

Trumbull Health Department



Annual Report 2022 – 2023



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Town of Trumbull
Health Department
Annual Report 2022-2023



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Message from the Director of Health

Luci Bango, REHS, RS, MPH

This past year has been one of significant endings and new beginnings in Public Health. On May 11, 2023, the official end to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency was declared by the federal government. This represented the dedication and contributions of public health professionals who worked tirelessly during the pandemic to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 through vaccinations and health education.

The end of the pandemic also brought to light the gaps in public health funding and the workforce crisis. Federal and state agencies worked to ensure that the public health infrastructure was evaluated to meet the future needs with funding and staff. Through a collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Connecticut Department of Public Health, was awarded a 5-year grant focused on public health workforce development. The purpose of this grant is to allow local health departments to make significant new investments in workforce engagement. These funds are vital to the public health workforce to fill vacancies and attract qualified professionals to the field.

During this year, Connecticut was among one of several states to officially adopt the Food and Drug Administration Code. This provides uniformity among local health departments and inspectors overseeing food service establishments. The new food code also provides new regulations revolving around foodborne illness risk factors. Local health departments throughout the state worked collaboratively with local restaurants, state and federal agencies to help prepare the restaurant community and staff for these changes.

Among other milestones this year, the state received an initial installment of \$11 million from a \$26 billion multistate settlement with Johnson & Johnson and drug wholesalers AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health, and McKesson. The four companies were sued for their roles in the opioid crisis. Over the next 18 years, Connecticut will receive \$300 million as part of this settlement. This is a significant accomplishment and victory for public health and provides the funding that is crucial to improve upon the infrastructure of opioid education, prevention and treatment.

I am hopeful that the next year will be another year that brings welcomed ends and beginnings. On behalf of all of our local health staff and professionals, I am happy to see that public health gaps and needs are being addressed. We look forward to continuing successes and positive changes for the future of public health.

Warm Regards,

Luci Bango

Luci Bango, REHS, RS, MPH

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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 Board

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

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

Amy Lehaney, MPH, RS

Karen Tolk, RN

Glenn Rich, M.D.

Allison Vallance, RN

STAFF

Luci Bango, REHS, RS, MPH

- Director of Health

Joel Kunkel, M.D., FACEP

- Medical Director

Shaquaisha Andrews, REHS, RS

- Registered Sanitarian

Winsome Bogle, RS

- Sanitarian

Shaun Duffy, RS

- Sanitarian

Richard Jackson, RS, CSS

- Sanitarian

Samantha Cousins, RN, MSN

- Public Health Nurse

Susan Jacozzi, MPH, CHES

- Health Educator

Taylor Pennino, BS

- Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Kegan, BS

- Administrative Support

Kyera Leos

- Administrative Support

Carla Desrouilleres, MS

- Per Diem Sanitarian

Carole Elizondo, RN

- Per Diem Nurse

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. The Trumbull Health Department provided these essential services through the accomplishments and services below.

Evaluate

Evaluated town and state health data of communicable diseases to determine trends and prevent illnesses.



Assure a Competent Workforce

Staff participated in trainings with federal and state agencies to learn current policies pertaining to food safety, lead poisoning prevention, COVID-19 and other health issues.



Link to and Provide Care

Updated the town website and Facebook pages with current health data and educational information related to various public health topics. Offered free medical lock boxes and COVID test kits to residents.



Enforce Laws

Conducted inspections of licensed establishments, including pools, salons and restaurants enforcing state and local health codes.



10 Essential Services of Public Health

Research

Applied data from health agencies and websites to develop local policies to prevent the spread communicable diseases and updated infectious disease plan.



Diagnose and Investigate

Conducted case management and investigations of flu and other communicable diseases to help prevent the spread of disease.



Inform, Educate & Empower

Published press releases and educational information regarding communicable diseases, tick-borne diseases, radon and other public health topics to inform the public.



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 local health departments and town agencies to offer flu and COVID-19 vaccines.



Develop Policies

Updated current policies and procedures to include current data and trends including Emergency Preparedness plan.





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.

- **199 (non-flu, non-COVID) vaccines** were administered during the past year.
- **1170 flu vaccines** were administered at the health department at # flu clinics around town.
- **604 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.

- **5 cases of elevated blood lead levels** were monitored by the Trumbull Health Department.

Tuberculosis Program

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

- **21 PPD tests** were administered and read this past year.

Enteric Disease Follow-Up

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

- **966 (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:

- **218** food inspections
- **67** seasonal/temporary event inspections
- **71** food plan reviews

Pools

- **21** non-residential pools were inspected and licensed.

Salons

- **66** salons were inspected and licensed.

Daycare Inspections

- **10** 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

- **15** tobacco establishments inspected.

Nuisance/Housing

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

- **61** complaints.

Septic

- **105** lots tested for subsurface sewage disposal systems, including repairs, building additions and plan reviews.
- **45** permits were issued for subsurface sewage systems

Ticks

- **159** ticks were submitted for testing at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.
- **35** tested positive for Lyme
- **3** tested positive for anaplasmosis
- **13** tested positive for babesiosis

Radon Test Kits

Distributed **120** radon test kits to residents and followed up with test results.





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
Radon Test Kits

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Blood Pressure Screenings
Community Health Fairs
Flu and You Educational Program
Medication Lock Box Distribution
Matter of Balance
National Walking Day
Nature Hikes
Public Health Cupcake Wars
Public Health Summer Day Camp



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, flu and COVID-19.



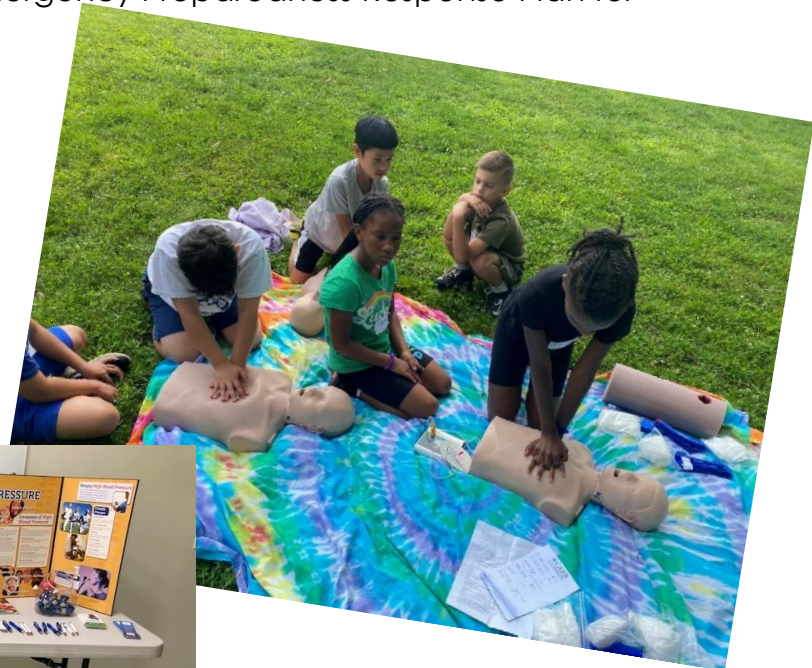


Emergency Preparedness



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

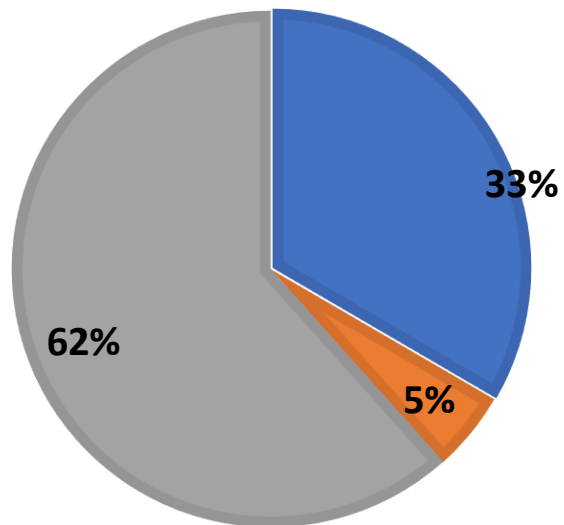




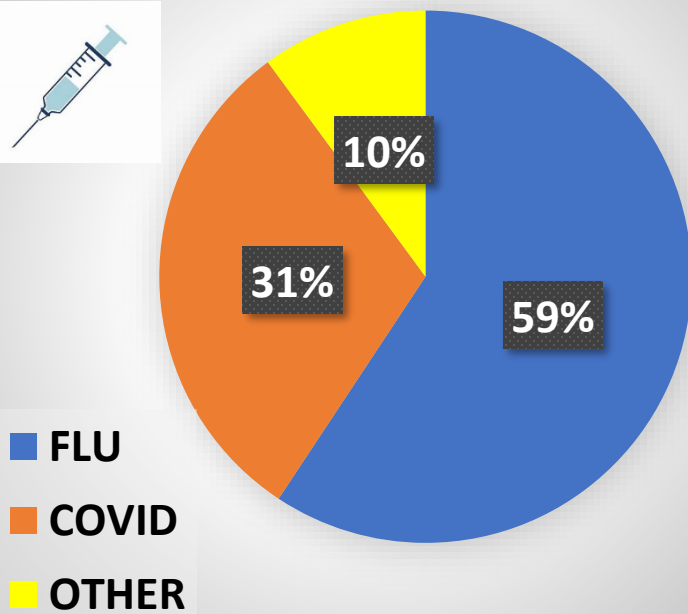
Data and Statistics

GRANT FUNDING

- Emergency Preparedness
- Blood Pressure Block Grant
- ELC-Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity



VACCINES ADMINISTERED



REVENUE SOURCES

