

Marcus J. Molinaro
County Executive



Michael C. Caldwell, MD, MPH
Commissioner of Health



Dear Dutchess Residents,

Our Department of Health is proud to share its 2011 Annual Report to keep you apprised of the multitude of services we provide.

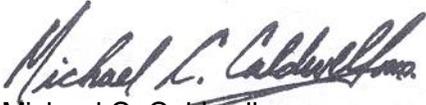
The Dutchess County Department of Health continues making strides toward preventing and reducing chronic and infectious diseases by informing and educating residents and visitors. We are continuously advancing community partnerships to protect and enhance the health and well-being for all.

We hope you find this publication informational and that you gain insight into the scope of services provided to you by the Dutchess County Department of Health. As always, we welcome your input and participation.

Together, we will make Dutchess County a healthier community to live, work, and raise our families.

Healthy regards!


Marcus J. Molinaro
County Executive


Michael C. Caldwell
Commissioner of Health

Dutchess County Department of Health 2011 Annual Report

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH – 2011

William S. Augerson, President

Robert Irving Miller, Esq., Secretary
Agnes Compagnone, RPA-C
Suzanne Horn, M. Ed. (Special Legislative Liaison)
William Smookler, MD

Helen Bunyi, RN,
Karen Desmond, RN
Charis Nick-Torok, Esq.

New Members: Agnes Compagnone, RPA-C, Karen Desmond, RN, Charis Nick-Torok, Esq.

MEMBERSHIP

The year 2011 was a time of great change for the Board of Health. Board president Harry Lynch resigned; Robert Sullivan, PhD whose term expired 12/10 declined to continue to serve; our past president, Ralph Middleton, passed away; Stephen Lapidis, MD, Vice President resigned; members Joy Godin, RN and Helen Fuimarello, RN were not reappointed; and long standing legislative member Suzanne Horn, M.Ed, left the legislature and, and consequently, the Board.

PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIP AWARD

The Board of Health once again recognized organizations for their contribution to the public health in the County. On April 11, 2011 the awards were presented in the legislative chambers before the elected officials prior to their meeting. The two organizations honored were Somos LaLlave del Futuro (We are the Key to the Future) and Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation.

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

The Board has been and continues to be engaged in studying an array of public health issues to include: obesity and childhood obesity, Tickborne diseases, Tobacco (including smoking, electronic cigarettes and hookah smoking), immigrant and minority health disparities, and public health interventions to reduce Medicaid costs.

The Board has been strengthening their ties to the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) and over the next few years plan to pursue accreditation by NALBOH.

The Board investigated, and will continue to learn more about State Laws of tanning salons which permits children 14-18 with parent's permission to utilize these booths, as well as concussion injuries in school sports.

FEES AND IMMUNIZATION CHARGES

In 2011, the Board reviewed the fees charged by the Department of Health, made and approved a few small adjustments to the immunization rates.

OTHER BOARD ACTIVITIES

The Board started a complete review of the Sanitary Code to update the document. It is also conducting a strategic review of its activities to plan future actions.

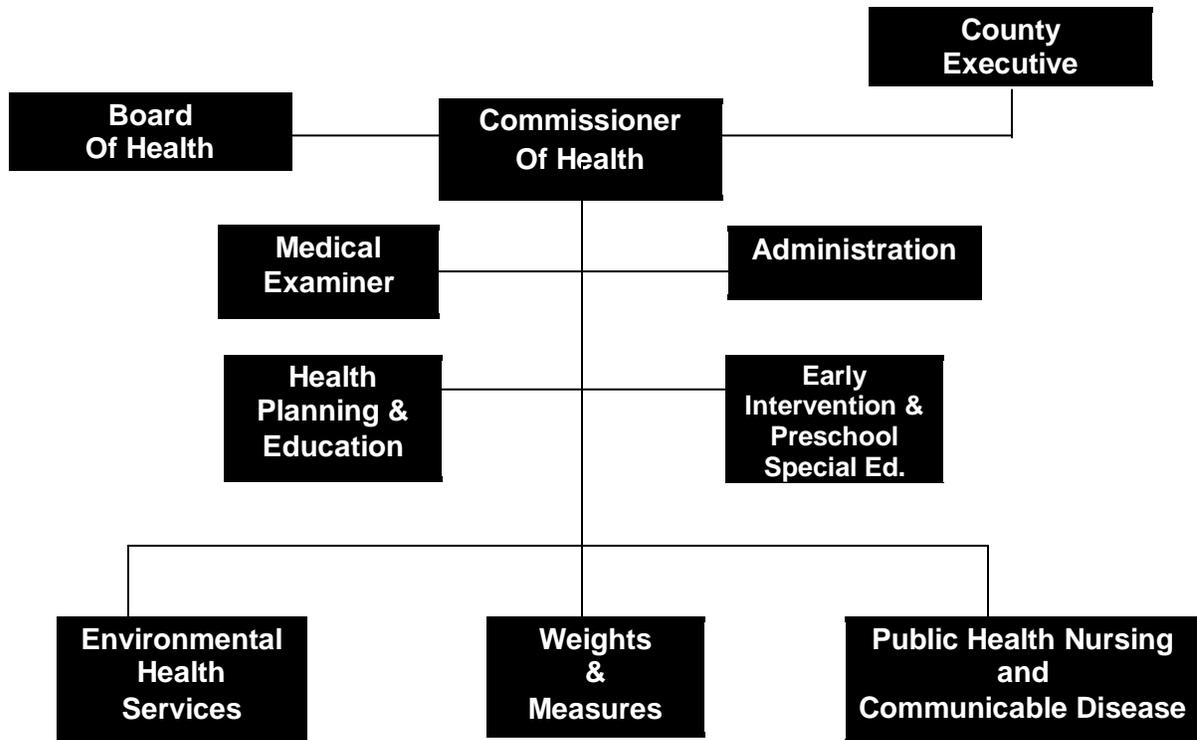
Respectfully,



William S. Augerson, M.D.
President, Dutchess County Board of Health

Dutchess County Department of Health

Organizational Structure



Dutchess County Department of Health

387 Main Street - Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
 Voice: 845.486.3400 TTY: 845.486.3417 Fax: 845.486.3447

98 Peach Road
 845.486.2649 (tel)
 845.486.2947 (fax)

Haight Avenue
 845.486.3526 (tel)
 845.486.3554 (fax)

Beacon District Office
 845.838.4800 (tel)
 845.838.4824 (fax)

Millbrook District Office
 845.677.4001 (tel)
 845.677.4020 (fax)

DUTCHESS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

The Dutchess County Department of Health is a diverse group of capable experienced individuals and motivated professionals whose **Mission** is to protect and promote the health of individuals, families, communities, and the environment of Dutchess County.

Our **Vision** is to build on our tradition of excellence, leadership, and compassion, using the best available science and resources to promote the highest standards of Public Health in response to emerging issues to protect and assist our community.

We Value ...

- The practice of prevention
- The on-going assessment of the strengths and health needs of our community
- Research and its application to Public Health practice
- The pursuit of innovative solutions to Public Health practice
- Ethical principles in the work place
- Culturally sensitive, courteous, and respectful treatment of people
- Excellence in all areas of Public Health
- Each other's input to guide decision-making
- Encouragement of staff to develop to their full potential
- Community service and volunteerism
- Public and private partnerships
- Written policies and procedures to guide our daily operations
- Sensitivity and accommodation of special needs populations
- Open and honest communications
- Best use of people and resources
- Respect for and management of confidential information
- A quality work environment and safety in the workplace

PUBLIC HEALTH CORE FUNCTIONS

The Dutchess County Department of Health is committed to the core functions of Public Health and strives to deliver the essential services necessary for people to live healthy lives. **The Core Functions of Public Health** are:

1. Assessment and monitoring of the health of communities and populations at risk to identify health problems and priorities;
2. Formulating public policies, in collaboration with community and government leaders, designed to solve identified local and national health problems and priorities;
3. Assuring that all populations have access to appropriate and cost-effective care, including health promotion and disease prevention services, and evaluation of the effectiveness of that care.

The 10 Essential Services: A Vision for Public Health was released in 1988 by the Institute of Medicine, *The Future of Public Health* (http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=1091) identified both the core functions and ten essential services required to address the mission of public health.

The following text and graphic demonstrate how the ten essential environmental health services align with the three core functions of public health (assessment, policy development, and assurance).

Assessment

1. Monitor health status to identify community environmental health problems
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Policy Development

3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Assurance

6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of environmental health services when otherwise unavailable
8. Assure a competent public and personal health workforce
9. Evaluate the effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services
10. Conduct research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems



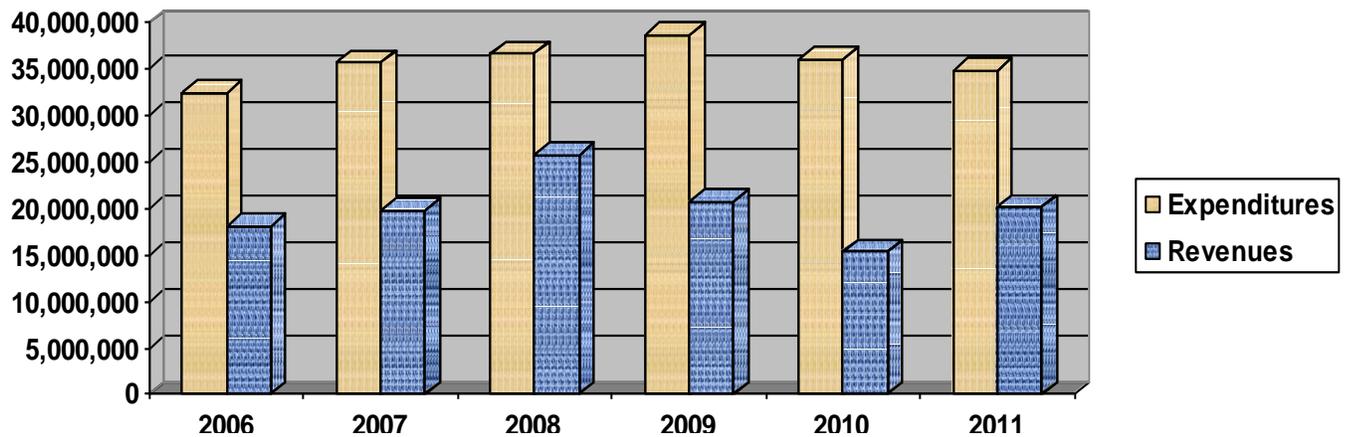
Fiscal Information 2011

Total Receipts: \$ 20,103,165

- General Fund Subsidy
- Grants
- Other Charges
- Permit fees
- Clinic Fees
- Home Visiting Nursing Services

Total Expenditures: \$ 34,909,170

- Assessment and Health Information
- Environmental Health
- Support Services
- Health Services



Data source: DCDOH – Administration Division

The chart above reflects the total expenses incurred and receipts realized by the Dutchess County Department of Health for the fiscal years 2006 to 2011. New York State Aid (Public Health Law, Article 6) continues to be the major funding source for our various Public Health activities. Our revenues in 2008 and 2009 were higher than average due to funding for three clinical trials that commenced that year.

In 2011, Dutchess County Department of Health received 16 different grants totaling \$2,066,629. These grants help to fund a variety of Public Health concerns including diabetes, youth tobacco use prevention, bioterrorism and emergency preparedness, Lyme disease, lead poisoning, immunizations, partner notification, drinking water enhancement, rabies, and tuberculosis. The individual amounts of these awards ranged between \$20,000 to \$667,758.

A. PREVENTING AND REDUCING THE THREAT OF DISEASES

Prevention of Disease through Vaccination

Seasonal Flu/Pneumococcal Vaccine Program (Flu Information Line - 845.486.3435)

For 2011, the seasonal flu vaccine again contained protection for both the seasonal and the H1N1 strain. The Department operated **5** public flu clinics throughout Dutchess County where **399** persons received seasonal vaccine and **13** persons received pneumococcal vaccine. These clinics continue to function as an excellent opportunity to drill the Department staff and the Medical Reserve Corps volunteers in the County's Strategic National Stockpile Plan and Medical Countermeasure Distribution Plan.

Childhood Immunization Program (845.486.3409)

The Childhood Immunization Program provides all recommended childhood vaccines to Dutchess County children. In 2011, **88%** of the children seen at our public clinics were fully immunized by age two. Clinic schedules were made available on our website at www.dutchessny.gov. Evaluation of immunization rates in private medical practices continues to be a priority. Staff collects data from participating medical practices and the results of the analysis are used to establish accurate immunization levels and to improve immunization rates. This information is also used to target programs and services to areas with the highest rates of under-immunized children.

Adult Vaccine Program (845.486.3409)

The Adult Vaccination Program provides vaccination and health screening for HIV and TB to individuals 18 years of age and older. Clinic schedules are made available on our website at www.dutchessny.gov. In 2011, the Adult Immunization and Screening Clinic was initiated, merging several clinics together making it easier and more convenient for residents to access a variety of services in one location at one time. It also enabled a more efficient use of staff time and resources.

In 2011, **707** individuals received immunizations at the Adult Immunization and Screening Clinics. In addition to these immunizations, **693** tuberculin skin tests and **189** HIV tests were performed.

The Department launched a Pertussis Prevention Campaign in 2011 through the promotion of Tdap vaccine to address the dramatic increase in Pertussis cases (whooping cough) which can cause serious illness and death in infants and small children. The goal was promotion of Tdap vaccine for parents, grandparents, and caregivers of infants who are most likely to spread the disease to small children thus developing a "cocoon" effect for infants 12 months and younger.

Outreach was conducted to various entities including Vassar Brothers Medical Center (VBMC) mother baby unit, Hudson River Health Care staff in Amenia, Dover and Pine Plains, Department staff, Vaccine for Children Providers, Picnic in the Park at Mansion St. Park and WIC. Additionally, Commissioner of Health, Michael C. Caldwell, MD, MPH, addressed **30** physicians from VBMC's OB/GYN Department with updates and recommendations for Tdap vaccination against pertussis. After the presentation, **9** doctors received their vaccination.

Travel Vaccination Program (845.486.3504)

The International Travel Vaccination Program provides vaccination and health information to travelers and other adults. Clinic schedules are made available on our website at www.dutchessny.gov. In 2011, **214** individuals received important travel advice and vaccinations against at least sixteen diseases: (e.g., typhoid fever, yellow fever, hepatitis A, and meningitis) based on their travel destinations.

Rabies Prevention Program (845.486.3404)

The Department hosted three ***rabies vaccination clinics*** for dogs, cats, and domestic ferrets in 2011. These clinic services were offered free of charge to all Dutchess County residents. The clinic sites were dispersed throughout the county. One clinic was held at the Millerton Firehouse in March; the other at the Dutchess County Highway Garage in July; and the final clinic was held at the Stanford Firehouse in November. A total of **681** pets were vaccinated (Millerton Firehouse=**192**, Dutchess County Highway Garage=**252**, and Stanford Firehouse=**237**).

DCDOH also investigates incidents in which people may have been exposed to rabies. In 2011, there were **494** rabies investigations. A follow-up with the victim of a reported bite is conducted by Department staff. During rabies investigations, the Department works with NYSDOH, other county's Departments of Health, police, and animal control officers.

DCDOH submits animals suspected of rabies infection to the Wadsworth Laboratory for testing. This service is coordinated with NYSDOH's rabies exposure investigations and veterinarians. During the 2011 calendar year, a total of **107** specimens were submitted, identifying **7** positives.

When a person is bitten by a confirmed rabid animal (or the animal is a rabies vector species and is not available for testing), a post-exposure regimen of treatment is authorized. This is done in conformance with NYSDOH's "Rabies Treatment Algorithm" and guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. DCDOH authorized the post-exposure treatment of **30** persons following their exposure to rabid or suspected rabid animals in 2011.

Tuberculosis Control Program (845.486.3505)

The Department has a comprehensive tuberculosis screening program including screening and treatment of latent and active tuberculosis. In 2011, there were **3** new cases of active TB in Dutchess County (**2** cases from Dutchess County and **1** case that transferred into Dutchess County from another jurisdiction). Additionally **2** cases were carried over from 2010, whose treatment regimen continued in 2011 due to their drug resistant strain of TB. Treatment of the disease is becoming more complicated because of drug resistance and many of these individuals require long-term treatment and extensive contact investigations to reduce the spread of the disease. Seven (**7**) cases of suspected TB required extensive investigation before TB could be ruled out.

Sixty-nine (**69**) individuals were treated for latent tuberculosis infection. Latent TB is not active disease but still requires careful monitoring and extended treatment to prevent these individuals from developing active disease. A new trend noted this year is more pregnant women being referred to our clinic for follow-up for tuberculosis infection treatment.

Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA) (845.486.3419)

In 2011, **1,397** visits were conducted to **641** individuals needing home health services. The Department released a Request for Proposals to solicit interested parties for the purchase of our Certified Home Health Agency Operating Certificate. Hudson Valley Home Care, an affiliate of HealthQuest Systems, Inc was the selected bidder. In 2011 the Department also began the process of becoming a Licensed Home Care Services Agency (LHCSA) which is necessary to remain compliant with NYSDOH regulations for home visiting services through our Maternal Child Home Visiting Program

Maternal Child Health Home Visiting Program (845.486.3419)

Public Health Nurses provide education and case management to pregnant and parenting families to promote positive parenting skills; teach parents about childhood growth and development, injury prevention, and the importance of a medical home and immunizations for themselves and their children. Injury prevention education focuses heavily on the prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), safe sleep positions for infants and the avoidance of second-hand smoke.

To address the growing problem of childhood obesity, Public Health Nurses provide home visiting and support services to post partum women to increase breastfeeding rates, provide education about healthy eating patterns, and age appropriate activities to keep children healthy.

In 2011, **1,279** visits were conducted to **582** mothers and infants enrolled in our Maternal Child Health Home Visiting Program.

Newborn Screening Program (845.486.3419)

In 2011, Public Health Nurses provided coordination and follow up for **14** infants to ensure they received metabolic disease and hearing screening mandated under Public Health Law. Hospitals are required to complete these tests during the first 48 hours of the infant's life and regularly refer all infants who have incomplete test results or need follow up screening tests to the Dutchess County Department of Health. Public Health Nurses follow up with the families and healthcare providers of all infants to insure these tests have been completed.

Children with Special Health Care Needs Program (CSHCN) (845.486.3419)

The Children with Special Health Care Needs Program (CSHCN) is a state-wide public health program providing health-related information and referral services to families of CSHCN. In 2011, **28** children and their families were served through the CSHCN.

The CSHCN program also has a financial component, the Physically Handicapped Children's Program (PHCP), which assists families with payment of medical bills for financially eligible children with severe chronic illnesses and/or physical disabilities. **Twenty-seven (27)** children and their families were served through the PHCP in 2011.

In June 2011, "Health Care Notebook" training was offered to **six** families of children with special healthcare needs in collaboration with the Parent to Parent organization. The purpose of the training was to assist families of CSHCN to organize medical history and current medical care records and to advocate for their child within the medical services system.

Infant Child Health Assessment Program (ChildFind) (845.486.3419)

Section 2542 of the Public Health Law requires the Dutchess County Department of Health to implement a ChildFind system that provides for the identification, location, tracking, and screening of children at-risk of developmental delay. Using resources available through a variety of programs such as the Maternal Child Home (MCH) Visiting Program and the Infant Child Health Assessment Program (ICHAP); Public Health Nurses track and periodically screen children at risk of disability to identify them as early as possible and provide them with appropriate early intervention services.

Public Health Nurses work with these at-risk children and their families to ensure that the child remains engaged in a medical home (a healthcare provider to provide routine care) and has access to health-related services needed for optimal development in the crucial early years. In 2011, **98** children were enrolled in the ICHAP (Childfind) program.

All children from birth to 3 years of age in foster care are enrolled in ICHAP. Public Health Nurses work closely with the Department of Social Services to provide routine health assessments and developmental monitoring for children in foster care. In addition, Public

Health Nurses review the health records of children in foster care to insure that medical follow up and immunizations are current and to insure that referrals are made for specialty or other health care services. **51** of the children in the ICHAP program were in foster care.

Early Intervention Program and Preschool Special Education Program (845.486.3518)

The Early Intervention (EI) Program

The Early Intervention (EI) Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families is established in Title II-A of Article 25 of the New York State Public Health Law and Part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The program aims to enhance development of infants and toddlers from birth up to age three who have significant developmental delays or disabilities and the capacity of families to meet their child's special needs.

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), as the lead state agency, is responsible for establishing regulatory standards including programmatic and fiscal components and approval of qualified agencies and/or individuals to deliver services in specific counties. The Department contracts with approved agencies to deliver the services.

The program components include service coordination, multidisciplinary evaluations, and the development of an Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) for eligible children and families. Services may include family training, counseling, home visits, parent support groups, special instruction, speech pathology, audiology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological services, service coordination, nursing services, nutrition services, social work services, vision services, and assistive technology devices and services.

In 2011, the Early Intervention Program provided services to **1,118** Dutchess County infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families with an expenditure of **\$3,914,148.00**.

Preschool Special Education Program (PSE)

Part B of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and Section 4410 of the New York State Education Law, entitles a preschooler (3-5 years of age) with disabilities to receive appropriate educational opportunities from special programs and services as agreed upon with their respective school district's Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE).

In Dutchess County, the Department of Health is responsible for contracting with qualified and licensed professionals for specific related services such as physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, counseling, assistive technology, and social work. These services are prescribed on a child's Individualized Education Plan/Program (IEP) written with the parent and

CPSE members. This plan indicates the type, frequency, and location of the service(s) to be provided. Services may be provided at an approved or licensed pre-kindergarten or Head Start program, at the provider's facility, the child's home, a hospital, a State facility, or another childcare location.

Parents also attend the service sessions to learn techniques to support their child's development. Busing is provided for families who are unable to supply their own transportation.

In 2011, the Preschool Special Education Program provided services to **1,041** Dutchess County children ages 3-5 with an expenditure of **\$15,873,621**.

Both the EI and PSE programs have responded to the growing number of Spanish-speaking children and families in each program by contracting with bilingual teachers and therapists in every discipline and collaborating with St. Francis Preschool to provide speech therapy groups for young children with severe speech delays in their native language.

Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education Enrollment Trends

Ages 0-2 Early Intervention			Ages 3-5 Preschool Special Education		
Calendar Year	Number of Children	Percent Change	Calendar Year	Number of Children	Percent Change
2001	1,002	---	2001	876	---
2002	1,140	14%	2002	896	2%
2003	1,156	1%	2003	920	3%
2004	1,259	9%	2004	990	8%
2005	1,286	2%	2005	1,000	1%
2006	1,339	4%	2006	1,012	1%
2007	1,379	3%	2007	998	-1.3%
2008	1,378	0%	2008	995	-.3%
2009	1,332	-3.3%	2009	997	.2%
2010	1,244	-6.7%	2010	974	-2.4%
2011	1,118	-11%	2011	1,041	6.4%

Data from Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education

Childhood Lead Screening and Prevention Program (845.486.3419)

New York State law requires healthcare providers screen all children for childhood lead poisoning at one and two years of age and at all well-child visits up to 6 years of age. In addition, hospitals and healthcare providers are required to screen pregnant women for elevated blood lead levels (lead poisoning) as part of prenatal care.

State databases such as LeadWeb and the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) are monitored regularly by Public Health Nurses who track children with elevated blood lead levels to ensure they receive lead poisoning prevention educational materials and medical treatment and follow up.

In 2011, the Dutchess County Department of Health tracked and monitored **6,393** screening tests for lead poisoning conducted by healthcare providers for children living in Dutchess County.

In addition, when blood lead levels are 15 mcg or greater, Public Health Nurses provide home visits to pregnant woman and children to provide case management and referrals to healthcare providers for lead poisoning treatment and education about lead poisoning risk reduction activities for families. In 2011, **28** individuals (25 children and 3 pregnant women) received home visiting and case management services by Public Health Nurses. These individuals are also referred to the Environmental Health Services Division for housing inspections to determine lead hazards. In 2011, there were **34** environmental investigations of properties to identify conditions conducive to lead poisoning. Staff meets with the property owner to explain the results of the investigation; outlines the local, state, and federal regulations to be followed for the elimination of lead hazards; and continues to follow up with field visits and inspections until the lead hazards have been mitigated.

Public Health Nurses and other Childhood Lead Poisoning Program staff also conduct outreach and education to the public, community based organizations, and healthcare providers. In 2011, **164** public outreach and educational events reaching **2,817** individuals and **8** educational programs were conducted for healthcare providers and community agencies serving pregnant women and children.

Particular efforts in the 12601 zip code for lead poisoning prevention are detailed on page 27 of this document.

Communicable Disease Control (845.486.3402)

Dutchess County Department of Health continues to monitor common and emerging communicable diseases through active disease surveillance, prompt case investigation, and public immunization clinics to prevent further transmission and stop the outbreak of communicable disease.

In 2011, the Department concentrated its disease intervention efforts against respiratory illnesses in school-aged children. Several widespread and multi-focal outbreaks of childhood respiratory illness occurred during the year. One school experienced an outbreak of pneumonia in children grades K-5. Twenty-two (**22**) students were diagnosed with pneumonia and **3** required hospitalization. Similar clusters were reported in 2 other schools. The Department conducted thorough investigations including the collection of clinical specimens to submit to NYSDOH Wadsworth research laboratory and the implementation of environmental mitigation strategies.

Another significant respiratory illness common in school-aged children is pertussis. A cluster of pertussis, identified in early spring involved a multi-county athletic competition. The investigation of two related cases resulted in the recommendation for preventative treatment for more than **70** persons. A second Pertussis investigation occurred in an overnight summer camp with one child infected with both Pertussis and Mycoplasma pneumoniae. Preventative treatment was recommended and arranged for exposed campers.

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) Clinic (845.486.3401)

In 2011, **1,704** visits were conducted in the Dutchess County Department of Health Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Clinic for the screening and treatment of individuals. In addition, the STI clinic provides immunizations against vaccine preventable diseases and breast and cervical cancer screening for eligible individuals.

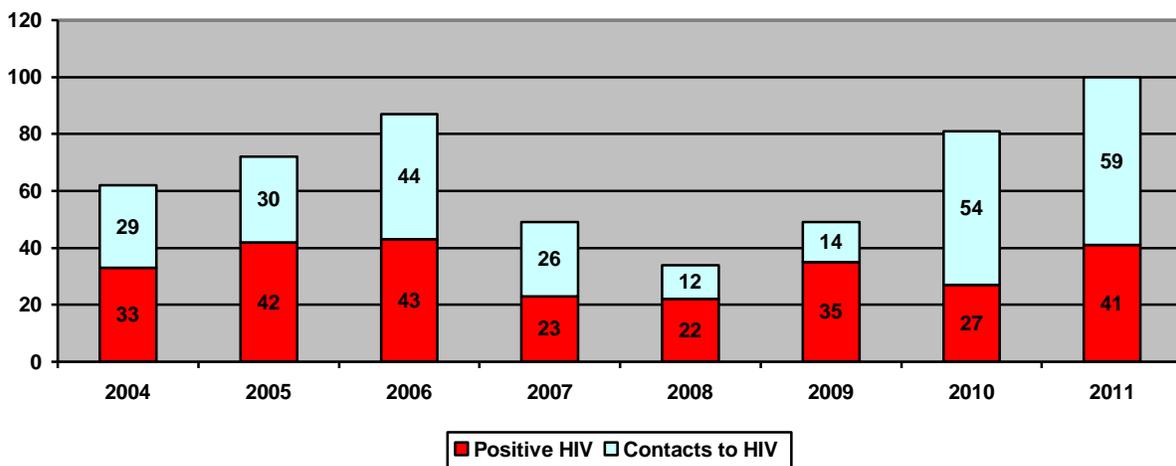
Dutchess County saw a significant rise in early syphilis and gonorrhea. Chlamydia continues to be the most reported disease in Dutchess County with **727** cases in 2011. These trends parallel increases reported across New York State as a whole.

The Department generated several public health alerts and advisories informing our healthcare partners of disease increases and the appropriate diagnostic and treatment interventions required. In addition, the Department hosted two STI coalition meetings to strategize with community partners for a more comprehensive collaborative response to stem the tide of infection.

HIV Counseling and Testing Clinics (845.486.3401)

In 2011, the Dutchess County Department of Health received reports of **41** individuals infected with HIV. Between 2010 and 2011, the Department saw a 30% increase in newly identified HIV infections. Increased reporting has been a result of a 2010 New York State law mandating HIV testing be offered to all individuals including primary care, hospital, outpatient, and emergency room care.

**Dutchess County Department of Health
Reported HIV/AIDS Cases 2004-2011**



NOTE: The red section of the column indicates positive HIV individuals. The blue section of the column indicates contacts of the positive HIV individuals tested.

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (845.486.3565)

Dutchess County first became eligible for Ryan White federal emergency funds in 1995, under the original CARE Act (Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act). In October of 2009, the legislation was reauthorized as the Ryan White Treatment Extension Act of 2009 and Dutchess County was designated as a Transitional Grant Area (TGA). In 2011, the county was no longer considered eligible for Part A funds and received Part B “compensatory funds” through NYS Aids Institute, to ease the impact the transition has on the HIV/AIDS continuum of care and local service providers.

RYAN WHITE PART A PROGRAM REPORT
(April 1, 2010-March 31, 2011)

SERVICE CATEGORY	ACCOMPLISHMENT/OUTCOME
<p>Substance Abuse</p> <p>Provides medical or other treatment and/or counseling to address substance abuse problems in an outpatient setting, rendered by a licensed, qualified health professional.</p>	<p>Thirty six (36) clients received substance abuse treatment and counseling services.</p>
<p>HIV/AIDS Case Management</p> <p>Client-centered services that link clients with health care, psychosocial, and other support services. Activities include assessment of client's needs and personal support system, development of an individual service plan, monitoring, and reevaluation to determine the effectiveness of interventions.</p>	<p>A total of one hundred and eighty-two (182) clients were served between four providers. Case managers assess clients' needs and personal supports as well as mutually develop individual service plans, monitors, and reevaluates to determine the effectiveness of interventions.</p>
<p>Treatment Adherence Services</p> <p>Ensures readiness for, and adherence to, complex HIV/AIDS treatments.</p>	<p>A total of thirty seven (37) clients were provided medication adherence, treatment education, peer-based information, and referrals to HIV health care and support services.</p>
<p>Medical Transportation</p> <p>Transportation is provided to access health care services including medical, case management, mental health, and substance abuse services.</p>	<p>The Transportation program provided one hundred and sixty four (164) rides to healthcare services for thirty-three (33) unduplicated clients.</p>
<p>Emergency Financial Assistance</p> <p>Provides consumers with financial assistance for utility, phone, and prescription medicine.</p>	<p>The program assisted nine (9) eligible clients, who required emergency assistance for telephone, utilities, and medications.</p>

West Nile Virus – WNV (WNV Infoline 845.486.3438)

In 2011, there were no reported human cases of West Nile Virus (WNV). The Department continued to conduct bird surveillance. The total number of dead birds reported decreased by 71% from **105** in 2010 to **30** in 2011.

Tickborne Disease Infections (845.486.3534)

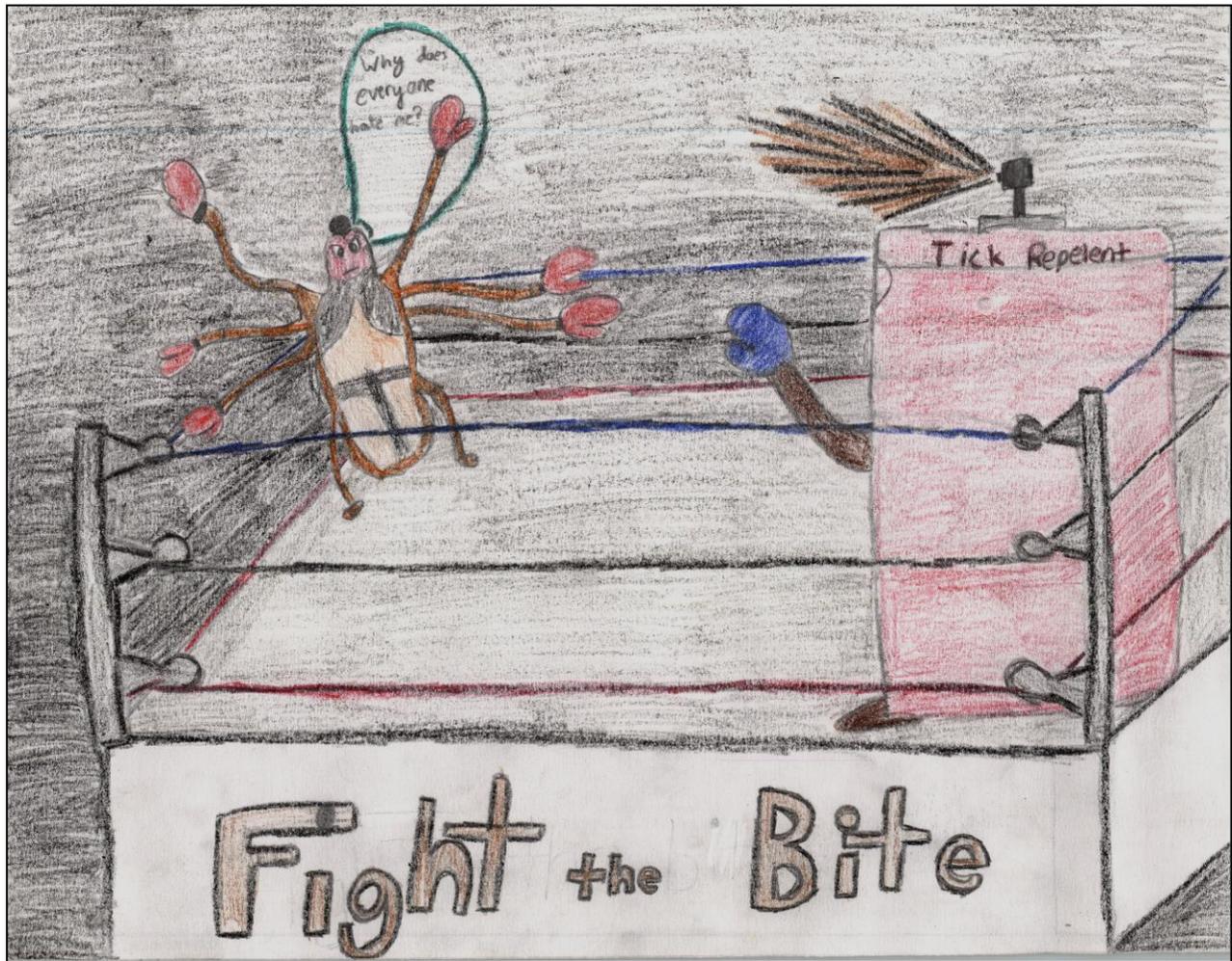
Lyme disease continues to be among the most prominent public health threat to Dutchess County residents. Nationally, Dutchess County has ranked in the top five in case reports and incidence rate. In 2011, there were **209 confirmed, probable or suspect** cases reported in Dutchess County through the NYSDOH sentinel surveillance system. This represents only 20% of the actual morbidity in Dutchess County.

In 2011, emergent infections such as Babesiosis, Anaplasmosis/Ehrlichiosis, and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever became the focus of the Department's education and prevention efforts. By the end of 2011, Dutchess County reported **53** confirmed or probable cases of Babesiosis, **75** confirmed or probable cases of Anaplasmosis/Ehrlichiosis and **1** probable case of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Although these infections are not as numerous as Lyme, they all impact the health and quality of life for those infected.

The Department continues to employ a multi-faceted approach including community partnerships, public and provider education, as well as outreach initiatives to deal with the tickborne illnesses. This year, Dutchess County was part of collaboration with Bard College and HealthQuest Medical Practice. This collaborative effort supplied the resources to sponsor "Not Just Lyme: Part II," a continuing medical education (CME) program for healthcare providers. DCDOH invited experts in the field of tickborne diseases to present information about Babesiosis, Anaplasmosis, and Powassan Viral Encephalitis to a group of approximately **80** providers from the local area. Providers who attended received 3 CME credits by the Mid Hudson Continuing Education.

As part of the Dutchess County's educational effort, the DCDOH promoted the CDC's "*Fight the Bite Poster Contest*." The poster contest was open to all fifth and sixth graders across the nation, it was designed to be a fun and creative way for students to learn more about the importance of using repellent while outdoors to protect themselves and their families from diseases spread by ticks and mosquitoes.

In 2011, a Dutchess County sixth grade student, Matthew Hayes, from LaGrange Middle School in LaGrangeville, was one of the New York State Winners.



(Fight The Bite Poster Contest - NYS Winner. Artwork by Matthew Hayes, LaGrange Middle School.)

B. INFORM AND EMPOWER PEOPLE ABOUT HEALTH ISSUES

Health information, education, and communication activities are designed to reduce risk and promote better health, and they are crucial to ensure a healthy community. Putting Public Health on the community agenda is one of the critical tasks local health departments are called to do. The Dutchess County Department of Health accomplished this by increasing its communication with the public through the media, participating in health fairs, community events, as well as engaging in direct community educational presentations.

Health Communication Activities

Communications and Public Health Information is formulated and disseminated through the Health Planning and Education Division (HP&E). They provide continuous, accurate, and timely information for all audiences within the community designed to increase awareness and help reduce health risk while promoting better health.

In 2011, the Department continued to use a variety of resources to disseminate key information to their various audiences, including public health advisories, Quarterly Morbidity Report, and a featured column in Dutchess County Medical Society to educate and inform more than 700 members of the medical community. News releases, a monthly featured Poughkeepsie Journal article, the Commissioner's Corner Webpage, and the Veterinarian Newsletter allow us to reach both residents and visitors of Dutchess County. Through various media outlets more than **50,000** students and faculty, and **35,000** individuals who attend summer camps are informed. Health topics included Pertussis, Pneumonia, Influenza, Foodborne illness, Bedbugs, Rabies, Arthropod diseases, drowning prevention, healthy eating, physical exercise, and many more public health-related issues.

A vast majority of this information is also available online through the County's website, DutchessNY.gov, which resulted in **351,877** visits to the Department's pages alone in 2011.

Information telephone lines were available for individuals to pursue information on health topics such as West Nile Virus (WNV), Lyme, and Adult Public Flu Clinic Program.

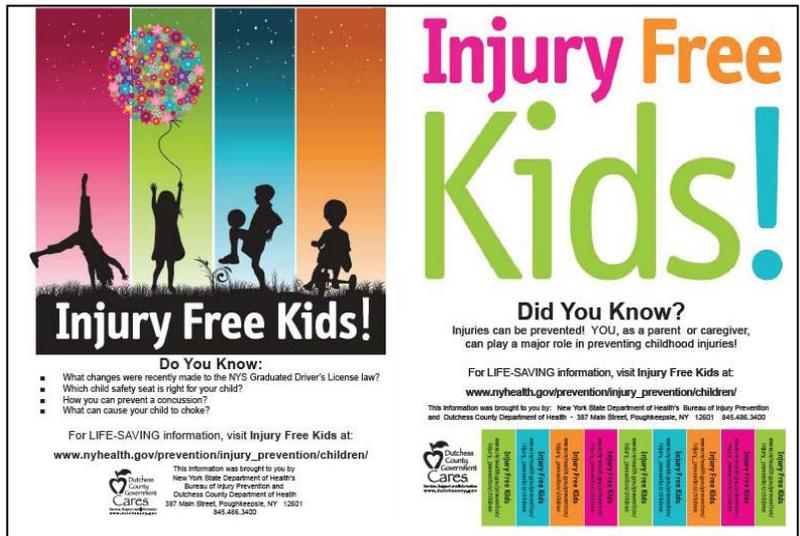
Dutchess County Department of Health staff also organized and participated in **special events** such as Lyme Disease Month, Breast Cancer Month, and World AIDS Day. The Dutchess County Department of Health continues to receive requests for presentations for health programs from day care providers, camps, colleges, schools, senior centers, faith-based organizations, and the community at large.

Community Education

The **Nutrition/Diabetes and Physical Activity** programs are offered to healthcare professionals, schools, seniors and community residents to promote healthier lifestyle choices. **Sixty-five** sessions from preschool to middle school were given to over **1,200** students. More than **1,100** senior citizens participated in programs such as *Portion Distortion and Diabetes Guidelines*. Additionally *Diabetes Awareness Sunday* was offered to faith-based congregants. Additionally, the Public Health Nutritionist provided training to **112** doctors, pediatric nurses, and school teachers on ways to promote healthy eating and physical activity.

In collaboration with Health Quest, a **Regional Obesity conference** was held with more than **70** healthcare professionals, school personnel and community organizations in attendance.

In order to increase awareness for parents and caregivers regarding childhood injuries and how to prevent them, the Department promoted the New York State Department of Health's campaign, **Injury-free Kids**, which was placed on our website.



The graphic features a colorful background with vertical stripes in pink, green, blue, and orange. Silhouettes of children are shown in various active poses: one jumping, one holding a large, colorful, multi-colored ball, one on a bicycle, and one sitting on the ground. The text 'Injury Free Kids!' is prominently displayed in large, bold, multi-colored letters. Below the main title, there is a 'Did You Know?' section with a list of facts and a website URL for more information. At the bottom, there are logos for the Dutchess County Government and the New York State Department of Health, along with contact information for the Bureau of Injury Prevention and the Dutchess County Department of Health.

Injury Free Kids!

Did You Know?
Injuries can be prevented! YOU, as a parent or caregiver, can play a major role in preventing childhood injuries!

For LIFE-SAVING information, visit Injury Free Kids at:
www.nyhealth.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/children/

This information was brought to you by: New York State Department of Health's Bureau of Injury Prevention and Dutchess County Department of Health • 387 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 845.486.3400

Dutchess County Government
CITCS
www.dutchesscountyny.gov

This information was brought to you by:
New York State Department of Health's
Bureau of Injury Prevention and
Dutchess County Department of Health
387 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
845.486.3400

The Department continued to promote recreational and swimmer safety by offering **drowning prevention** seminars to lifeguards and other members of the general public interested in learning about drowning victim recognition. During 2011, staff conducted **11** drowning prevention seminars, training a total of **173** individuals.

Food safety training was provided to restaurant owner/operators, food service managers and workers. During 2011, the Department offered **18** sessions, educating about **135** individuals on important food safety principles, and how to implement effective food safety management systems in their establishments.

DCDOH staff also provided training to Emergency Room staff at Vassar Hospital and St. Francis Hospital on **rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (RPEP)**. This training included guidance on understanding when to administer RPEP and how to administer it properly.

In 2011, more than **100** English and Spanish outreach activities were conducted throughout the county reaching more than **1,000** individuals through health fairs, health providers, parent groups, clinics, and other County and community-based organizations serving young children. Additionally DCDOH staff provided presentations on various topics such as Lyme, handwashing, HIV/AIDS/STDs, Go Red Sunday (cardiovascular), and dental care. More than **250** presentations reached more than **7,000** children and adults. Pre- and post-tests as well as satisfaction surveys were utilized for **85%** of these presentations and revealed an overall good rating, as well as adequate retention of the information presented.

Dutchess County Prescription Discount Card Program (1.877.321.2652)

Launched in 2004, the free prescription drug discount card program sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo) continued to offer savings to our county residents. This program administered by AdvancePCS, a division of Caremark Rx, Inc. of Nashville, Tennessee, offers savings to help consumers cope with the high price of prescription drugs.

Cards are issued with no enrollment form, no membership fee, and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. Cardholders and their family members may use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance. The cards may be used by all county residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health coverage and are accepted at 56 pharmacies throughout the county. A national network of more than 59,000 participating retail pharmacies will also honor the NACo prescription discount card.

For 2011, the program served **8,729** people, with **15,323** prescriptions covered, yielding a year-to-date total of **\$380,696**, representing **30.92%** price savings for prescriptions filled.

Dutchess County Dental Discount Program (1.877.354.6226)

In August of 2011, the County along with the Department launched a Dental Discount Program also sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo). Program information was distributed to dentists, pharmacies, community organizations, government agencies, media, and through the county website. The website received **782** visits which resulted in **165** enrollments.

This program is not an insurance plan and comes with a fee for the discounted services. A member and/or family can save between 5-50% on dental procedures, including routine oral exams, cleanings, denture, root canals, crowns, and more.

C. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Several initiatives addressing chronic diseases continued in 2011. All of these programs involved the community through coalition building and public/private partnerships.

HEART Safe Communities

The **HEARTSafe program** promotes and supports CPR training in the community, public access to defibrillation through strategic placement of automated external defibrillators (AEDs), early advanced care, and increases the out-of-hospital survival rate.

The cornerstone of this program is the designation of HEARTSafe Communities to businesses, schools, and organizations who have met or exceeded these requirements, including an AED installed in their facilities. The **Hudson Valley Pop Warner** organization in LaGrange, was the newest organization to be designated *HEARTSafe* in 2011. This brings the total of *HEARTSafe* community and municipal organization designations to **55**.

Operation Heart Beat

The **Dutchess County Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) Program** has **27** County PAD sites. **Five** AEDs were added in 2011, bringing the total to **46** AEDs located throughout Dutchess County Government buildings.

Each PAD site has a Site Representative to assist with maintenance of the AEDs. There are currently **337** certified responders at the **27** sites. AED/CPR drills are conducted quarterly at the various locations followed by a review of CPR and AED protocols.

Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus

The Department of Health worked with Maternal Infant Services Network to assist with identifying families who may not know they are eligible for health insurance coverage through Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus. Information packets were created in English and Spanish and distributed at Department of Health clinics and nursing home visits. Dutchess County school superintendents and principals were sent packets containing reproducible materials for Child Health Plus with financial guidelines for distribution to their students and their parents.

The logo for Child Health Plus features the words "Child Health" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below "Child Health" is the word "Plus" in a large, light blue, cursive-style font. A small red heart is positioned above the letter "i" in "Child".The logo for Family Health Plus features the words "family health" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below "family health" is the word "Plus" in a large, white, sans-serif font. A red apple is positioned to the left of the letter "P" in "Plus". The entire logo is set against a light brown background.

HealthCare Access Partnership (HCAP)

HCAP is a multi agency group that meets to help promote healthcare access through advocacy for the uninsured. Through advocacy and the creation and maintenance of linkages between agencies working together information was shared. Although funding is no longer available, the agencies' strong commitment to this shared mission has allowed them to continue to meet and share information.

The group developed a work plan for 2011 which included assisting in the HEAL NY 9 Planning group to identify and understand health-related needs and priorities of the community.

With the support of the HCAP group, Hudson River Healthcare hosted a Healthcare Reform Event in March at the Henry A. Wallace Center. The workshops provided an overview of New York's Programs for the Uninsured, Electronic Medical Record Meaningful Use, and the Impact of Reform on Primary Care. More than **80** community partners attended.

Health Care Efficiency and Affordability Law for New Yorkers (HEAL NY9)

HEAL NY9 is a planning grant from New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) which was received for 2009/2010 for the Hudson Valley Region. A summary report for Dutchess County was completed and sent with the regional report to the NYSDOH. A concluding conference was held in Newburgh with the regional partners. As a result, three pilot programs were identified with implementation planned for 2012:

1. Health disparities
2. Reduction of C-sections
3. Consistent public health messaging across borders/jurisdictions

Maternal Child Health Partnership

The Department continues to actively partner with local hospitals, healthcare providers, and community-based organizations to promote maternal/child health initiatives including:

- The Dutchess County Breastfeeding Coalition held its Sixth Annual Breastfeeding Awareness Walk in August with more than 400 participants gathered together to raise public awareness about the benefits of breastfeeding.
- Vassar Brothers Medical Center – The Department provided home visiting services and education to pregnant and postpartum women and infants.
- Hudson River Health Care – The Department provided home visiting services and education to pregnant and postpartum women and infants.

- Dutchess County Healthy Families – We provided consultation services to family support workers on breastfeeding and developmental screening.
- The Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network – Partnered with this network of healthcare and human services providers interested in maternal child health issues.

Lead Primary Prevention Program

The Dutchess County Department of Health partnered with the City of Poughkeepsie to help prevent childhood lead poisoning. The *Lead Primary Prevention Program* concentrated on City of Poughkeepsie homes within the 12601 zip code. The New York State Department of Health identified this zip code as having the highest annual incidence of Blood Lead Level (BLL) in Dutchess County.

The City of Poughkeepsie Building Department Inspectors conducted **281** housing unit inspections identifying **143** units with potential lead based paint hazards. Property owners were referred to the DCDOH to obtain training in the US EPA's Lead Safety for Remodeling, Repair, and Painting (RRP) Course. In 2011, there were **7** courses given training, **103** individuals and contractors.

A Community Outreach Media campaign included billboards, home shows, Kid's Expo, and health fairs. Knowledge of this serious but preventable public health issue emphasizes the importance of ensuring that children have a blood lead test at ages one and again at age two, or at any time exposure is suspected.



Dutchess County Comprehensive Cancer Coalition (DCCCC)

For 2011, information, as well as upcoming events and news were posted on the website www.cancerfreedutchess.net. There were **8,958** visits to this website in 2011.

On January 13, 2011 Vassar Brothers Medical Center announced they received the CEO Cancer Gold Standard accreditation. This recognized their commitment to taking concrete actions to reduce the cancer risk in their employees and families through screenings, early detection, and healthy changes in lifestyle and in the workplace. Only 70 other organizations nationally have been recognized for this level of commitment on behalf of their employees. Vassar Brothers is only the second hospital in New York, and the only organization in the Hudson Valley to achieve the coveted designation.

Poughkeepsie Plenty (formerly known as Building Bridges)

This a collaborative effort with the Poughkeepsie Farm Project, that received an FDA grant, and other organizations, to assess the food security and choices residents make in the City of Poughkeepsie. Vassar College interns working along with our Department's staff, conducted **320** surveys within the community to assess food security and food choices. These surveys will be analyzed by the DCDOH's epidemiologists.

Great Halloween Candy Exchange Program

The Great Halloween Candy Exchange Program's goal is to help reduce the obesity epidemic in children and promote healthier choices. The Department of Health along with Fishkill AllSport, Children's Medical group, Learning Insights, and The Literacy Connection held the 6th annual event where children donate their candy in exchange for books, roller skating passes, etc. In 2011, **2,000** pounds of candy was shipped to military personnel on a USS aircraft carrier located in the Indian Ocean and to troops in Afghanistan.



Other Coalitions

The Department of Health continues to work with the Town of Hyde Park Recreation, National Parks Service (FDR and Vanderbilt), and Winnakee Nature Preserve on promotion of the **Hyde Park Healthy Trails Walkabout** featuring **11** trails and a walking promotion, in which individuals can earn a patch by completing **5** of the trails.

D. Hackett Hill Park - Woodland and Guinea Community Trails
(1.1 mile loop)



- Woodland trail (green) easy walking, Guinea Community trail (red) moderate, rough surface.
- Park office information desk and seasonal restrooms.
- Parking is at the Hackett Hill parking lot, on East Market St.

E. Winnakee Nature Preserve Trail
(1.3 mile round trip)



- Easy to moderate walking on dirt-surfaced woods roads with rolling hills.
- Solid lines are measured loop, dashed lines are other open trails.
- Parking is in back of Pete's Famous Cafe & Grill on Route 9, or at end of Tenwilliger Rd. Ext.

F. Roosevelt Woods Trail
(3.3 mile round trip)



- Moderate walking on dirt-surfaced woods roads with some steep hills. Tulip-tree markers and green blazes.
- Henry Wallace Visitor Center info desk, restrooms & seasonal cafe are available.
- Parking is at main parking area for the FDR National Historic Site.

G. Roosevelt Farm Lane Trail
(3.6 mile round trip)



- Easy walking on gravel-surfaced woods roads with gently rolling hills.
- Bicycling permitted March - November on Farm Lane. No biking on Red, Yellow, Blue or any other trails.
- Parking at Rt. 9 trailhead, just north of Hyde Park Steakhouse & Brewing Company, or at Rt. 9S across from Val-Kill entrance.

H. Eleanor's Walk
(1.0 mile loop)

I. Top Cottage Trail
(2.0 mile round trip)



- Moderate walking on woodland paths with some steep hills on both Eleanor's Walk (red) and Top Cottage Trail (tulip-tree leaf marker).
- Visitor Center information desk and restrooms are available seasonally.
- Parking is at the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site parking lot.

J. Blue Trail (2.4 mile one-way)

K. White Trail (1.75 mile one-way)



- Enter & park at Mills Mansion, walk down paved road toward river.
- Hike J: Moderate to steep walking. Rolling hills on paved and woods roads with river views.
- Hike K: Moderate walking along river path. From Mills Mansion take Blue Trail to White Trail.

Hyde Park Healthy Trails Walkabout

Walkabout is a project to promote healthy physical activity - walking on trails. Walk at least 5 trails, see great places, get great exercise, and earn a free sew-on patch.



The Hyde Park Trail system includes nearly 16 miles of trails linking parks and historic sites in the town of Hyde Park, NY. The members of the Hyde Park Trail Partnership and many dedicated volunteers have worked since 1988 to build these trails for local residents and visitors alike.

Enjoy them!



The Department's personnel continues to participate in various other coalitions including the Eastern Dutchess Rural Health Network, Dutchess County Housing Consortium, American Cancer Society, Cornell Cooperative Extension NAC program, Dutchess Healthy Partnership, American Heart Association, and the Children Services Providers Network.

D. PROTECTING THE HEALTH AND LIVES OF DUTCHESS COUNTY RESIDENTS

Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

The Department of Health is responsible for the enforcement of the Dutchess County Sanitary Codes, and through agreements with NYSDOH, to enforce many sections of the New York State Sanitary Code. These Codes address a multitude of public health issues, including oversight of the food industry, the protection of our drinking water supply, the enforcement of clean air standards, and the follow up of hazards and exposure-related diseases identified in occupational and community settings.

Enforcement of the Sanitary Code includes unannounced regular inspections to determine and assure compliance with current regulations. During these inspections, violations are cited, and hearings and penalties may follow when code items are out of compliance. The tables below highlight the enforcement actions as well as community sanitation activities occurring in 2011. (Community Sanitation includes: Food served in restaurants and hot dog trucks, hotels/motels, children's camps, day care centers, sewage systems, water supplies, residential housing, and nuisances.)

Enforcement Actions

Type	Number of Administrative Actions
Daycare	1
Food Service Establishments	8
Sewage Disposal Systems	1
Water Supply	5

Community Sanitation

Service Type	# Inspections/ investigations completed
Food service inspections and reinspections	3038
Nuisance field visit and complaint investigations	562
Subdivision and individual lot inspections and reinspections	361
Residential Sanitation (housing) and complaint investigations	505
Residential Lead investigation field services	99
Rabies investigations*	494

* In comparison to 2010 figures, the DCDOH conducted **59** more rabies (bite) investigations during 2011 than in 2010, representing a 12% increase.

Weights and Measures

In January 2011, the Division of Weights and Measures was reassigned under the auspices of the Department of Health. This Division carries out inspections of commercial scales, gas pumps, home heating fuel delivery meters, package commodities, and scanner and item pricing found in retail establishments to ensure consumers of their accuracy. Through the New York State Petroleum Quality Program, inspections of gasoline and diesel fuels were performed heightening consumer confidence that the petroleum products they purchase meet the labeling standards. In 2011, **4,406** device inspections in **900** Dutchess County establishments were completed.

Clean Indoor Air, Tobacco Sales, and Tobacco Use

The New York State Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA) prohibits the sale of tobacco products including cigars, cigarettes, and chewing tobacco to minors and requires retailers to obtain positive proof the person buying these products is 18 years of age and older.

The Dutchess County Sanitary Code requires retailers to obtain a County permit in order to sell tobacco products and electronic cigarettes.

Routine checks are done in order to verify compliance with current ATUPA regulations. These checks include the use of underage youth to verify businesses are not selling age-restricted tobacco products to minors, and to confirm valid permits and signage are properly displayed.

When a store has been ordered not to sell tobacco products, adult compliance checks are conducted to ensure tobacco products are not being sold during the restricted periods.

Compliance Check Results (10/1/2010 – 09/30/2011)			
# of retailers	# of vending machines	# of inspections conducted	# of tobacco violations
314	1	378 *	25 sales to minors

* **NOTE:** 48 were adult compliance checks

Tobacco sale to minor citations were sustained against three retailers with previous tobacco sales to minor violations. These facilities, in addition to the assessed fine, were subject to a 6 month suspension of their state and county tobacco permits and, when applicable, their Lottery licenses.

The Environmental Health Services division also enforces the Clean Indoor Air Act (smoking regulations) at bars, restaurants, and other places of employment. From January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011, **19** complaints of indoor smoking were investigated.

Dutchess County Sanitary Code Article 25 requires all public and private schools to annually file a smoking policy with the DCDOH by September 30th. Additionally, public and private schools with grades 6 through 12 must report to the Department twice a year any smoking/possession violations that occurred on school grounds. Public and private schools combined reported **161** smoking/possession violations during the 2010/2011 school year.

Dutchess County Private School and Public School District Reporting (09/01/2010 – 08/31/2011)			
Schools	Schools smoking policies received (%)	Smoking/possession violations during first report period	Smoking/possession violations during second report period
Public School Districts (14)	100%	69	76
Private Schools (27)	81.5%	12 violations	4 violations

Environmental Hazards

The DCDOH reviews spill reports as provided to the Department by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). These spill reports are evaluated for potential impacts on nearby public and private water supplies. The Department of Health also reviews the results of water samples collected to monitor water treatment systems installed at spill sites. Additionally, the Department also advises NYSDEC if and when water test results meet the criteria for removal of water treatment systems and also coordinates the response to Indoor Air Quality issues arising from oil spills in private residences and commercial buildings. In 2011, there were **399** reported oil spills in Dutchess County.

Radiological and Environmental Health Program (REHP) staff conducted inspections of **274** x-ray facilities encompassing **800** x-ray machines at hospitals, educational institutions, and medical, veterinary, and dental offices. From July through September of 2011, DCDOH staff coordinated with NYSDOH staff to prioritize and complete inspections and re-inspections due to insure an orderly transition of this program back to NYSDOH effective October 1, 2011.

The Tanning Program conducted inspections of more than **175** tanning beds in Dutchess County to determine compliance with the Dutchess County Sanitary Code and the NYS Public Health Law. Additional program activities include responding to public inquiries and complaints regarding radon, indoor air quality, mold, asbestos, and other topical environmental health issues.

Public Water Supplies (PWS)

The Department currently regulates **684** public water supplies (PWS) and three large community supplies in the city of Beacon, and the city and town of Poughkeepsie. Four hundred twenty-five (**425**) community supplies and approximately **260** water supplies at facilities are under permit (restaurants, motels, camps, day care centers, etc.).

During 2011, as a result of **625** inspections, re-inspections, and sanitary surveys at public water supplies, **475** violations were issued. The most common violations cited were: Failure to monitor for contaminants in a timely manner; Incomplete or unacceptable reporting by the supplier of water; The presence of a cross-connection between potable and non-potable water; Unsatisfactory operation of treatment equipment; Source water pollution; Failure to maintain disinfection chemicals at proper concentrations; and Modification to the treatment system without approval.

Over the course of the year samples were collected and analyzed for primary organic chemicals (POCs), most commonly associated with petroleum, fuel oils, and industrial processes. On established schedules, samples for POCs were collected at **151** of the 978 active public water supply (PWS) wells. POCs were detected in **14** of these PWS wells, with three of these wells containing POCs that exceeded the maximum contaminant limit of 5 parts per billion. Treatment to eliminate POCs is installed at the supplies served by the three wells exceeding the maximum contaminant level in the raw water. This treatment is designed to remove all POC's from the water served to consumers.

PWS are consistently sampled for inorganic chemicals and coliform bacteria. During 2011, inorganic samples were collected by water suppliers (**657** samples) and the Department (**46** samples). The combined number of bacteriological samples taken by water suppliers and this Department was **5,960** of which 2% were repeat samples to determine if a violation existed.

The greater share of field investigation and data processing involving public water supplies is the responsibility of the Water Enhancement Program (WEP), which currently operates under a New York State grant. WEP is audited quarterly by the NYS Department of Health's Bureau of Water Supply Protection and evaluated for a variety of qualifying parameters. In addition, the US Environmental Protection Agency conducted a data verification audit in 2011. The Water Enhancement Program generally met or exceeded New York State and federal requirements.

A continued emphasis is being placed on the presence of chlorides in drinking water at public water supplies. Although it is clear that the practice of salting roads contributes to the chloride load, the degree to which this practice contaminates any particular well or aquifer remains to be determined. Chloride is considered a "secondary contaminant" by EPA, in that its presence is not generally a threat to health. It does, however, impart an objectionable taste and can contribute to corrosion of plumbing fixtures. The difficulty with chloride is once it reaches high

levels and must be removed, the treatment is most exclusively "reverse osmosis." This is expensive and places an undue burden on local sewage disposal fields. During 2011, samples were analyzed for chloride at **113** water supplies. Five wells returned chloride in excess of 500 ppm. Two of those wells have been granted temporary waivers from the chloride maximum contaminant level which will expire in 2012. The remaining three supplies have installed treatment approved to reduce chloride to acceptable levels prior to consumption.

Engineering

Dutchess County Department of Health engineers approved **204** plans for subdivisions, individual lots, commercial properties, public water and sewerage systems, and public swimming pools during 2011. The engineers approved water and sewer connections for Malcolm Hall at the Anderson School in Hyde Park, for housing at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, and the central water connection at Lime Kiln recreational center in East Fishkill. Additional reviews during 2011 include: Specifications for a state of the art membrane filtration plant for the Village of Pawling water supply; Improvements to the Town of Beekman's Recreation Park and the Town of Stanford's new highway garage; and the Town of Beekman received water and sewage approval for a pavilion with a kitchen at the recreation park off Clove Road.

Well contamination issues were resolved at Green Meadow Park in LaGrange, Ledge Rock Mobile Home Park in Hyde Park, Country Manor Lodge in Milan, and Arbor Arms Apartments, Country Commons and Valley Meadows in Pleasant Valley.

The Department's Engineering Unit continues to provide technical assistance and support to town and village officials, residents, and developers on water and sewage systems as well as treatment options when dealing with contamination. Information is also available on our website.

Maintaining Public Health Preparedness

The Department developed a written framework addressing an All-Hazards response to public health emergencies, including surveillance, community mitigation, risk communication, and medical countermeasure distribution. These plans call for a layered activation approach dependent on the activity, severity, and virulence of the public health threat.

In 2011, we completed the Alternate Care Site Plan (ACS) describing the process and procedures for selecting, equipping, staffing, and operating an Alternate Care Site (ACS), Community Triage Point (CTP), or Community-based Care Center (CBCC during a public health emergency. This document is an annex to the Dutchess County Comprehensive Emergency

Management Plan (CEMP). Additionally, several Response Plans were updated as part of the annex to the CEMP as noted below:

1. Community Mitigation and Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions
2. Risk Communication and Public Information
3. Epidemiology and Laboratory Surveillance
4. Prevention of Disease through Medical Countermeasure Distribution

In August 2011, the Department implemented a scaled response to Hurricane Irene. The Department worked to control and respond to the health effects of the hurricane through the use of risk communication strategies and outreach to particularly vulnerable and at-risk populations. The Department also provided representation at the County Emergency Operations with public health nurses and environmental sanitarians and engineers.

In order to continually update, train, and educate staff, numerous programs were offered. Twenty members of the Collaborative Outbreak Response team (CORe) Team completed a five-week online course entitled "Field Epidemiology 201: Practical Skills in Outbreak Investigation" enhancing staff's ability to respond to various outbreaks including Pertussis, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*, and Norovirus (gastrointestinal disease).

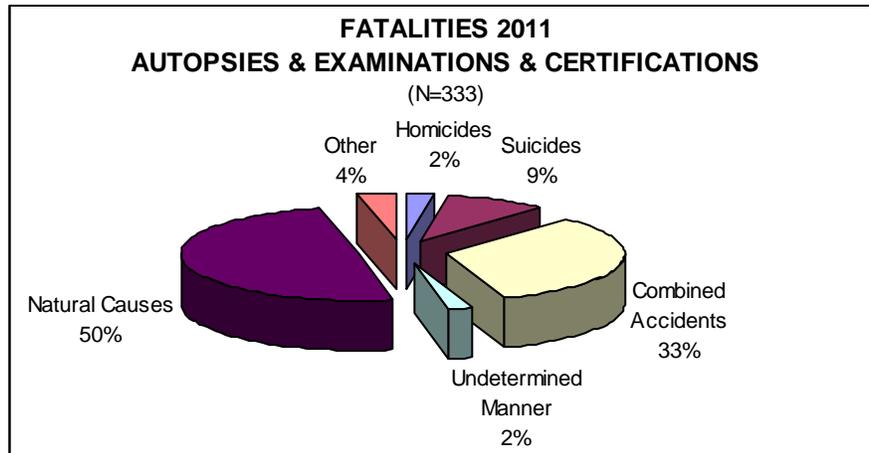
The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) continues to be an integral part of maintaining public emergency preparedness. Besides deployment for the Department's Public Flu Clinics and shelter operations, they conducted **17** training/drill sessions utilizing **200** volunteers for more than **500** hours of education during the 2011 calendar year.

Additionally DCDOH held two closed PODs, one at the Department for the purposes of testing a new electronic Clinical Data Management System and the other for First Responders. More than **100** MRC volunteers participated in all the public flu clinics. With the assistance of two DCDOH staff, MRC Volunteers conducted the First Responders' POD on their own, representing the first step toward strengthening the County's ability to provide mass vaccination at multiple locations throughout the county while maximizing our county resources.



Medical Examiner Program

The Dutchess County Medical Examiner's Office investigates any sudden, unexpected, violent, or suspicious death within Dutchess County, in order to determine cause and manner of death. Below are the results of these investigations over the past years.



MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

Autopsies, External Exams & Certifications by Manner of Death					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
*Total Cases Reported	668	703	760	735	812
<hr/>					
Autopsies (A)	217	204	207	200	220
Externals (E) & Certifications (C)	86	111	145	109	113
Total A+E+C	303	315	352	309	333
<hr/>					
Total Violent Deaths	145	128	136	136	156
Homicides	18	6	6	15	8
Suicides	30	26	27	36	31
Vehicular Accidents	32	32	29	11	37
Accidental Overdoses	30	24	28	36	32
Other Accidents	22	27	34	27	41
Undetermined Manner	13	13	12	11	7
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Natural Causes	153	177	208	164	165
Other	5	10	8	9	12

* Total cases reported include consults and declined cases and are not charted.

Note: Other cases include deaths in utero, skeletal remains, and violence against animals, which do not fit into the other categories.

E. EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENTS

In April of 2011 Audrey Waltner, MPH, Biostatistician was recognized by NYSDOH as an outstanding employee who displayed extraordinary dedication to better the health of the residents of Dutchess County.



She was honored as a member of the 2011 *New York State Public Health Works! Honor Roll* for her instrumental efforts to improve efficiency and usability of information through data collection in many public health programs. Some of her contributions included assisting with the data collection and reporting for the lead program, the Department's equipment inventory, multiple communication databases, as well as providing data and analysis as requested to other county departments, assisted with the Logic Model Training under the leadership of Dutchess County's Health & Human Services Cabinet, led the survey development for the "*Dutchess County Integrated County Assessment Community Health Survey*" report.

The Medical Reserve Corps
of Dutchess County's Coordinator,
Catherine Tegtmeier,
was the recipient of the
New York State
Nurses Association (NYSNA)
District 12 Clinical Excellence Award for 2011



Abbreviations/Acronyms Used in this Report

AED	Automated external defibrillators
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ATUPA	Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act
CHHA	Certified Home Health Agency
CORe	Collaborative Outbreak Response team
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
CPSE	Committee on Preschool Special Education
CSHCN	Children with Special Health Care Needs
DCDOH	Dutchess County Department of Health
EI or EIP	Early Intervention or Early Intervention Program
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
Esq	Esquire
H1N1	Refers to 2009 H1N1 Influenza virus/swine flu
HEAL NY	Care Efficiency and Affordability Law for New Yorkers
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
IEP	Individualized Education Plan/Individualized Education Program
M.Ed.	Masters in Education
MD	Doctor of Medicine
MPH	Master in Public Health
MRC	Medical Reserve Corps of Dutchess County
NACo	National Association of Counties
NYSDOH	New York State Department of Health
PAD	Public Access Defibrillation Program
PHN	Public Health Nurses
POD	Point of Distribution clinics
PSA	Public Service Announcement
PSE	Preschool Special Education
PWS	Public Water Supplies
REHP	Radiological and Environmental Health Program
RN	Registered Nurse
RPA-C	Registered Physician Assistant - Certified
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TGA	Transitional Grant Area
WNV	West Nile virus