



**CUYAHOGA COUNTY  
BOARD OF HEALTH**

Your Trusted Source For Public Health Information

**2025**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

The ties that bind

# REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

**5** COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**8** HEALTHY BRAIN INITIATIVE

**10** TOTALLY TASTY

**12** DONATIONS

**14** REACH FELLOWSHIP

**15** HEALTHY URBAN TREE CANOPY

**16** ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC

**17** PRIDE



# MISSION, VISION & VALUES

## Our Mission

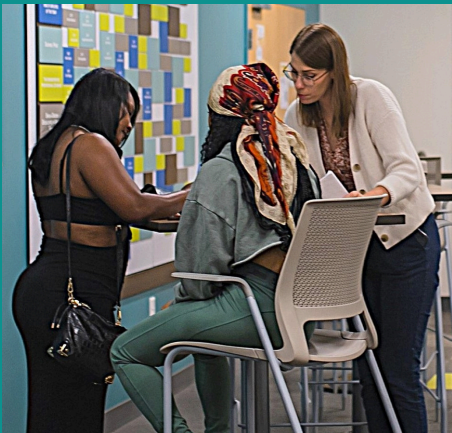
To work in partnership with the community to protect and improve the health and well-being of everyone in Cuyahoga County.

## Our Vision

To create the conditions in which all people who live, learn, work and play in Cuyahoga County have the opportunity to be healthy.

## Our Core Values

Health equity, integrity, partnership and innovation



# FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

“The ties that bind” describes the deep social connections and shared values that unite us. At our public health agency, relationships are the heartbeat of our daily work. We are proud to partner with a vast network of providers, organizations, and residents who share our commitment to community well-being.

Decades of experience and data show that successful partnerships rely on several key pillars:

- Empathy: Understanding the direct impact on those we serve
- Trust: Cultivating strong bonds between residents and local groups
- Transparency: Operating with honesty and cooperation
- Empowerment: Encouraging active community participation
- Equity: Ensuring interactions are rooted in mutual respect
- Collaboration: Engaging in shared decision-making



Through mutually beneficial relationships, progress thrives. We value your voice and encourage you to share your vision for a healthy community. Our team welcomes your input.

*Roderick L. Harris*

**Roderick Harris DrPH**  
**Health Commissioner**

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our team regularly supports community events as a way of engaging residents and partners.

## Protect Your Child From Lead Poisoning



Learn the Risks. Get Kids Tested. Reduce Lead Hazards.

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**Old Brook High School**  
Parma Campus

## EXPLORE. ENJOY?

# ENROLL!

UNSURE ABOUT ENROLLING?  
SPEND A SESSION WITH US!  
ENROLLING 15-21 YEAR OLDS!

- ONE PERIOD in an ACADEMIC CONTENT AREA of your choice
- ONE PERIOD in a CAREER TECH PROGRAM of your choice
- ONE PERIOD in a Q&A session with our STUDENT AMBASSADORS

216-236-3208 info-parma@oldbrookhigh.org

# GUN SAFETY STARTS HERE.

Teach Safety. Practice Responsibility. Keep It Secure.


**What You Will Learn:**

- ✓ Demonstrate safe handling practices for firearms
- ✓ Explain the importance of firearm safety
- ✓ Understand local and national data
- ✓ Access free gun safety resources

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 5-8pM

Parma Armory Shooting Center: Gun Safety Training Institute  
5301 Hauserman Road, Parma, Ohio 44130

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Helping every baby sleep safer

## BABIES NEED A SAFE PLACE TO SLEEP

Keep your baby safe.  
Call the Cuyahoga County Board of Health to see if you qualify for a free cribette.

(216) 201-2001 ext. 2019

**Eligibility:**

- Mother at least 32 weeks pregnant
- Infant in the home, less than one year old, without a safe sleep place
- Income is within the current WIC income guidelines



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# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Whether on or off the clock, our team shows up on behalf of the community.

Let us know how we can connect with your residents and partners.



**Cleveland Walk to End Alzheimer's®**  
**Saturday, October 18, 2025**  
**Cleveland Metroparks Zoo**

Entry at 7 a.m.  
Ceremony at 8:45 a.m.  
Walk at 9 a.m.

Cuyahoga County Board of Health is a proud supporter of The Walk to End Alzheimer's. Join us today and help us #ENDALZ. Scan to register today!

<http://act.alz.org/goto/CCBH>

alz.org/walk | 800.272.3900

**DONATE BLOOD**  
with CCBH & Versiti



**OCTOBER 30, 2025**

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
5550 Venture Dr, Parma, OH

Follow the link in the caption to sign up!

Gunselman's Restaurant Group Presents the 6th Annual  
**Leprechaun Chase**



**Empowering Epilepsy**  
Change The Conversation

Saturday, March 8, 2025 9:00 AM  
**5K RUN & WALK**  
Fairview High School Track

**Benefitting Empowering Epilepsy**

Empowering Epilepsy was founded in 2014 by people with epilepsy, for people with epilepsy, to meet this dire need for learning, emotional, and disease management support.

Scan the QR Code to sign up to volunteer



# COMMUNITY FEEDBACK



**ANN, LOCAL PARTNER**  
Ann - Local resident  
90 years young and "lives to garden"



**KIM, ALZ WALK PARTICIPANT**  
"I am walking for my parents."



**BISHOP MEDINA**  
"We are partners in health and in spirit."



**OLD BROOK SCHOOL**  
"We truly value this partnership  
and its impact on our community."

# HEALTHY BRAIN INITIATIVE

A program designed to protect the brain and foster better health from birth through the golden years. Many factors contribute to brain health:



Being smoke-free



Staying in school



Challenging your mind with puzzles, music, writing, etc.



Protection, such as bike helmets



Controlling blood pressure



Sleeping well



Eating right



Regular exercise



Maintaining a healthy weight



Managing diabetes



# PROTECT YOURSELF

We are dedicated to injury and illness prevention. This includes safe sleep, Naloxone kits and more.



**BABIES NEED TO Breathe**

FXC FIRST YEAR CLEVELAND | CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

LEARN MORE

[FIRSTYEARCLEVELAND.ORG/SAFE-SLEEP](http://FIRSTYEARCLEVELAND.ORG/SAFE-SLEEP)

ALONE | BACK | IN A CRIB | DON'T SMOKE | EDUCATE EVERYONE

The poster features a baby in a crib and logos for First Year Cleveland and Cuyahoga County Board of Health.



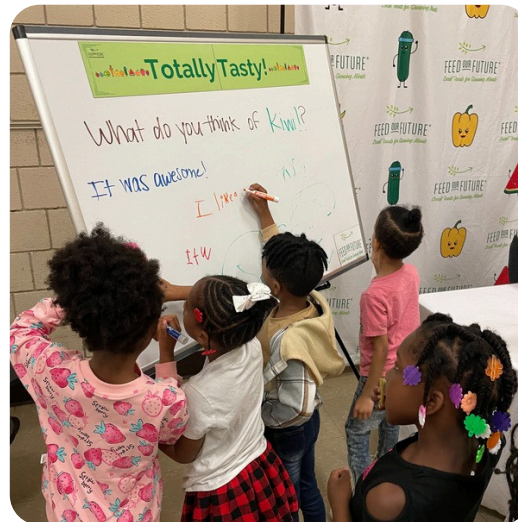
# TOTALLY TASTY



Totally Tasty events are a new and exciting way for students to discover their own passion for fresh food and to share it with their peers. Their feedback helps school nutrition teams understand what students actually want to eat, and in turn, build menus that excite students and parents.

Our staff works with child nutrition professionals in K-12 school districts to customize an event that creates opportunities for students to try new local and regional foods. Foodservice directors acquire the products and we engage students in the voting station, capturing their comments and providing the district with the results.

Together we have one goal: to make tasting new foods as easy and fun as possible.





### Number of Students Engaged

**12,778**

### Number of Farm & Local Partners Supported

**17**



### Number of School Districts Partners

**15**

The verdicts for more than 26 local and regional foods are in:



**7,889**



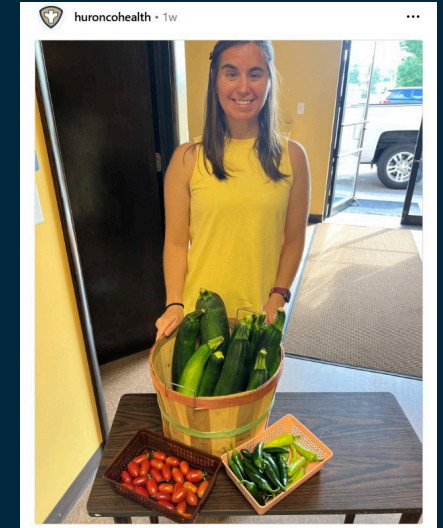
**2,806**



**2,083**

# DONATIONS

One of our most successful and longest-lasting promotions has been the seed program. Designed in collaboration with our generous donor, Marc's/MGI, together we have distributed an estimated 10 million one-ounce packets throughout the United States and around the world. Over the past 14 years, the seeds have supplied food pantries, homeless shelters, senior centers, faith-based organizations and underserved communities with fresh, nutritious produce.



# NUTRITION EQUITY

We took a trip to the Arrow Nutrition Equity Zone to visit their urban farm and welcome them as a partner in our seed donation program.

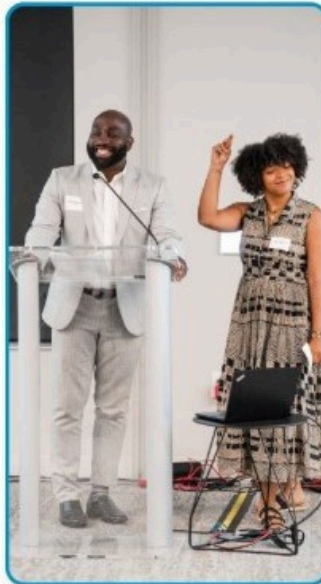
In partnership with the Case Western Reserve University Swetland Center for Environmental Health, this work brings together homesteaders and urban farmers to engage children and families by integrating agriculture, horticulture and art into educational classes and workshops.





Our federally funded REACH program uses proven strategies to help improve health, prevent chronic diseases, and reduce health and racial disparities.

The REACH Fellowship is a six-month leadership program that promotes food systems change. Priorities include sustainability, equity and health and increasing access to networks and resources.



## 2025 REACH FELLOWSHIP GRADUATION



 **CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY**  
Mary Ann Swetland Center for Environmental Health

# HEALTHY URBAN TREE CANOPY PROGRAM LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

A tree canopy is the layer of leaves, branches, and stems that cover and protect the ground, as viewed from above. Overall, it acts as green infrastructure and provides benefits such as reducing heat islands, improving air quality, managing stormwater and boosting community well-being.



## Cuyahoga County Healthy Urban Tree Canopy (HUTC)

- \$1M annual commitment from Cuyahoga County general fund
- Supports tree planning, planting, and maintenance activities
- 30 Tree Plans & Inventories
- **13,000+ trees planted to date!!**

## HUTC Community Partners



Planting Oversight  
& Grant Support

Grant Support

# ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC

During 2025, we engaged in more than 50 community events. Our staff distributed safer sex materials including condoms and lubes, HIV self-test kits, promotional items and educational resources. Topics include HIV prevention and treatment.

Our partners in raising awareness included:

- Cleveland Cavaliers
- Glenville and Randall Park High Schools
- Greater Cleveland Food Bank
- Love Leads Here Trivia Night partnership with Twist Social Club
- National HIV Testing Day partnership with Walgreens Pharmacy
- Pride in the CLE and Brecksville-Broadview Heights Pride
- St. Clair Place Senior Apartments
- Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Men's Shelter
- The National Urban League Conference



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION GOALS



Increase awareness among community members about their HIV status



Reduce the stigma still widely associated with HIV



At what is always a great event, we provided attendees with a combination of vaccinations, information and safer-sex products.

We appreciate the opportunity to support the LGBTQ+ population and their friends and families by offering guidance and solutions for continued good health.

It is our privilege to be recognized as an ally and trusted resource.



# ABOUT US



NUMBER OF STAFF  
**185**

## EDUCATION



JD  
**1**



BACHELOR  
**93**



DOCTORATE  
**4**



ASSOCIATE  
**15**



MASTER  
**56**



HS  
**16**



## YEARS OF SERVICE AT CCBH

< ONE YEAR

**28**

1-4 YEARS

**69**

5-9 YEARS

**31**

10-14 YEARS

**18**

15-19 YEARS

**8**

20-24 YEARS

**16**

25-29 YEARS

**11**

30+ YEARS

**4**

# OUR TEAM AT WORK



# OUR TEAM AT WORK



# LEADERSHIP TEAM

## **Health Commissioner**

Roderick Harris DrPH

## **Communications/External Affairs**

Suzanne Hrusch MPH, REHS

## **Environmental Public Health**

Matt Johnson MPH, REHS

## **General Counsel**

John Mills JD

## **Medical Director**

Prakash Ganesh M.D., MPH

## **Nursing & Clinical Services**

Brandy Eaton BSN, RN

## **Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics**

Jana Rush MPH, MA

## **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion**

Andre Brown PhD, MPH

## **Finance**

Michael Pissini CPA, CGFM

## **Operations**

Joseph McRae, MPA

## **Organizational Development**

Rebecca Burke BA, PHR

## **Population Health**

Martha Halko MS, RD, LD

# BOARD MEMBERS



**Gregory L. Hall, M.D.**  
President



**Doug Wang**  
Pro-Tem



**Sonja Rajki, JD**



**Daniel Richards, JD**



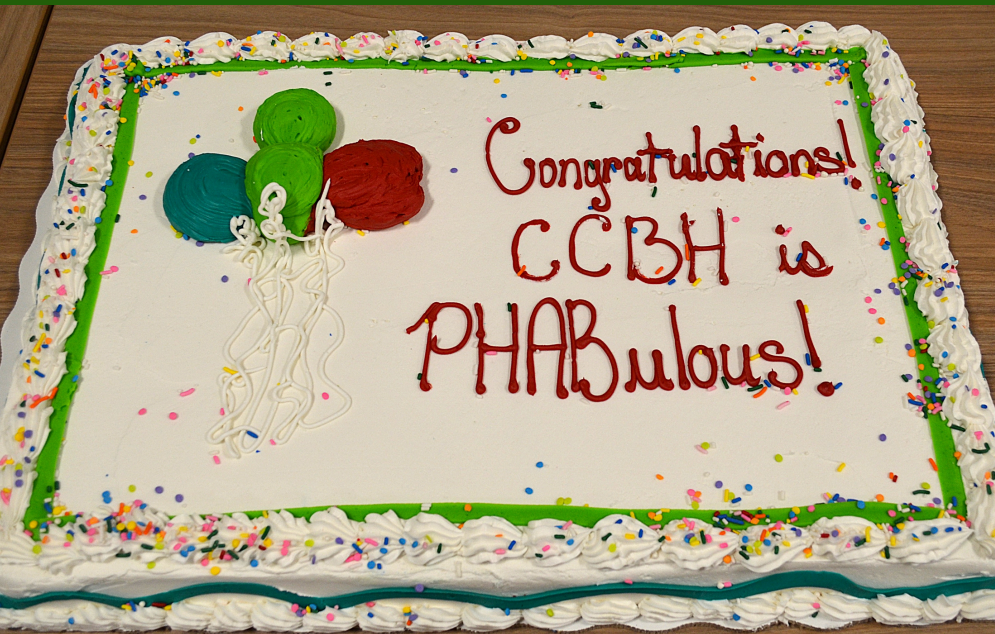
**Sherrie Dixon Williams, M.D.**



**SCAN THE QR CODE**

To learn more about  
our Board members

# REACCREDITATION



As the accrediting body for local and state health departments, the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) advances standards of excellence and accountability for the systems that promote and protect the health of all people. The accreditation process is rooted in national standards, including the 10 Essential Public Health Services.

Local health departments earning reaccreditation demonstrate a sustained focus on performance improvement and community-centered practice. Every five years, these departments undergo another review to maintain their accreditation status and ensure continued alignment with national expectations and evolving public health priorities. Across the country, more than 450 health departments have demonstrated their performance and accountability to their communities, policymakers, and other stakeholders through PHAB accreditation.

In the fall, after several months of preparation and review, our agency was awarded reaccreditation status by PHAB. We are grateful to our partners, stakeholders, community members and, above all, our CCBH team for their participation and dedication to maintaining quality service delivery and improving health outcomes.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## Federal, State & Local Grants

**\$27,645,395.38**

**69% of total**

## Municipal Contracts

**\$7,299,446.93**

**18% of total**

## Licenses & Permits

**\$3,242,407.28**

**8% of total**

## Charges for Services

**\$1,046,550.44**

**3% of total**

## Other Operating Revenues

**\$558,517.01**

**1.4% of total**

## Contributions & Donations

**\$53,684.92**

**<1% of total**

# COMMUNITIES SERVED

**Bay Village**  
**Beachwood**  
**Bedford**  
**Bedford Heights**  
**Bentleyville**  
**Berea**  
**Bratenahl**  
**Brecksville**  
**Broadview Heights**  
**Brooklyn**  
**Brooklyn Heights**  
**Brook Park**  
**Chagrin Falls Township**  
**Chagrin Falls Village**  
**Cleveland Heights**  
**Cuyahoga Heights**  
**East Cleveland**  
**Euclid**  
**Fairview Park**

**Garfield Heights**  
**Gates Mills**  
**Glenwillow**  
**Highland Heights**  
**Highland Hills**  
**Hunting Valley**  
**Independence**  
**Lakewood**  
**Linndale**  
**Lyndhurst**  
**Maple Heights**  
**Mayfield Heights**  
**Mayfield Village**  
**Middleburg Heights**  
**Moreland Hills**  
**Newburgh Heights**  
**North Olmsted**  
**North Randall**  
**North Royalton**

**Oakwood Village**  
**Olmsted Falls**  
**Olmsted Township**  
**Orange Village**  
**Parma**  
**Parma Heights**  
**Pepper Pike**  
**Richmond Heights**  
**Rocky River**  
**Seven Hills**  
**Shaker Heights**  
**Solon**  
**South Euclid**  
**Strongsville**  
**University Heights**  
**Valley View**  
**Walton Hills**  
**Warrensville Heights**  
**Westlake**  
**Woodmere**



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[216.201.2000](tel:216.201.2000)



[5550 VENTURE DRIVE,  
PARMA, OH 44130](#)