MISSION
To protect and enhance health by promoting and providing innovative and community-based programs and initiatives.

VISION
A community where everyone has the opportunity to live a long, healthy, and active life.
The Barry–Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) is the nationally-accredited public health service agency for Barry and Eaton counties. We protect and improve the health of Barry and Eaton counties through education; promotion of healthy lifestyles; and implementation of effective policies and programs for individuals, families, businesses, and communities. We provide a wide variety of services, from restaurant food safety inspections to the WIC nutrition program. BEDHD is governed by the Barry–Eaton Board of Health.

**Core Values**

BEDHD identified the following values intrinsic to its service to the community:

- We are committed to helping people.
- We will treat people with dignity and respect.
- We will assure good health and wellness.
- We will fulfill the essential public health functions.
Locations

Barry County

330 W. Woodlawn Ave. Hastings, MI 49058
Phone: (269) 945-9516
Fax: (269) 945-2413

Eaton County

1033 Health Care Dr. Charlotte, MI 48813
Phone: (517) 543-2430
Fax: (517) 543-0451
Children’s Special Healthcare Services, breast-feeding support, STI & HIV screening/counseling/resource referral, communicable disease investigations including COVID-19, COVID-19 support for schools, and Connections (Community Health Workers). The Personal & Community Health Staff consists of Nurses, Clinic Assistants, Dieticians, Vision & Hearing Specialists, Community Health Workers, Health Resource Advocates, and many more who make these services possible!
Connections is a brand new Community Health Worker (CHW) program at Barry-Eaton District Health Department. CHWs are members of the community they serve; they have the unique ability to bring information where it is needed most. CHWs provide health education and referrals to help people get the care they need.

Common referrals include:
- COVID-19 Information
- Insurance & Benefits
- Primary & Specialty Care
- Food Assistance
- Mental Health Services
- And More!

Meet CHWs
Savannah Vanstee & Tayler Lamb

"People really just want to be heard and understood. The amount of folks we’ve had come in that are just so happy that someone cares about them and wants to help, really makes everything worth it." – SV

"I have always been drawn to the Macro field; in other words assisting the community as a whole. Focusing on systemic issues and advocating for the entire population has always been important to me and, as for many, sense of community is key." – TL

"We don’t always see the people who are sleeping on the sidewalk or people who aren’t eating so they can afford to feed their children, and I think a lot of people think that kind of stuff only happens in the big cities like Chicago or Detroit. It’s happening right here in your community. Be a kind neighbor, help someone when you can, but overall just have an open mind and don’t be afraid to ask for help." – SV

**Barry-Eaton District Health Department has received funding from The Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Office of Equity and Minority Health (OEMH). Funds are to address health disparities and advance health equity by expanding health departments’ capacity and services among underserved populations.**
The Finance Division is responsible for maintaining a fiscally responsible local public health department. By handling agency funds responsibly and frugally, they help to maximize BEDHD's community impact.

**FY2022 Budget Expenditures**

- Personnel: $5,084,853
- Travel: $108,672
- Communications: $88,151
- Supplies: $397,556
- Contractual: $475,187
- Other: $1,387,269
- **Total**: $7,541,688

**FY2022 Budget Revenue**

- Local: $1,810,614
- State: $4,448,003
- Federal: $236,000
- Fees: $708,419
- Billing: $209,119
- **Total**: $7,541,688
Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Preparedness Coordinator (EPC) plays a critical role in preventing negative public health outcomes resulting from emergencies and disasters. Emergency preparedness is all about planning. EPCs manage updating and executing a myriad of different plans that address all parts of emergency response. These efforts are critical when disaster strikes, because the worst time to determine protocol is in the midst of a response.

Preparedness includes six different domains. According to the The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the six domains are:

1. **Community Resilience**: Preparing for and recovering from emergencies.
2. **Incident Management**: Coordinating an effective response.
3. **Information Management**: Making sure people have information to take action.
4. **Countermeasures and Mitigation**: Getting medicines and supplies where they are needed.
5. **Surge Management**: Expanding medical services to handle large events.
6. **Biosurveillance**: Investigating and identifying health threats.

Together, these assure that state and local public health systems are prepared for emergencies that impact the public’s health.
Planning, Promotion, & Evaluation

The primary purpose of population-based health promotion and education is to prevent disease, illness, and injury. Preventing these problems before they happen can lead to reduced demands on the healthcare system; better health outcomes for individuals; and overall healthier, safer, and more engaged communities.

Staff within the Planning, Promotion, and Evaluation Division (PPE) do a variety of work focused on preventing and mitigating disease, illness, and injury in the local communities. For example, BEDHD Epidemiologist, Aurelia Peña, MPH presented on opioid data and trends at the 2022 Eaton County Opioid Summit.

In 2022, BEDHD was recognized with the Michigan Breastfeeding-Friendly Workplace and Outpatient Awards.
The Environmental Health Division provides a wide range of services to the community that protect the environment and people in the community from potentially harmful environmental factors. These services include: inspections and permitting, sampling, testing as well as public education (i.e. classroom instruction and/or certification). Some of the programs associated with these services include: public food safety, indoor air quality, body art, groundwater & surface water protection, sewage handling, and recreational safety (public swimming pools, bathing beaches, and public campgrounds).