Department Description
Columbus Public Health (CPH) is governed by a five member Board of Health, and works to protect the Columbus community from disease and other public health threats by ensuring that all residents and visitors are empowered to live healthier, safer lives. CPH offers a range of programs in the areas of environmental, neighborhood, family, population, clinical health, and addiction services.

CPH protects, promotes, and monitors the health of the public by:

- Assuring compliance with public health laws, mandates, and regulations;
- Establishing policy to address health issues and emerging health threats;
- Providing preventative, environmental, community, clinical, and home-based services.

An array of clinical and family health services is provided to Columbus residents ranging from women’s health, family planning, primary care, and sexual health, to immunizations, health screenings, infant health, and dental care, among many others. In recent years, the department has been a community leader and actively engaged in the areas of infant mortality, smoking cessation, and the opioid crisis.

CPH’s addiction services area provides programs and activities related to drug and alcohol addiction, and oversight and coordination of the Franklin County Opioid Action Plan, a community response initiative addressing the opioid crisis. The department identifies the resources needed to effectively implement the action plan, and manages and coordinates addiction services including prevention, treatment, and harm reduction.

The department also works to prevent or reduce risks from environmental hazards. Environmental health programs seek to prevent disease or injury associated with food, water, air, animals, vectors, hazardous materials, and hazardous waste.

Within the population health area and through the Office of Epidemiology, CPH helps to improve the health of the Columbus community by gathering and studying health-related data and information. CPH guides the appropriate use of such data for decision making in community health policy, planning, and programming. Its Office of Emergency Preparedness analyzes health indicators, investigates infectious diseases, and implements public health interventions when warranted.

Finally, in its neighborhood health focus, CPH provides programming targeted to encourage chronic disease prevention, promote an active environment for residents, and ensure equity in health care and healthy food access points.
Public Health

Health Commissioner/Medical Director

Employee Assistance

Administration
- Human Resources
- Vital Statistics
- Billing & Collections
- Building Services
- Fiscal Technology

Chief Nursing Officer
- Strategic Nursing

External Affairs
- Public Affairs & Communication
- Planning & Quality Improvement
- Policy Advisor
- Violent Crime Review

Environmental Health
- Disease Prevention
- Food Protection
- Licensing/Support
- Protection/Sustainability

Neighborhood Health
- Access to Care
- Healthy Living
- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Health Equity

Family Health
- Dental
- MCH Section
- WIC

Addiction Services
- Alcohol and Drug Services

Population Health
- Franklin County Opioid Action Plan

Clinical Health
- Immunizations
- Laboratory
- Sexual Health Clinic
- STD Prevention
- Tuberculosis
- Women’s Health

Outbreak Response

Emergency Preparedness

Epidemiology

Infectious Disease Investigation
## Strategic Priorities for 2019

### Neighborhoods

Deliver high-quality clinical services for children and families, including sexual health, immunization, dental, women’s health, and tuberculosis control, while reducing barriers to care through translation services and evening hours.

Address gun violence through the CARE (Community Action Resilience Empowerment) Coalition, which provides grief support services to those impacted by trauma and builds resilience in children, families, and communities.

Partner with PrimaryOne Health, the Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus, and other groups to help support quality, affordable health care for as many people as possible.

Lead the city’s efforts to address the obesity epidemic through strategies that make Columbus an active and vibrant community, including: Healthy Children Healthy Weights; Growing Healthy Kids Coalition; Columbus & Franklin County Local Food Action Plan; farmers markets and community gardens; bike and walking paths; walking maps and art walks; Creating Healthy Communities Network; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); and Columbus and Franklin County Chronic Disease Prevention Coalition.

Provide services to prevent, investigate and control infectious diseases, disease outbreaks, sexually transmitted infections, and food-borne and water-borne illnesses.

Serve vulnerable neighborhood residents and connect them to health and social services through private home visiting, the CARE Coalition, and Neighborhood Social Services staff in Neighborhood Pride centers and other community venues.

### Early Childhood and Education

Collaborate with CelebrateOne to reduce the infant mortality rate by providing quality women’s health services, safe sleep education and services, immunizations, smoking cessation, home visiting services, and by supporting the Ohio Equity Institute’s efforts to address infant deaths.

Enhance the safety of children in, near, and around schools.

Conduct school inspections and work with Columbus City School nurses to serve and address children’s health needs.

Improve health in underserved communities through neighborhood and coalition-based partnership initiatives.
Operational Efficiencies

Expand quality improvement, safety, and workplace training efforts to maintain public health accreditation.

Offer timely public health information and education through Columbus Public Health’s website and social media.

Advance technology in vital statistics for computer scanning and storage of birth and death certificates, and to provide regular access to real-time data reports.

Provide residents with information on the safety of inspected restaurants, pools, schools, and other venues using enhanced mobile web technologies that improve efficiency, online inspection reports, and posted signage.

Continue Columbus Public Health facility renovations and enhancements to ensure the health and safety of visitors and staff.

Develop and implement software for the human resources area that will streamline and improve the timeliness of the hiring of, and onboarding process for, new employees.

Public Safety and Health

Combat the opiate epidemic through comprehensive harm reduction programs and services at Safe Point, community education, safe medicine disposal, and naloxone access and training.

Plan and respond to natural disasters, bioterrorism, and other emergencies with an emphasis on community leadership, public education, and staff training for the highest level of public health protection possible for all Columbus residents.

Maintain a year-round seasonal influenza initiative to better protect Columbus residents and workplaces.
The 2019 budget for Columbus Public Health allows for continued provision of public health services that are mandated, services that meet the Mayor’s priorities, and a variety of programs that the Board of Health deems essential. In addition:

- Funding of $414,423 is provided to continue the community-wide comprehensive harm reduction program to address heroin and opiate use. Columbus has been plagued by opiate use with devastating, and sometimes deadly, consequences. The addition of a senior leadership position will provide oversight and coordination of the Franklin County Opioid Action Plan and the Addiction Services program. A total of $250,000 of this funding will support the Safe Point Program providing Naloxone access, addiction counseling, treatment referrals, infectious disease screenings and linkage to care, and prevention education.

- Continued funding is included in the 2019 budget to support the infant mortality initiative in Columbus, CelebrateOne. Funding continues to support the Safe Sleep Campaign and strategic initiatives. More information on CelebrateOne can be found in the Community Profile section of this document, as well as in the office of the Mayor’s budget section.

- The Columbus CARE Coalition, a collaborative effort led by Columbus Public Health to address community trauma, and one part of Mayor Andrew J. Ginther’s Comprehensive Neighborhood Safety Strategy, continues to be funded. The CARE Coalition, in its pilot period, 2017-2018, reached over 3,000 doors in direct neighborhood outreach, served 400 individuals following a traumatic incident, and led trauma responsive care training for 300 people.

- Funding continues for a part-time epidemiologist position to continue to study and establish a local violence related public health data set to better understand violence (specifically gun violence) in Columbus neighborhoods.

- Support for PrimaryOne, formerly known as the Community Neighborhood Health Centers (CNHC), in the amount of $4.3 million is included to provide access to care and to address health concerns at multiple health centers.

- Continued funding is provided for an effective rodent control program, licenses, and inspection services for food service establishments, pools, spas, and tattoo and body piercing studios.

- The department continues to assist Columbus Public Schools by contracting with the district to provide general consultation and input on school health procedures and protocols.

- Increased revenues are projected in food license fees and Medicaid administrative claims, offset partially by a decrease in clinical fees. In addition, the department continues to contract with and receive revenue from the City of Worthington to provide public health consultation and assistance in matters of public health.
Columbus Public Health’s (CPH) Food Protection Program inspects and safeguards retail food establishments for residents of Columbus and Worthington. CPH consistently meets its compliance standards. Retail food establishments not in compliance are under enforcement by CPH to address violations.

CPH Maternal Child Health Home Visiting Programs provide community outreach and in-home family-centered care coordination, education, and support to pregnant and parenting women with very young children. The decline in the 2018 estimate and 2019 target reflects a change in measurement from individual clients to family units. All services are voluntary and at no cost to the client. Visits are made to clients in their homes or other locations as arranged.
Providing immunizations to adults and children is a top priority in protecting the health of residents by reducing the spread of vaccine-preventable illnesses such as, measles and pertussis (whooping cough). CPH provided over 30,000 vaccinations in 2016 and 2017. The department projects to provide 28,000 vaccinations in 2018 and will target 30,000 again in 2019.

The Vector Control Program conducts larviciding each year to prevent mosquitoes from developing into adults where they can then transmit disease. This is accomplished by treating standing water which includes: rain barrel treatment, catch basin treatment, historic mosquito breeding sites being treated, identification and treatment of new mosquito breeding sites, and complaint investigations in which standing water may be observed and treated. The decline in the 2018 estimate is due to the fact that many of the catch basins typically treated by CPH were dry during inspection.
The CelebrateOne initiative, operated out of the Mayor’s Office, focuses on reducing infant mortality in Columbus and Franklin County. Sleep-related infant deaths are mostly preventable and are the leading cause of death for babies from birth to one year of age. CPH focuses on annually increasing the number of trained Safe Sleep Ambassadors who share the ABC’s of safe sleep with their friends, family, coworkers, neighbors, and community groups. As a new measure, a target was not established in 2016.
## Department Financial Summary by Area of Expense

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## Department Personnel Summary

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## Operating Budget by Program

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<td>Department Total</td>
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For additional financial information related to the Health Department, please refer to the health operating fund contained within the Special Revenue section. Program descriptions begin on the following page.
## Health Administration
To provide leadership and direction for the department, administrative and support services in the areas of information systems and facilities management, and to monitor and document the department and community status regarding state and national public health standards.

## Fiscal
To provide administrative and support services in the area of fiscal management.

## Human Resources
To provide administrative and support services in the area of human resource management.

## Internal Services
To account for the internal service charges of the department necessary to maintain operations.

## Neighborhood Health
To create, implement, and coordinate a plan for effective and efficient communications between staff and customers with limited English proficiency; to assess data collection within the department in regard to racial and ethnic minorities, providing input in the development of policies to address health disparities; to facilitate and support a community health improvement initiative which focuses on improving health and reducing disparities; and to assist individuals in identifying opportunities for health improvement and provide linkage to other health and community agencies.
To provide clinical services to the public including immunization services to residents of all ages, reproductive health and wellness services, family planning and postpartum services, sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention, education, and referrals to people in need of sexual health services to avoid complications and transmission of STIs.

To prevent and/or reduce morbidity and mortality associated with public health threats by analyzing health indicators, investigating infectious diseases, and implementing public health interventions.

To reduce the number of food-borne illnesses in Columbus and Franklin County, inspect and license swimming pools, spas, and water systems, provide inspections for hazardous waste and underground storage tanks, conduct animal bite investigations, monitor and control mosquito and rodent populations, and to evaluate and reduce lead poisoning in the community.

To provide public health nursing and social work home visiting services to residents in need of social support linkages with community resources, to reduce death and preventable injuries to children aged 14 and under, provide alcohol and drug abuse prevention and education services to Columbus residents, the courts, and clients referred through the employee assistance program, to provide basic and preventive dental clinical services to Franklin County families who are unable to access dental services due to cost, and to prevent tooth decay through a mobile dental sealant program for low income families in Columbus.
Addiction Services

To provide oversight and coordination of programs and activities of the addiction services area and the Franklin County Opioid Action Plan, a community response initiative addressing the opioid crisis, to identify the resources needed to effectively implement this action plan and communicate the needs to the Health Commissioner and other community leaders, to manage and coordinate the Alcohol and Drug Services program, including prevention, treatment and harm reduction, to oversee an expanded treatment service program to include Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for those with substance use disorder, and to manage the Opiate Overdose Surge Notification process.