

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF THE MEETING – September 3, 2025

Meeting called to order by Dr. Hall, President of the Board at 9:02 a.m. in the office of the Board, 5550 Venture Drive, Parma, Ohio, on Wednesday, September 3, 2025.

Roll Call: The following members were present: Dr. Gregory L. Hall, Mr. Douglas Wang, Ms. Sonja Rajki, and Dr. Sherrie Williams.

The Secretary called the roll:

Ayes: Dr. Hall, Mr. Wang, Ms. Rajki, and Dr. Williams.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to excuse Mr. Richards due to a schedule conflicts at the time of the meeting.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

The reading of the minutes of the July 23, 2025 regular Board meeting was dispensed with as copies had previously been received by each member. Inasmuch as there were no corrections, it was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the minutes be approved.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to amend agenda items as highlighted on revised agenda.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Public Comments on Agenda Resolutions Only (three-minute maximum) – N/A.

Review of the Financial Statements.

Mr. Richards arrived to the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Ms. Alhamwi reviewed the July 2025 Financial statements with the Board.

Legislative Updates

Mr. Mills, General Counsel, discussed the amended House Bill 96, a state appropriations bill passed in July that includes various provisions. One key provision introduces new cybersecurity metrics, which the organization is prepared to meet. A continuing challenge will be maintaining annual cybersecurity training for staff. The bill also adds new requirements related to ransomware, including restrictions on when political subdivisions may pay ransoms. Specifically, a governing body must pass a resolution demonstrating that paying the ransom

serves the public interest and must report the decision to the state. In such cases, the organization would likely consult its insurance provider before proceeding, although the general guidance is to avoid paying ransoms if possible.

Committee Reports – Dr. Williams read the minutes from the Diversity Committee meeting.

Approval of Resolutions/Motions:

REGULAR ACTIONS OF THE BOARD:

Vino Panakkal, Epidemiology Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-080, representing final funding installment of this Training focused grant to help bolster capacity in infectious disease response. The total award come to \$20,000.00.

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-080 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept additional funding for the 2025 NACCHO FLEXED grant from the National Association of County and City Health Officials from July 30, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in the amount not to exceed \$14,305.83. (Resolution 2025-075).

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Martha Halko, Director of Population Health, explained that the transition of grants to the Department of Children and Youth (DCY) has been very last minute. DCY has given us anywhere from just one week to three weeks to turnaround executed agreements.

Michele Benko, Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-081. This award will increase peer support mental health issues among the vulnerable populations of expecting and post-partum mothers. Following the acceptance of these funds, at the Board meeting next month a contract for Birthing Beautiful Communities.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Richards, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-081 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept the 2025/2026 Maternal Behavioral Health Peer Support (former Perinatal Behavioral Health Peer to Peer) grant funding from the Ohio Department of Children and Youth from August 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$80,000.00.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Halko introduced Resolution 2025-082, which finalizes the third and final installment of the Ryan White Part A grant. The total funding awarded was close to expectations, with only a minor reduction of approximately \$100,000, likely due to updated epidemiological data. This

reduction is not significant and will not impact service delivery. No other federal-level impacts on this award have been observed so far.

In response to a question from Mr. Wang about broader federal funding impacts, Ms. Halko noted that some changes have been positive. Current funding is still aligned with the 2025 budget levels rather than the proposed 2026 levels. The organization received the Notice of Award for the OD2A grant, and the CDC confirmed that the REACH grant will continue, which was unexpected but welcome. Although the 2025 budget was previously on hold, the funding had already been appropriated. It is unclear whether this will delay future funding by a year, but continuing resolutions are anticipated. Compared to the House and President's budgets, the Senate appears more supportive of maintaining CDC funding levels.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Mr. Richards, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-082 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept additional 2025/2026 Ryan White grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration from March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$2,650,428.00. (Resolutions 2025-017 and 2025-052).

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Erin Lark-Turkoliveri, Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-083, which finalizes the third and final installment of a grant award. The funding remains consistent with the first year's level. Program staff recently visited the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), where agency representatives expressed strong support for continued funding next year.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-083 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to accept additional 2025/2026 Ending HIV Epidemic - Care grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration from March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$1,892,283.00. (Resolution 2025-005).

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Ms. Benko introduced Resolution 2025-084, a contract with Neighborhood Leadership Institute (NLI) to support navigation services that connect mothers and families with resources. NLI will identify navigators to link pregnant and prenatal women to clinical and social services, improving access to care. The award amount for NLI was reduced by \$80,000 compared to the previous year due to an overall decrease in grant funding. However, the scope of work was also reduced, lowering the number of expected service targets accordingly.

It was moved by Mr. Richards, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-084 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract

with the Neighborhood Leadership Institute under the 2025/2027 Maternal and Infant Vitality Initiative grant from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$250,000.00.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

John Sobolewski, Deputy Director of Environmental Public Health, introduced Resolution 2025-085, for routine lead remediation contracts funded by the Lead Safe Ohio grant funding.

It was moved by Dr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Richards, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-085 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute contracts with American Builders and Applicators, Green Home Solutions, and Paragon CMS for multiple properties for lead remediation work:

Property Address	Contractor	Not to Exceed	CRC Agenda Item
• 1620 Lewis Dr. Lakewood, OH 44107	American Builders and Applicators	\$ 65,800.00	CRC 2025-162
• 1232 Melbourne Rd. East Cleveland, OH 44112	Paragon CMS	\$ 51,865.00	CRC 2025-164
• 4761 E. 90 th St. Garfield Hts., OH 44125	Green Home Solutions	\$ 42,525.00	CRC 2025-143
• 1899 Beersford Ave. East Cleveland, OH 44112	Paragon CMS	\$ 42,635.00	CRC 2025-172

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-086 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with John Mills to serve the Board as General Counsel.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-087 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Authorize the Health Commissioner to enter into and execute a contract with Prakash Ganesh to serve the Board as Medical Director at CCBH from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Rajki, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-088 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to Honor Angela Henderson for 32 years of dedicated public health service to the Cuyahoga County Board of Health.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

BOARD ORDERS, RULES, FEES OR REGULATIONS

Megan Conklin, Program Supervisor, presented Resolution 2025-089 requesting a standard variance. A system failure was identified during a point-of-sale inspection. The variance seeks approval to leave a portion of the sewer line in place beneath a wooden deck structure. The contractor inspected the line with a camera and confirmed it is in good working condition. The remaining section of the sewer line, located beyond the deck, will be replaced with new piping.

It was moved by Ms. Rajki, seconded by Dr. Hall, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-089 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to grant a variance from the Ohio Administrative Code Section 3701-29-12 (P)(2) for the Sewage Treatment System Servicing the Residence at 7879 Battles Rd., Gates Mills, Ohio (PPN# 841-19-002).

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

Tom Fink, Program Supervisor, introduced Resolution 2025-090, which involves an administrative correction to the elevation data in a previously submitted application. The original drawings underestimated the elevation by about ten feet due to outdated survey data from the 1990s. The updated measurements will ensure proper grading for the final cap of the facility but will not affect its operations or the amount of waste it holds.

Mr. Fink explained that the facility is no longer accepting waste and will be covered with clay, topsoil, and other amendments to prepare it for future use, such as a park. He emphasized that accurate closure is necessary for repurposing the land.

Concerns were raised about the impact of the elevation error and the reason for the original mismeasurement. Mr. Fink noted that the inaccuracies stemmed from reliance on old county data rather than real-time measurements, a common issue across Cuyahoga County.

Brooklyn Heights Mayor Michael Procuk expressed support for the facility's closure, noting that it sits near the Cuyahoga River and will only be repurposed for non-structural uses like parks. He highlighted the broader issue of demolition waste in Ohio and the need for landfill management, estimating that Brooklyn Heights has about four open landfills.

Dr. Williams and Mr. Wang voiced concerns about the environmental burden on Brooklyn Heights, with Dr. Williams noting the disproportionate landfill acreage in the area. Mr. Wang added that waste distribution decisions are largely controlled by the state government in Columbus.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wang, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-090 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the modification to the Construction and Demolition Debris Facility license application for RKDF Co. located at 950 Valley Belt Rd., Brooklyn Heights, Ohio 44131.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: All, Nays: None, motion carries.

FIRST READING:

None

SECOND READING:

None

THIRD READING:

None

It was moved by Mr. Wang, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following RESOLUTION 2025-091 be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that approval be given of the Consent Agenda as set forth in the attached schedules:

Schedule A	Appropriation Measures.
Schedule B	Cash Transfers.
Schedule C	Routine Personnel Actions.
Schedule D	Employee Training and Travel Expenses.
Schedule E	Approval of Vouchers. (Available upon request)
Schedule F	CRC Report and Other Contracts.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: 4, Nays: None, Abstained: Mr. Richards, motion carries.

Reports and Presentations –

Health Commissioner Report

Dr. Harris was not present at the meeting but submitted a written Health Commissioner's Report following the meeting. Attached.

Infectious Disease Update:

Mr. Soberano, Communicable Disease Investigator Program Manager reported three cases of West Nile virus have been reported this year, with one believed to be locally acquired. This number is close to surpassing last year's total of four cases, and August and September are peak months for mosquito activity. The Environmental Public Health Department is actively conducting media outreach and mosquito surveillance.

Mr. Johnson, Director of Environmental Public Health, explained larviciding, which targets mosquito larvae, is widely accepted by communities and is currently charged at \$5.18 per briquette. These briquettes are often placed in storm sewers where stagnant water breeds large numbers of mosquitoes. Officials are considering doubling larviciding efforts and possibly

rolling the cost into community contracts.

Adulticiding (fogging), which kills adult mosquitoes, is less popular due to perceived risks, though experts argue it is safe when properly applied. Some communities remain hesitant, preferring larviciding. Officials emphasized the need for an integrated mosquito management strategy combining both methods, especially in high-risk areas.

Concerns were raised about underreporting of cases due to limited testing by physicians, who may not consider West Nile virus in their diagnoses. Medical experts stressed the importance of prevention, especially given the lack of specific treatment for the virus.

Public education and messaging were highlighted as key strategies. Ideas included distributing DEET wipes, placing educational signs in parks, and preparing information packets for cities. Officials also work with beekeepers to avoid harming pollinators during spraying.

Ms. Rush, Director of Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Informatics, informed the group about an upcoming hearing at the Ohio Department of Health on October 7th concerning communicable disease rules. She noted that significant changes to vaccine policies may be introduced, some of which may not be based on medical science. COVID-19 vaccine data and reporting requirements are also expected to change, and updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

In response to a question from Ms. Rajki, Ms. Rush stated that while no one is currently scheduled to testify in person, public comments can be submitted, and logistics will be coordinated with Dr. Harris, the Health Commissioner.

Dr. Williams emphasized the importance of the organization's role as a trusted source of public health information. Dr. Williams advocated for strong, science-based communication supporting vaccines, citing past experiences with COVID-19, polio, and measles. Dr. Hall agreed, suggesting that at minimum, a well-crafted letter should be submitted.

Dr. Williams further pointed out that people generally trust medical experts in other areas, such as cancer treatment, and that the same trust should apply to vaccinations. Dr. Brown added that many people struggle to understand the concept of primary prevention, prompting Dr. Williams to conclude with the adage, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Medical Director's Report:

Dr. Ganesh has been focusing on vaccine policies, particularly regarding flu vaccine recommendations for this year. These recommendations appear to have been approved through the usual process. Ongoing surveillance continues to support this, as reflected on the CDC website. However, there is still a strong need for public messaging about the flu vaccine. Its effectiveness for this season won't be fully known until more data is collected over time. Full written detailed report attached.

Public and Staff Comments (three-minute maximum) – N/A.

Miscellaneous Business – Re-accreditation Update

Ms. Burke reported: The reaccreditation site visit team highlighted several strengths during their site visit. They noted that the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) are thorough and include active collaboration with partners.

CCBH was recognized for its strong commitment to equity and community engagement, as well as its ability to coordinate effectively with partners and maintain their involvement. The Strategic Plan was praised for its integration across various programs and key initiatives. Additionally, the agency's clear and commendable focus on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) was acknowledged. Overall, the reaccreditation site visit team observed significant progress and growth within the organization.

The reaccreditation site visit team identified several opportunities for improvement during their site visit. They recommended clarifying baseline and target data within the Strategic Plan to ensure metrics are clearly defined and support data-informed decision-making. The agency's performance management system and its associated data should be more actively integrated into organizational decision-making processes. Continued expansion of the Performance Management and Quality Improvement (PMQI) system through staff training and capacity building was encouraged. Additionally, the team emphasized the importance of using supporting data in quality improvement efforts and expanding these efforts across the entire agency. Finally, they suggested building a stronger understanding among staff of how key plans connect to and influence daily work, in order to foster greater buy-in and engagement.

The reaccreditation site visit team's overall impressions of the site visit were positive. They confirmed that staff are actively engaged in community work and that collaboration to support the community is clearly evident. The agency was recognized for having a unified culture and for demonstrating genuine leadership throughout the reaccreditation process.

The reaccreditation site visit team outlined the next steps following the site visit. CCBH also received notification following the site visit that no measures have been reopened. The team has up to 30 days to finalize the site visit report, which will be sent to CCBH via email and uploaded to ePHAB. The report will be reviewed at the next PHAB Board meeting scheduled for November 13, 2025. A decision will be communicated to CCBH within two weeks of that meeting. If reaccredited, the new accreditation cycle will begin in November 2025, with annual reporting starting in October 2026. If an Accreditation Committee Action Requirement (ACAR) status is issued, CCBH will need to address specific measures within one year to achieve reaccreditation. Following the decision, PHAB will update its website and issue a press release. CCBH may request to be featured in the press release and will receive a plaque, certificate, and logos for use in communications.

The site visit team confirmed that staff are actively engaged in meaningful work within the community. Collaboration efforts to support the community were clearly evident. The organization demonstrates a unified culture and provides strong, authentic leadership throughout the accreditation process.

It was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Dr. Williams, that pursuant to Resolution 1993-43 and O.R.C. Sec 121.22 the Board Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss appointment, employment, promotion, discipline or compensation of a public employee, and to consider matters of collective bargaining.

The Secretary called the roll:

Ayes: Dr. Hall, Mr. Wang, Ms. Rajki, Dr. Williams, Mr. Richards.

Executive Session began at 10:39 a.m.

Mr. Richards stepped out of the meeting to take a phone call.

Executive Session ended at 11:05 a.m.

Thereupon, it was moved by Dr. Hall, seconded by Dr. Williams, that the following Motion be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

The Secretary counts the vote:

Ayes: 4, Nays: None, Absent: Mr. Richards, motion carries.

SCHEDULE A
APPROPRIATION MEASURES

1. Budget Establishment(s):

- A. Establish a budget for the 2025/2026 Maternal Behavioral Health Peer Support grant in the amount of \$80,000.00 (ref. enclosed).

2. Budget Revision(s):

- A. Budget revision for the 2025 NACCHO FLEXED grant in the amount of \$14,305.83 (ref. enclosed).
- B. Budget revision for the 2024/2025 Newborn Home Visiting grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
- C. Budget revision for the 2025/2026 Reproductive Health and Wellness grant to increase the budget by \$8,959.33 (ref. enclosed).
- D. Budget revision for the 2025/2026 Ryan White grant to increase the budget by \$2,650,428.00 (ref. enclosed).
- E. Budget revision for the 2025/2026 Ending HIV Epidemic - Care grant to increase the budget by \$1,892,283.00 (ref. enclosed).
- F. Budget revision for the 2024/2025 PREP grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
- G. Budget revision for the 2022/2025 Feed Our Future (RFSP) grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).
- H. Budget Revision for the 2022/2024 COVID-19 Subsidy grant to redistribute funds (ref. enclosed).

SCHEDULE B
CASH TRANSFERS

1. Operating Transfer(s):

None

2. Residual Equity Transfer(s):

None

SCHEDULE C
ROUTINE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Unless otherwise specifically indicated, said appointments shall be effective as of the beginning of the next pay period following completion and satisfaction of any post offer requirements and signature as determined by the Director of Organizational Development.

Ratify Appointment(s):

- A. Correction to July 2025 Schedule C Ratify Appointment(s) item C - Charmayne Johnson, Licensed Practical Nurse, Pay Grade C, \$43,991.00 annually, effective August 25, 2025.
- B. Sara Meckley, Communicable Disease Investigator, Pay Grade D, \$50,420.00 annually effective August 11, 2025.
- C. Breanna Gerogolian, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT), Pay Grade C, \$43,991.00 annually, effective August 25, 2025.
- D. Alyssa Sabol, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT), Pay Grade C, \$43,991.00 annually, effective August 25, 2025.
- E. Marija Zivkovic, Administrative Assistant, Pay Grade B, \$37,599.00 annually, effective September 22, 2025.

Appointment(s):

- A. TBD, Grant Supervisor, Pay Grade F, \$66,312.00 annually.
- B. TBD, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT)/Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Pay Grade C/Pay Grade D, \$43,991.00/\$50,420.00 annually.
- C. TBD, Emergency Preparedness Planner, Pay Grade D, \$50,420.00 annually.
- D. TBD, Emergency Preparedness Planner, Pay Grade D, \$50,420.00 annually.
- E. TBD, Account Clerk, Pay Grade A, \$32,136.00 annually.
- F. TBD, Director of Finance, Pay Grade H, \$89,029.00 annually.
- G. TBD, Licensed Practical Nurse, Pay Grade C, \$43,991.00 annually.

Promotion(s):

- A. Natalie Kracker, Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) Program Manager, Pay Grade E, \$57,811.00 annually, effective August 11, 2025.
- B. Olha Oleksyuk, Fiscal Assistant, Pay Grade C, \$43,991.00 annually, effective August 25, 2025.

Retirement(s):

- A. Angela Henderson, Grant Program Manager, effective August 31, 2025.

Resignation(s):

- A. Alyssa Mills, Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT), effective July 26, 2025.
- B. Charmayne Johnson, Licensed Practical Nurse, effective August 26, 2025.

Student Appointment End Date(s):

- A. Addison Westerburg, Student Environmental Worker – Water Quality Program, effective June 13, 2025.
- B. Rebecca Weiner, Student Environmental Worker – Water Quality Program, effective July 31, 2025.
- C. Jordan Watson, Student Environmental Worker – Vector Program, effective August 8, 2025.
- D. Hayden McGee, Student Environmental Worker – Water Quality Program, effective August 8, 2025.
- E. Aidan Setta, Student Environmental Worker – Vector Program, effective August 8, 2025.
- F. Jacob Diefendorff, Student Environmental Worker – Water Quality Program, effective August 8, 2025.
- G. Isaiah Allen, Student Environmental Worker – Vector Program, effective August 12, 2025.
- H. Clay Fallon, Student Environmental Worker – Water Quality Program, effective August 14, 2025.
- I. Mia Williams, Student Environmental Worker – Water Quality Program, effective August 15, 2025.
- J. Chase Manson, Student Environmental Worker – Vector Program, effective August 22, 2025.
- K. Margaret Shane, Student Environmental Worker – Water Quality Program, effective August 22, 2025.

Position Complement Revision(s):

- A. Emergency Preparedness Coordinator – from 1 to 0 FTEs – effective September 3, 2025 (ref. enclosed).

- B. Emergency Preparedness Planner – from 1 to 2 FTEs – effective September 3, 2025 (ref. enclosed).

Other Item(s):

- A. Roderick Harris, Health Commissioner, one-time grossed-up lump sum payment of \$3,949.46 less taxes for relocation expenses, effective April 4, 2025 (ref. enclosed).

SCHEDULE D
EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

Administration

Environmental Public Health

- a. EPH staff to the Mack Industries Annual Residential Wastewater Open House 2025: September 5, 2025. Brunswick, OH.
- b. Tom Fink to Southeast Ohio Environmental Health Association Conference: September 24 – 26, 2025. Athens, OH.
- c. EPH Staff to Ohio Department of Health Zoonotic Disease Training: September 30, 2025. Akron, OH.
- d. Tom Fink, Megan Mementowski, Ashley Ruminski to Northwest Ohio Environmental Health Association Conference: October 8 – 10, 2025. Sandusky, OH.
- e. EPH Staff to Northeast Ohio Environmental Health Association Conference: October 13 – 15, 2025. Twinsburg, OH.
- f. EPH Staff to Ohio Mosquito & Vector Control Association Conference: October 26 – 28, 2025. Columbus, OH.

Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics

- g. Jackie Napolitano to Rabies Roadshow: September 30, 2025. Akron, OH.

Nursing & Clinical Services

- h. Mary Poremba to Tooth Assessment and Selection training: August 27, 2025. Columbus, OH.
- i. Shameem Ahmad, Melissa Kolenz and LaJuanna White to DIS Supervisor meeting: September 30, 2025. Columbus, OH.
- j. Melissa Kolenz and Danielle LeGallee to HIV Prevention Quarterly meeting: October 8, 2025. Columbus, OH.

Population Health

- k. Sonji Deal, Erin Janowski, Erin Lark Turcoliveri, Brian Lutz to the Ending the HIV Epidemic/CDC program meetings: June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026. Various locations in Ohio.

1. Alison Patrick to the National Farm to Cafeteria Conference: December 1 – 4, 2025.
Albuquerque, NM.

*Professional education under ONA contract.

SCHEDULE F
CRC REPORT AND OTHER CONTRACTS

A. CRC Report

1. August 5, 2025 1st CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2025-145 Population Health submitting a Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) with the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Detention Center under the 2025/2026 Ending the HIV Epidemic/CDC grant (formerly Implementing Enhanced HIV) from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026 to distribute point of care (rapid) HIV Tests. No exchange of funds.

CRC 2025-146 Environmental Public Health Services is submitting an addendum to the contract with Croxton Technology Corp. (CRC 2025-094), 131 E. 204th St. Euclid, OH 44123 to extend the contract end date from July 28, 2025, to August 11, 2025. Amount to be paid to remain the same.

CRC 2025-147 Environmental Public Health Services is submitting an addendum to the contract with American Builders and Applicators (CRC 2025-092), 15906 Friend Ave. Maple Heights, OH 44137 to extend the contract end date from July 28, 2025, to October 3, 2025. Amount to be paid to remain the same.

CRC 2025-148 Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics submitting an addendum to the contract with ODH MRC-STRONG (2024-013) to revise the end date of the contract from May 31, 2025 to November 30, 2025. Amount to be received is to remain the same.

CRC 2025-149 Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics submitting a Data Usage Agreement with the MetroHealth System to share STI/HIV testing data for the purpose of the REDMAP project. No Exchange of Funds.

Contract Approvals and Authorizations

CRC 2025-150: Croxton Technology - \$21,295.00

CRC 2025-151: American Builders and Applicators - \$13,070.00

CRC 2025-152: American Builders and Applicators - \$12,050.00

CRC 2025-153: American Builders and Applicators - \$23,950.00

CRC 2025-154: Cuyahoga Department of Senior and Adult Services - \$24,623.00

CRC 2025-155: Addendum – MetroHealth System – increase amount to be paid from \$452,968.00 to \$472,968.00

CRC 2025-156: Pluralsight - \$2,260.00

CRC 2025-157: Cuyahoga County Agricultural Society - \$600.00

CRC 2025-158: Julian & Grube, Inc. - \$5,400.00

2. August 15, 2025 2nd CRC Meeting (ref. enclosed):

No Exchange of Funds

CRC 2025-159 Nursing and Clinical Services submitting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Cuyahoga County Public Library (Bay Village Branch) under the Starting Point Prevention & Inclusion grant to conduct a Childcare Provider training on August 20, 2025. No Exchange of Funds.

CRC 2025-160 Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics submitting an addendum to the Data Usage Agreement with Case Western Reserve University for the REDMAP project, to allow additional data variables to the scope of work and data exchange. No Exchange of Funds

Contract Rescissions

CRC 2025-161: Burten, Bell, Carr Development - \$2,500.00

CRC 2025-162 (CRC 2025-143): Croxton Technology - \$53,700.00

Tabled Items

CRC 2025-163: No Bids received for RFP 2025-04

Contract Recommendations for Board Approval

CRC 2025-162: American Builders and Applicators - \$65,800.00

CRC 2025-164: Paragon CMS - \$51,865.00

CRC 2025-165: Green Home Solutions - \$42,525.00

CRC 2025-172: Paragon CMS - \$42,635.00

Contract Approvals and Authorizations

CRC 2025-150: American Builders and Applicators - \$29,700.00

CRC 2025-166: Lead Guru - \$2,740.00

CRC 2025-167: American Builders and Applicators - \$21,295.00

CRC 2025-168: American Builders and Applicators - \$25,700.00

CRC 2025-169: Green Home Solutions - \$4,200.00

CRC 2025-170: Green Home Solutions - \$31,800.00

CRC 2025-171: Green Home Solutions - \$8,800.00

CRC 2025-173: Johnson Controls - \$8,573.00

CRC 2025-174: Addendum – Cleveland Clinic Foundation – increase amount to be paid from \$34,000.00 to \$69,000.00

CRC 2025-175: Addendum – American Builders and Applicators – increase amount to be paid from \$20,600.00 to \$21,150.00

CRC 2025-176: Addendum – Paragon CMS – increase amount to be paid from \$47,630.00 to \$48,115.00

B. Other Contracts

None.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Roderick L. Harris, Secretary

Dr. Gregory L. Hall, President

August 2025 Health Commissioner's Report

- Public Health Accreditation Board has completed CCBH's Re-Accreditation Site Visit. Final Determination of re-accreditation status will be received by November 30th.
- The Health Commissioner (HC) and Dr. Robert Brand submitted a proposal to Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources' Urban Forestry Grant. The proposed project focuses on planting native trees, including fruit trees on the grounds of East Cleveland Public Library to create a sensory garden, educate children about trees and harvesting, increase tree canopy, and reduce urban heat island effect.
- Collaboration meetings: HC had 1-on-1 meetings with Dr. David Margolius (Cleveland Dept. of Public Health), Domonic Hopson (Neighborhood Family Practice), and Martina Pace (University Hospitals); HC joined 5 other HC's from Franklin, Hamilton and Cuyahoga counties for a Virtual Coffee with *Cradle Cincinnati* to discuss local coalitions devoted to reducing infant mortality; and HC and Dr. Andre Brown met with the *Human Solidarity Project* to discuss potential EDI training opportunities for CCBH Directors.
- HC attended: Cleveland Peacemakers, In. Board meeting; Brookings Institute's webcast— "What does wellbeing mean for Black men and boys in the US?"; Three Arches Foundation strategic planning stakeholder interview; NE Ohio's Association of Ohio Health Commissioner's virtual meeting; Cleveland Branch of the NAACP's "Ace Your Health Forum"
- Our 2026 Budget Development Process is underway. Service Areas have submitted their initial 2026 budgets for review. Budget Team meetings will take place during the week of September 8.
- HC served on interview panel for CCBH's Ryan White Supervisor position. A candidate has accepted our offer.

EPH

- Our mosquito trapping and testing efforts are showing the highest West Nile Virus (WNV) prevalence in recent years. Statewide WNV prevalence is hovering around 13% overall. As a result, EPH is working with Communications to enhance our messaging around awareness and self-protection, engaging with our cities to increase participation in future larviciding efforts, and redesigning our mosquito surveillance plan to improve its effectiveness.
- There are 2 confirmed unrelated human cases of WNV. Both cases reside in Shaker Heights. EPH is actively evaluating the possibility of spraying for adult mosquitos in the city of Shaker Heights. We are also exploring the feasibility of scaling up CCBH's mosquito management activities for next year.
- EPH held a meeting with the Cuyahoga County Fair Board, Berea city officials, and city officials from Middleburg Heights, regarding the Fair Board's level of compliance with State and local campground regulations.

PH

- CCBH's Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) hosted the District 2 PREP Wellness Day event on 7-31-25. This annual event engages youths and youth-serving professionals, with the goal of building skills and normalizing conversations around mental health and well-being. PREP Wellness Day features stations on breath work, mindfulness and meditation practices, motivation and agility courses, and healthy meals provided by food trucks. The day ends with PREP jeopardy where youth and staff tested their knowledge of sexual health information from the Making Proud Choices curriculum used in PREP programming. NOTE: More than 65 youths and staffers attended—from 6 counties, including Lorain, Geauga, Lake, Mahoning, Stark, and Cuyahoga, as well as some PREP partners from Columbus.
- The CDC/DNPAO's (Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity) Communications Office invited CCBH to present at their monthly virtual office hour event, which focused on Search Engine Optimization (SEO). NOTE: SEO is the process of improving the quality and quantity of website traffic to a website or a web page from search engines. SEO targets unpaid search traffic (usually referred to as "organic" results) rather than direct traffic, referral traffic, social media traffic, or paid traffic.
 - CCBH was selected by the Communications Officer and Project Officer based on our current implementation of SEO on our HIP-Cuyahoga website.

ESI August 2025 Board Highlights

An increase in Seasonal Legionella

Legionella is a waterborne bacterial infection known to cause Pneumonia. It is commonly linked to exposures to bacteria in water vapor or droplets and causes pneumonia when the bacteria are inhaled into the lungs. Legionella typically peaks in the summer months due to temperature and other factors.

- **Recent Trends**

There were:

- 6 cases of Legionnaire's disease were reported in July 2025, compared to 10 cases reported in the same period of 2024
- Year to date – 30 total cases have been reported

- **Case Investigation and Management**

- During standard interviews, the CDI team asks about a wide range of possible exposures (home, healthcare, occupation, other common water vectors)
- The Communicable Disease Investigation (CDI) team refers a case exposure to The Environmental Public Health (EPH) Service Area and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) IF:

- ❖ there is a report of an inpatient hospital stay within 14 days of onset
- ❖ a reported case is a Resident in a congregate care setting within 14 days of onset
- ❖ The case was reported to have stayed at an out-of-jurisdiction hotel, the report is forwarded to ODH
- ❖ There is a reported direct exposure to spraying water at place of employment.

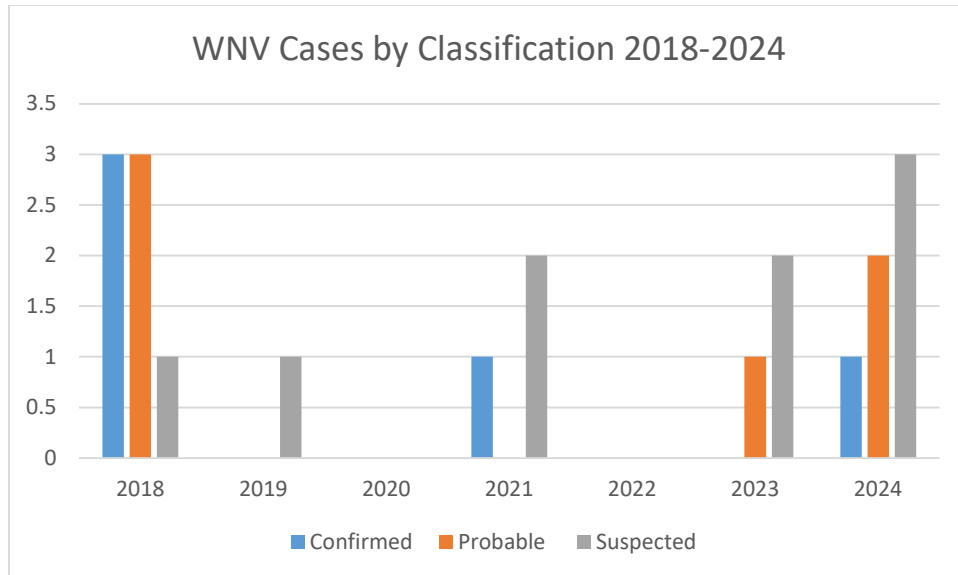
- **Typical Points of Exposure**

- Based on the following exposure points, the CDI team records all reported exposures at a specific location and if multiple cases are linked in a 12- month period, then a referral is made.
 - A Clinic (no ICP on site)
 - Pools/spas/waterpark
 - Place of employment with no misting or water spraying
 - Exposure to a water feature (decorative fountains, produce misters/sprayers, showers, etc.)
 - Staff member/visitor of Long Term Care (LTC) facility
 - Churches, Recreational Centers, Senior Centers, among other

West Nile Virus Cases In Humans- First of the Season

- CCBH EPH Reports on West Nile Virus have increased
- First CCBH human case was reported on 8/13, in an adult resident, unable to verify as locally acquired due to out of county exposure
- Second human case reported on 8/18, in an adult resident, believed to be locally acquired
- CDI Team Notified EPH of cases for possible EPH follow up
- Historical West Nile Virus Trends in Cuyahoga County

- From 2018-2024, 20 total cases were reported including suspected, confirmed, and probable
- 5 (25%) Confirmed, 6 (30%) Probable, and 9 (45%) Suspected
- Additionally, 2 suspected cases were reported in early 2025, outside of current mosquito season
 - These were unable to be verified and/ or were linked to travel exposures



False Positive Measles

- 8/11/25, Physician reported PCR send out for measles
 - Pediatric with recent MMR vaccination
 - No travel or known exposures
 - Cough and mild rash on back/ torso developed shortly after
 - ODH and CCBH did not consider case to meet clinical case definition
 - PCR returned positive, because the clinical case definition was not met in addition to proximity to vaccination, consistent with a vaccine related false positive
 - Sample sent to ODH Labs for MeVa testing

2025-2026 Respiratory Season

Epidemiologist Jackie Napolitano recently released a summary report of the 2025-2026 respiratory season. The report provides a high level summary of respiratory metrics that were measured throughout the season, and includes visuals from the respiratory dashboard. Additionally, Influenza vaccine data is included in this report.

Cuyahoga County data added to Youth Risk Behavior Dashboard

The [High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(YRBS\) Data Dashboard](#) available on Healthy Northeast Ohio has been updated with 70 indicators for Cuyahoga County provided by the CWRU Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods. Data Analyst Sarah Szabo facilitated the data sharing and local data upload. The previous version of the dashboard focused on data for the state of Ohio and city of Cleveland, thus this update enhances local county-level youth health behavior and wellness data availability significantly.

Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map Strategists presentation

On 7/24 Data Analyst Sarah Szabo delivered an invited presentation about building capacity and increasing data access to address healthy aging and brain health to the Alzheimer's Association 2025 HBI Road Map Strategists cohort. The presentation was well received, and prompted age-friendly public health systems dialogue and encouragement to others to highlight their efforts to bring attention to dementia as a public health issue.

Healthy Northeast Ohio report spotlighted

Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, our healthyneo.org site vendor, featured [Healthy Northeast Ohio's 2024 Annual Report](#) in their Client Spotlight this summer. They highlighted that the report, developed by Data Analyst Sarah Szabo, includes various accomplishments and website metrics, and shared a link to our data platform thereby disseminating it to all Conduent Clients nationally.

Maternal & child health data provided to healthcare partners

Data Analyst Tatyana Khaled prepared a data presentation for First Year Cleveland's Healthcare Committee meeting on 8/6. Infant mortality, preterm birth, maternal health and pregnancy risk factor data for 2022, 2023, & 2024 (preliminary) were included. We also shared detailed zip code level insights and a new gestational age analysis to facilitate review of infant deaths by postmenstrual age.

Updated infant mortality & birth outcomes monitoring reports

Data Analyst Tatyana Khaled conducted infant mortality and birth outcomes analyses for quarter two this month. Three reports were completed and shared with MCH program staff and First Year Cleveland: updated provisional calendar year 2024 statistics, current preliminary calendar year 2025 statistics, and 12-month rolling average statistics through June 2025. The latter analysis, which shows an IMR of 7.67, reflects new efforts related to our engagement in Partner for Change, a new initiative funded by the Ohio Department of Children and Youth being led by First Year Cleveland locally.

OFR report posted

[Cuyahoga County's Overdose Fatality Review 2024 Annual Report](#) has been posted to our [Overdose Data Dashboard](#) site. Rebecca Hysing in Population Health created the report in collaboration with the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office. Data Analysts Kenya Moyers and Svetlana Zelenskiy contributed to select data figures. The report serves to disseminate learned overdose case themes and provide data-driven, implementable, recommendations to reduce future overdose deaths locally.

HIV/STI

Epidemiologist Clarence Williams recently released 2025 Q2 Syphilis report for Cuyahoga County and HIV Region 3. The report provides data trends in new syphilis cases that occurred in Q1 of this year. Additionally, the report includes HIV co-infection data and syphilis treatment data.

Epidemiologist Alisha Cassady recently released data results of the Ending the HIV Epidemic project, Data to Care. The project involves using a not-in-care list to reach out of care individuals and link them to care. Alisha's report highlights data outcomes of the EHE team's efforts to link individuals to HIV care through the Not in Care list.

**CCBH Board Meeting
August 27, 2025**

Medical Director's Report Summary
August 2025 Activities

Clinical Oversight and Support

1. Civil surgeon services: Collaborating with Neighborhood Family Practice to facilitate permanent residency applications for refugee communities by processing I-693 documents and administering vaccines under our blanket civil surgeon authority. Ongoing.
2. Providing clinical consultation to staff on complex cases, protocols, and evidence-based practices. (ongoing)
3. Influenza Vaccine Planning – Reviewing upcoming guidance for 2025-2026 seasonal influenza vaccine recommendations to ensure alignment with CDC protocols.
4. Kava and Kratom Regulatory Monitoring – Monitoring the evolving legal situation involving businesses selling food and beverages containing kava and kratom, maintaining readiness to provide medical support as needed.

Disease Surveillance and Response

1. West Nile Virus Response – Providing medical guidance and clinical support in response to increased West Nile virus activity in the county.
2. Identifying opportunities to streamline surveillance and response services, including optimization of testing and treatment protocols.

Media and Communications

No reportable activities this period.

Community Engagement and Education

1. **Preventive Medicine Residency** – residents gain public health experience through board meeting participation, communications training, field visits with environmental health sanitarians, clinical site rotations, and active involvement in ongoing projects within the ESI service area.
2. **CWRU SOM Medical School Population/Public Health Block**– Co-delivered introductory public health lecture with Dr. David Margolius from Cleveland Department of Public Health during the first-year curriculum block focused on population and public health. This marks the fifth consecutive year providing this foundational lecture to incoming medical students.
3. **Upcoming Speaking Engagements** – Scheduled to present on Apretude implementation and clinical experience to the Cuyahoga Regional HIV Prevention and Care Planning Council. Additionally, will deliver a presentation on measles resurgence and vaccination decline consequences to the Public Affairs Discussion Group at Case Western Reserve University's public policy program.
4. **CWRU MPH Program Teaching** – Transitioning to teach a semester-long Health Policy and Management course designed as an applied, practical curriculum for

second-year students in the health policy concentration. The course emphasizes real-world policy applications and contextual relevance to prepare students for professional practice in health policy and management.

Staff Development and Training

1. **MPH Capstone Supervision for CCBH Staff** – Providing guidance and oversight for Master of Public Health capstone projects.
2. **Research Development and Dissemination** – Supporting staff interested in manuscript preparation and publication, including assistance with research methodology, data analysis, and findings dissemination.