



Barry-Eaton District
Health Department

Be Active • Be Safe • Be Healthy



ANNUAL REPORT

A YEAR IN COMMUNITY HEALTH

OCT. 2024 - SEPT. 2025

TABLE OF *Contents*



- 03 A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICER**
- 04 ABOUT US**
- 06 PERSONAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH (PCH)**
- 07 PCH: IMPACT STORY**
- 08 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (EH)**
- 09 EH: EMERGING THREAT**
- 10 PLANNING, PROMOTION, & EVALUATION (PPE)**
- 11 PPE: IMPACT STORY**
- 12 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**
- 13 FINANCE**



barryeatonhealth.org



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Health Department

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A Message from the **HEALTH OFFICER**



REBEKAH CONDON, MPH **Health Officer**

It is an honor to serve as your Health Officer, a role I stepped into in October 2025. While my title is new, my commitment to Barry and Eaton counties is not.

I have seen firsthand how this team responds to challenges - from disease outbreaks to environmental health concerns - and I am proud to lead an organization that takes its mission seriously every single day.

This annual report reflects not just what we accomplished, but who we are: a local health department rooted in our communities, responsive to our residents, and accountable to the public we serve. As you read through these pages, I hope you see the depth and variety of public health work - much of which happens quietly, behind the scenes, keeping our families and neighborhoods healthy and safe. Thank you for your continued trust in our work.





ABOUT *Us*

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.



BEDHD BOARD OF HEALTH (FY25)

Eaton County

- Jim Mott (Vice Chair)
- Jane Whitacre
- Keith Barber

Barry County

- Catherine Getty (Chair)
- Bob Teunessen
- Bruce Campbell

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.



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.

Our 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



PERSONAL & COMMUNITY Health



The **Personal & Community Health (PCH) Division** is dedicated to supporting the health and well-being of people of all ages. Our team provides a wide range of services including immunizations, vision and hearing screenings, lead screenings, WIC (Women, Infants & Children), Tuberculosis (TB) skin tests, Children's Special Healthcare Services, breastfeeding support, STI and HIV screening and counseling, and communicable disease investigations (including COVID-19).

Behind these services is a dedicated team that helps make it all possible. The PCH Division includes Public Health Nurses, Clinic Assistants, Dietitians, Vision & Hearing Specialists, and many more staff members working every day to keep our community healthy.

PCH BY THE NUMBERS

2,012 WIC Participants
6,155 Hearing Screenings
7,647 Vision Screenings
878 Children's Special Healthcare Clients
4,352 Non-COVID Immunizations Given
426 Flu Vaccines Given (6mo - 18 yrs)
72 TB Skin Tests

20,665 Total Communicable Disease Investigations

474 STI Cases
78 Animal Bite Cases
2,139 COVID-19 Cases



IMPACT

Story



BABY Café

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) hosts **Baby Café**, a free breastfeeding support group that provides a welcoming space for pregnant and breastfeeding families to **receive guidance, share experiences, and connect with others**. Led by trained lactation professionals and peer supporters, Baby Café offers one-on-one support, evidence-based information, and encouragement for families at all stages of their breastfeeding journey.

Barry County

Date: Tuesdays
Time: 10am to 12pm
Location: Hastings Public Library (Oct - May), Tyden Park (June - Sept)

Eaton County

Date: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month
Time: 10am to 12pm
Location: Charlotte Community Library

Virtual

Date: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month
Time: 10am-11am

Participants can receive help with common challenges such as latching, milk supply, pumping, returning to work, and feeding goals. The program also helps families build confidence while connecting them to additional community resources and support services.

By offering accessible, ongoing breastfeeding support, Baby Café helps promote healthy beginnings for infants and strengthens support networks for parents and caregivers in our community.

LEARN MORE:

[www.barryeatonhealth.org/
breastfeeding](http://www.barryeatonhealth.org/breastfeeding)



ENVIRONMENTAL

Health



The **Environmental Health (EH) 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:

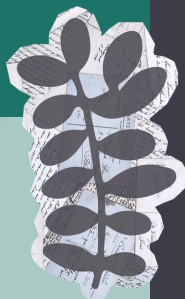
- inspections and permitting
- sampling
- testing
- public education (i.e. classroom instruction and/or certification).

Some programs associated with these services include:

- public food safety
- indoor air quality
- body art
- groundwater & surface water protection
- sewage handling
- recreational safety (public swimming pools, bathing beaches, and public campgrounds).

BY THE NUMBERS:

271	Sewage System Final Inspections
155	Barry County
116	Eaton County
31	Campground Inspections
138	Public Pool Inspections
630	Licensed Food Establishments
1,340	Food Inspections
868	Routine Food Establishment
251	Temporary Food Service
221	Follow-up Inspections
34	Public Water Supply Sanitary Surveys
191	Well Permits Issued
144	Wells Drilled
19	Licensed Septage Haulers
177	Abandoned Wells Plugged
571	Site Evaluations
341	Barry County
230	Eaton County
206	Sewage System Permits
111	Barry County
95	Eaton County
33	Complaints Investigated
13	Barry County
20	Eaton County
352	Radon Test Kits Distributed
127	Barry County
225	Eaton County





EMERGING *Threat:*

VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES

TICKS

Ticks are active from spring through fall and can carry diseases such as *Lyme disease* and Anaplasmosis. **Prevention is key.** Use repellent, wear protective clothing in grassy or wooded areas, and check for ticks after being outdoors. Prompt removal helps reduce the risk of illness.



Lyme disease cases in the Barry-Eaton District nearly doubled from **54** in **2024** to **101** in **2025**, the highest number reported in more than a decade.



MOSQUITOES

Mosquitoes are more than a nuisance; they can spread illnesses like West Nile virus or EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis). During warmer months, our department monitors mosquito activity and works with partners to reduce breeding sites.

Residents can help by **emptying standing water** around their homes, **using insect repellent**, and **wearing protective clothing** at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active. Together, these steps help lower the risk of mosquito-borne disease in our community.



PLANNING, PROMOTION, & *Evaluation*



The primary purpose of population-based health promotion and education is to prevent disease, illness, and injury before they occur, leading to better health outcomes, reduced strain on the healthcare system, and healthier communities.

Staff in the **Planning, Promotion, and Evaluation (PPE)** Division support this work through presentations, health communication, data collection and analysis, coalition participation, community events, and community partnerships. PPE staff also provide guidance to partner organizations on best practices, coalition support, and strategic planning to help address local health needs.

PPE also supports prevention efforts through **Health Resource Vending Machines** located at both BEDHD offices, Cherry Health, Corewell Health, Delta Township District Library, Eaton County Sheriff's Office, SIREN/Eaton Shelter, and the University of Olivet, as well as 3-compartment stands located at Hastings Public Library and First Presbyterian Church.

In FY2025, the health department and community partners distributed **2,357 Narcan kits, 18,990 condoms, and 22,650 fentanyl and xylazine test strips.**





OVERDOSE FATALITY REVIEW (OFR)

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) supports **Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) teams** in both Eaton and Barry counties. The Eaton County OFR Team launched in 2023, followed by the Barry County OFR Team in 2024. Since then, **10 reviews** have been conducted in Eaton County and 5 in Barry County, with each county completing approximately 2–3 reviews annually.

OFR teams unite community partners to analyze overdose deaths and find prevention opportunities. Members include representatives from medical examiners, public health, law enforcement, healthcare, and those with lived experience.

For each review, BEDHD's epidemiologist conducts case abstraction in collaboration with the **Western Michigan Medical Examiner's Office** (Barry County) and the **U of M Sparrow Medical Examiner's Office** (Eaton County). This process compiles information from toxicology reports, death investigations, medical and social history, and other records to better understand the circumstances surrounding each overdose death.

Recommendations from OFR meetings are shared with local action teams to **guide prevention strategies**. In Eaton County, the Substance Use Action Team (SUAT) reviews findings and works to implement prevention efforts. In Barry County, the Opioid-Methamphetamine Workgroup serves as the action team responsible for identifying strategies to help prevent future overdose deaths.

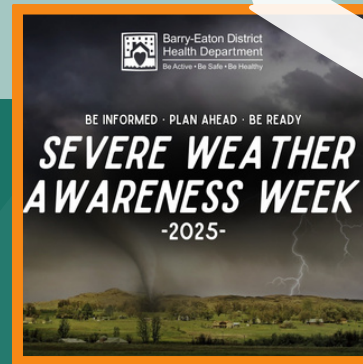


LEARN MORE: WWW.BARRYEATONHEALTH.ORG/HARM-REDUCTION




EMERGENCY

Preparedness




Sample Emergency Preparedness
Social Media Post

The **Emergency Preparedness Coordinator (EPC)** plays a critical role in preventing negative public health outcomes during emergencies and disasters. Planning is key to effective preparedness. EPCs manage, update, and implement emergency plans that guide public health response efforts. They also work closely with county Emergency Managers and community partners to coordinate planning and strengthen emergency response. These efforts are essential, because the worst time to determine protocol is during a disaster.



According to The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), preparedness includes six different domains:

- 
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.

FINANCE

Report



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.

The Finance Division plays a crucial role in ensuring the smooth financial operations of the local public health department. Through their diligent efforts in managing agency funds with responsibility and prudence, they not only safeguard the financial health of the department but also contribute significantly to maximizing the community impact of BEDHD. Their dedication to fiscal responsibility ultimately enables the department to efficiently allocate resources where they are most needed, supporting the delivery of essential public health services to the community.

FY2025 **Expenditures** (Actual)

Personnel:	\$5,589,362
Travel:	\$50,519
Communications:	\$103,242
Supplies:	\$697,129
Contractual:	\$1,276,841
Other:	\$935,640
Total:	\$8,652,733

FY2025 **Revenue** (Actual)

Local:	\$1,921,835
State:	\$2,293,853
Federal:	\$3,076,111
Fees:	\$852,070
Billing:	\$508,864
Total:	\$8,652,733







MEET THE TEAM!



Our work relies on the dedication of our staff and the support of community partners and residents. This commitment enhances our ability to **provide essential health services, education, and respond to needs.** Together, we build a healthier community by **promoting prevention, improving access to care, and empowering** individuals and families with necessary knowledge and resources.

CONNECT WITH US!

-  www.barryeatonhealth.org
-  [@barryeatonhealth](https://www.facebook.com/barryeatonhealth)
-  [@barryeatonhealth](https://www.instagram.com/barryeatonhealth)
-  info@bedhd.org



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