



# **TOWN OF TRUMBULL HEALTH DEPARTMENT**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2018-2019**

## A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

I am pleased to present the 2018-2019 Annual Report for the Trumbull Health Department highlighting our accomplishments and sharing with you the many ways we are committed and dedicated to improving the quality of life for all our citizens.

This year marked a year of change for the Trumbull Health Department. After leading the department for 4 years, Director of Health, Rhonda Capuano, announced her retirement. In addition, the Public Health Nurses, Christine Dudek-Ratushnik and Grace Vetter, also decided to retire after several years of service to the department. The board of health, staff and I wish them all the best as they move on to new endeavors.

The health department has also been busy this year implementing its Tobacco 21 ordinance which went into effect on July 1, 2019. This new ordinance licenses all tobacco merchants and prohibits the sale of all tobacco to persons under 21 years of age. The Trumbull Health Department is one of a few health departments to develop this ordinance in preparation for the passage of House Bill 7200 which will increase the age of tobacco sales from 18 to 21 years of age throughout the state of Connecticut beginning October 1, 2019.

Our department was also busy hosting a multi-town emergency preparedness exercise at Trumbull High School, in coordination with our regional healthcare coalition. This exercise simulated an anthrax exposure and provided emergency response professionals with hands-on experience of what would happen in a real-life public health emergency.

Through the implementation and promotion of public health programs, communities as a whole, benefit from improved qualities of life and reduced human suffering. The strength of a public health system relies on its ability to effectively deliver the 10 essential public health services and three core functions. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these three core functions include: assessment, assurance, and policy development. These core functions help us balance and focus public health responsibilities as we strive to provide essential population based services to our constituents.

Examples of these three core functions provided by the Trumbull Health Department include:

**Assessment:**

- Reviewed communicable disease reports to identify community health problems
- Collected ticks for disease testing
- Conducted community blood pressure screenings

**Assurance:**

- Reviewed and approved plans for septic systems and wells
- Conducted inspections of food service establishments
- Provided off-site flu clinics and weekly walk-in clinics

**Policy Development:**

- Enacted Trumbull's Tobacco 21 Ordinance
- Completed annual update of Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plans
- Participated in community partnership meetings and events

This report highlights the accomplishments of the Trumbull Health Department over the past year to meet the ten essential public health services and three core functions of public health.

Wishing you good health!

*Luci Bango*

Luci Bango, MPH, REHS, RS

Director of Health

## MISSION

The Trumbull Health Department serves as the official local public health entity for the Trumbull, Connecticut community. The Trumbull Health Department is committed to improving the quality of life for all it serves through the promotion of health, prevention of disease, and by assuring a safe and clean environment for our residents.



## VISION

The Trumbull Health Department's overall role is to protect and promote the public's health through people, prevention and partnerships.



### TRUMBULL HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Lucienne Bango, MPH, REHS, RS, Director of Health  
Joel Kunkel, M.D., FACEP, Medical Director

Shaquaisha Andrews, RS, Registered Sanitarian  
Winsome Bogle, Sanitarian

Samantha Cousins, RN, Public Health Nurse

Joanna DiPalma, Administrative Assistant

Susan Jacozzi, MPH, CHES, Health Educator

William Mooney, RS, Registered Sanitarian

### TRUMBULL HEALTH BOARD

Richard Bellows, BS Public Health, RRT

Nancy Busch, MA, BSN, BC-NE, Chairperson

Debbie Charles, M.S. Ed, S. Ed

Amy Lehaney, MPH, RS

Glenn Rich, M.D.

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# THE 3 CORE FUNCTIONS AND 10 ESSENTIAL SERVICES OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The responsibility of local health departments is to protect and promote health, and prevent disease and injury. To accomplish this mission, public health departments balance 3 Core Functions and 10 Essential Public Health Services. The 10 Essential Services of Public Health serve as the framework for public health initiatives. The Trumbull Health Department provided these services through the accomplishments and services below.



# COMMUNITY HEALTH

The Trumbull Health Department investigates, monitors, tracks and implements control measures to address communicable diseases in order to reduce their spread in the community. We work closely with the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) and other health agencies to prevent and control the spread of disease. The Health Department provides educational programs and prevention programs/screenings for early prevention, detection and control of chronic diseases.

**Vaccines and Services**-The Health Department provides vaccinations for a wide variety of preventive diseases for children and adults. Vaccines are obtained through the Connecticut Department of Public Health's Vaccines for Children Program and private providers. During the past year, 931 immunizations were administered. Other screenings included blood pressure, and PPD skin tests for tuberculosis, totaling 315.

**Lead Program**-The Public Health Nurses monitor the CT DPH tracking and reporting database, MAVEN, for elevated blood lead levels in children. The nurses follow-up on any reported elevated blood lead levels in children up to 6 years of age which includes communication with parents/guardians and pediatricians. Parents/Guardians are provided with educational materials including, blood testing requirements, cleaning techniques, proper nutrition and home visits with environmental sampling, when indicated.

**Enteric Disease**- The Public Health Nurses monitor the CT DPH disease tracking and reporting database Maven (enteric). The department works in conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Health Food Net program.



# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



The Environmental Health division works to provide a clean, safe and healthy environment. The Sanitarians protect public health and the environment by ensuring conformance with local, state and federal ordinances and laws pertaining to a wide variety of environmental health programs. Much of this work is accomplished by performing routine inspections and investigations and taking enforcement action when warranted. The following services are provided by the Environmental Health division:

**Food Protection**-The goal of the food protection program is to reduce the incidence of foodborne illness. Our objective is to meet state requirements for food establishment inspections. During the past year, 234 food licenses were issued and 438 inspections were conducted.

**Pools**-All 14 non-residential pools were inspected and licensed.

**Salons**-42 salons were inspected and licensed.

**Daycare Inspections**-9 of 21 daycares were inspected.

**Water Quality**-Trumbull's 3 fresh water lakes were tested for bacteriological water quality beginning in May and ending in August on a weekly basis.

**Septic**-There were 30 lots tested for subsurface sewage disposal systems. In addition, 39 permits were issued for subsurface sewage systems, construction of new systems and repairs to existing systems.

**Housing**-The health department received 34 housing related complaints regarding garbage, rodents, sewage, heat, lead and mold.

**Ticks**-175 ticks were submitted for testing at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. 28 (22%) tested positive for Lyme, 10 (8%) tested positive for anaplasmosis and 9 (5%) tested positive for babesiosis.

**Radon Test Kits**-Distributed 81 radon test kits to residents and followed up with test results.

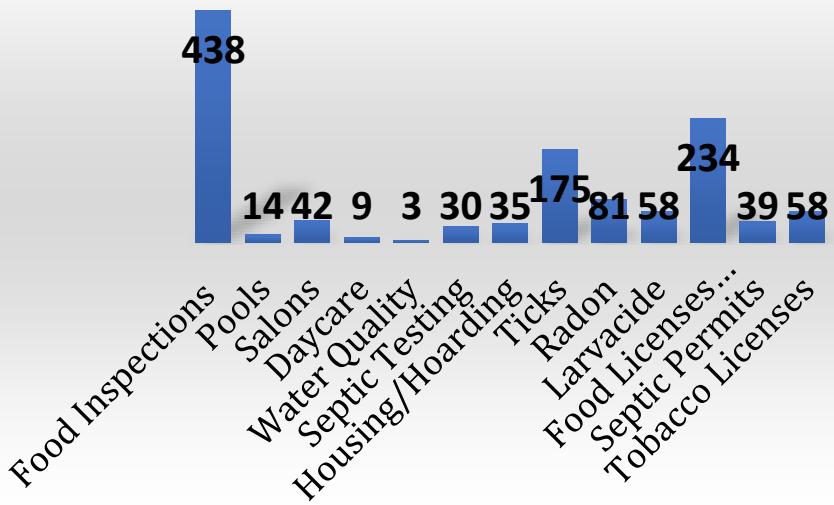
**Larvacide Dunks**-Distributed 58 mosquito dunks to residents.

**Hoarding**-The health department responded to 1 hoarding case.

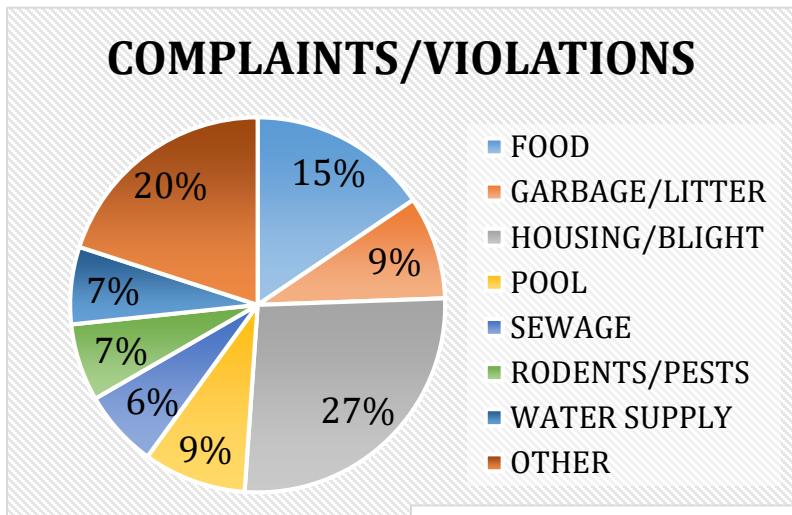
**Tobacco**-The health department began enforcement of the T21 ordinance and issued 16 licenses to tobacco retailers.



# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



## COMPLAINTS/VIOLATIONS



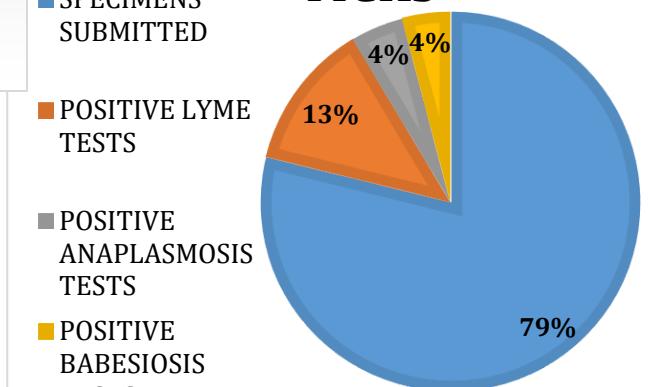
SPECIMENS SUBMITTED

POSITIVE LYME TESTS

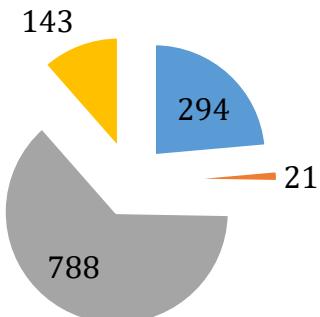
POSITIVE ANAPLASMOSIS TESTS

POSITIVE BABESIOSIS TESTS

## TICKS



## COMMUNITY HEALTH



■ Blood Pressure

■ Private Immunizations

■ PPD Tuberculin

■ Public Immunizations

# HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Education Division provides outreach to our residents, schools, businesses, public and private entities. Their goal is to promote healthy lifestyles through our Health Promotion and Wellness Programs. During the past year, the Health Department launched health promotion initiatives to help community members live healthier lifestyles and reduce their risk of disease. Some of these initiatives and community events include:

## **INITIATIVES:**

Blood Pressure Workshops  
Opioid Prevention  
Trumbull Treks walking trail maps  
Tobacco 21  
Smoking Cessation Programs

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS:**

Community Blood Pressure Screenings  
Community/School Health Fairs  
National Walking Day  
Nature Hikes

Displays and educational materials on various topics were provided to residents, business owners, and employees. Topics included: Emergency Preparedness, Lead Poisoning Prevention, Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases, Medical Reserve Corps, Meningococcal Disease, Radon, Sun Safety, West Nile virus and Zika virus.

Sun Safety



Opioid Prevention



Nature Hikes



# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

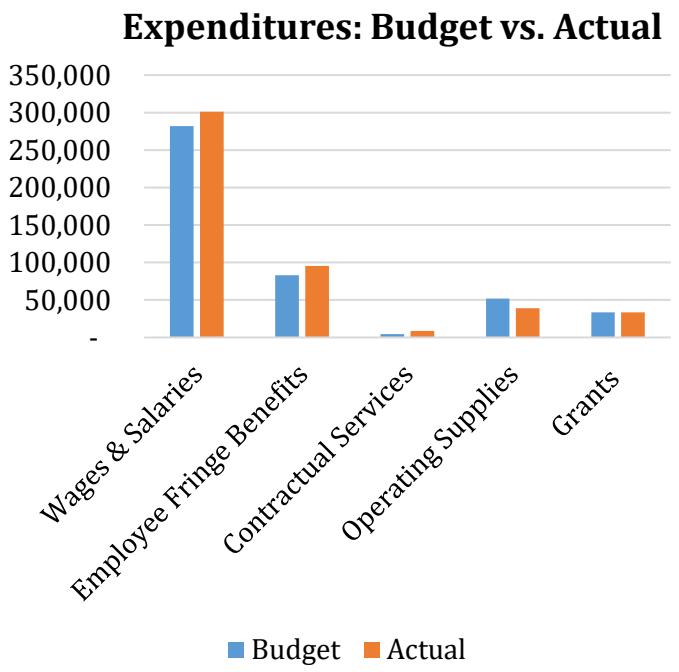
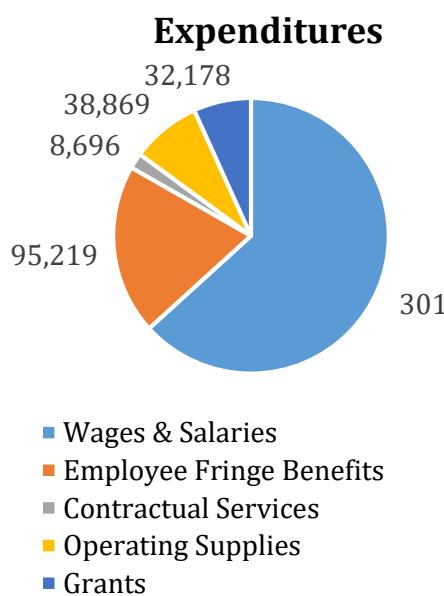
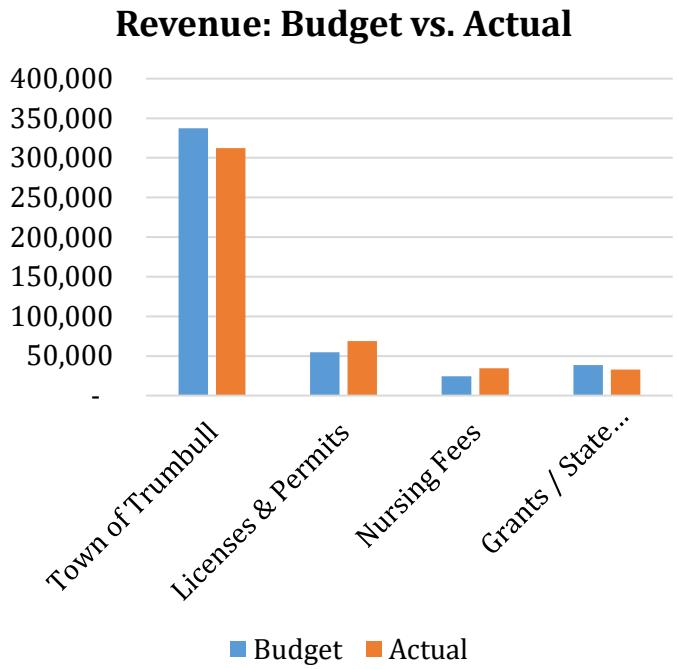
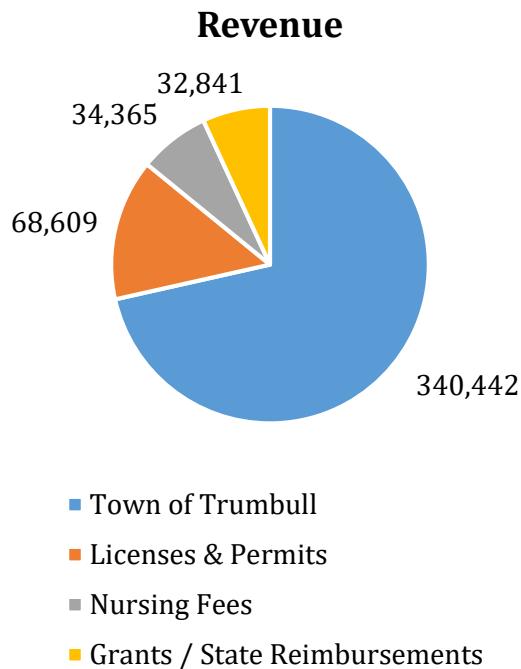


The Health Department works to ensure that the town of Trumbull responds effectively to natural disasters, bioterrorism and other emergencies that could affect the health of the public. This is achieved through department planning and collaboration, staff training, and educating our citizens. The Trumbull Health Department is part of the Mass Dispensing Area (MDA) #12 which comprises Stratford, Monroe and Trumbull. In the event of a bioterrorism attack, the Health Department is prepared to do mass dispensing and mass vaccination, providing medication or vaccinations quickly to town residents to prevent disease. Some of the activities during this past year that staff participated in to prepare for such an event included:

- Participation in Statewide Preparedness Exercises
- Participation in Local Regional Tabletop Exercises, such as Anthrax and Measles
- Participation in Local Point of Dispensing (POD) Full Scale Exercise
- Participation in Regional Full Scale Exercises
- Participation in a Technical Assistance Review with the CT Department of Public Health
- Participated in Call-down and Radio Drills
- Staff Review of Emergency Preparedness Response Plans and two-way radio usage
- Staff Review of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Response Plan for the town
- Participation in various trainings, such as Developing an Incident Action Plan, Risk Communications, and Vulnerable Populations



# FINANCIALS: REVENUE & EXPENDITURES



\*One grant award spans over two fiscal years.