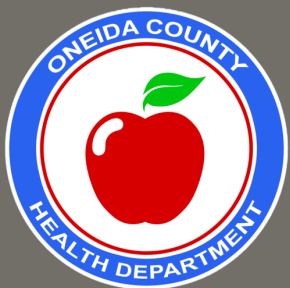




**ONEIDA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
2019 Annual
Report**

Promoting and protecting the health of Oneida County



**ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

**PHYLLIS D. ELLIS, BSN, MS, FACHE
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH**

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



I am pleased to present the 2019 Oneida County Health Department (OCHD) Annual Report. This report includes information and data from all programs within the Health Department, including New York State Department of Health mandated services.

I am proud to work with a dedicated staff, so vital in the promotion of health and wellness for all Oneida County residents in collaboration with all of our community and health care partners.

2019 included many challenges in Public Health including influenza, measles outbreaks, vaccine preventable disease surveillance as well as new legislation affecting Public Health resources and the opiate crisis.

A review of some 2019 highlights:

- Oneida County Overdose Response Team expansion of the O.C. Taskforce, development of additional workgroups and partnership with agencies to develop and expand O.D. Map. Receipt of the Bureau of Justice Grant as well as O.C. Executive support will allow this group to fight the opiate epidemic and save lives in our community.
- Creating Healthy Schools and Communities Grant—works closely with our partnership with Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES to collaboratively assist with development of Complete Streets projects in Utica, Boonville, Holland Patent, Town of Trenton and work with Vision 2020 Alternatives to Automobiles Committee and Livable Communities Transportation Committee.
- Our Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan, a requirement from NYS Department of Health, allowed our public health department, community partners and health systems to identify the key Public Health needs in our community and work together to meet those needs. Our plan has been submitted to NYS and we have begun to develop plans and projects to address those needs.
- Our Cancer Prevention in Action Grant allows us to partner in cancer prevention with Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties.
- Our Clinical Services division has participated in and received Quality Incentive awards from NYSDOH.
- Environmental Health division is challenged with new legislation of decreased blood lead action levels in children, resulting in a large increase in cases for surveillance and action to reduce the lead exposure to children and work with providers to increase testing rates.
- Oneida County's Employee Wellness Program is the proud recipient of two awards this year from MVP, the insurer of the majority of our 1600 employees: a Platinum Achievement Award and the Workplace Well-Being Innovation Award.

The remainder of this report will include highlights, goals, data and the many accomplishments the Oneida County Health Department has had in 2019.

I would like to thank Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr. and the Board of Legislators for their continued support to assist Public Health to improve and protect the health of our residents and those that may live, work or play in Oneida County.

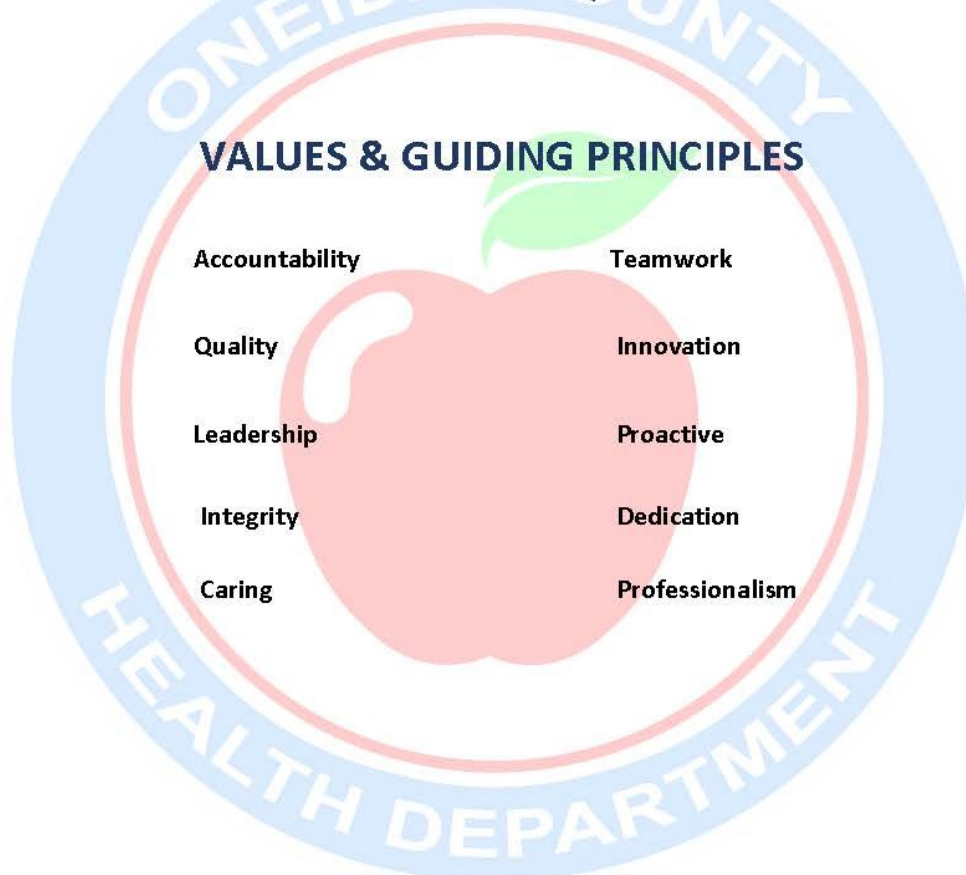
Phyllis D. Ellis, BSN, MS, FACHE, Director of Health

MISSION, VISION & VALUES

The mission of the Oneida County Health Department is to **“Promote and Protect the Health of Oneida County.”** The Department works with many community agencies, organizations, and primary health care providers that comprise the Oneida County’s public health system, to fulfill our mission and to provide Essential Public Health Services.

OUR VISION

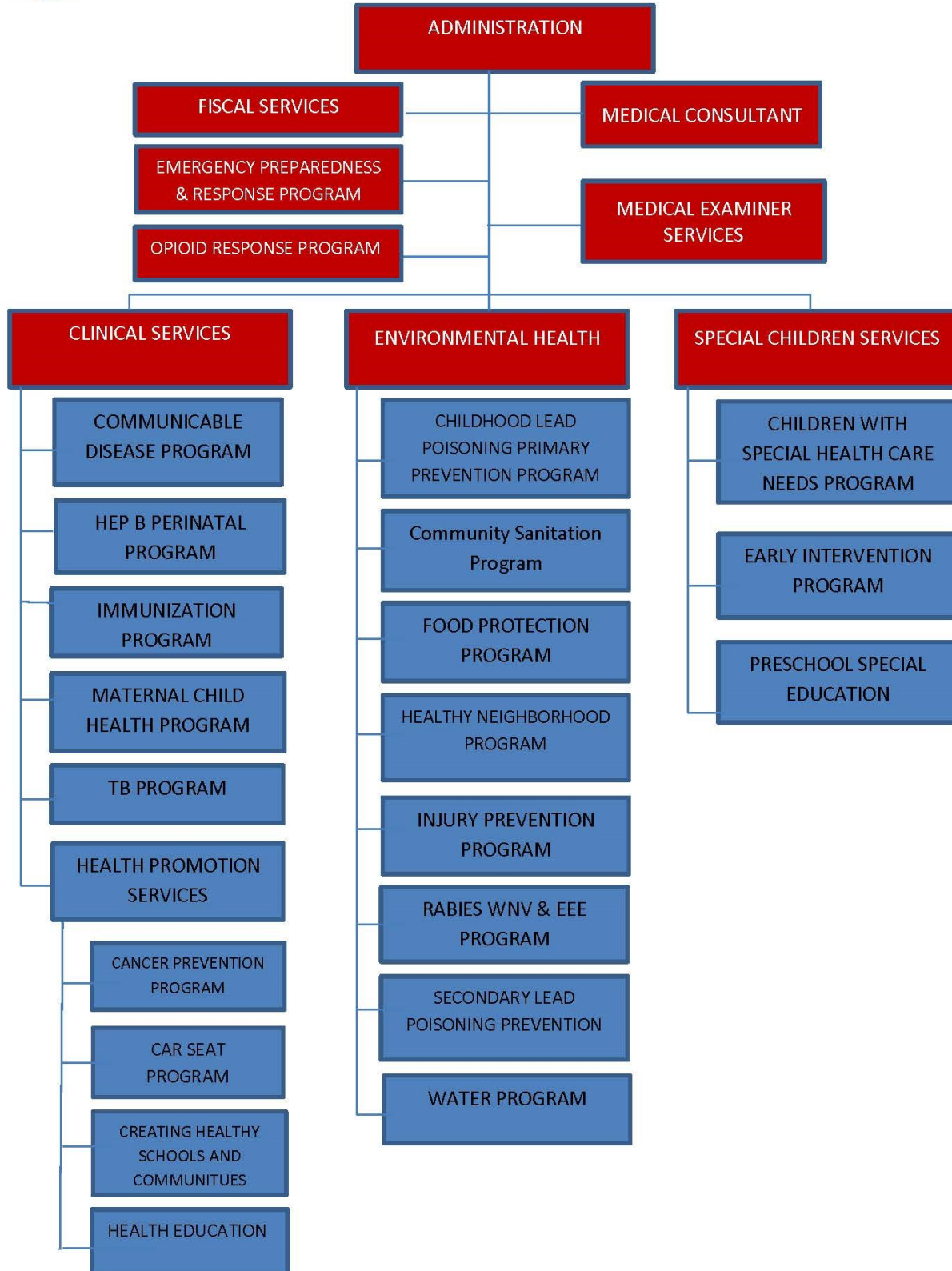
ONEIDA COUNTY RESIDENTS WILL BE THE HEALTHIEST PEOPLE IN NEW YORK STATE
- LIVING IN COMMUNITIES THAT PROMOTE HEALTH, ARE PROTECTED FROM
HEALTH THREATS AND ARE ASSURED ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH SERVICES.





Oneida County Health Department Organizational Chart

12/13/19



OCHD BUDGET SUMMARY 2019

Program	Total Costs	% of Budget	% of Federal Funding	% of State Funding	% of County Funding	% of Other Funding	% of Medicare Medicaid
Administration	\$1,403,551	7.08%		36%	64%		
Early Intervention	\$1,756,177	8.86%	14%	23%	58%		5%
Pre-School (3-5)	\$11,754,776	59.33%		59%	33%		8%
Physically Handicapped Children	\$8,712	0.04%		92%	8%		
Public Health Clinic	\$1,479,741	7.47%		44%	35%	20%	1%
TB	\$39,166	0.20%		100%			
Immunization Consortium	\$115,595	0.58%		100%			
Environmental Health	\$1,208,542	6.10%		44%	22%	34%	
Lead Poisoning Program	\$260,156	1.31%		92%	8%		
Childhood Lead Poisoning Primary Prevention	\$392,425	1.98%		100%			
Healthy Neighborhood Program	\$240,387	1.21%		100%			
Cancer Prevention Program	\$190,515	0.96%		100%			
Emergency Preparedness	\$196,417	0.99%	96%		4%		
Medical Examiner	\$767,500	3.87%		84%	16%		

* All figures are as of 2/26/20.

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TEN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The 10 Essential Public Health Services describe the public health activities that all communities should undertake:

1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues
4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable
8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems



Source: CDC, <https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/publichealthservices/pdf/essential-phs.pdf>

ADMINISTRATION

The **Director of Health** is responsible for leading the programmatic and budgetary management of all public health programs and serves as key public health strategist for Oneida County.

The **Deputy Director of Health** provides oversight of all division and program operations and administrative services including legal, personnel, fiscal, strategic planning and quality improvement activities. Administrative staff also support personnel, payroll, and fiscal management activities.

The **Secretary to the Director of Health** provides overall administrative support which also includes project management, team building and collaboration efforts, as well as lead for all wellness activity for Oneida County employees.

The **Fiscal Service Administrator** coordinates the preparation of the department's annual budget, prepares required financial statements and government reports, ensures that spending is within the budget allotments, ensures revenues from third party reimbursements, and prepares claims for State and Federal and other reimbursement.

Administration includes the following programs and services:

PUBLIC HEALTH PLANNING

Health planning includes a range of activities that support collaborative health planning with community partners, organizational strategic planning and performance improvement activities. A few major partnership initiatives conducted in 2019 include the following:

ACCREDITATION

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the continuous quality improvement of public health departments by establishing standards and measurements of performance against a set of nationally recognized and evidenced-based standards.

In 2015, OCHD senior management staff began an orientation and review of each of the twelve PHAB domains. Areas of improvement were identified and the Department continues to make great strides in the areas of quality improvement, performance management, workforce development and emergency preparedness. OCHD will continue to work towards accreditation achievement and will adapt as needs, circumstances and other demands arise.

In 2020 senior management staff will again perform an intentional review of the twelve domains, identifying areas where progress has been made and targeting any remaining areas for improvement. Domain teams will be activated to begin more detailed domain review and to support the development of action plans in those areas identified as needing improvement.

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT & COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

An Oneida County Community Health Assessment/Community Service Plan & Community Health Improvement Plan (CHA/CSP/CHIP) Planning Team comprised of Oneida County Health Department, Mohawk Valley Health System (MVHS) and Rome Memorial Hospital (RMH) staff met regularly starting in 2018 to collaboratively develop the 2019-2021 Oneida County CHA/CSP/CHIP.

The Planning Team met ongoing into 2019 to review and discuss the NYS Prevention Agenda, and develop a detailed work plan with team responsibilities, assigned tasks, and deadlines to develop and finalize the Plan. The process included reviewing health data from various local, regional and state sources, soliciting feedback from the community and stakeholders, and identifying priorities for the Plan. The report summarizes the health status of the community and the selected public health and hospital Prevention Agenda health improvement goals from the NYS Prevention Agenda focus areas, specifically, Chronic Disease Preventive Care and Management; and Opioid Overdose Prevention. For more detail, [review the Plan here](#).

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH COALITION

The Oneida County Health Coalition (OCHC) is a partnership of community agencies and organizations that support population health improvement through the framework and goals of the NYS Prevention Agenda. The OCHC serves as a platform for community partners to increase awareness of local public health issues, leverage additional support or resources, network, and to recruit new partners for existing or newly-identified initiatives. The OCHC supports OCHD's community health assessment and health improvement planning activities through participation in community stakeholder meetings and providing guidance on identification of priorities.

PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE INITIATIVE

In 2019, OCHD participated in the New York State Department of Health's (NYS DOH) ongoing Local Health Department (LHD) Performance Incentive Initiative in which year seven of the program began October 1, 2018 and concluded September 1, 2019. The initiative focused on two programs within the Bureau of Immunization: Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP) and the Assessment, Feedback, Incentive and eXchange (AFIX) program, through which OCHD staff provide education and support for medical offices to improve immunization rates. These two programs fall under the Clinic Services Division of the Oneida County Health Department. The goal of the program was to improve reporting that is important to overall program performance and outcomes.

Oneida County was successful in increasing the timeliness of AFIX reporting and the completeness of PHBPP reporting. Enhanced collaboration between community health care providers and hospitals occurred. As a result of OCHD efforts, the department was awarded a total of \$41,914. These monies can be used to support costs associated with Article 6 eligible services.

POPULATION HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (PHIP)

The Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP) is a statewide initiative that supports 11 regional contractors who promote population health and work to reduce health disparities in their regions. In Central New York, PHIP is led by HealthConnections, working in collaboration with partners in Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga and Oswego Counties. In 2019, OCHD was the designated PHIP agent for Oneida County, serving as the coordinating point for county-level stakeholders and organizations in Oneida County. OCHD was the liaison with HealthConnections (HeC) to support HeC in its role as the New York State-designated Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP). In this role OCHD worked to:

- Advance the New York State Prevention Agenda and State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) priorities through participation in the planning and implementation of the Community Health Assessment (CHA), Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and hospital Community Service Plans (CSP), CHA/CSP/CHIP, in collaboration with the local health department and local hospitals.
- Participate and contribute to regional PHIP activities as a member of the PHIP Steering Committee and assist with the implementation of regional population health improvement initiatives in Oneida County.
- Develop the 2019-2021 Oneida County CHA/CSP/CHIP through a collaborative process of stakeholder engagement, community input, resource assessment and priority-setting.
- Convene members of the Oneida County Health Coalition (OCHC) and OCHC Steering Committee to analyze data for select health topics, collect qualitative feedback, and identify community resources and evidence based resources to address the issue and develop, promote and disseminate topical health report cards.
- Support implementation of priority health initiative strategies.
- Support the ongoing facilitation of the Oneida County Overdose Response Team and implement initiatives to reduce overdose deaths using data and surveillance, peer recovery response, training, public education and other strategies identified by the team.
- Support local tobacco cessation efforts.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

In 2019 the department completed the Oneida County Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The Department's 2016--2018 strategic plan was extended through 2019. In 2020 new strategies will be developed and the plan will also incorporate the new target initiatives of the CHIP in the next Strategic Plan.

The 2016-2019 Strategic Plan focused on the following priority areas:

- Accountability and Improved Practice of Public Health
- Quality Improvement & Performance Management
- Health Education & Marketing
- Collaboration & Information Sharing
- Workforce Development
- All Hazards Emergency Operations Planning
- Opioids

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Includes planning, coordinating and ensuring the quality of services provided through the development of indicators and audit tools to measure performance, use of cost vs. benefit analysis, the development and implementation of quality management tools to ensure effective program management, and supporting public health accreditation efforts.

Quality improvement (QI) training is incorporated to all new employee orientation. The OCHD Quality Council meets quarterly for review of department QI related activities. The Council's role is to review quality initiatives within the Department, ensure ongoing training in QI for all staff, support all efforts to build and enhance the quality culture within OCHD. The department strives to identify opportunities for improvement and address those opportunities using proven QI methods, in order to provide the best service for all customers.

In 2019 the QI Council updated the Department QI Plan to include criteria for all Divisions and programs to follow in order to assure that quality improvement becomes engrained in how we do business. Performance management has been incorporated through tracking of annual Division goals, objectives and activities. Progress is monitored and posted in three areas of the Department, for all staff to follow progress. Performance management and workforce development activities are based on Public Health Accreditation Board Standards and Measures.

EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

The Director of Health led a leadership initiative to start an Employee Wellness Program in 2016. With support from the County Executive and a Wellness Steering Committee, all County employees were invited to complete a wellness survey. Department heads nominated their department Champion to participate in quarterly meetings and bring back information to their coworkers.

The Secretary to the Director of Health coordinates the program, plans activities and events, creates the content for the Wellness Email and publishes it in Constant Contact. Ninety-one issues later, readership continues to increase and feedback is positive.

In 2017 we focused on Oneida County grounds being tobacco-free by 1-1-18, stress management, and moving more. In 2018 our goals focused on event participation and readership of the Wellness Email.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019: EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

- In 2019 MVP health insurance plan (covers the majority of OC employees) upgraded to include WellBeing Rewards—for employees to become healthier in all aspects of life, earn rewards and get reimbursed. By 9-30-19, 37% of eligible employees took the online Personal Health Assessment (PHA) (a requirement of participating in WellBeing Rewards). MVP considers 30% the gold standard. We're awaiting final numbers of participants for the year.
- Goal 1: > 325 participants to complete PHA in January—April campaign. Surpassed this goal with 388 participants.
- Goal 2: > 25% Opens of the Wellness Email in 2019. Surpassed this goal with 25.55% Opens.
- Goal 3: > 1,000 participants in Wellness Events in 2019. Surpassed this goal with 1,241 participants.
- Offered several new Wellness events and activities to employees in 2019, including group discount tickets to Oneida County Day at a Utica City Football Club game; Health and Wellness Fairs at two County worksites, a water station volunteer opportunity at Erie Canal Half Marathon; Monday Mile lunch hour walks in summer; donations of non-perishable food items to Dress Down for CNY Veterans Outreach Center; and a donation-based Yoga Class for Veterans Gratitude Week in November.

- 75 employees participated in MVP training sessions in October learning how to earn MVP Well-Being Rewards (\$325 in 2019).
- Oneida County was recognized by MVP Health Care for Workplace Wellness Excellence with two awards— the Platinum Achievement award, and Workplace Well-Being Innovation Award—for its unique lunch hour walking program which integrates the community and practicing cultural competency by creating a diverse set of experiences to appeal to people of all ages and interests. Digital badges for awards were distributed to Steering Committee and Champions for their email signatures (see below).

GOALS IN 2020: EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

- Roll out new Employee Wellness Logo, the winner of an employee contest to create an artistic design.
- Educate employees how to earn WellBeing Rewards, which increased to up to \$600 in 2020.
- MVP and Healthyroads (third-party administrator of the WellBeing Rewards site to ensure privacy) will provide an aggregate report of numbers-only data—results from our employees' Personal Health Assessments compared to the book of business. This data will determine our programming, goals and measures for 2020.
- Strive for the MVP Diamond level achievement award for 2020.



MEDICAL EXAMINER SERVICES

As of 2013, the Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office (OCME) serves as Oneida County's Medical Examiner and provides medical examiner services as required by NYS County Law and Oneida County Charter and Administrative Code. The OCME's Office provides professional, efficient and compassionate service to families, service providers and law enforcement officials and collaborates in OCHD's emergency preparedness planning.

OCME'S OFFICE STATISTICS FOR ONEIDA COUNTY 2013—2019*

ONEIDA COUNTY SUMMARY DATA	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*
Total cases	658	696	724	736	767	842	858
Non-Medical Examiner cases	414	436	474	468	499	565	578
Expert Consultation cases	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Medical Examiner cases	244	260	249	267	267	277	280
Autopsy examinations	199	216	199	220	219	213	233
External examinations	15	22	20	17	20	23	21
Death Certificate only – no examination	30	22	30	30	28	41	26
Manner of death							
Accident	90	88	94	129	122	116	113
Motor Vehicle Accidents	21	15	17	17	22	24	16
Drug Use/Toxin Related	25	36	40	65	60	39	61
<i>Heroin Related</i>	12	17	11	16	5	3	3
<i>Fentanyl Related</i>	1	2	7	16	21	9	15
<i>Heroin & Fentanyl Related</i>	0	2	4	18	20	15	26
<i>Other Opioids</i>	4	11	10	5	6	7	8
<i>Other drugs</i>	8	4	8	10	8	5	9
Falls	29	22	30	27	27	37	31
Environmental	2	3	1	3	1	1	0
Other Blunt Trauma	2	1	2	3	5	0	1
Drowning	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
Asphyxia	4	2	1	4	2	5	1
Fire	1	5	0	5	2	5	1
Medical Procedure	3	1	1	2	0	0	0
Sharp Force Injury	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Other	1	1	0	1	1	2	0
Homicide	13	9	12	6	4	6	10
Natural	99	119	116	106	110	113	111
Suicide	36	32	24	21	28	32	31
Undetermined	4	10	2	4	3	7	6
Manner not applicable/fetal deaths	2	2	1	1	0	3	2
Pending	0	0	0	0	0	0	7

*Preliminary due to pending cases.

CLINICAL SERVICES / DISEASE PREVENTION & CONTROL

Oneida County Health Department is responsible for the prevention, investigation, reporting, diagnosis, and treatment of reportable diseases in Oneida County. Staff members monitor disease activity in Oneida County and work closely with Health Promotion, Administration, and Environmental Health staff to develop education, outreach, testing, and treatment strategies to minimize the impact of communicable disease in the community.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The **Communicable Disease** program is responsible for the investigation, follow-up, surveillance and reporting of 74 diseases/conditions identified as reportable under the New York State Sanitary Code. All cases of reportable disease are electronically reported to the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). Staff works closely with OCHD's Environmental Health Division, NYSDOH, and community partners including hospitals, to control and prevent the spread of communicable disease within the community.

ANNUAL DATA	2017	2018	2019
Case Investigations	8,644	9,889	9,816
Actual Cases of Reportable Communicable Disease	6,373	7,194	6,550

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE

The **Sexually Transmitted Disease** program is responsible for the investigation of, follow-up (including partner notification when indicated), surveillance and reporting of chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and HIV. In 2019, Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson provided the STD Testing and Treatment program in accordance with the NYSDOH regulations for Oneida County residents.

ANNUAL DATA	2017 Reviewed	2017 Actual Cases Managed	2018 Reviewed	2018 Actual Cases Managed	2019 Reviewed	2019 Actual Cases Managed
STD Communicable Disease Surveillance for Case Determination	1,360	1,008	1,527	950	1,639	958

TUBERCULOSIS

The **Tuberculosis** (TB) Control program provides comprehensive testing, diagnosis, and treatment of latent* and active tuberculosis cases in Oneida County. The TB Control program decreases the public health threat of TB by evaluating and treating positive cases of TB, while promoting preventative therapy as indicated for contact cases. The TB Control program performs targeted testing on high-risk groups.

ANNUAL DATA	2017	2018	2019
Case Investigations / Surveillance	2,409	2,463	633
Total Visits	1,123	914	661
Active TB Cases Managed by OCHD / Patients	9	4	3
Latent TB Cases Identified / Patients	272	250	220

*People with latent TB infection do not have symptoms, and they cannot spread TB bacteria to others. However, if latent TB bacteria become active in the body and multiply, the person will progress from having latent TB infection to being ill with TB disease. For this reason, people with latent TB infection should be treated to prevent them from developing TB disease.

IMMUNIZATION SERVICES

The Oneida County Health Department provides **immunizations** at our clinical sites. The program partners with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and their Vaccines for Children (VFC) and Vaccines for Adult (VFA) program to improve access to and education about recommended immunization for children and adults.

The Immunization Action Plan (IAP) funded by NYSDOH assists in identifying immunization rates and standards of practice for child and adolescent immunizations among local medical providers. IAP staff collaborates with hospitals, healthcare providers, and clients to reduce/eliminate perinatal hepatitis B transmission from mother to newborn. Additionally, staff participates in The Mohawk Valley Immunization Alliance. This collaborative work engages community partners, pharmacies and healthcare providers in promoting age-appropriate vaccines for children and adults.

Immunization Clinics are located at 406 Elizabeth St, Utica, NY 13501 and 300 West Dominick St, Rome, NY 13440 by appointment only.

ANNUAL DATA	2017	2018	2019
Total Visits for All Encounters	2,975	3,283	3,961
Total Patients (Post Exposure Rabies)	48	68	49
Total Patients (Flu Shot)	1,176	733	649
Total Patients (Green Card)	341	330	237

Immunization Clinic, Total Served (Adults and Children)

PERINATAL HEPATITIS B PROGRAM REFERRALS

The New York State Department of Health's Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program is a resource for the maintenance of surveillance and control of Perinatal Hepatitis B infection. The primary goal of the program is to identify all pregnant women infected with Hepatitis B and prevent Perinatal transmission of the virus by ensuring infants born to infected women receive the recommended prophylactic treatment at birth.

ANNUAL DATA	2017	2018	2019
Total Cases	11	12	12

MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH PROMOTION - BREASTFEEDING CAFÉS

The **Maternal Child Health** (MCH) staff is active in the Breastfeeding Network and Breastfeeding Cafés. There are six Breastfeeding Cafés held each month in Oneida County. The Oneida County Health Departments hosts one café and co-hosts two Breastfeeding Cafes each month. The Breastfeeding Cafés promoted through the local Hospital and Maternal Child Community Based Agency offer a supportive environment to expecting mothers and their coaches. The program increased by 31% in 2019.

ANNUAL DATA	2017	2018	2019
Total Attendance	176	186	243
Mothers Who Attended*	NA	NA	223
New Mothers Who Attended*	NA	NA	44

** Note: Utica Location only. Separate attendance categories in 2019.*

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019: CLINICAL SERVICES/DISEASE PREVENTION & CONTROL

- Diagnostic & Treatment Clinic used QI techniques and tools to improve all areas of the clinic
- Workforce development plan is in place for clinic staff.
- Nursing competencies with weekly trainings and educational components for all nursing staff were completed.
- Task force with clinic and Environmental Health to review rabies policies and procedures.
- Team building: — "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." --Henry Ford

GOALS IN 2020: CLINICAL SERVICES / DISEASE PREVENTION & CONTROL

- Demonstrate a commitment to continually enhance our knowledge, skill and judgement as nurses and staff.
- Provide high quality customer service resulting in 90% customer service satisfaction rating on accuracy, timeliness and courtesy measures on an ongoing basis.
- Conduct education, monitoring and enforcement to ensure that 100% of staff are in compliance with all regulatory requirements on an ongoing basis.
- Plan and oversee the clinic's renovation to a new facility such that the office and all systems are fully functioning by 2021.
- By December 2020, help to develop and participate in cross training for the clerical team to learn procedures across all units so that all critical functions are covered during absences.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The **Division of Environmental Health** endeavors to protect county residents and visitors from health hazards that are beyond the control of ordinary citizens. This is accomplished by environmental surveillance, routine inspections of regulated facilities, and project plan review. The Division provides education, seeks compliance and, when necessary, initiates enforcement action to conform with New York State Public Health Laws, the New York State Sanitary Code, and the Oneida County Sanitary Code.

Services provided and programs in the Environmental Division are funded by Oneida County and through grants provided by the NYS Department of Health, permit fees, fees for services, and the collection of fines associated with violations of Public Health Law, the NYS & Oneida County Sanitary Codes, and the Clean Indoor Air Act.

COMMUNITY SANITATION PROGRAMS

Temporary Residences: Temporary residence inspections include hotels, motels, and cabin colonies emphasize fire safety, facility cleanliness, and sanitation for the protection of the traveling public lodging at facilities in Oneida County.

Swimming Pool/Bathing Beaches: The major focus of swimming pool inspections is on pool supervision, lifeguard requirements, life-saving equipment, general pool safety, chemical treatment, the proper operation of filtration equipment, and the water quality of the beaches and pools.

Campgrounds: Inspections of campsites include reviewing proper site spacing, shower and sanitary facilities, food service protection, the quality and operation of on-site drinking water supplies, and adequate sewage disposal systems.

Children's Camps: Major emphasis is placed on ensuring that each camp provides an adequate number of trained, qualified staff for waterfront safety and supervision. Attention is also focused on food service protection, adequate safe housing, proper sewage disposal, adequate garbage storage facilities, and safe, sanitary water supplies, which meet NYS Sanitary Code standards.

Mobile Home Parks: Mobile home parks are inspected to ensure that the parks continue to meet the standards contained in the NYS Sanitary Code. In addition, the Department responds to complaints from residents in the mobile home parks.

COMMUNITY SANITATION PROGRAMS DATA	Number of Active Facilities			Number of Inspections		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Temporary Residences	51	51	50	51	53	52
Swimming Pools & Bathing Beaches	92	96	92	121	125	104
Campgrounds	30	31	30	33	32	32
Children's Camps	15	15	18	30	33	38
Mobile Home Parks	66	66	64	75	75	73

Food Protection: Prevention of food borne illness is the primary focus of **Food Protection**. This is accomplished by conducting unannounced inspections during the food preparation process, educational seminars, on-site training, and enforcement actions for all food service establishments, with the exception of hospitals and nursing homes, in Oneida County.

FOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM DATA	Number Active Facilities			Number of Inspections		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Low Risk	80	87	80	47	101	94
Medium Risk	521	520	518	608	707	840
High Risk	394	401	405	602	884	875
Total	995	1008	1003	1189	1692	1809

Other Food Program Activities:

- 90 pre-operational inspections.
- 37 summer feeding sites, 36 inspections, one site closed.
- 86 mobile food vendors, 89 inspections.
- 172 inspections at 132 temporary events with a total of 283 vendors.
- 59 complaint investigations, 15 illness investigations, 4 outbreak investigations.
- 24 CIAA complaints and investigations.

Tanning Facility Inspections: In 2013, the department assumed the role from NYSDOH of permitting and inspecting all tanning facilities in Oneida County. Inspections are required every other year and focus on ensuring cleanliness of tanning equipment and record maintenance. There were 17 tanning facilities in operation in 2019.

Adolescent Tobacco: The Health Department works with the Oneida County Sheriff's Office to assure that tobacco products are not sold to minors. Sheriff Deputies conduct compliance checks, re-inspections, and follow-up visits. There were 174 ATUPA compliance checks at 215 retail tobacco vendors in 2019.

ADOLESCENT TOBACCO DATA	2017	2018	2019
# Retail Tobacco Vendors	217	215	215
# Compliance Checks	226	231	174

Complaint Investigations: Staff investigate complaints pertaining to housing issues, public and private nuisances, and regulated facilities that may affect the health, safety, and welfare of county residents.

Animal Disease Control: The Environmental Division is responsible for monitoring diseases that animals may transmit to humans. Rabies, which is fatal, is the most significant of these diseases. Emergency rooms and physicians are required by NYS Public Health Law to report all animal bites to the health department. Individuals can also report suspected rabies exposures to the health department.

RABIES PREVENTION PROGRAM DATA	2017	2018	2019
Rabies Exposure Investigations	482	444	613
Post-exposure Treatment for Humans	51	51	53
Rabies Vaccines Administered to Pets	533	456	402
Sponsored Pet Vaccination Clinics	9	9	7

West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) Prevention: The health department conducts a monitoring program during the spring and summer months to determine the presence of WNV and EEE viruses in Oneida County. In 2019, 305 collections of mosquitoes were analyzed and no WNV or EEE was detected and no animals or humans were infected with WNV or EEE. In addition, educational information is provided to people to reduce the risk of contracting WNV or EEE.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM

The goal of the **Drinking Water Program** is to ensure that the public is protected from illness and injury resulting from water-borne diseases and contamination that may be naturally occurring or human caused. Staff provide technical assistance to water system operators in compliance with NYS Sanitary Codes and Federal Clean Drinking Water Act Guidelines, review and assist in the certification of new community system water operators, and provide technical assistance to homeowners and other non-public water system operators if problems arise or new systems are developed.

Division staff assist water systems with their development of an Annual Water Quality Report. There has been an increase in the number of water systems developing cross-connection control programs and staff work with water systems in their efforts. Staff also respond to a number of requests from home owners / prospective buyers, lenders and realtors related to water well and septic regulations.

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM DATA	2017	2018	2019
Active	155	155	154
Inspected	150 (63 Sanitary Surveys)	90 (66 sanitary surveys)	154 (88 sanitary surveys)
Notices of Violations Issued	96	99	149
Formal Enforcement Actions (Stipulation / Hearing)	10	0	17
Boil Water Orders and Other Emergencies	12 (including precautionary 1-Do Not Drink Order)	12	~10 (4 issued by OCHD) 2- Conserve Water Advisories
Samples Collected	151 Coliform 14 Chemical	97 Coliform 19 chemical	155 Coliform 9 Chemical

ENGINEERING PLAN REVIEW

Contracts are in place with several consulting engineering firms to review engineer plans on behalf of the Health Department and ensure that facilities and projects meet the standards contained in the NYS Sanitary Code and generally accepted engineering standards. The plan review process ensures that environmental health concerns are addressed and acceptable practices are in place prior to the use of the facility. Plans for new facilities as well as plans for replacement and upgrades of existing facilities are reviewed.

ENGINEERING PLANS REVIEWED AND APPROVED	2017	2018	2019
Water System Expansions/Improvements	8	7	12
Backflow Prevention Devices	12	17	11
Realty Subdivisions	3	0	0
Individual Wastewater Disposal Systems Plans (non-conventional)	1	4	4
Swimming Pools / Beaches (new or improvements)	4	3	4
Campground (improvement or expansion)	1	1	1
Mobile Home Park	1	1	0
Total Plans	30	33	32

HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM

The Healthy Neighborhoods Program (HNP) is entirely grant funded by the NYS Department of Health to service a geographically-defined area in south Rome and mobile home parks in Rome and the Towns of Annsville, Ava, Boonville, Florence, Lee, Vernon, Verona, Vienna, Western, and Westmoreland. The purpose is to improve environmental health surveillance in neighborhoods of Rome and adjoining towns with aged housing stock creating conditions that raise health concerns among the occupants.

Staff provide program information about housing hygiene and safety to community residents and organizations through outreach, trainings and meetings. In addition to educational materials, staff provide safety products to promote safety in the home, fire prevention, injury prevention, and lead poisoning prevention. Asthmatics are encouraged to work with their health care providers to develop an asthma management plan, and resources are provided to smokers to assist them in quitting their habit. This program is well received within the community.

HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM	2017	2018	2019
Initial Visits	397	409	302
Re-Visits	87	81	45

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAMS

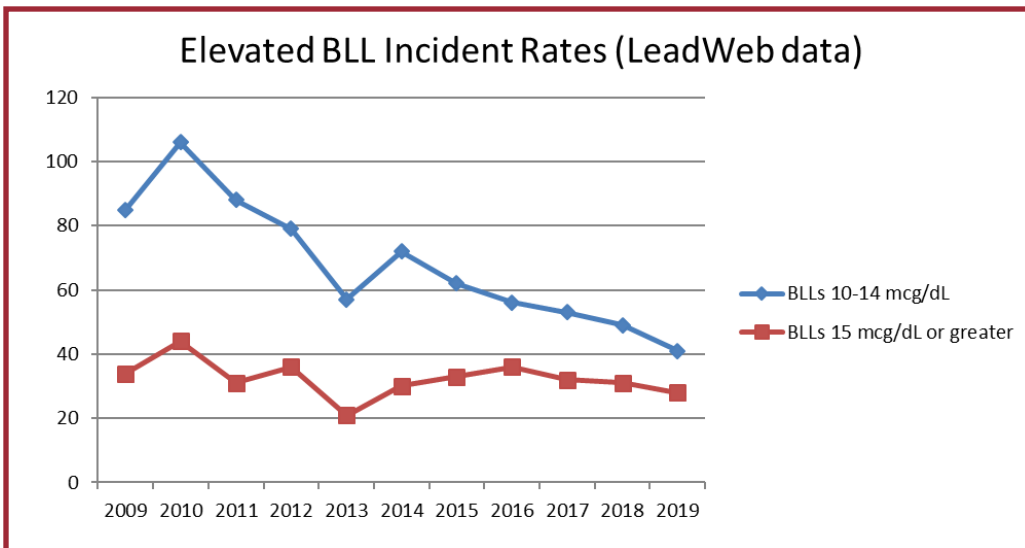
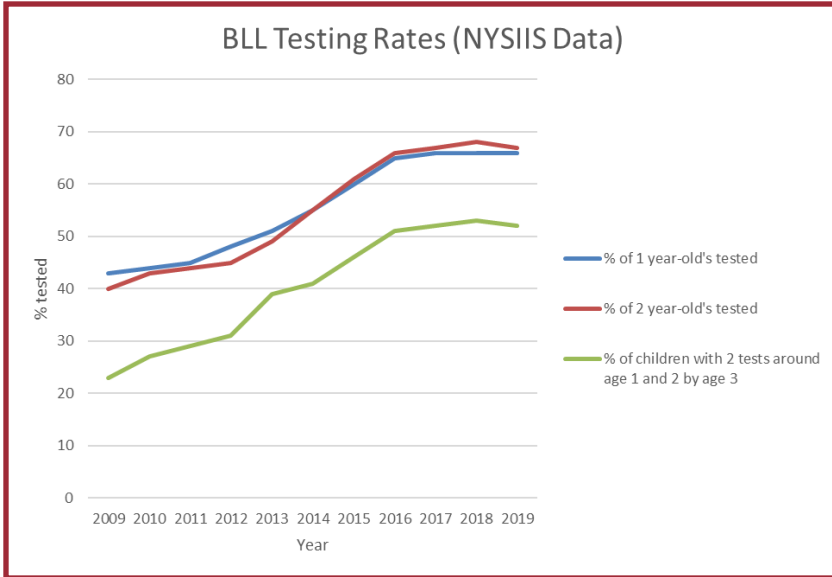
Two Lead Poisoning Prevention Programs are housed in the Environmental Division. The **Primary Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** seeks to eliminate lead poisoning hazards in a geographically-defined area within East and West Utica. This program is funded in its entirety through the NYS Department of Health and focuses on educating young families, health care professionals, landlords, and renovation contractors on the risks, dangers, and causes of lead poisoning in children.

The **Secondary Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** is a NYS Department of Health mandated program that provides case coordination and environmental investigations for children under the age of eighteen with elevated blood lead levels (BLL). Services provided include home inspections, in-home lead poisoning prevention and risk reduction education visits, written educational materials to families, environmental inspections; including visual inspections, lead detection via XRF and dust wipe analyses, referrals to healthcare providers, and coordination with school staff and community agencies for children with BLLs ≥ 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ (through 9/30/2019), and for children with BLLs ≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ (beginning 10/1/2019). Notifications are sent to parents/guardians of one and two year old children requiring BLL testing per NYS Public Health Law. Staff from this program attend community health fairs, provide lead poisoning prevention presentations to community members and agencies, and provides written information to healthcare providers and community agencies. Families lacking health insurance or health care providers are referred to local Federally Qualified Health Care Centers for medical treatment and BLL testing.

The blood lead level (BLL) threshold that requires case management for a child and a full scale environmental lead investigation for the home was lowered from 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ to 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ through a change in NYS Public Health Law (PHL) on October 1, 2019.

As a result of this change in PHL, the **Childhood Lead Poisoning Primary Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPPP)** will conduct lead inspections and provide lead poisoning prevention and risk reduction information to parents/guardians of children with BLLs of 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or greater in a geographically-defined area within East and West Utica.

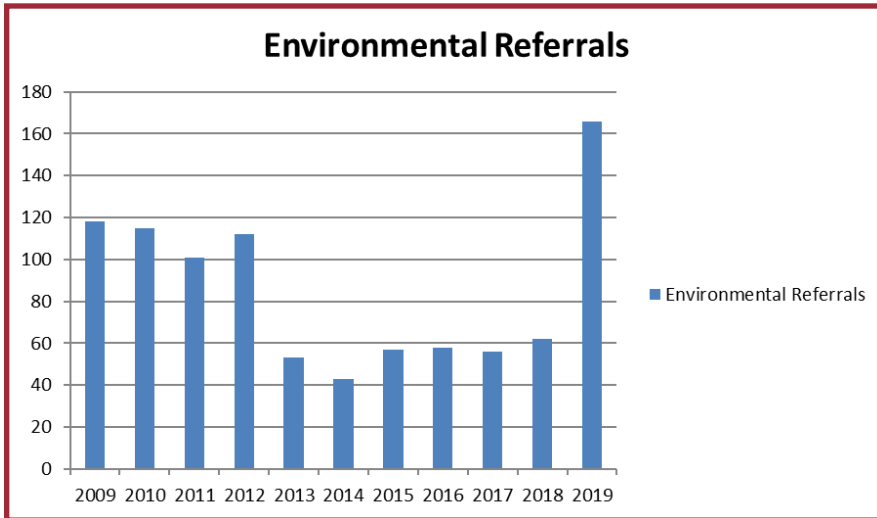
The **Primary Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** is a non-mandated NYS Department of Health program with funding distributed to counties that have significant childhood lead poisoning cases. The County has had this program since 2007 and has realized a significant reduction in the number of children in the secondary lead poisoning prevention program as the result of the lead poisoning prevention initiatives of this program. During the 10 year time period from 2009 through 2019, BLL testing rates for 1 year-old children increased from 43% to 67%; for 2 year-old children the increase was 40% to 66%; and for two tests by age 3 from 23% to 52% (see Oneida County BLL Testing Data (NYSIIS Data) graph below).



Based on the average number of children with BLLs 10 – 14 ug/dL from 2009 – 2018 (average of 71), the number of children with BLLs 10-14 ug/dL decreased by 42% in 2019.

Based on the average number of children with BLLs \geq 15 ug/dL from 2009 – 2018 (average of 33), the number of children with BLLs 10-14 ug/dL decreased by 15% in 2019.

NUMBER OF ENVIRONMENTAL REFERRALS BASED ON CHILDREN WITH BLOOD LEAD LEVELS 15 mcg/dL OR GREATER (LOCAL DATA)



Based on the annual average number of Environmental Referrals from 2009 – 2018 (average of 78), the number of Environmental Referrals received in 2019 increased by 113%.

This increase is due to the change of NYSDOH regulations beginning 10/1/2019 at which time the LPPP intervention level of ≥ 15 ug/dL changed to ≥ 5 ug/dL.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- The Fat Oils & Grease (FOG) Program inspected 195 facilities within the Oneida County Water Pollution Control Sewer District for compliance in having and maintaining grease interceptors within their facilities.
- Four separate outbreaks in food service facilities were investigated.
- One Senior Public Health Sanitarian completed Food Service Inspection Officer 2 training as required by NYSDOH.
- Drinking water in all public schools in Oneida County is sampled for lead and the results are posted to a NYSDOH website that is monitored by the Environmental Division.
- All 152 Cooling Towers in Oneida County are required to be registered and to post disinfection and sampling information to a NYSDOH website that is monitored by the Environmental Division.
- Inspect all year round high risk and one half of the medium and low risk restaurants by July 1st.

GOALS IN 2020: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- All Community Public Water Supplies will update their Emergency Response Plans in 2020.
- All LPPP/CLPPP staff will receive LeadWeb training.
- Continued collaboration with Department of Water Pollution Control FOG Program.
- Collaboration with the City of Utica and LeadFreeMV on the HUD lead hazard control grant.
- One employee FSIO 1 trained by OCHD and NYSDOH.
- OCHD will facilitate arrangements of required CPR and First Aid Course for all Children's Camp Operators, Nursing Staff and Essential Counseling Staff.

HEALTH PROMOTION

The Public Health Education (PHE) team increases awareness of local health issues and encourages the adoption of healthy behaviors. The team coordinates and staffs educational programs, community outreach activities, and special health events; develops health education materials for targeted populations; promotes health department programs and clinical services at area businesses, worksites, and community locations; and gathers information to identify health behaviors in our community. Additionally, the PHE team works collaboratively with the local media to raise awareness of public health issues and prevention measures. The PHE team provided 89 presentations or trainings in 2019, in various locations including schools, pre-schools, colleges, child care centers, health clinics, and health fairs. The PHE team was able to visit 24 locations in Oneida County to carry out these requests.

CANCER PREVENTION IN ACTION GRANT

Through the Cancer Prevention in Action program, the Oneida County Health Department provides cancer prevention education, resources, practices and policies to local communities within Herkimer, Madison and Oneida Counties.

The Cancer Prevention in Action program works to reduce the risk and burden of cancer. OCHD works with local community sites to facilitate the adoption and implementation of sun safety practices and policies to prevent skin cancer. Staff promote paid time off for cancer screening policies at local worksites and non-profit organizations that will enable adults to take paid time off from work to seek recommended annual cancer screenings.

Staff also encourage parents of young children to speak to their child's pediatrician about the HPV vaccine as cancer prevention. Cancer is the second leading cause of death in New York State, but it doesn't have to be!

CAR SEAT PROGRAM

The Car Seat Safety Event program is designed to educate parents and caregivers with economic hardships about the proper ways to transport children safely using child safety seats and seat belts. The focus of this program is to provide education on the appropriate seat and how to properly install the seats. Classroom education is provided to all at the fitting station. OCHD partners with the Oneida County Sheriff's Office on this event. The Sheriffs also provide seat inspections. The Deerfield Fire Station has provided a safe location to hold these events.

ANNUAL DATA	2017	2018	2019
Car Seats Distributed	23	98	93

CREATING HEALTHY SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES (CHSC)

Creating Healthy Schools and Communities is a five-year (2015-2020) grant-funded public health initiative by the NYS Department of Health awarded to Oneida-Herkimer Madison BOCES, in partnership with the Oneida County Health Department.

CHSC in Oneida County aims at reducing major risk factors of obesity, diabetes, and other chronic diseases in five school districts and their associated communities, which include Adirondack Central School, Holland Patent Central School, Utica City Schools, Remsen Central School, and Whitesboro Central School.

Oneida County Health Department staff implement community projects which focus on increasing access to healthy, affordable foods in communities, increasing adoption and use of food standards and procurement policies that increase healthy foods in community settings, and adopting/implementing Complete Streets policies, plans, and practices to increase access to opportunities to walk, bike, and roll.

One community where CHSC is working to implement Complete Streets (CS) projects is the village of Boonville. CHSC brought in national public health and transportation expert Mark Fenton to conduct a walk audit and help identify projects that could make Boonville a safer and healthier place to live, work and play. CHSC helped establish a CS work group; helped develop an action plan; improved the safety of three crosswalks in a school zone; provided a speed radar trailer to better monitor and slow traffic speed; and supported landscape improvements on Main St. in the village. The group is currently working with NYS DOT on redesigning a busy main intersection on Rt. 12, improving the safety of several crosswalks, improving a trail that connects the village with the only grocery store in town, and developing a bike route around the village.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019: HEALTH PROMOTION

- Health Promotion worked with community partners and hospitals on the CHA/CHIP.
- Health Promotion increased the amount of health education presentations provided to rural areas of Oneida County, by expanding the summer recreation program presentations in 2019.
- Health Promotion maintained relationship with area hospitals and sustained seven series of free smoking cessation classes for the Oneida County community in 2019.
- Health Promotion encouraged community members to unplug and spend free time exploring, playing, and reading with Screen-Free Story Walks.
- Health Promotion educated three provider offices about HPV to increase HPV vaccination rates in the tri-county area.
- Health Promotion, as part of Cancer Prevention in Action, collaborated with municipalities to raise awareness of civil service law 159B regarding paid leave for cancer screenings.

GOALS IN 2020: HEALTH PROMOTION

- **Goal:** Successful implementation of the community health improvement plan.
 - **Objective:** By December 31, 2020, work with local hospital systems and community partners to track and monitor implementation activities outlined in the community health improvement plan (CHIP).
 - **Activities/Interventions:** participate in applicable workgroups related to the CHIP activities/interventions, develop system for receiving/providing quarterly updates to CHIP partners, update progress in CHIP document.

- **Goal:** As part of Cancer Prevention in Action, collaborate with Summer Recreation Program Directors to raise awareness of skin cancer and provide school-age children with sun safety education.
 - **Objectives & Activities:**
 - Make contact with all operating Oneida County Summer Recreation Programs (~30)
 - Bring skin cancer prevention education to at least 6 Summer Recreation Programs (or 20%)
 - Organize a skin cancer prevention mobilization activity with Summer Recreation Programs

- **Goal:** Encourage increased physical activity for community members through the completion of two complete streets roadway projects.
 - **Objectives & Activities:**
 - By September 2020, complete two roadway projects based on Complete Streets principles.
 - Work with community partners to create action plans for at least two Complete Streets roadway projects.
 - Obtain resources and implement projects
 - Incorporate outreach for an event for each project, promote, and provide education around Complete Streets

OPIOID PROGRAMS

OVERDOSE DATA TO ACTION GRANT

In 2018, Oneida County Health Department was one of 24 NYS local health departments to receive opioid crisis funding to support crisis activities to address the high burden of opioid overdoses in the County. The next iteration of the grant to continue for additional 3 years is called Overdose Data to Action (OD2A). OD2A focuses on prevention, building local capacity for local prevention and response efforts, establishing linkages to care, provider and health system support, partnering with public safety and empowering individuals.

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE & CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT DATA-DRIVEN RESPONSES TO EMERGING DRUG THREATS GRANT

In 2019, the Oneida County through the Health Department applied for and was awarded a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance and Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the amount of \$600,000 for 2 years. The grant aims to prevent/reduce overdose deaths, advance shared understanding of patterns and characteristics of problem drug use, and foster collaborations between public health and public safety.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019: OPIOID PROGRAMS

PARTNERING WITH PUBLIC SAFETY

- In collaboration with the Oneida County Overdose Response Team, continued implementation of the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP), a surveillance tool being used nationwide to collect real-time overdose reports from first responders. ODMAP data is being used to proactively engage and link people that have experienced an overdose to treatment and recovery support services and to identify and alert the public to spikes in overdoses and overdose fatalities.
- Development and distribution of a Weekly Overdose Surveillance Report to monitor overdoses and overdose fatalities by demographic and geographic distribution, suspected drug and naloxone administrations.
- Initiated a surveillance process to begin collecting drug trend and intel information from community and law enforcement that can be used to identify and share potential drug threats.
- Began reviewing, compiling and analyzing Medical Examiner fatality toxicology reports to track and share drug trends.
- Collaborated with HealtheConnections to develop an Oneida County Opioid dashboard platform that provides real-time, de-identified clinical data for the select opioid indicators from the NYS dashboard based on data in the Health Information Exchange to supplement opioid surveillance activities.

LINKAGES TO CARE:

- Through collaboration with the Rescue Mission, Certified Peer Recovery Advocates (CRPAs) were deployed to make post-overdose visits to overdose victims captured in ODMAP. Seventy-three (73) individuals were connected to treatment and/or peer recovery support services.
- Initiated collaboration with hospitals to develop and implement an evidence-based program developed by Dr. Joshua Lynch called the Oneida MATTERS (Medication Assisted Treatment and Referral) program to initiate and prescribe buprenorphine in hospital emergency departments and provide rapid referral to treatment services prior to discharge.
- Implemented a marketing campaign to promote the newly developed 2-1-1 Opioid texting platform; this campaign received 36,425 internet marketing impressions (content displays), reached 3,920 individuals and was liked, shared or clicked 131 times. Campaign posters and pocket cards were printed to distribute to community partners.

PROVIDER HEALTH SYSTEM SUPPORT:

- In collaboration with Dr. Michael Attilio, VP of the Mohawk Valley Health System (MVHS) Medical Group and Dr. Kelly Ramsey, Medical Director of Substance Use Disorders, HRHCare, presented to over 50 providers on opioid use disorder, medication assisted treatment and (MAT) benefits and associated myths and misperceptions.

NALOXONE EXPANSION:

- In collaboration with the Oneida County Executive's Office, ACR Health and Center for Family Life and Recovery, trained 583 individuals in Naloxone (Narcan) administration.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION:

- Oneida County has received national recognition and commendation from the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Agency) as a model for implementing ODMAP, post-overdose outreach and issuing of overdose spike alerts. Oneida County Health Department and the Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center were invited to present on its initiative at the NY/NJ HIDTA and NY Counter Drug Task Force Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY/NJ HIDTA and DCJC 2019 Border Crime Symposium in Lake Placid and has been included in the Washington/Baltimore national presentations to promote implementation of ODMAP to states and local communities.
- Oneida County through the Health Department applied for and was awarded a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance and Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the amount of \$600,000 for 2 years as a result of the collaborative efforts of the Overdose Response Team and its ODMAP implementation. The grant was awarded to only 6 communities in the U.S. and was matched by the Oneida County Executive with an additional \$600,000 over a two-year period.

ONEIDA COUNTY OPIOID TASK FORCE:

- In collaboration with the Oneida County Department of Mental Health, OCHD joined efforts to expand and enhance the Oneida County Executive's Opioid Task Force. A kick-off meeting was held in December with over 120 individuals in attendance to support the County Executive's efforts to mobilize partners in a comprehensive, strategic and collaborative approach to reducing opioid overdoses and deaths through four areas of focus: Prevention, Recovery, Treatment Enhancement and Overdose (Crisis) Response. OCHD is actively engaged in coordinating the Opioid Task Force, its Steering Committee and its Prevention, Recovery, Treatment Enhancement and Overdose Response Teams.

GOALS IN 2020: OPIOID PROGRAMS

PARTNERING WITH PUBLIC SAFETY AND ENHANCED DATA COLLECTION AND SURVEILLANCE:

- Continued collaboration with the Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center, the Overdose Response Team and its Data Analysis Subgroup to support ODMAP and to enhance and expand data sharing and surveillance efforts including:
 - ◊ developing a hospital emergency department overdose reporting process,
 - ◊ exploring tracking first responder overdose fatality response times,
 - ◊ exploring testing of drug paraphernalia to better identify and track drug trends,
 - ◊ formalizing community agency and law enforcement drug intel reporting processes,
 - ◊ identifying, collecting and sharing data to support interventions for children exposed to parental opioid use.
- Enhance efforts to implement rapid assessment to quickly gather data in response to an overdose spike or other crisis requiring timely intervention.
- Enhance efforts to collect and share data with community partners and the Opioid Task Force to drive decisions about team and agency interventions.
- Explore and consult with other communities on best practices, processes and resource requirements for Overdose Fatality Review Teams.

RAPID RESPONSES AND LINKAGES TO CARE:

- Explore developing and deploying rapid response team to respond to spikes in overdoses, overdose-related deaths, or emerging drug threats.
- Pilot test law enforcement peer assisted visits to ODMAP victims post overdose.
- Identify ways to increase peer recovery capacity and support peer training and education
- Collaborate with Dr. Joshua Lynch, NYSDOH and local hospitals and treatment and recovery providers to implement Oneida MATTERS in local hospital emergency departments and establish a rapid referral network to ensure patients are linked to care prior to discharge and can receive low threshold access to medication assisted treatment.

NALOXONE EXPANSION:

- Expand access to Naloxone education in community and other organizational settings.

ONEIDA COUNTY OPIOID TASK FORCE:

- In collaboration with the Oneida County Department of Mental Health continue to support and coordinate the Oneida County Executive's Opioid Task Force (OTF) its Prevention, Recovery, Treatment Enhancement and Overdose (Crisis) Response team's efforts to identify, fund and implement data-driven decisions to address emerging drug threats.
- Collaborate with OTF members and community partners to identify substance use disorder needs in minority communities and implement evidence-based interventions to address them.
- Collaborate with OTF to engage people who use drugs across all areas of focus.

PROGRAM DATA—ODMAP 2019 TOTALS*	
TOTAL OVERDOSES	385
By Gender	
Male	255
Female	127
Unidentified	3
By Race	
White	330
Black	26
Hispanic	12
Unknown	16
Other	1
Geographic Areas (Top 3)	
Utica Area	201 (52%)
Western Oneida County	96 (25%)
Metro Zone (New Hartford, NY Mills, Whitesboro, Whitestown, Yorkville)	46 (13%)
Suspected Drug	
Heroin	226 (56%)
Prescription Pills	78 (20%)
Other	37 (10%)
Unknown	36 (9%)
Cocaine/Crack	8 (2%)
Naloxone Administrations	
Multiple Doses	139 (36%)
Single Dose	100 (26%)
No Naloxone	125 (33%)
Unknown	21 (5%)
TOTAL FATALITIES	40
PEER POST-OVERDOSE FOLLOW UP	
# Connected to Peer Recovery Support Services	73 out of 73 (100%)
# Connected to Inpatient or Outpatient Treatment	64 out of 73 (88%)
<i>*See ODMAP 2019 Year End Surveillance Report for more details.</i>	

2019 NARCAN (NALOXONE) TRAININGS	
Group:	Number
County Employees	226
County Employees—Corrections	257
Community Members	124

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Public Health **Emergency Preparedness** (PHEP) Program supports the department's planning and response for all hazards in order to protect the health of the community. Such hazards may include disease outbreaks, environmental threats, and natural and man-made disasters. OCHD engages in preparedness activities with multi-agency partnerships to identify resources, establish mutual agreements, develop coordinated response plans, conduct drills and exercises, identify and follow up on areas for improvement, train staff, and coordinate public risk communications. OCHD has a cross-division Public Health Incident Response Team that convenes to manage the public health planning and response activities for any emergency event.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- OCHD conducted an exercise to set up the County Staging Site (CSS), the designated site for receiving, storing and assets received in response to a public health emergency.
- OCHD in collaboration with Utica College completed a successful Flu POD exercise.
- OCHD participated in assisting those affected by the flooding on October 31, 2019 that affected 18 counties. There were four sites in Oneida County to reach out to those affected by the flooding. They were located at the Community Foundation in Utica, Poland Mobile Home Park/ West Canada Creek, Chadwicks/ Willowvale Firehouse, and Whitesboro Firehouse. OCHD staff were present at each site to distribute informational packets which included, "Flooding Quick Reference Guide", "A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture and Your Home", "Homeowner's and Renter's Guide to Mold Cleanup After Disasters", "Re-entering Your Flooded Home", and "After a Flood". Information on Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Hepatitis A Vaccines "What You Need to Know" about each was also included. Through Herkimer Oneida Organizations Active in Disaster (HOOAD), a Multi Agency Resource Center (MARC) was developed, and OCHD was present there as well.
- Updated the Oneida County Public Health Asset Distribution Plan (PHAD), the Oneida County Health Department Public Health Emergency Preparedness & Response Plan (PHEPR) and the Oneida County Health Care Facilities Mutual Aid Evacuation and Supply Plan (MAESP). Two more facilities signed agreements to be a part of the MAESP.
- In collaboration with the Office of Emergency Management, Stop the Bleed and Narcan Training (for opiate overdoses) were provided for all OCHD employees. Stop the Bleed is a national awareness campaign and call to action that encourages bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives.

GOALS IN 2020: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Work collaboratively with NYSDOH on the Coronavirus, COVID-19, outbreak.
- Update the Oneida County Public Health Asset Distribution Plan (PHAD), the Oneida County Health Department Public Health Emergency Preparedness & Response Plan (PHEPR) and the Oneida County Health Care Facilities Mutual Aid Evacuation and Supply Plan (MAESP). In addition, update the Health Department's Zika Action Plan.
- Continue to recruit and engage Closed POD partners in organizational and planning and training activities to support their capability to implement Closed POD operations; this includes developing a Closed POD Plan for county employees.
- Conduct an exercise to set up the County Staging Site (CSS), the designated site for receiving, storing and transport assets received in response to an anthrax public health emergency.

SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES

CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

The **Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program (CYSHCN)** seeks to improve the system of care for children and youth from birth to 21 years of age. Oneida County's program helps to empower families to advocate for the best health care options to meet the needs of their children.

The program provides resource and referral information for families of children and youth who have or are suspected of having serious or chronic health, behavioral or emotional conditions. The program assists families in establishing a medical home, accessing private or public insurance, identifying gaps in community systems of care, establishing connections to community resources as well as support for youth transitioning to adult health care, work and independence.

ANNUAL DATA: ELIGIBLE CHILDREN BY AGE	2017	2018	2019
Birth < 12 Years of Age	78	108	213
13 < 17 Years of Age	28	29	6
18 < 21 Years of Age	4	3	0
TOTAL CHILDREN	110	140	219

As a component of CYSHCN, the **Physically Handicapped Children's Program (PHCP)**, is offered to help Oneida County families pay for quality health care for their children with severe chronic illness or physical disabilities. The program has a Diagnosis and Evaluation component as well as a treatment piece, which includes the Dental Rehabilitation Program. Families must meet medical and financial eligibility to receive assistance. As families have transitioned to more comprehensive health insurance coverage, the need for PHCP financial assistance has diminished.

ANNUAL DATA	2017	2018	2019
Total Service Authorizations for Treatment	306	225	59

EARLY INTERVENTION

Early Intervention is part of the National Early Intervention Program for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. First created by Congress in 1986 under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the EIP offers a variety of therapeutic and support services to eligible 0-2 year olds and their families.

The mission of the Early Intervention Program (EIP) is to identify and evaluate infants and toddlers as early as possible to determine if they are experiencing compromised development. The EIP is family-centered as it supports parents in nurturing and enhancing development through an array of coordinated services focused on the needs of the child. The EIP is also community based so it creates opportunities for full participation of families with the delivery of services occurring in the child's natural environment. Private and Public insurances are utilized to help pay for the costs of EIP services in New York State.

Child Find identifies and tracks infants and toddlers that are at risk for developmental delays. The Child Find Program works with families, doctors, daycare providers and community agencies to determine when a referral should be made to the Early Intervention Program. Public awareness and professional training are critical for a successful Child Find Program.

ANNUAL DATA: EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM	2017	2018	2019
*Accurate as of 2-6-20			
Multidisciplinary Evaluation (MDE) Performed	239	247	133
Bilingual MDEs Performed	18	17	9
Supplemental Evaluations Performed	126	144	157
Special Instruction Visits	16,434	17,862	17,716
Physical Therapy / Occupational Therapy Visits	14,746	15,205	15,335
Speech/Language Therapy Visits	21,574	19,206	17,159
Vision Therapy Visits	124	161	61
Social Work Visits	396	104	8
Total of Visits Including Service Coordination	52,033	65,487 *	62,078
* Addition of Community Providers of Service Coordination for Total Calendar Year 2018			

PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (OR EDUCATION/TRANSPORTATION OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S PROGRAM—ETHCP)

This program is administered through New York State's Department of Education. Federal and state laws govern the program and grant administrative authority to school districts located in Oneida County. NYS Education Law mandates each county provide funding for this program. Educational and therapeutic service provision occurs in least restrictive environments to maximize the preschool students with disabilities learning potential.

This program is for children ages 3 and 4 years old who have been evaluated and classified as Preschool Students with a Disability through their school district's Committee on Preschool Special Education. Classified children receive an Individualized Education Plan which outlines a variety of special services intended to take full advantage of a child's learning potential.

ANNUAL DATA	2017 Children Evaluated	2017 Distinct Children Serviced	2018 Children Evaluated	2018 Distinct Children Serviced	2019 Children Evaluated	2019 Distinct Children Serviced
Evaluations Completed to Determine Eligibility: Classified Preschool Students with a Disability	306	767	359	772	483	761

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019: SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES

- Staff in the **CYSHCN** developed a policy and procedure for reviewing High Risk Birth Certificates thereby identifying infants who might not be referred to the program by other means. Routine reviews have identified a large majority of infants potentially impacted by maternal drug use at the time of birth. An Outreach initiative began with letters sent to families with information regarding the CYSHCN, Child Find and Early Intervention Programs.
- All Special Children Services staff participated in training regarding Adverse Childhood Experiences to gain better understanding of how family opioid use can affect typical childhood development.
- CYSHCN staff began participating in the Oneida County Opioid Task Force to provide statistical information to this group for improved opioid crisis response.
- An increase in referrals to the **CYSHCN Program** continued to be realized for children Birth to age 12 in 2019. Oneida County experienced a 56% increase in children referred due to improved outreach activities for this target group. Program staff participated in 37 community events distributing information regarding Early Intervention, Child Find, CYSHCN. An initiative began to increase referrals of youth and young adults between the ages of 13 and 21. During the last quarter of 2019, 50 packets were mailed to school nurses and guidance counselors in middle and high schools. The packets contained an informational letter, program brochure cards, referral forms and transition website information.
- In collaboration with community partners of service coordination, the **Early Intervention** program was successful in identifying quality improvement activities to improve the flow of documents between OCHD and approved agencies. Early Intervention addressed the first of these tasks by restructuring the filing system to ensure program staff could easily access documents. Secondly, Office Specialist positions had an upgrade in their computer hardware and operating systems. OCHD and community team are working on creating a template document to standardize the 6-month progress reporting system and make it more time efficient.
- **Preschool** has entered into a contract agreement with the largest school district in Oneida County. High numbers of children on waitlists along with the lack of providers has been a challenge in this district especially within the previous two years. Once the new contract is fully executed, the District will be recruiting and providing supervision for the Pre-school Special Education therapeutic staff hired to treat resident children through this contract agreement.

GOALS IN 2020: SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES

- **CYSHCN** will target outreach to 11th and 12th grade students with chronic conditions to assist in their transition to adult health care and independence.
- **Early Intervention** will transition 50% of documents to an electronic record storage system through the use of the NYS EI-Hub and Oneida County's LaserFiche Program.
- **Early Intervention** will develop a quality assurance evaluation system targeted to assess Initial and Ongoing Service Coordination.
- **Preschool Special Education** will transition 25% of documents to an electronic record storage system through the use of Oneida County's LaserFiche Program.
- **Special Children Services** will develop Core Public Health Competencies for all positions within this division as part of the Workforce Development Plan.
- **Early Intervention** and **Preschool Special Education** staff will collaborate with NYS Department of Health and Department of Education to address shortage of therapists and teachers of special education.



PROMOTING AND PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY

