

Trumbull Health Department



Annual Report
2020 – 2021



Town of Trumbull Health Department Annual Report 2020-2021



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Public Health
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Message from the Director of Health

Luci Bango, MPH, REHS, RS

It has been over eighteen months since the town of Trumbull received notification of its first case of COVID-19. Since then, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the face of Public Health and tasked us with managing a pandemic, the likes of which had never been dealt with before. The pandemic has thrust the importance and work of local health departments into the spotlight. At a time when local health departments were already facing financial deficits and staff shortages, we were now tasked with leading a global health crisis. All of the planning, preparation and training for public health emergencies was quickly put to use to respond to the pandemic. As new situations, regulations and guidance developed, the Trumbull Health Department learned how to adapt to fluid situations and work collaboratively with other agencies to continue to deliver new and previously offered services.

During the COVID-19 pandemic the Trumbull Health Department continued to provide essential services to its residents including flu vaccinations, blood pressure screenings, and restaurant inspections. In addition to these services, the Trumbull Health Department was tasked with providing new services and enforcing new guidelines and regulations related to COVID-19. Contact tracing, mask orders, occupancy limits and COVID-19 vaccines were just some of the many examples in which local health has lead the front lines in the response to the pandemic.

Due to the overwhelming responsibilities placed on local health, we quickly realized that we could not go it alone. Local and state agencies, town employees and Trumbull residents responded to our needs and did not hesitate to offer their help. It was with the help of these volunteers that the Trumbull Health Department was able to administer over 10,000 COVID-19 vaccines. Because of the dedication and selflessness of these volunteers and staff, the Trumbull Health Department was able to continue its day to day operations, while offering new services like COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

This pandemic has taught us a lot about ourselves as professionals and a community as a whole. We have learned that through the support of community leaders, local agencies and community members, the goals of local health can be achieved on a much broader scale. It is not clear as to when we will return to pre-pandemic life, however, we are better prepared to deal with pandemic response and public health emergencies. This pandemic has reinforced the importance and need for a more robust public health workforce. We must continue to rebuild and invest in strengthening the public health infrastructure to ensure a safe and healthy community. The Trumbull Health Department is proud to have such a caring and supportive community and we look forward to your continued support.

Warm Regards,

Luci Bango

Luci Bango, MPH, REHS, RS



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Vision

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



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,

Trumbull Health Board

Nancy Busch, MA, BSN, BC-NE, Chairperson
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Glenn Rich, M.D.
Allison Vallance, RN

STAFF

**Lucienne Bango, MPH,
REHS, RS**

- Director of Health

Joel Kunkel, M.D., FACEP

- Medical Director

**Shaquaisha Andrews,
REHS, RS**

- Registered Sanitarian

Winsome Bogle

- Sanitarian

Shaun Duffy

- Sanitarian

Samantha Cousins, RN

- Public Health Nurse

Susan Jacozzi, MPH, CHES

- Health Educator

Taylor Pennino

- Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Kegan

- Administrative Support





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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 deliver **10 Essential Public Health Services** to serve as the framework for public health initiatives. During the **COVID-19 Pandemic**, the Trumbull Health Department provided these essential services through the accomplishments and services below.

Evaluate

Analyzed town and state health metrics and data of COVID-19 cases and other communicable diseases.

Assure a Competent Workforce

Staff participated in weekly webinars, meetings and trainings with federal and state agencies to discuss current policies pertaining to COVID-19 and other health issues. Staff participated in preparedness trainings with federal, state and regional partners.

Link to and Provide Care

Updated social media on a weekly basis to provide the public with current COVID-19 information, including testing site locations and vaccinations. Offered COVID-19 and flu vaccinations at several town clinics. Distributed PPE to physicians and dentists.

Enforce Laws

Conducted inspections of food service establishments and salons to ensure compliance of COVID-19 related orders and requirements and state and local health codes.



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Research

Utilized available data from health agencies and websites to develop policies and prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases within the community.

Diagnose and Investigate

Conducted contact tracing of positive COVID-19 cases to help prevent the spread of disease. Investigated public health complaints, such as housing, garbage and rodents.

Inform, Educate & Empower

Published several press releases and educational materials regarding COVID-19 to social media pages including symptoms, travel restrictions and mask usage. Offered high blood pressure prevention workshop.

Monitor Health

Monitored state disease surveillance databases for COVID-19 and other communicable diseases to determine community transmission and trends.

Mobilize Community Partnerships

Partnered with other local health departments and town agencies to share information related to COVID-19. Developed local and state task forces to discuss current trends and prevention strategies of COVID-19. Partnered with local testing agencies and laboratories to offer vaccine distribution and COVID testing.

Develop Policies

Utilized current communicable disease policies for employees to include exposures to COVID-19. Developed policies and procedures for town employees and schools regarding COVID-19 exposures.



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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), Trumbull Public Schools, and other health agencies to prevent and control the spread of disease. The health department provides educational programs and preventative 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, including flu and COVID-19. Vaccines are obtained through the Connecticut Department of Public Health's Vaccines for Children Program and private purchase.

- **108 (non-flu) vaccines** were administered during the past year.
- **883 flu vaccines** were administered at the health department at 11 flu clinics around town.
- **10,161 COVID-19 vaccines** were administered at town clinics and the health department.

Lead Program

The Public Health Nurse monitors the Connecticut Department of Health's lead reporting database (MAVEN), and follows up on any elevated blood lead levels in children up to six years of age.

Tuberculosis Program

The health department is responsible for investigating all cases of active tuberculosis in the town.

- **10 PPD tests** were administered this past year.

Enteric Disease Follow-Up



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The Public Health Nurse monitors the Connecticut Electronic Disease Surveillance System (CTEDSS).

- **136 (non-COVID-19)** communicable diseases monitored.

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 this past year, the health department conducted:

155 Food Inspections

46 Seasonal/Temporary Event Inspections

13 Food Plan Reviews

Pools

12 non-residential pools were inspected and licensed.

Salons

31 salons were inspected and licensed.

Daycare Inspections

7 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.

Tobacco

The health department began enforcement of the T21 ordinance and issued **18** licenses.

Nuisance/Housing

The health department investigated public health complaints and nuisances, including garbage, rodent, mold and sewage. The health department responded to **29** complaints.

Septic

There were **15** lots tested for subsurface sewage disposal systems. In addition, **33** permits were issued for subsurface sewage systems, construction of new systems and repairs to existing systems.

Ticks

180 ticks were submitted for testing at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. **34** tested positive for Lyme, **4** tested positive for anaplasmosis and **4** tested positive for babesiosis.





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Radon Test Kits

Distributed **39** radon test kits to residents and followed up with test results.





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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
"It's Worth It!" Breast Feeding Awareness Campaign
Opioid Prevention
Trumbull Treks Walking Trail Maps
Radon Test Kits

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Blood Pressure Screenings
Medication Lock Box Distribution
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, Radon, Sun Safety, and COVID-19.





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Emergency Preparedness



The Trumbull 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 CRI Region 1 Planning Group which consists of Bridgeport, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Monroe, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport, and Wilton. 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
- Participation in Regional Full Scale Exercises
- Coordination of Local Full Scale and Functional Exercises
- Participated in Call-down and Radio Drills
- Participation in various trainings, such as N95 Fit Testing Train the Trainer
- Plan development which includes COVID-19 Response Plan and Drive-Thru Mass Vaccination Plans
- 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





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COVID-19 Pandemic

These are extraordinary times for public health, as we intensify our efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our expertise, and actions are needed more than ever and our roles will continue to expand and the pandemic rapidly unfolds. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Trumbull Health Department worked closely with state, regional, and local partners in our response and recovery efforts to the community. We responded to the pandemic by offering the following services to the community.

- Coordination and distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) to medical providers, dental practices, and home health care agencies.
- Worked collaboratively with EMS to administer COVID-19 vaccinations to our homebound population.
- Conducted several COVID-19 vaccination clinics. More than 10,000 COVID-19 vaccines were administered.
- Worked with restaurants, salons, pools, daycares, and summer camps on COVID-19 guidance and regulations.
- Collaborated with school administration on the plans for summer school and reopening school plans, as well as homecoming, prom and graduation events.
- Implemented precautionary procedures for community spread of the virus.
- Worked with school administration and nursing staff to monitor cases of COVID-19 in Trumbull schools.
- Worked with school athletic directors and independent sport teams to monitor cases of COVID-19 in Trumbull athletes.



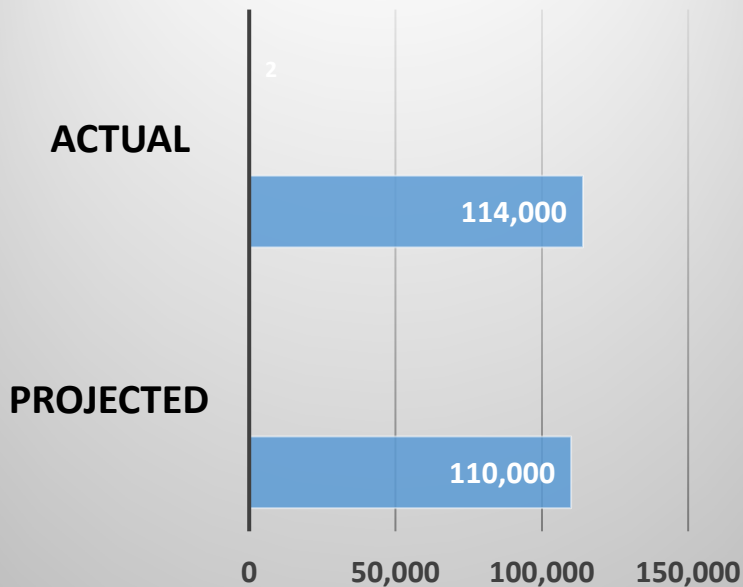


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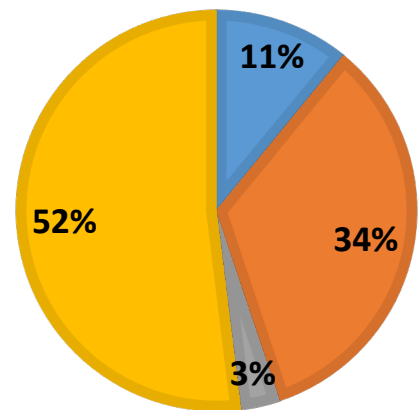
Data and Statistics

REVENUE

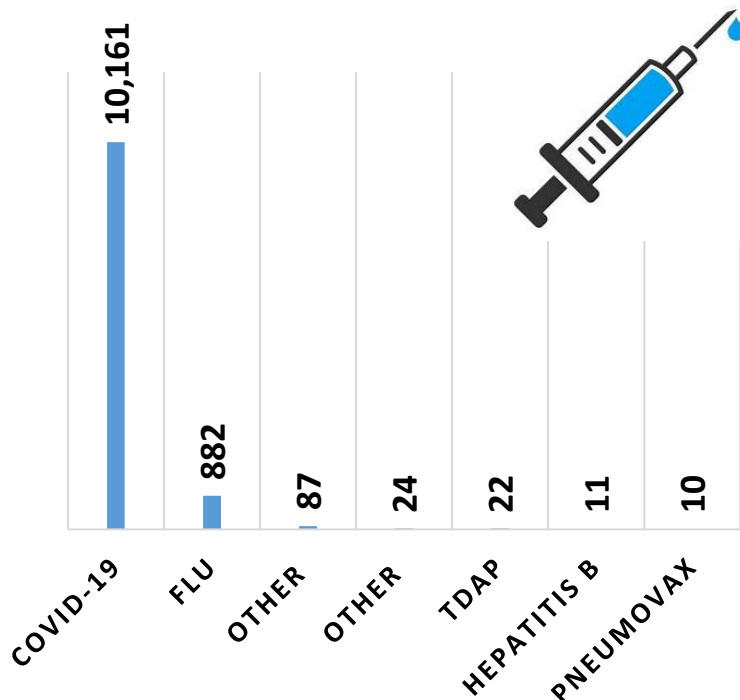


GRANTS FUNDING

- Healthy Communities
- Emergency Preparedness
- Blood Pressure
- ELC-Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity



VACCINES ADMINISTERED



REVENUE SOURCES

