

Perry County Health Department

September 1, 2025

News



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PCHD at the 2025 Perry County Fair



PCHD returned to the Perry County Fair with our air-conditioned BluMed facility (pictured). We provided a cool area for fair-goers to beat the heat, as well as a baby changing and feeding area to parents attending the fair with children.

PCHD staff Ashley Champ and Te'Lesia Spencer enjoyed their time spent at the BluMed facility.



Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Jim Mickey spoke with T-100 Radio to tell the fair-goers about services provided at the PCHD booth.

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A big congratulations to our Public Health Nurse, Bailey Vandagriff, on achieving her Certified Breastfeeding Specialist certification! This achievement reflects her ongoing dedication to supporting mothers, babies, and families in our community. We are so proud of her commitment to making a difference in the lives of those she serves.

Well done, Bailey!



Need a mammogram?

The James Mobile Mammography unit of The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James) has been screening women for breast cancer since 1988. The unit crisscrosses Ohio, parking and setting up its mobile breast cancer screening practice at companies, county health offices, at festivals and many other places and events. The mobile unit will be at Perry County Health Department on October 22nd. Call 740-342-5179 to set up an appointment.

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Perry County Access to Care Committee

Working to Bring Dialysis Care Closer to Home!

Perry County residents deserve access to life-saving dialysis treatment without the burden of long commutes. We are asking for your help to make a lasting difference in Perry County!

The Perry County Access to Care Committee, a committee who strives to improve healthcare options in Perry County is conducting a short, anonymous survey to better understand where Perry County dialysis patients currently receive care and the challenges they face. We are collecting information from Perry County Dialysis patients and caregivers in hopes to show the **true need for a dialysis center *right here in Perry County***. This short, anonymous survey is part of a grassroots efforts to improve local healthcare access for Perry County.

Please take this survey if:

- You or a loved one receives dialysis
- The patient lives in Perry County
- You believe there is a need for a dialysis center in Perry County and would like to use your voice to make a difference



To complete the anonymous survey:

- Scan the QR code or visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/ZL4thzDsRx>
- Paper copies are also available at the Perry County Health Department

**Please only complete one survey for each dialysis patient
thank you!**

If you have any questions about this survey or would like to join the Access to Care Committee, please contact the Perry County Health Commissioner, Angela DeRolph, at angela.derolph@perrycountyohio.gov



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PCHD kicked off National Breastfeeding Awareness Month in August by debuting our new breastfeeding program, Strong Moms, Healthy Starts at the Perry County Community Baby Shower. Director of Nursing & Epidemiologist Jenna Cannon and Public Health Nurse/Certified Breastfeeding Specialist Bailey Vandagriff were in attendance to distribute giveaways and spread the word about enrollment. This program is open to all breastfeeding moms in Perry County regardless of income or insurance. Call Bailey today to learn more at (740) 721-0942.

Because when mom's thrive, communities grow



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Caps & Lids for Benches: A Community Effort Toward Healthy Spaces

How did the Health Department get involved in collecting caps and lids for benches?

It all began with two inspiring women—Kay and Arlene—from New Lexington School. Their vision was simple yet powerful: collect plastic lids and caps to create benches for the new bike park at Arethusa Springs, designed for children ages 3 to 9. Thanks to their dedication, they gathered enough materials to build four small benches, giving young cyclists a place to rest and connect.

Their success sparked a new idea: why not expand this initiative to support the Rest & Ride locations along the Zero Loop Route throughout New Lexington? It was a practical way to save money while deepening community involvement.

As coordinator of the Perry Neighborhood Connection Coalition, Jenny LaRue proposed extending the project into 2025. The coalition enthusiastically agreed, and collection efforts officially began in January. The response has been overwhelming—in the best way.

Of course, every great project comes with its quirks. Some donated lids arrive unwashed, and others include items that aren't recyclable. That's where the sorting process begins—a hands-on effort that brings people together.

Community Support Has Been Incredible

The first group to jump in was the Aces Up 4-H Club, and they were quickly joined by a wide range of supporters:

- County courts
- Mental health facilities
- Elementary and high school students
- The VFW Auxiliary
- And many more!



The full list of contributors is long and heartwarming. Once the benches arrive, we plan to gather everyone for a celebratory photo to honor the hands and hearts behind this project.



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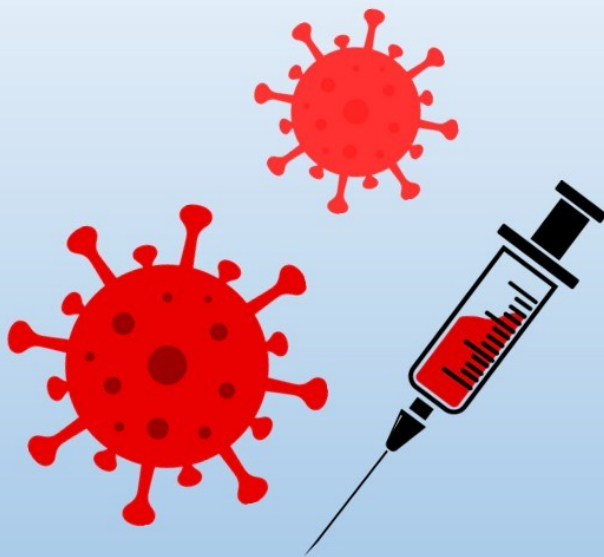
Perry County
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MARK YOUR



CALENDAR!

Annual Drive-Thru Flu Shot Clinic &
Medication Drop-off Event



Perry County Fairgrounds

The newest Covid-19 vaccine will be offered if available

Please bring your insurance card and photo ID

Contact us at: (740) 342-5179, opt. 2 with questions

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16th Annual
Back to School Bash!

Public Health Nurses Bailey Vandagriff and Jake Baker attended the Perry County Job and Family Services 16th Annual Back-to-School Bash in August to help prepare children in our community with everything they would need to start the school year.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator Jim Mickey completed **174** trainings during the 2025 Perry County Fair to members throughout our community in CPR, AED, and first aid choking in addition to set up and take down of our BluMed tent to coordinate the Department Operations Center (DOC) during fair week. Thanks for all you do Jim!



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Strong Moms, Healthy Starts

Breastfeeding support for Perry County

The Perry County Health Department is proud to introduce **Strong Moms, Healthy Starts**, a comprehensive breastfeeding program designed to provide personalized support for mothers in our community. Our program focuses on your **physical, emotional, and social well-being** to ensure a positive and successful breastfeeding experience

Our program offers:

- Personalized support for mothers
- Connected care for every mother's journey
- Encouragement and guidance on breastfeeding by our Certified Breastfeeding Specialist, Bailey Vandagriff, RN.
- Referral to needed services or support groups

“Because when moms thrive, communities grow stronger”



**Eligible participants are any
breastfeeding mothers in Perry County
regardless of income or insurance**

Contact us today to learn more or
to schedule an appointment with
Bailey at 740.721.0942



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Congratulations to our Lean Six Sigma Green Belts: Hannah Dishon, Ashley Champ, and Brooke Howell.

These individuals have a working knowledge of the DMAIC (define, measure, analyze, improve, and control), and contribute to solving problems defined in the Quality Improvement (QI) projects.

They will continue to participate in team meetings, carry out assignments, and contribute knowledge, experience and expertise to successfully complete QI projects with the health department.

Thank you to Hannah, Ashley and Brooke!



Health Department Birthdays:

Jenna Cannon, Director of Nursing & Epidemiologist–Sep 8th
Cary Bowers, Director of Environmental Health–Sep 9th
Kaylin Wellspring, Environmental Admin Asst–Sep 30th
Bailey Vandagriff, Public Health Nurse–Oct 27th
Josh McClure, REHS–Oct 28th
Chad Seurkamp, Health Educator–Nov 9th
Jim Mickey, Emergency Preparedness & Response Coordinator–November

Important Dates:

Sep 1st: Office closed - Labor Day
Oct 13th: Office closed - Columbus Day
Oct 22nd: James Cancer Center Mobile Mammography Van at PCHD
Oct 24th: PCHD Flu Clinic at the Perry Co Fairgrounds
Nov 11th: Office closed - Veteran's Day
Nov 27th: Office closed - Thanksgiving Day
Nov 28th: Office closed - Day after Thanksgiving

